

## **EDB Committee**

---

**From:** Alexandra Marie Godoy <agodoy23@lahaina.k12.hi.us>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 10, 2019 11:16 AM  
**To:** EDB Committee  
**Subject:** Continue Funding for Maui Economic Development Board

Dear Committee Chair,

Hello, my name is Alexandra Godoy from Lahaina Intermediate School. I believe you should continue funding for the Maui Economic Development Board as it funds the STEMWork's program for the Maui County Schools. The program helps students to have more opportunities as well as learning more. With the funding, students will experience something new. We will also open up to endless possibilities towards our future. STEM gives us a better idea of what we can achieve. With STEM, it provides us equipments for our media production class. With the equipment, I had learned so much in that class like learning what types of angles to take when recording a video and what shots to take when taking a picture. I also learned the basic in editing which had inspired me to do fan editing, being one of my favorite hobbies to do. You should continue funding the MEDB as it funds the STEMWorks program helping students like me to try to pursue our dreams.

Sincerely, Alexandra Godoy

## **EDB Committee**

---

**From:** Brisa Gonzalez <bgonza24@lahaina.k12.hi.us>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 10, 2019 11:06 AM  
**To:** EDB Committee  
**Subject:** Maui Economic Development Board

Dear Committee Chair

My name is Brisa Gonzalez a student from Lahaina Intermediate School I would like for you to continue funding the Maui Economic development Board(MEDB) Without all MEDB's help we wouldn't have most of the things we use to make good quality work videos for our projects like interviewing people, PSAs, and videos for our schools. We also wouldn't be able to learn how to broadcast morning announcements to our school. MEDB thanks for all the great experiences and opportunities this year. I got to learn my new favorite hobby, filming and editing. So I hope you keep funding to MEDB

Sincerely,  
Brisa Gonzalez.

## **EDB Committee**

---

**From:** Harry Flores <hflores23@lahaina.k12.hi.us>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 10, 2019 10:48 AM  
**To:** EDB Committee  
**Subject:** Continue Funding for Maui Economic Development Board

Dear Committee Chair,

I believe you should do this because STEM provides an experience for students to learn about possible careers. The STEM conference in itself allows us to communicate and talk to other people about science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. But without MEDB, we can't do and learn about all of these amazing things. The reason as to why I emailing you about this is because like many others, I've been able to gain newfound friendships. New skills.

So if you were to take away the funding for MEDB, you're stripping many teenagers and kids of opportunities and friendships that can last forever. Without the funding, we wouldn't have a STEM. Without the funding, the world would have less scientists, engineers, mathematicians, jobs that make living possible.

Sincerely, Harry Flores

## **EDB Committee**

---

**From:** Dwayne Jaymie Diga <ddiga23@lahaina.k12.hi.us>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 10, 2019 11:43 AM  
**To:** EDB Committee  
**Subject:** continued funding for MEDB

Dear, Committee Chair

Hello! I am Jaymie Diga an eighth grader at Lahaina Intermediate School. I am writing this email to support the Maui Economical Development Board. We would like the county to keep supporting the medb program because they help fund many STEMWork programs in Maui county schools.

With STEM I have gotten to open my mind to new opportunities. For example, the trips funded by medb I was able to learn my passion for engineering and film-making. A trip I went to was the STEM conference. I went to many classes, learned many things, and got to meet new people. With STEM I am closer on achieving my goals. I also think the county should continue supporting the medb program because since they help fund many Maui county schools they are also helping many students. Kids are the future and helping them learn new things can benefit them. So by supporting the medb you are also supporting many kids and helping them achieve their dreams.

Sincerely, Jaymie Diga

## **EDB Committee**

---

**From:** Joa Navarro <jnavarro23@lahaina.k12.hi.us>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 10, 2019 10:51 AM  
**To:** EDB Committee  
**Subject:** MEDB

Dear Committee Chair I Joa Navarro want the Maui Economic Development Board (MEDB) to continue to supported and funded by Maui County. I think that they should keep supporting because with out them then most of the great learning in experiences we are apart of would not exist. For example most of our equipment is bought by the MEDB and our field trips are mostly funded by them. I personally really appreciate what they are doing for our schools.

The MEDB also supports STEM and STEM is a very important program. STEM helps kids like me to learn about technology and to be ready for the future. This is really important in today's world and is important to me. I think that the MEDB should continue to be supported by the county because it is very important to hundreds of students in Maui County.

Sincerely, Joa Navarro

## EDB Committee

---

**From:** Ohana Cunningham <massagebykito@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 10, 2019 9:18 AM  
**To:** EDB Committee  
**Cc:** David Daly  
**Subject:** Re: BILL EDB-1 Proposed Fiscal Year 2020 Budget for the County of Maui, Support for Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc's Business Development Center (MEO)  
**Attachments:** Testimony letter for MEO.pdf

April 10th, 2019

**Re: BILL EDB-1 Proposed Fiscal Year 2020 Budget for the County of Maui, Support for Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc's Business Development Center (MEO)**

Aloha Honorable Mayor Victorino and Maui County Councilmembers, Please accept my letter of support for **BILL EDB-1 Proposed Fiscal Year 2020 Budget for the County of Maui, Support for Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc's Business Development Center (MEO).**

The MEO's programs and services have provided valuable support and information to Spa Breathe Maui LLC's Business development, and Ideas and formulation regarding a product, I am currently in the process of bringing to life. The MEO's Business Development Center offered advice through the instruction of the Core Four Classes. As a Business owner living on the West side I was thankful these classes were available in Lahaina, which was the first of its kind. I was also grateful that I was given some assistance to attend the class through a grant from the Mayor's Office of Economic Development.

The MEO's programs are valuable asset to the residents of Maui. Particularly, the Business Development Center Program, in short the Core four Classes provides great help, especially in breaking "all things business" down in easy to grasp, easy to understand and real life scenarios for people embarking on the journey to Start a Business on Maui.

Thank you for taking the time out of your busy schedule to read my letter and for the opportunity to write this testimony in support of Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc. Particularly, the Business Development Center Program.

Oceans of Aloha,

Krystal Cunningham

Co-Owner Serenity Spa Maui, LLC & Spa Breathe Maui, LLC.

CC: David Daly: david.daly@meoinc.org

## **EDB Committee**

---

**From:** Lori\_Koyama/LAHAINA/HIDOE@notes.k12.hi.us  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 10, 2019 11:12 AM  
**To:** EDB Committee  
**Subject:** Continue Support for Maui Economic Development Board

Aloha Committee Chair,

Hi My name is Lori Koyama and i am a teacher at Lahaina Intermediate School. I am writing to ask for your continued support and funding for Maui Economic Development Board (MEDB). MEDB helps fund our STEMWORKS program here at Lahaina Intermediate. Personally I would not be half the teacher that I am without MEDB. What I am able to teach, share, and show the kids is CRAZY! I wouldn't have even known how to introduce them to a fraction of the content. Many of the things that i am exposing them to I didnt know existed. Withe the help of MEDB, I was able to gain access to curriculum, workshops, online workshops, online tutorials and conferences that have given me the confidence to introduce and teach my students. MEDB has also helped with the equipment that we use so that the students are able to learn hands on vs just watching it on a television or computer. MEDB has allowed me to take students on field trips to introduce the kids to careers that they otherwise wouldn't even know existed. STEM is our future, the US is falling behind globally compared to other countries. In order for us to keep up the students need to be given the opportunity and the exposure. MEDB helps teachers do that.

Thank you for your time and considering keeping the fundind for MEDB.

Sincerely,  
Lori-Ann Koyama  
Student Activities Coordinator  
Media Prod  
Yearbook  
STEMWorks  
Lahaina Intermediate School  
(808) 662-3965  
(808) 662-3968 fax  
lori\_koyama@notes.k12.hi.us  
lori\_koyama@lahaina.k12.hi.us

\*\*\*\*\*Notice of Non-Discrimination\*\*\*\*\*

The Hawaii State Department of Education (HIDOE) and its schools do not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, age, color, national origin, religion, or disability in its programs and activities. Please direct inquiries regarding HIDOE nondiscrimination policies as follows:

Krysti Sukita, ADA/504 Specialist, Civil Rights Compliance Office, Hawaii State Department of Education, P.O. Box 2230, Honolulu, Hawaii 96804, (808) 586-3322 or crco@notes.k12.hi.us  
Anne Marie Puglisi, Director, Civil Rights Compliance Office, Hawaii State Department of Education, P.O. Box 2230, Honolulu, Hawaii 96804, (808) 586-3322 or crco@notes.k12.hi.us



## **EDB Committee**

---

**From:** Mark Mrantz <Mark.Mrantz@aqua-aston.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 10, 2019 7:37 AM  
**To:** EDB Committee  
**Subject:** Testimony  
**Attachments:** Xerox Scan\_04102019073050.PDF

Aloha,

Please find my testimony attached...

Mahalo,

**Mark D. Mrantz, CHA**  
general manager

**Aston Kaanapali Shores**

3445 Lower Honoapiilani Road, Lahaina HI 96761

ph 808.667.2211 | cell 808.268-2000

email: [mark.mrantz@aqua-aston.com](mailto:mark.mrantz@aqua-aston.com) | web: [www.aqua-aston.com](http://www.aqua-aston.com)

Aston Hotels & Resorts is a division of Aqua-Aston Hospitality

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE: This email message, including any attachments, is for the sole use of the intended recipient(s) and may contain confidential and privileged information. Any unauthorized review, use, disclosure or distribution is prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please contact the sender by reply email and destroy all copies of the original message.

This electronic mail message is intended exclusively for the individual or entity to which it is addressed. This message, together with any attachment, may contain confidential and privileged information. Any views, opinions or conclusions expressed in this message are those of the individual sender and do not necessarily reflect the views of ILG, Inc., Interval International, and their affiliates. Any unauthorized review, use, printing, copying, retention, disclosure or distribution is strictly prohibited. If you have received this message in error, please immediately advise the sender by replying to this email and delete all copies of this message. Thank you



**Aston Kaanapali Shores**

3445 I. Honoapiilani Rd. Lahama, Hawaii 96761  
Tel 808.667.2211 Fax 808.661.5474

April 10, 2019

Council Member Keani Rawlins-Fernandez  
Chairman, Budget & Finance Committee  
Maui County Council  
200 South High Street, 8th Floor  
Wailuku, Hawaii 96793

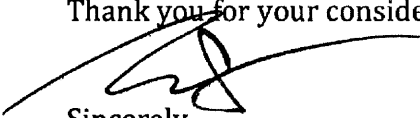
Dear Chair Rawlins-Fernandez & Committee Members:

I write to you today to share my opposition to the proposal to raise the current hotel/resort & condotel RPT rates from \$9.37 per \$1,000 of assessed value to \$15.41 per \$1,000 and from \$9.28 per \$1,000 to \$15.41 per \$1,000 respectively.

The hospitality industry seems to continue to find itself high on the list of targets when it comes to the hunt for additional revenue generation for the County; seemingly without much regard for the ripple effect that raising taxes creates both in terms of the financial viability of the businesses and the impact on the people within them. The industry is not poised to achieve growth levels over the next few years like those enjoyed during the most recent 5 years according to UHERO and other economists in-the-know. In fact, coming off a weaker than expected Q1, as recently as last week some suggest there may be no growth at all in 2019.

If an adjustment to the RPT structure is absolutely necessary, such an adjustment should reflect a more equitable percentage that is in keeping with CPI (like the Mayor's proposal to move short term to \$9.55); not an over 64% increase as currently proposed. Perhaps such a large increase wouldn't even need to be proposed if there was a vehicle in place to collect the appropriate taxes from those with short-term rentals that aren't reporting their income or paying their fair share.

Thank you for your consideration of my testimony.



Sincerely,  
Mark D. Mrantz, CHA  
General Manager

## **EDB Committee**

---

**From:** Mary Margaret Baker <topchick@sbcglobal.net>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 10, 2019 7:41 AM  
**To:** EDB Committee  
**Subject:** A letter of support for Kihei Youth Center

Dear committee:

Kihei YouthCenter has been & continues to be an integral part of the Kihei community supporting youth. It is critical to continue the funding at their current level \$276,000+ so that programs & support can make a difference in the lives of these children here in Kihei.

For many years as a member of Rotary Club of Kihei-Wailea the club & I have supported the children at KYC. We cannot do it alone— it “ ...takes a village!!”

You are part of the village. Please continue support at the current level— minimally— or more if possible.

Sincerely yours,  
MaryMargaret Baker  
275 KuliPuu Place  
Kihei, HI 96753

Sent from my iPhone

## **EDB Committee**

---

**From:** Mishalyn Mei Ilmeng <milmeng23@lahaina.k12.hi.us>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 10, 2019 11:27 AM  
**To:** EDB Committee

Dear Committee Chair,

My name is Mishalyn Mei Ilmeng, I am a participant in the STEM program. Please continue to fund the Maui Economic Development Board (MEDB). The MEDB help fund and support the STEMWorks program at many Maui County schools. One of those schools being mine; Lahaina Intermediate School. Many students partake in STEM during school through either the STEMWorks Media Production class or the after-school program. After-school, we spend each week learning about different activities and topics such as 3D design, graphic design, robotics, and many others.

The STEMWorks program influences many students across the county and can change their future. Without STEM those students could lose the opportunity to try and experience new things that could be their future job and help them during high-school or college. Students can gain experience that could help them in the future through either colleges or universities. The STEMWorks program also introduces different "STEM" jobs which students could be inspired to choose when looking for jobs or courses. So please continue to fund the MEDB, for the sake of the students' future and for many other programs that rely on their funding.

Sincerely,  
Mishalyn Mei Ilmeng

## **EDB Committee**

---

**From:** Mohamed Jobran <mjobran23@lahaina.k12.hi.us>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 10, 2019 11:11 AM  
**To:** EDB Committee  
**Subject:** Continued Funds Maui Economic Development Board (MEDB)

Dear Committee Chair

I am Mohamed Jobran and I ask you the county council to continue funding towards Maui Economic Development Board(MEDB). I ask this because MEDB help fund the STEMWorks programs in Maui county. Without the STEMWorks program I wouldn't know the knowledge I know today. For example, thanks to STEMWorks I now know how to make a robot and make videos that can make it to T.V. Also, I've been able to experience many other topics to do with STEM like programing and circuitry. Finally I believe MEDB should be funded because it gives everyone a chance.

Sincerely

Mohamed,  
Jobran

## **EDB Committee**

---

**From:** Peter Ash <peter@theashteam.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 10, 2019 11:42 AM  
**To:** EDB Committee; Keani N. Rawlins  
**Cc:** Kelly King; Riki Hokama; Tasha A. Kama; Alice L. Lee; Mike J. Molina; Tamara A. Paltin; Shane M. Sinenci; Yukilei Sugimura  
**Subject:** Maui County Budget Hearings - I support fair tax rates

Dear Committee Chair Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez and Economic Development and Budget Committee Committee Members,

I am concerned by the proposed increase in tax rates for the Short Term Rental tax classification and am writing in favor of fair and reasonable tax rates for the vacation rental industry.

Short Term Rentals are currently taxed at \$9.28/\$1000, the third highest only exceeded by Hotel and Resort and Time Share rates. Increasing the Short term rental rate too extreme puts an unfair burden on the individual owners of these properties, and the guests to these properties, and can only move to harm the small businesses that depend on the vacation rental industry. The legally permitted Short term rental property owners should not be punished with higher tax rates while lower rates are being proposed for the illegal, unpermitted operations, whose properties are taxed in the Agriculture, Residential and Apartment tax classifications.

We have a blossoming vacation rental industry on Maui, subject to appropriate restrictions and standards, and a fair existing permitting and taxing process. Short term rentals already comprise 25% of the \$319,516,547 of real property tax revenue compared to 11% for time share, and 7% for hotel and resort. The purpose of the industry is to allow for varied accommodations and experiences for visitors, and to allow small businesses to benefit from tourism.

The typical visitor who stays in my home is a family with 3 kids. This is not their first trip to Hawaii and it won't be their last. They typically stay for a week or more and would not return if their only option was to stay in a resort hotel in Wailea.

I am supportive of the Economic Development and Budget Committee Committees efforts to find a fair and equitable solution for taxing the vacation rental industry that limits any negative implications for the community. Right now short term rentals bring in \$79,500,000 in direct taxable revenue, and has created thousands of jobs for our island as well.

Thank you for considering my testimony and I hope you will think about it as you continue to craft this bill.

Sincerely,

Peter and Debbie Ash  
D302 – Wailea Beach Villas

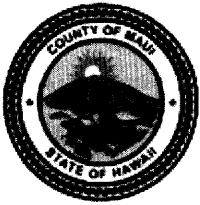
## **EDB Committee**

---

**From:** Kelly King  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 10, 2019 12:05 PM  
**To:** EDB Committee  
**Cc:** Kate Griffiths  
**Subject:** Fw: FAM Budget  
**Attachments:** Final Mayor Proposal for HFUF.docx

Forwarding.

With Aloha,



**Office of Council Chair Kelly T. King**  
South Maui Residency  
Office: 808.270.7108  
200 South High Street, 7<sup>th</sup> Fl  
Wailuku HI 96793  
maucounty.us

---

**From:** Phyllis Robinson <pfierrob@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 7, 2019 11:58 AM  
**To:** Kelly King  
**Subject:** FAM Budget

**Good morning Kelly,**

**Attached is the budget we submitted to the Mayor for both the FAM program and at the top is the proposed amount for the Chapters and the HFUU convention. The total request to the County for \$421,318 was reduced by the Mayor to \$215,000.**

**The amount requested from the County for FAM alone is \$221.318. The increase is due to the fact that this year we had 51 FAM applicants, took 37 and only had funding for 25. We are doing a GoFundMe to try and make up for the difference for this year. I had**

**wanted to expand to Lana'i and Moloka'i and the Mayor and Vincent and the board said "no".**

**And mahalo for looking out for us.**

**Phyllis**





**FY20 REQUEST TO  
COUNTY OF MAUI**



**Hawaii Farmers Union United Four Maui Chapters and  
HFUU Annual Convention on Maui  
FY20 Program Support for the Farm Apprentice Mentoring Program (FAM)**

**Administered by the Hawaii Farmers Union Foundation (HFUF)**

Performance Period: November 1, 2019 – October 31, 2020

**TOTAL REQUEST TO THE COUNTY OF MAUI: \$421,318**

**HAWAII FARMERS UNION UNITED CHAPTER EDUCATIONAL OUTREACH PROGRAM = \$80,000**

- **Maui Chapters Public Access Farming Speaker Series \$20,000@ 4 Chapters) = \$80,000**

**MATCHING FUNDS**

\$20,000 Maui Chapter Prog. Funds (Est.)

10,000 2019 Maui Chapter Dues Allocations (Est.)

10,000 2019 National Farmers Union (NFU) Small States Assistance Grant

**\$40,000 TOTAL REQUEST FROM COUNTY**

- **Hawaii Farmers Union United Annual Convention on Maui = \$120,000**

**MATCHING FUNDS**

\$60,000 Vendor Fees and Sponsorships (Est.)

**\$60,000 TOTAL REQUEST FROM COUNTY**

**TOTAL FAM PROGRAM COST = \$440,818**

**TOTAL FAM MATCHING FUNDS = \$219,500**

**TOTAL FY20 REQUEST TO COUNTY OF MAUI FOR FAM PROGRAM: \$221,318**

**FAM BUDGET NARRATIVE**

- Course Tuition for 40 Apprentices- Includes Hana (Certificate of Professional Development, UH-Maui College) **\$40,000**
- Introduction to the Business Side of Farming = **\$28,000**
- Phase 2: Farm Business and Marketing Training for Apprentices = **\$25,000**
- 15 On-Farm Mentors for 10 Module Hands-on Integration experiences = **\$15,000**
- Part-time Program Director: **\$50,760**
- Part-Time Assistant Program Director: **\$25,000**
- Communications Director: **\$5,000**
- 40 Apprentice Start-up Stipends: \$1000@ at completion of program = **\$40,000**
- Bookkeeping and program evaluation = **\$8000**
- Supplies and Materials = **\$5200**

- **FAM Immersion component: \$158,875 (see explanation below)**
- **Sub-total: \$400,835**
- **In-direct costs: \$40,083**

**TOTAL FAM PROGRAM COST = \$440,818**

### **FAM Immersion Component Breakdown**

Currently 32 FAM apprentices do 40 paid hours@ on a mentor(s) farm. **It is not enough.** Mentors feel 175-200 hours is required for apprentices to build confidence to start farms of their own. Farmer Mentors also must be adequately compensated for their time away from their farm duties to teach the next generation. Some of this compensation is covered each year by the Atherton Family Foundation.

In FY20, the Mentor-Apprentice Immersion Internship will be available to 35 FAM apprentices: during the 50 weeks of Phases 1 & 2. Each internship pays \$15/hr. for a 175-hour internship. Total Apprentice Immersion Internships = **\$91,875**

Twelve mentors have agreed to participate in the Mentor-Apprentice Immersion part of FAM. Only 6 require compensation. Six would receive \$30/hr. up to 175 hours whether with 1 apprentice or 12. Total for the Mentors' time = **\$31,500.**

The request will contribute to the Program Director (PD), Phyllis Robinson's Ed.D and Assistant Program Director (APD), Georgia Pinsky's (BS) time to develop and monitor the Immersion Component

PD: Additional 10 hrs./wk. X 50 weeks X \$45 = **\$22,500**

APD: Additional 10 hrs./wk. X 50 weeks X \$25 = **\$13,000**

**Total Amount for the Immersion Component: \$158,875**

### **FAM PENDING MATCHING FUNDS FOR FAM**

**\$13,500** MEO Ameri-corps Environmental Program towards Immersion Component

**\$20,000** Atherton Grant for additional funds for mentoring component

**\$53,000** Private Donations for Immersion Component

**\$5000** Rotary Club for 2 apprentices' full tuition for immersion, UH-MC + Phase 2

**\$19,000** In-kind: Technical Assistance in HFU Cooperative Development and Grant Writing, Kohala Center, Buddy Nichols FSA-USDA, Wayne Wong HSBDC, Hugh Starr – Farm Land Leasing Agreements, HFUU Board members, and MFIC customized training discounts

**\$9000** GoFarm Farm Business Planning and Marketing Training – with barter to offer FAM mentoring experience for UH-MC credit students in GoFarm program

**\$100,000** Healy Foundation, Hawaii Community Foundation grants, Hawaii Tourism Authority and BFRDP and other SPAEC-USDA Grants

**TOTAL FAM MATCHING FUNDS = \$219,500**



Hawai'i  
union



farmers  
united

## Farm apprentice mentoring program FAM

PHASE ONE: GROUNDING in Hawaiian FARMING Practices WHOLE SYSTEM BASICS-10 MODULES <b>DECEMBER - JUNE</b>	PHASE TWO: FARM BUSINESS <b>July-october</b>
<p><b>1) The Farmer</b>  <b>2) The Land ('Aina')</b>  <b>3) Soil and Fertility Management</b>  <b>4) The Water</b>  <b>5) Propagation</b>  <b>6) Weeds</b> - and what to do about them without herbicides  <b>7) Integrated Pest Management (IPM)</b>  <b>8) Harvest/Post Harvest</b> - procedures and certifications  <b>9) Introduction to the Business of Farming and Marketing</b>  <b>10) Agriculture Specialties:</b> A variety of electives</p> <p>99 hours of experiential classes/live in class room and webinar            90 hours of applied methods through mentor-driven on-the-farm activities            Apprentice Immersion: 175 paid hours on mentor farms            2 hours/bi-weekly of formative evaluation reflection  <b>A CERTIFICATE of PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT From</b>  <b>uh-maui College - Office of Continuing education and training</b></p>	<p>Agribusiness planning on Maui</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ County laws</li> <li>○ crop Planning</li> <li>○ costs of production</li> <li>○ markets</li> <li>○ financing</li> <li>○ land leasing</li> <li>○ business structures/Farming cooperatives</li> </ul> <p>immersion continues On fam mentor farms</p>

FAM current community collaborations and Funding:

- ❖ The county of Maui Mayor's office of economic development (OED)
- ❖ UH-Maui College, OCET - sustainable living institute of maui (SLIM)
- ❖ The UH-MC Food Innovation Center
- ❖ Kohala center for cooperative business development
- ❖ The Atherton Family Foundation
- ❖ The Savitt family foundation
- ❖ Kamehameha schools Āina Ulu and community engagement program,
- ❖ THE ROTARY CLUBS OF MAUI
- ❖ THE GOFARM PROGRAM

To become a FAM apprentice, lend support or become a community Collaborator:

CONTACT: FAM PROGRAM DIRECTOR, PHYLLIS ROBINSON [pfierrob@aol.com](mailto:pfierrob@aol.com) (808) 647-4066

## **EDB Committee**

---

**From:** Sawyer Dunning Zeches <sdunni24@lahaina.k12.hi.us>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 10, 2019 11:05 AM  
**To:** EDB Committee  
**Subject:** Continue funding for Maui Economic Development Board (MEDB)

Dear Committee Chair,

I would really appreciate it if you continued funding MEDB. Without them we would not be able to do things like go to the STEM conference or the AMOS conference. We also would not be able to do things like the robotics program which is a lot of fun, and we could not have all the things they provide us with like the computers and pretty much all the things we do in STEM. There also would be no morning broadcast which is a essential way to give information to the school. The funding goes to all Maui county schools and helps them with all their STEM activities as well.

MEDB has impacted us all in many ways. For example I never knew that I had an interest in any of the activities in STEM but then I found out I have an interest in photoshop and robotics. Also STEM is a great way to make new friends because you meet so many people. Other connections you might make is with your teachers because they are a big part of STEM to. All in all MEDB provides us with so much so please keep funding them.

Sincerely,

Sawyer Dunning-Zeches

## **EDB Committee**

---

**From:** Shannon\_Rowe/MAUIHS/HIDOE@notes.k12.hi.us  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 10, 2019 11:13 AM  
**To:** EDB Committee  
**Subject:** attention EDB-1  
**Attachments:** Shannon Rowe testimonial.docx

Shannon Rowe  
Maui High School  
660 Lono Ave.  
Kahului, HI 96732  
808-727-4113  
Shannon.rowe@mauihigh.org  
April 11, 2019

Dear: Maui County Council and Council Chair,

My name is Shannon Rowe and I am the Automotive Technology teacher at Maui High School. I am writing to you today to ask for your continued support for our automotive program through Maui Economic Development Board. The automobile repair industry has been going through some rapid changes in the past decade and it is becoming very difficult for businesses to find and retain qualified repair technicians.

This problem has also been exacerbated by the huge decline in Auto classes at the high school level over the same time period. Here in our own community we have seen auto programs dwindle at our high schools while local businesses struggle to find good employees. Through your efforts and support, Maui High has been able to not only maintain but also advance our automotive program. With your help we have continued to place students into the workforce, and secondary automotive training programs (UHMC) right here on Maui.

I humbly ask that you continue to support the Maui High School Automotive program and MEDB in our efforts to meet the needs of our local Auto Repair workforce. Thank you very much for your past support and future consideration.

Sincerely,

Shannon Rowe

*(See attached file: Shannon Rowe testimonial.docx)*

Maui High School does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the boy scouts and other designated youth groups. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding non-discrimination policies:

Mr. Jamie Yap, Maui High School Principal  
660 Lono Ave. Kahului, HI 96732  
jamie\_yap@notes.k12.hi.us  
808-727-4020

Shannon Rowe  
Maui High School  
660 Lono Ave.  
Kahului, HI 96732  
808-727-4113  
Shannon.rowe@mauihigh.org  
April 11, 2019

Dear: Maui County Council and Council Chair,

My name is Shannon Rowe and I am the Automotive Technology teacher at Maui High School. I am writing to you today to ask for your continued support for our automotive program through Maui Economic Development Board. The automobile repair industry has been going through some rapid changes in the past decade and it is becoming very difficult for businesses to find and retain qualified repair technicians.

This problem has also been exacerbated by the huge decline in Auto classes at the high school level over the same time period. Here in our own community we have seen auto programs dwindle at our high schools while local businesses struggle to find good employees. Through your efforts and support, Maui High has been able to not only maintain but also advance our automotive program. With your help we have continued to place students into the workforce, and secondary automotive training programs (UHMC) right here on Maui.

I humbly ask that you continue to support the Maui High School Automotive program and MEDB in our efforts to meet the needs of our local Auto Repair workforce. Thank you very much for your past support and future consideration.

Sincerely,

Shannon Rowe

## **EDB Committee**

---

**From:** Tennyson Dorsett <tdorsett24@lahaina.k12.hi.us>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 10, 2019 10:58 AM  
**To:** EDB Committee  
**Subject:** Maui Economic Development Board (MEDB) Continued funds

Dear Committee Chairman/woman, My name is Tennyson Dorsett. I am a 7th grade boy from Lahaina Intermediate. On behalf of all of the schools and programs that MEDB has helped to fund, I am sending you this email to ask you to keep on funding the MEDB, so that everyone here at my school can keep on benefitting and becoming a better version of themselves by practicing STEMworks and all other technologies in this new era of technology

STEM has helped me specifically by doing a number of thing for me, for instance giving me more and better knowledge that I may use for the future. It has also let me build friendships through competition and creativity; without STEM, I would have never met these people and been able to build such great bonds with them. Also, without MEDB, we would not have learned about many extremely valuable skills, like being able to fluently photoshop, writing in code, programming robots, making games, and many more. If nothing else, remember that knowledge is power, therefore we are powerless without STEM.

Sincerely, Tennyson Dorsett

## **EDB Committee**

---

**From:** Uilani Schooler <uschooler23@lahaina.k12.hi.us>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 10, 2019 10:51 AM  
**To:** EDB Committee  
**Subject:** Continue funding the Maui Economic Development Board

Dear Committee Chair

Good morning, I am Uilani Schooler am 8th grader at Lahaina Intermediate School. I would like to ask you if you could continue to support the Maui Economic Development Board. The medb program has helped improve my life so much. It has improved my life because it helps fund the STEM program. The STEM program has opened many doors for me. Before STEM I was not responsible, didn't do homework and was not getting 4.0's.

I am so fortunate that the medb program has helped fund the STEM program. I ask that you please continue to support the medb program because this has improved my life and many other children. It has opened many doors for me and if you stop supporting them some children wont be able to have doors opened for them. Thank you for your time!

Sincerely, Uilani Schooler



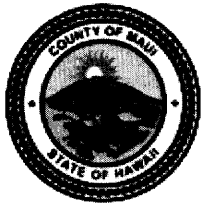
## EDB Committee

---

**From:** Kelly King  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 10, 2019 12:06 PM  
**To:** EDB Committee  
**Cc:** Kate Griffiths  
**Subject:** Fw: HFUU Budget Request Breakdown  
**Attachments:** HFUU Budget Request County of Maui.pdf

Forwarding.

With Aloha,

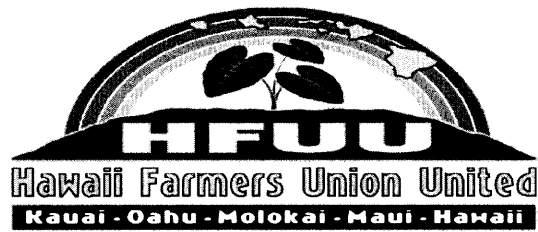


**Office of Council Chair Kelly T. King**

South Maui Residency  
Office: 808.270.7108  
200 South High Street, 7<sup>th</sup> Fl  
Wailuku HI 96793  
[mauicounty.us](http://mauicounty.us)

---

**From:** Vincent Mina <hfuu1@hawaii.rr.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 10, 2019 10:29 AM  
**To:** Shane M. Sinenci  
**Cc:** Riki Hokama; Keani N. Rawlins; Kelly King; Tasha A. Kama; Alice L. Lee; Mike J. Molina; Tamara A. Paltin; Yukilei Sugimura  
**Subject:** HFUU Budget Request Breakdown



P.O. Box 99, Wailuku, HI 96793-0099  
(808) 800-3974

April 10, 2019

Vincent Mina  
State President

Aloha Council Member Sinenci,

David Case  
Secretary  
Kona, Hawai'i

Mahalo for your support of our organization. Below please find our updated request of \$350,000 to the County of Maui, to be administered through our Hawaii Farmers Union Foundation 501c-3

Annie Alvarado  
Treasurer  
Maui

Maui Chapters - \$69,000 (\$17,250 per Chapter) to carry out activities that support HFUU aggregation and marketing of produce along with educational outreach as described by the Presidents of each chapter

Anabella Bruch  
Director Emeritus  
Kauai

HFUU Convention on Maui - \$60,000

James McCay  
Waimanalo, Oahu

FAM Program \$221,000

Dash Kuhr  
Kohola, Hawai'i

Each of these line items is supported by matching funds, including volunteer hours (\$20,000) and private sponsorships (60,000), and in the case of the FAM program, the following pending funds:

Brynn Foster  
North Shore, Oahu

Maureen Datta  
Kona, Hawai'i

\$13,500 MEO Ameri-corps Environmental Program

John Dobovan  
Haleakala, Maui

\$20,000 Atherton

\$5,000 Rotary Club

Steve Lund  
Puna, Hawai'i

\$53,000 Private donors

\$100,000 in other government grants under development at the moment:

Ray Maki  
Kauai

Matt  
VanPaepghen  
Hana, Maui

HAWAII FARMERS UNION UNITED

Robert Pahia  
Mauna Kahalawai,  
Maui

Vincent Mina, President

Kaipo Kekona  
Lahaina, Maui

Yuri Zhuraw  
East Hawai'i

*The Hawai'i Farmers Union United and its Chapters are a nonprofit corporation formed under Hawai'i law and Section 501(c)(5) of the Internal Revenue Code. HFUU advocates for the sovereign right of farmers to create and sustain vibrant and prosperous agricultural communities for the benefit of all Hawai'i through cooperation, education and legislation.*

*Because HFUU is an agricultural advocacy organization, donations to it are not tax deductible*

Christian  
Zuckerman  
Wai'anae, Oahu



## **EDB Committee**

---

**From:** Blanche Yvonne Abut <babut23@lahaina.k12.hi.us>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 10, 2019 10:56 AM  
**To:** EDB Committee  
**Subject:** MEDB Funds

Dear Committee Chair,

My name is Yvonne Abut. I am part of the STEMWorks program and the STEMWorks Media production class at Lahaina Intermediate School. Please continue to fund the Maui Economic Development Board (MEDB). MEDB is the organization that funds and supports all the STEMWorks programs in many Maui county schools. I started STEM in the 7th grade, and I have learned so much about technology. The media production class has taught how to film and edit decent videos. The program has also so taught me how to create ideas and create them myself. This helps encourage jobs that are in the engineering field for both boys and girls.

Many students are a part of the STEMWorks after school program. Some are still 6th graders that deserve more years to learn. Since the MEDB funds our organization, most of our equipment would not even be here and we would not have any projects that we worked on for the whole year. Each week, our program learn new things and sometimes have Robotics competitions, and other fun activities. If we did not have these funds, we wouldn't have had all these field trips of job opportunities for the future

Sincerely, Yvonne Abut

## **EDB Committee**

---

**From:** Ananda Stone <splashvideo@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 10, 2019 4:03 PM  
**To:** EDB Committee  
**Subject:** Maui County FY 2020 budget meeting testimony  
**Attachments:** Fiscal 2020 Budget Meeting Testimony.pdf

Fiscal 2020 Budget Meeting Testimony

RE: Common Ground Collective a 501c3 organization seeking \$25,000.00 from Fiscal 2020 Budget for ongoing Foster Farming gleaning program and the Give Healthy Food Drive.

Aloha Kākou,

I am writing on behalf of Common Ground Collective (CGC), a Maui based 501c3 organization. I am asking the County to consider providing \$25,000 to support our non-profits current projects and future goals.

Our organization was initiated by Maui residents to help increase food security and economic benefits to Maui County and provide education and outreach to our community. Currently we are working with the American Heart Association to provide locally grown produce for the “Kids Cook with Heart” program ensuring that the produce purchased is from local farmers to support our local agriculture. To date, we have sourced over 1000 lbs. of produce and prepared over 390 kits for the children to take home to make with their families.

Our organization also spotlights local businesses that use locally-sourced produce for their products and helps connect them with the farmers. During the winter holidays we launched a “Locally Grown Gift Campaign,” promoting added-value products who use locally sourced materials. On top of this we are also collecting data to increase local connections between farmers and the market, as well as inspiring landowners to convert their properties into small passive farms.

Most recently we have become involved in the Maui Food Bank’s “Give Healthy Challenge” to promote healthy donations to the Maui food bank for their recipients. The program was just launched on April 5th. On April 7th, CGC hosted a “Give Healthy Food Drive” at the 2019 Ian Walsh’s Menehune Mayhem Surf Contest and collected healthy food donations for the program. Donors were then entered into a drawing for surf swag prizes.

Soon we will be launching our Foster Farming upcountry gleaning program and scheduling appointments to glean properties 2 days a week. The property owners will get to decide how they want to share their produce, whether as a direct donation to community organizations, to sell it for a profit, or to give it as a donation to CGC.

All of these services are incredibly beneficial to the Maui community and we are only getting started! So far we have done the majority of this work as a grassroots organization with very little funding, and have provided much needed assistance, while filling in some of the gaps of our local food system. Our organization is providing some of the sustainable agriculture solutions for Maui County, and with your help we could continue to grow, thrive, and help our community do the same. I ask that you please support Common Ground Collective by providing us with \$25,000 to bolster our operation expenses.

Mahalo,

Ananda Stone  
Chair

Common Ground Collective  
cgcmaui@gmail.com  
(808) 281-4591  
<https://www.commongroundcollective.com/>

## Fiscal 2020 Budget Meeting Testimony

RE: Common Ground Collective a 501c3 organization seeking \$25,000.00 from Fiscal 2020 Budget for ongoing Foster Farming gleaning program and the Give Healthy Food Drive.

Aloha Kākou,

I am writing on behalf of Common Ground Collective (CGC), a Maui based 501c3 organization. I am asking the County to consider providing \$25,000 to support our non-profits current projects and future goals.

Our organization was initiated by Maui residents to help increase food security and economic benefits to Maui County and provide education and outreach to our community. Currently we are working with the American Heart Association to provide locally grown produce for the “Kids Cook with Heart” program ensuring that the produce purchased is from local farmers to support our local agriculture. To date, we have sourced over 1000 lbs. of produce and prepared over 390 kits for the children to take home to make with their families.

Our organization also spotlights local businesses that use locally-sourced produce for their products and helps connect them with the farmers. During the winter holidays we launched a “Locally Grown Gift Campaign,” promoting added-value products who use locally sourced materials. On top of this we are also collecting data to increase local connections between farmers and the market, as well as inspiring landowners to convert their properties into small passive farms.

Most recently we have become involved in the Maui Food Bank’s “Give Healthy Challenge” to promote healthy donations to the Maui food bank for their recipients. The program was just launched on April 5th. On April 7th, CGC hosted a “Give Healthy Food Drive” at the 2019 Ian Walsh’s Menehune Mayhem Surf Contest and collected healthy food donations for the program. Donors were then entered into a drawing for surf swag prizes.

Soon we will be launching our Foster Farming upcountry gleaning program and scheduling appointments to glean properties 2 days a week. The property owners will get to decide how they want to share their produce, whether as a direct donation to community organizations, to sell it for a profit, or to give it as a donation to CGC.

All of these services are incredibly beneficial to the Maui community and we are only getting started! So far we have done the majority of this work as a grassroots organization with very little funding, and have provided much needed assistance, while filling in some of the gaps of our local food system. Our organization is providing some of the sustainable agriculture solutions for Maui County, and with your help we could continue to grow, thrive, and help our community do the same. I ask that you please support Common Ground Collective by providing us with \$25,000 to bolster our operation expenses.

Mahalo,

Ananda Stone  
Chair  
Common Ground Collective  
[cgcmaui@gmail.com](mailto:cgcmaui@gmail.com)  
(808) 281-4591  
<https://www.commongroundcollective.com/>

The testimony can be sent to [EDB.Committee@mauicounty.us](mailto:EDB.Committee@mauicounty.us)



## **EDB Committee**

---

**From:** Bob Marshall <remodels@mauimarcon.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 10, 2019 3:10 PM  
**To:** EDB Committee  
**Cc:** 'Marshall Contracting'; Tamara A. Paltin  
**Subject:** Kahana Nui Stream Flooding

Aloha County Council Committee –

It is 2:45 pm and I was just notified about a meeting for the proposed West Side Economic and Development Budget for 2020 at the Lahaina Civic Center tonight.

Unfortunately we will not be able to attend tonight due to the short notice, however we will reach out to the other 25 homeowner's on our street.

We are homeowner's in Kahana Nui Village. In September of 2018, the West Side of Maui suffered a severe flooding incident.

In the Kahana Nui Village neighborhood, we live right along the Kahana (Nui) Stream and we sustained collectively, hundreds of thousands of dollars of damage to our properties ; most was not covered by insurance. We have had flooding on several occasions in addition to the 2018 flood.

We believe that the damage to our homes and property could be avoided and/or mitigated if certain improvements were to be made.

Our Homeowners Association consists of 26 homes. We would like to have the following items addressed, as we have witnessed that these things are contributing and/or causing the flooding that happens in our neighborhood:

- There is an old abandoned culvert leading from the mauka side of the highway to the makai side at the bridge spanning the Kahana Stream.

What has happened is the flow of water in the stream flowing into the culvert is dammed by debris.

This causes the water to flow over the highway and enter our neighborhood through the yards and houses at the south side of our neighborhood. If the culvert could be removed and the natural stream bed restored, this damming and resulting overflow would not happen!

- There was a swale located along the housing fence line on the highway side of the neighborhood that has not been maintained.

It appears sentiment and other activities have filled this swale in. This results in the water not flowing in the swale to the stream, but instead flowing into the yards of the properties located along that line. We would like to have the swale restored to restore the natural flow of the runoff water to the stream.

- The Kahana Stream on the mauka side of the Honoapiilani Highway (upstream), has not been maintained and the result is an overgrowth of Java Plum

growing in the stream bed. How do we know this? Because some of our homeowners have walked up the stream bed when it's dry.

We, as an Association, called the County after the September 2018 flood. The personnel who came out, remarked at how he hadn't been

out to our stream bed since 1994 !!! This is unacceptable. The resulting debris from the trees are caught in the stream water and flow down the stream causing damming at the choke points along the stream bed and prolific pollution as this stream flows to the ocean.

This debris stoppage added immensely to the reason our neighborhood flooded.

- There are STILL remnants of flood debris along the fence at the end of Omaikai Place, along Kahana Nui Park.

The fence, by the way, is severely damaged from the flood. Isn't this a City and County park? We have children and pets that use this park DAILY, who have been seen playing in and near the debris, which is now an unsightly and unsanitary refuge for large and small rodents.

PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE budget funds for immediate attention to the maintenance of the Kahana (Nui) Stream before hurricane season comes our way with devastating weather and potential further damage.

Mahalo,

Bob and Tina Marshall  
808-283-5620



## **EDB Committee**

---

**From:** MDThomas <mariadonell\_thomas@lahaina.k12.hi.us>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 10, 2019 3:06 PM  
**To:** EDB Committee  
**Subject:** Mental Health America of Hawaii (formerly known as Mental Health Association of Maui)

Aloha,

I would like to write to you in support of Mental Health America of Hawaii (formerly known as Mental Health Association of Maui).

My name is Donell Thomas and I am an 8<sup>th</sup> grade health teacher at Lahaina Intermediate School. We had guest speakers come in and give a talk to my health students about Youth Suicide and Bully Prevention.

These talks were effective and held the attention of the students. The students appreciated and valued the information they received as did I.

Please continue to support this program so it can continue to help our students.

Mahalo,  
Donell Thomas  
8<sup>th</sup> Grade Health  
Lahaina Intermediate School

## **EDB Committee**

---

**From:** Enid Sands <enidsands@outlook.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 10, 2019 2:43 PM  
**To:** EDB Committee  
**Subject:** I love Maui Nui Botanical Gardens

I have been a happy volunteer at Maui Nui Botanical Gardens for five years. Such a friendly and very competent staff! I hope it gets all the funding it needs because it's such an important organization for the health of Maui's flora.

Enid Sands

## **EDB Committee**

---

**From:** joseph white <joe@808mopeds.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 10, 2019 3:57 PM  
**To:** EDB Committee  
**Cc:** Walter Cap. Havekorst; Richard Rutherford; Jessica Crouse; George Thoma  
**Subject:** Down Payment Assistance  
**Attachments:** To Whom It May Concern.pdf

Aloha,

Please see attached my written testimony for the vote on First Time Homeowners Down-Payment Assistance Program.

"We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, then, is not an act, but a habit."

Sincerely,

Joseph W White Jr

Direct: 808-463-4446  
Shop: 808-871-RIDE  
[www.808MOPEDS.com](http://www.808MOPEDS.com)

To Whom It May Concern:

Aloha. My name is Joseph W White Jr. and I am a recipient of this year's First Time Homeowner Grant. I will not be able to make this year's council meeting but I would like to add a written statement.

I am in support for the additional \$2,000,000 in funding for the First-Time Home Buyer's Down Payment Assistance Program which has been included in the proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2020 (July 1, 2019-June 30, 2020). Should this funding be approved, many Maui residents just like myself could have the opportunity to own a small piece of paradise. We all know that Hawaii is expensive. We all know that it is hard to find suitable rent let alone a suitable condo/home to purchase for most residents here on Maui.

If the Housing Division will have an opportunity to offer down payment assistance to other Maui County residents during the next year, this will be an absolute blessing for so many locals. If the funding is there, we need to vote yes on this bill.

Mahalo for your time and I hope this helps with the votes.

Sincerely,

Proud Maui First Time Homeowner.

Joseph W White Jr.

## **EDB Committee**

---

**From:** Kaila Wilkinson <kaila96761@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 10, 2019 7:08 PM  
**To:** EDB Committee  
**Subject:** West side dog park

Aloha!

My name is Kaila Wilkinson and I'm a senior at Lahainaluna High School and I have owned dogs my whole life. Being born and raised in Lahaina with no dog park has been a strain on not only the time I get to spend out with my dogs but the time they spend playing and having a healthy social life. It has also been a strain on my wallet as I would have to take my dogs to either Napili, Makawao, or Kahului. Building a dog park in Lahaina will bring the community closer together as dog owners of Lahaina will have somewhere to come together. Thank you for your time and consideration!

Mahalo,  
Kaila Wilkinson

Sent from my iPhone

## **EDB Committee**

---

**From:** Kimberly Castro <kcastro9@hawaii.rr.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 10, 2019 8:27 PM  
**To:** EDB Committee  
**Subject:** County of Maui Budget

Dear Budget Chair Rawlins-Fernandez and Budget Committee members,

Please support the Kihei Youth Center's request of \$276,054.00 for the upcoming 2020 fiscal year budget. They are currently a recipient of this amount and have been a good steward of any and all funding from the County of Maui. It is vital that they receive this grant as it will allow them to continue the good works they do and have done since 1983. For over 36 years, KYC has been the only youth center in Kihei and they continue to be a safe place for our kids, both after school and during vacation periods.

Kihei Youth Center has been a positive factor to the Maui community and with your support we can continue to keep Kihei Youth Center going for future generations to come.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Kimberly Castro  
Kihei Youth Center  
Board President  
[kcastro9@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:kcastro9@hawaii.rr.com)



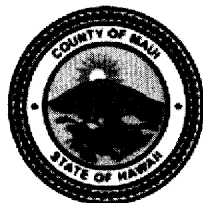
## **EDB Committee**

---

**From:** Kelly King  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 10, 2019 1:14 PM  
**To:** EDB Committee  
**Cc:** Kate Griffiths  
**Subject:** Fw: Letter Updating Maui School Garden Network Activities for 2018-2019 and Requesting Funds for Fiscal 2020 for MSGN/GSG  
**Attachments:** MauiCtySupportLtrApril102019KellyKing.pdf

Forwarding.

With Aloha,



**Office of Council Chair Kelly T. King**

South Maui Residency  
Office: 808.270.7108  
200 South High Street, 7<sup>th</sup> Fl  
Wailuku HI 96793  
[mauicounty.us](http://mauicounty.us)

---

**From:** Lehn Huff1 <[msgn@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:msgn@hawaii.rr.com)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 10, 2019 12:21 PM  
**To:** Kelly King  
**Cc:** Kathy Becklin  
**Subject:** Letter Updating Maui School Garden Network Activities for 2018-2019 and Requesting Funds for Fiscal 2020 for MSGN/GSG

Aloha e Kelly:

Mahalo for your tremendous leadership and the changes you have initiated during the first few months in your new position as Council Chair. We appreciate the opportunity to work with you and to provide whatever information you may need to understand the importance of our Farm to School movement. Maui County continues to be the only county that provides funding to its Farm to School program and this fact helps to attract other funding.

Mahalo,

Lehn  
Lehn Huff, Director  
Maui School Garden Network  
PO Box 458  
Haiku, Hawaii 96708  
(808) 250-8323 Cell  
[msgn@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:msgn@hawaii.rr.com)



Councilmember Kelly King  
Kalana O Maui Building  
200 South High St.  
Eighth Floor  
Wailuku, Hawaii 96793

April 10, 2019

Dear Councilmember Kelly King:

Kathy Becklin, ED, Grow Some Good, and I are very interested in talking with you about developing a multi-year proposal for support from the County and other entities along with our vision and goals. We are the only organization on Maui/Lana'i that has a presence in all our DOE schools as well as our sole charter school and most of the independent schools. That presence puts us in key strategic positions to monitor nutritional habits, school culture, opportunities for farm connections, opportunities for teacher trainings and orientations, and identifying community support groups, which is what networking is all about.

As you know, the goals of MSGN are to (1) reconnect our K-12 students with the 'Aina giving them an understanding of how to grow their own food, thus promoting food security in the State of Hawai'i, (2) build proper nutritional understanding and practices into the lives of our children and their ohana, and (3) introduce farming as a career connecting it to STEAM elaborations within each school while providing fieldtrip experiences that will enhance that understanding.

Effective Jan. 2019, MSGN has merged with Grow Some Good which holds non-profit status and therefore serves as the new fiscal umbrella for MSGN. The data that follows incorporates the metrics from Grow Some Good's 10 schools for which GSG has specific oversight.

*The uniqueness of this program that has been running on Maui and Lana'i for the past 10 years is its P20 aspect. It runs from preschool (as of February 2019) through high school and encourages post high-school connections available through CTAHR, UHMC, Go Farm, and Farm Apprentice Mentoring. Moloka'i has its own Farm to School program through Sustainable Moloka'i.*

#### **CURRENT METRICS**

8,636 students    380 teachers    38/44 school gardens    44 garden coordinators

Beyond the excitement that comes from hands-on learning is the "behind the scenes" work MSGN and its partner, Grow Some Good, do at the state level through the P-20 Agricultural Education Group, the DOH SNAP ED and Healthy Hawaiian Initiative programs, and the Hawaii Farm to School and School Garden Hui. Through the Hui, our island Farm to School directors connect with DOE procurement personnel including Child and Nutrition Services, local DOE food service managers, and DOE food distributors to open up opportunities for MORE local fruits and vegetables in our schools.

At the state level, MSGN is a member of the Local Food Coalition under Ulupono Initiative. On Maui, MSGN networks with 17 partners including Maui Cty DOH Crisis Team, DOH Healthy Eating Active Living (HEAL) 'Ai Pono group, UHMC Food Innovation Center, MCFB, CTAHR, The Maui Farm, HFUU, HMSA Blue Zones, and local farmers. ***Our grant DASHBOARD shows an increase in our schools of direct Farm to School Connections from 10 to 25 this past year.***

### **OUR SUSTAINABLE MODEL**

The work of MSGN is sustainable because we have a method that leads each school to take on more of the expenses of its program over a three-year period of time. This means that the garden coordinator moves into a PTT (part-time teacher) position paid for by DOE funds and program supplies move into funds gathered by the PTA and school fundraisers. Currently, we have 31 schools that are sustainable according to our model.

### **MSGN SUCCESS**

Our success can be attributed in (1) our sustainability model, (2) our networking focus which keeps accurate information about schools and programs up-to-date for our schools and partners, (3) ongoing training opportunities for our teachers and school garden coordinators, (4) our statewide and local partnerships, AND (5) access to curriculum mapping from K-8 with support for highschool ag curriculum as well with a FOCUS on Science, Technology, Math, English, and Art - **STEAM EDUCATION**.

MSGN has kept its requests for funding support to a minimal amount over the past 10 years due to the pro bono leadership of the MSGN Director which adds up to a total of \$600,000 in in-kind contributions, and \$127,000 in total grant funding from Ulupono Initiative, Nuestro Futuro, Makana Aloha, Malamalama Maui, and A&B foundation.

MSGN has been under the fiscal sponsorship of Tri-Isle R,C & D, Inc. for the past 5 years and just came under Grow Some Good for fiscal 2019 since Tri-Isle was charging 19% Adm. fee and Grow Some Good, which is in its third year of non-profit status, only charges 8%.

Current funding for MSGN is \$25,000 annually with in-kind funding at approximately \$80,000. What is needed for fiscal 2020 is funding for the new director. This is because I will need to retire from my position as Director of MSGN and my replacement will need to be paid a full-time salary of \$40,000 + 35% benefits package which is actually low for a full-time director position. I will continue to serve as Vice President on the Grow Some Good Board and to provide assistance to the movement at the state and local levels. However, the movement will need leadership that is compensated.

**\*\*MSGN is asking for an increase of \$5,000 for a total request of \$30,000 for fiscal 2020. (See end of letter for further elaboration if the Council would be open to a joint request given the fact that we are in the process of merging.)**

## **Update on DOE Schools in your District - Kihei**

Kelly, in this section of my letters to councilmembers I usually include an update on the schools that we are currently working with in Kihei. The kihei schools are under the direct operation of Grow Some Good.

### **Status of Kihei Schools for Kelly from Kathy Becklin:**

**Kihei Elementary** -- We continue to have 100% participation of Kihei EI's 649 students K-5. We have classes there 4 days a week. The school support's the coordinator as a PTT for 2 days and GSG supports the other days and workdays. The area of improvement we want to address is parent engagement and support of workdays.

**Kamali'i Elementary** -- We have a great program at Kamali'i with nearly 100% participation in garden programs. The 5th graders don't engage with the GSG garden but have established their own garden. The funding for Kamali'i comes from the PTA (about 30%) and GSG. We have workdays 2-3 times a quarter and have pretty good participation.

**Lokelani Intermediate** - Has gone through a great transformation in the last few years. The garden serves about 50% of the students in the course of the year. Our coordinator Alexis, has learned that middle school kids really come together over food so preparation / tasting is an important part of many lessons. This quarter, garden classes are being integrated with science classes. The coordinator is a PTT supported mostly by the school. We also have a great working relationship with Collin McCormick and the FFA program; Collin is a great teacher but we really think we've been teaching kids gardening for years leading to the success of the program!

**Kihei Charter School** - We have not gotten a new garden or garden program started at the new campus but hope to make that happen in the upcoming school year.

...And excited to see what programs will be started at the **Kihei High School**. Whoever thought that Kihei would be the starting spot for new farmers; plant a seed and watch it grow.

The **MSGN country grant is housed under the Office of Economic Development** - MSGN belongs to both the Maui County Farm Bureau and the Hawaii Farmers Union United. Therefore, the best place for MSGN at the County level is under the Office of Economic Development. This continues to be a good relationship. Right now, there is a transition going on with regard to OED staffing and MSGN is hoping for the AG position under OED to be filled shortly. Former Ag Director, Kenneth Yamamura, has been a great support in the past!

**\*\*Regarding MSGN fiscal request for 2020**

This request reflects only MSGN as we have operated with a very small budget for years and we are very thankful for everything provided by the County. **However, Grow Some Good has a yearly budget of about \$250,000 and looking at a joint ask and as a transitional need, we would like \$70,000.** Our board is working with our schools to determine what is the most sustainable and efficient way of addressing the needs. Grow Some Good has moved from school contributions being 11% of the program costs to an average of 43% over 3 years. There are still schools who provide very little. We are very concerned that requiring schools to find ways to contribute, may cut the garden programs where they are needed the most. We are busy looking into many funding possibilities for this position including Ulupono Initiative, A&B, Mahi Pono and resources from the Farm to School Hui who see's this as a critical position.

Mahalo Nui Loa, Kelly, for your Tireless Efforts on Behalf of the Children of Maui, Lanai and Molokai,

Lehn Huff, MSGN F2S Director, PO Box 458, Haiku, Hawaii 96708, [msgn@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:msgn@hawaii.rr.com), [www.mauischoolgardennetwork.org](http://www.mauischoolgardennetwork.org), 250-8323 Cell/text

## **EDB Committee**

---

**From:** Melanie Padgett <mauiecrc@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 10, 2019 2:16 PM  
**To:** EDB Committee  
**Subject:** Fwd: Early Childhood Programs

Forwarding testimony in favor of Early Childhood Programs - Maui County Child Care Subsidy line item.

Melanie Padgett  
Project Specialist  
Maui County Early Childhood Resource Center 251 Napua St. Wailuku, HI 96793  
Phone: 242-1608  
FAX: 270-5556  
**Mailing Address: MCECRC/MFSS 1844 Wili Pa Loop Wailuku HI 96793**

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** **Margaret Koga** <nani96768@aol.com>  
**Date:** Wed, Apr 10, 2019 at 2:03 PM  
**Subject:** Early Childhood Programs  
**To:** <yukilei.sugimura@mauicounty.us>, <tasha.kama@mauicounty.us>, <mike.molina@mauicounty.us>, <alice.lee@mauicounty.us>  
**Cc:** <mauiecrc@gmail.com>

To whom it my concern,

I wanted to thank the Maui County Council members for providing a program that enables families, who suffer from economic hardship, to be able to send their children to qualified preschools or child care facilities.

Both my husband and I where raised on Maui. It is hard and also expensive to raise a family here and to try and do the best that we can. We both work full time jobs and barely make due. So programs like the Early Childhood Program are very helpful.

The Program has helped my family to send our daughter to an amazing preschool. And with the help we receive we are also able to get my son the extra help he needs with his schooling.

Sincerely,  
Margaret Koga

## **EDB Committee**

---

**From:** Paul Kastner and Phyllis Sato <satokast@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 10, 2019 2:57 PM  
**To:** EDB Committee  
**Subject:** EDB-1: in support of Maui Nui Botanical Gardens

April 10, 2019

Budget and Finance Committee  
Budget Chairman, Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez  
200 South High St. 8th Floor  
Wailuku, Hi 96793

Dear Members of the Council:

I would like to join all of Maui's citizens who are supporting the FY 2020 budget request for Maui Nui Botanical Gardens.

I have been going to the garden, almost every week, for the past nine years. It is a wonderful place to learn about native and Polynesian introduced plants. And, for me, it also is a place of beauty where I am able to experience a sense of calm and solitude.

Not only can people learn about native Hawaiian plants, but the gardens also help keep Hawaiian culture alive through its many programs and demonstrations. Topics range from kapa and dye making demonstrations to cordage and imu workshops. There's La 'Ulu, Mother's Day pot painting and many other interesting events and activities throughout the year. And, of course, there is also the annual Arbor Day Celebration where a thousand plants are given away every year.

Maui Nui Botanical Gardens serve thousands of local people and visitors every year. It's perfect for everyone from seniors to the fifteen hundred school children who visit every year. I hope the Council will continue to provide funding for this very unique experience.

Sincerely,

Paul Kastner

22 Maka Hou Pl.  
Wailuku, HI  
96793



## EDB Committee

---

**From:** Shay Chan Hodges <shay.chanhodges@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 10, 2019 1:03 PM  
**To:** EDB Committee  
**Cc:** Ian Chan Hodges  
**Subject:** Website and Additional Info re: Maui ESG Investment Project  
**Attachments:** ESG-LettersOfSupport.pdf; Kehau's Ahupuaha op-ed.pdf

Aloha EDB Committee Chair Rawlins-Fernandez and EDB Committee Members:

Please find attached information regarding the **Maui ESG Investment Project and Ahupua`a Conference, which is listed as the Maui ESG Initiative Conference in the Mayor's Economic Development Program Budget on Page 407.**

As requested by the Mayor in response to questions from the EDB Committee, we submitted information earlier this week regarding matching funds and Ahupua`a Conference topics.

More detailed information about the overall project, project organizers, opportunities, and outcomes is available at the Responsible Markets ESG Project website page:

<https://www.responsiblemarkets.com/maui-esg-project>

We are also attaching Letters of Support from UH Maui College Chancellor Lui Hokoana, Mayor Victorino, and Impact Investing firms and professionals from across the country, who are interested in participating in the project.

Also attached is an op-ed written by Maui County retiree and ERS beneficiary Kehau Filimoe`atu, which outlines the Ahupua`a approach to resource management and ESG investing.

Mahalo!

--Shay Chan Hodges  
Responsible Markets, LLC  
(808) 573-1000  
(808) 250-6160

<https://www.staradvertiser.com/2017/11/16/editorial/island-voices/manage-ers-investments-for-long-term-gain-not-quick-profits/>

Michael P. Victorino  
Mayor

Sananda K. Baz  
Managing Director



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

March 20, 2019

Mr. Ian Chan Hodges, Managing Member  
Responsible Markets  
P.O. Box 1211  
Makawao, Hawai'i 96768

Dear Mr. Chan Hodges:

I am writing to convey my support for the **Maui ESG Investment Project**, a community venture of Responsible Markets. My administration's policy objectives dovetail nicely with your projects goal of creating a blueprint to guide Maui towards becoming a financial center and educational leader in the advancement of transformational investments directed to environmental care, social responsibility and good governance (ESG) strategies.

Ongoing economic changes in Maui County, including the continued influx of billions of dollars of investments into our island from large asset owners and managers, have made the importance of taking a pro-active stance to socially responsible ESG investing on Maui very clear. Last week's Opportunity Zones and Healthy Communities conference on Maui was timely as it provided an important opportunity for our community to talk about why health and other social issues cannot be separated from the economy as well as why measuring community benefit out comes is so important.

Bringing together institutional asset managers and owners with community stakeholders to discuss how to invest in Maui county in a manner that benefits our local community, protects natural resources, and produces a reasonable return for investors is a timely and an important undertaking. Inviting stakeholders to come together for dialog and constructive engagement is a core objective of my administration because I believe such efforts will serve as a catalyst for building relationships and developing mutual understanding around the best path forward for Maui County's economic future.

So I stand ready to assist you in producing successful outcomes for the **Maui ESG Investment Project**, including inviting key parties to participate in your **Ahupua'a Investment Conference** currently scheduled to be held on Maui in August/September as well as participating myself.

March 19, 2019  
Page 2

I look forward to continuing to discuss ways that Maui County can be involved I this vital project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael P. Victorino". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line at the end.

Michael P. Victorino  
Mayor, County of Maui



UNIVERSITY of HAWAII  
**MAUI COLLEGE**

March 13, 2019

Mr. Ian Chan Hodges  
Managing Member  
Responsible Markets  
Makawao, HI 96768

Dear Mr. Chan Hodges:

I am writing to convey my support for the **Maui ESG Investment Project and Ahupua'a Conference**, a community venture of Responsible Markets to bring together institutional asset managers and owners with diverse Maui stakeholders to develop a robust and measurable approach to investment that incorporates environmental care, social responsibility and good governance (ESG) standards into sustainable investment practices modeled after the Hawaiian Ahupua'a.

UH Maui College welcomes the opportunity to host the Maui ESG Investment Project's Ahupua'a Conference and community workshops as the project dovetails with the goals of our Sustainable Science Management (SSM) program, which offers advanced practices such as systems approaches and applied experience to equip our students with knowledge, skills and leadership for the future. Furthermore, given the importance to ESG investors of supporting clean energy and addressing climate change, holding the Ahupua'a Conference at UH Maui College is particularly timely because the college is on track to produce, store and use 100 percent renewable energy on its campus this year making our campus among the first to achieve "Net Zero" in the nation.

Furthermore, I understand that none of the world's top 100 financial centers — such as New York, London, Hong Kong, Singapore, Shanghai, Tokyo, Sydney and Beijing — currently have an intentional institutional focus on ESG investing. And while a number of the world's top universities currently offer courses on impact investing, what is lacking are comprehensive ESG educational programs, which will be necessary for equipping a workforce that is truly capable of successfully allocating the hundreds of billions in ESG investment commitments already made by large institutional investors.

Hawaii — and the County of Maui in particular — is therefore well positioned from a geographic, cultural and policy perspective to fill a very significant market gap as a center for making, managing and measuring ESG investments while also positioning our islands as a center of learning for those pursuing careers in impactful ESG investment.

UH Maui College staff and students look forward to supporting the **Maui ESG Investment Project and Ahupua'a Conference** goals of creating a blueprint to guide Maui towards becoming a financial center and educational leader for ESG investment while helping investors understand how to invest in Maui County in a manner that benefits our local community, protects natural resources, and provides a reasonable return on investment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lui Hokoana".

Lui Hokoana, Ed.D  
Chancellor



2002-2003  
MetLife Foundation  
Best-Practice College  
Award Recipient



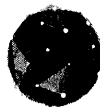
2008  
Bellwether  
Award Recipient



2009  
President's  
Higher  
Education  
Community  
Service  
Honor Roll

310 W. Ka'ahumanu Avenue  
Kahului, HI 96732-1617  
Telephone: 808 984-3655  
Fax: 808 984-3546  
Website: [www.maui.hawaii.edu](http://www.maui.hawaii.edu)

An Equal Opportunity/Affirmative  
Action Institution



**SPECTRUM  
IMPACT**

120 North Washington Square  
Suite 3000 Unit 5055  
Lansing, MI 48842

Mayor Michael P. Victorino  
County of Maui  
200 S. High Street  
Wailuku, Maui  
HI 96793

Mayor Victorino,

My name is Rehana Nathoo, and it is my pleasure to write this letter of support for the Maui ESG Investment Project and this Fall's Ahupua'a Investment Conference.

The work being undertaken by your office, and the Responsible Markets team, is a seldom seen collaborative commitment to solving our most pressing challenges today.

Economic changes across the United States, coupled with a quickly evolving climate, and a needed update to the definition of responsible fiduciary and stewardship provide an important moment in time to reassess how we can bring a values-based approach to the investments we make. Maui can play a catalytic role in establishing itself as a center for this collaborative approach to impact investing. The proposed conference is a necessary first-step in bringing together the right stakeholders, learning from one another, and educating appropriate decision makers.

I am the Founder and CEO of Spectrum Impact, an impact investing strategy consulting firm. Our firm advises a range of asset owners, managers, and private companies around how to build impact investing strategies that are sustainable *and* can thrive at scale. We work directly with these organizations to help them better determine the products they should use *and* the assets they should be invested in.

Seldom do we see a real opportunity to bring policymakers and the community alongside the private sector while these approaches are being crafted. Over my last 10 years in this field, I've seen true ESG adoption and change occur *only* when all components of productive society are engaged. The proposed conference – and your support and involvement – offer a critically needed opportunity for collaboration, by bringing the social and investment sectors together *in service of* the community.

I deeply look forward to the outcomes of this project, the Ahupua'a Investment Conference writ large, and the future evolution of your ESG approach.

Looking forward to the conference in August/September.

**Rehana Nathoo**  
**Founder and CEO**  
**Spectrum Impact**

# Dalberg

155 West 23<sup>rd</sup> Street, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor | New York, NY, 10011, USA

March 19, 2019

Dear Mr. Chan – Hodges

As Dalberg's **Global Managing Partner**, I am writing in support of the proposed **Maui ESG Investment Project and Ahupua`a Conference** and to commend **Mayor Mike Victorino** for championing this much needed initiative. The county of Maui and the state of Hawaii have a fantastic opportunity to become global leaders in the fight for a sustainable and equitable economic future. I applaud this leadership effort.

Dalberg is an impact-driven firm with offices in over 20 countries worldwide that provides strategy, investment, research, data analytics and design services to clients across the public, private and philanthropic sectors. One of the key areas we work in is sustainable, responsible and impact investing. We work with capital allocators, investors, and managers across asset classes to analyze markets, develop and diligence deal pipeline, design innovative financing instruments, structure funds and facilities, and conduct other transaction and post-transaction activities. Our investment advisory maximizes for both financial and social return, with an emphasis on inclusion and empowerment.

For instance, we collaborated with a leading global investment bank to create a facility that has now invested more than \$1 billion in women entrepreneurs in emerging markets, we supported the President of a multilateral development finance institution in developing a \$5B investment fund and strategy to stimulate youth employment and entrepreneurship, and in partnership with the World Economic Forum and the Canadian government, we designed and incubated Convergence, a non-profit organization and online platform that enables blended finance transactions towards the Sustainable Development Goals.

The world is making progress towards the SDGs but it is both patchy and slow. UN Secretary General Guterres and others have repeatedly noted that the world is not currently on-track to achieve the SDGs by 2030 - a step change is urgently needed. So what else—and what more—can we be doing to have transformational impact at scale and as soon as possible? The proposed Maui ESG Investment Project and Ahupua`a Conference is one answer to 'what more' and we would be delighted to play a role.

With its abundance of natural resources, rich culture and heritage Hawaii is primed to be a leader in the new global economic order. Programs such as that being proposed by Responsible Markets can help inform investors and policy makers, as well as community leaders and other stakeholders, helping to bring about the changes necessary for our economic future.

I hope we can continue this conversation and find a way to collaborate on creating a better world together. Please feel free to reach out to myself or any one of my 60 partners globally if we can be of further assistance.

With kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Yana Kakar', written in a cursive style.

Yana Kakar,  
Managing Partner  
Dalberg Advisors



March 20, 2019

Dear Mayor Victorino,

Thank you for your support of **Maui ESG Investment Project**. We value and endorse your administration's prioritization of Maui becoming a financial and educational center leader in impact investing.

Founded in 1995, Travois is a mission-driven business focused exclusively on promoting housing and economic development with American Indian, Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian communities. We raise capital through Low Income Housing Tax Credits and New Markets Tax Credits and connect investors to Indigenous community led developments. We were honored to pull some of the weight in our work with Native Hawaiian partners and clients to advance La`i` Opuia 2020 and the Molokai Community Health Center, which has resulted in over \$9,000,000 combined in investor equity for \$30,000,000 approximate project costs.

Your initiative in bringing a conference to Maui that develops a roadmap for identifying and investing in opportunities around climate damage, affordable housing, early education, sustainable community development, renewables, food security and water is timely and strategic. We need more centers for impact investing. The initiative of civic leaders in advancing Maui as a center is especially important given the limitations of projects having upfront capital to leverage large scale tax credit allocations in Hawaii.

We are pleased to support this effort and connect the relationships we have built through Impact Investing Day to your conference. (<https://www.alt-cap.org/impact-investing-day>) Impact Investing Day is focused on Indigenous and rural heartland communities.

I am happy to also connect you to the Investors and Indigenous People's Working Group (IIPWG) and potentially highlight you and the conference in an upcoming call/webinar. I chair the committee, Corporate and Investor Support for Indian Country. We have 50+ participants we may engage around the Ahupua`a Investment Conference. IIPWG is a team of over 150 advisors, investment professionals, and leaders for global Indigenous rights and shareholder advocacy. Thank you for your foresight.

Sincerely,

Eva Kathleen Schulte

Travois

Vice President for Economic Opportunity

816-994-8970 [eva@travois.com](mailto:eva@travois.com)





PO Box 390595 Keauhou HI 96739

April 1, 2019


Mr. Ian Chan Hodges, Managing Member  
Responsible Markets  
PO Box 1211  
Makawao, HI 96768

Mr. Chan Hodges,

I am excited that you are organizing the **Maui ESG Investment Project** and **Ahupua'a Investment Conference** to help Maui citizens and other stakeholders operating here to more fully embrace the investment principles, policies, and practices that integrate responsible environmental, social, and governance criteria. Extractive patterns have long exploited the region's cultural, social, and environmental resources while syphoning capital away to off-island owners. It is imperative that anyone investing in Hawaii – local or non-local – does so in a manner than aligns with the values of culturally relevant, ecologically sound, and socially just economic development that its residents prioritize.

A living economy is regenerative by design, it seeks to create and magnify cyclic opportunity for as many people as possible and the natural systems upon which all economic activity is based. The people of Hawaii have long known that the key to appropriate economic development is to be responsive to the needs and interests of the people who live here, to be fair and just in creating high quality job opportunities for people of various income levels, and to keep capital circulating locally as long as possible to help build the capacity for community self-reliance.

Natural Investments has been a champion of ESG investing in Hawaii since 2000 via its advisors on Maui and in Kona and Hilo. Nationally, we steward \$500 million of socially responsible assets towards ethical, green, and high social impact investments and have authored three books on the field, including our latest, *The Resilient Investor*. It is wonderful to see this once-marginalized approach to investing become more and more credible in the eyes of mainstream investors and institutions. I look forward to participating in this endeavor and to helping various stakeholders understand what's possible and what's happening elsewhere to great success along these lines.

Aloha,  
  
Michael Kramer  
Managing Partner



March 19, 2018

Dr. Gitanjali Swamy  
Managing Partner,  
IoTAsk  
One Broadway, CIC  
Cambridge, MA 02142  
Phone: 781-975-3345  
E-Mail: gms@iot-ask.com  
Web: www.iot-ask.com

Mayor Mike Victorino  
County of Maui  
200 S. High Street  
Wailuku, Maui,  
Hawaii 96793

Dear Mr. Victorino:

I am writing this letter of support for the **Maui ESG Investment Project and Ahupua`a Conference project** and support the broader goal of Maui becoming a financial center and educational leader in the advancement of transformational investment focused on environmental care, social responsibility and good governance – known in the investment world as ESG.

My name is Gitanjali M. Swamy and I am currently Managing Partner at IoTAsk, an “Innovation of Things” (IoT) company. I also serve as a Representative to the EQUALS Leadership Coalition United Nations, Research Fellow/ Director at Harvard's Private Capital Research Institute and Founder/ Advisor to the Berkeley’s Witi@UC Women in Technology Initiative. I have founded, built, served as board director in successful innovation enterprises, led investment execution from seed stage to over a Billion USD. I have held investment/strategy professional roles at global leaders Carlyle Group, Booz-Allen & Hamilton or operating-roles at MathWorks, Mentor Graphics. My projects include the formation of MIT's Opencourseware, the Auto-ID Consortium and the MIT Engine investment vehicle. I received my Bachelors in Electrical Engineering (B. Tech) from the Indian Institute of Technology, Doctorate in EECS (Ph.D.) from U.C. Berkeley in Computer Engineering, and Master’s in Business Administration (MBA) from Harvard University. I have over 25 publications and patents in data sciences, algorithms, technology and policy.

My experiences with Hawaii date back to a time when my husband was a graduate student at the University of Hawaii. Many decades and visits later, I continue to be in awe of the incredible spirituality, indigenous culture and natural beauty of the area. Lately there has been an extraordinary influx of capital from asset managers and ultra-high net individuals from around the world but there is no proactive policy stance that considers public good in the deployment of that capital. I do believe that making Maui a center for impact investing and sustainably is a critical priority today. Most development and investment approaches neglect the ESG tradeoffs required, leading to skewed financial decisions that often result in ecological disasters, destruction of a natural paradise, rampant inequality, cultural decimation or discrimination and social breakdown. In the absence of a proactive policy, Maui runs the very real risk of the previously mentioned externalities of unchanneled, poorly thought through investment and development. Such a form of investment is not in the interests of public good and sacrifices broader public benefit in return for the extraordinary private gains of a few. There is far more public benefit in Maui taking the route of ESG investment, which will preserve its most valuable resources and assets by making environmental care, social responsibility and good governance part of every investment decision criteria.

**A good first step is the proposed ESG investment conference.** We believe that bringing together institutional asset managers, local owners and other community stakeholders to agree on how to invest in Maui county in a responsible manner that maximizes public good by enabling the local community, protecting natural resources, while providing sustainable returns, is a critical step in determining Maui County's economic and societal future.

I have organized and participated in many investor events as part of my work for the EQUALS Leadership Coalition at the United Nations and my work as a research Fellow at the Private Capital Research Institute at Harvard Business School focuses on advancing the frontier of understanding capital investment effectiveness. I support this conference and will be delighted to assist the efforts as needed.

Sincerely,



Dr. Gitanjali M. Swamy

Managing Partner, IoTask LLC



Michael P. Victorino  
Mayor  
County of Maui  
200 S. High Street  
Wailuku, Maui, Hawaii 96793

Dear Mayor Victorino,

I am writing in strong support of the Maui ESG Investment Project and Ahupu'a Conference. While we are based outside of Hawaii, we are aligned with the goals of the project and want to voice our support for its merits.

I am the Managing Director of CalCEF Ventures, an organization based in Oakland, California. Our organization's vision is to create a 100%+ clean energy economy for the 100%. We work toward this vision by leveling the playing field for diverse entrepreneurs attempting to break into the clean energy economy. We provide programs, services and access to resources that ensure that communities such as women, the disadvantaged, and communities of color benefit from and participate in the clean energy economy. Since 2004, we have leveraged more than \$1.5 billion to support the development of new clean energy startups, centers, and initiatives.

The world needs new innovative clean energy solutions in order to accelerate the transition to a clean energy economy that works for everybody. Our experience has shown us that expanding opportunities to invest in clean energy leads to important local impacts, including the creation of new jobs as well as positive environmental benefits. We are pleased to support this project and particularly applaud its focus on the space of environmental care, social responsibility, and good governance (ESG) investing. Impact investors that focus on ESG practices can help to expand clean energy investment as well as areas such as sustainable agriculture, improved water practices, and sustainable community development. These are practices that are good not just for Maui and Hawaii, but for our world.

For these reasons, CalCEF Ventures strongly supports the Maui ESG Investment Project and Ahupu'a Conference. We believe that Maui would be well served by your support for this project. Please contact me should you have any further questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Danny Kennedy".

Danny Kennedy  
Managing Director, CalCEF Ventures  
Email: [danny.kennedy@calcef.org](mailto:danny.kennedy@calcef.org) | Office: (415) 957-0167

ClimateLink  
2222 Harold Way, Suite CW509  
Berkeley, CA 94704



March 20, 2019

Dear Mayor Victorino,

My name is Ravi Mikkelsen, a clean energy entrepreneur, angel investor, and the founding CEO of ClimateLink, a 10,000+ strong network of cleantech entrepreneurs, investors, charities, and government agencies. ClimateLink was formed to accelerate capital deployment into sustainability companies and projects

We convene monthly meetups in several US cities to showcase new sustainability technologies, connect startups and investors, and help job seekers to find employment in work protecting our beautiful planet.

I am writing today in support of the **Maui ESG Investment Project and Ahupua`a Conference** being proposed by Responsible Markets and Imogen Rose-Smith

As our group has expanded across the US and beyond, each city has shown to be special in its own way and has also specialized in a certain area of sustainability technology, but none have yet claimed the title of being the hub for sustainable or impact investing. With the creation of this conference and programs with the local universities, new finance vehicles could be created to help Hawaii meet its Net Zero goals more quickly, and show the rest of the US and the world, how it can be done while growing its economy and protecting its natural and cultural resources.

In addition to being a leader in sustainable investing, Maui could become the global leader in environmental economics as well. If we can better show the economic value that our wild and natural areas provide to us such as air purification, reducing tidal erosion and storm surge, flooding and desertification, we will be able to unlock trillions of more dollars as companies are created to provide Wilderness as a Service to cities and countries around the planet.

I thank you for taking a sincere study of supporting this conference and movement on Maui.

With best regards,

Ravi Mikkelsen  
CEO, ClimateLink



SPRING LANE  
CAPITAL

Robert Day  
Spring Lane Capital  
50 Milk St., Boston, MA 02109

Mr. Ian Chan Hodges  
Managing Member  
Responsible Markets  
Makawao, Hawai'i 96768

Dear Mr. Chan Hodges:

I am writing to convey my support for the Maui ESG Investment Project, a community venture of Responsible Markets. As a private equity investor in clean and renewable energy solutions, I know that this initiative shares the same goals and efforts as my own firm and our portfolio companies and project investments.

Maui is very well-positioned to become a centerpiece of impact investing and sustainability. The local economy and geography favor cleaner, localized solutions to energy needs, and Maui could also become a valuable gathering point for market participants like myself and my firm.

I firmly support Mayor Victorino's recent words: "Bringing together institutional asset managers and owners with community stakeholders to discuss how to invest in Maui County in a manner that benefits our local community, protects natural resources, and produces a reasonable return for investors is a timely and an important undertaking. ... I believe such efforts will serve as a catalyst for building relationships and developing mutual understanding around the best path forward for Maui County's economic future."

I believe this to all be true, and in addition I wanted to add my voice as a more distant stakeholder in support of the value of this initiative for convening more investors like myself.

I would be happy to discuss further if it would be of interest.

Thank you,

Rob Day  
General Partner

Imogen Rose-Smith  
Investment Fellow  
University of California, Office of the Chief Investment Officer  
1111 Broadway, 21st Floor  
Oakland, CA 94607-9828

Tuesday, March 19, 2019

Dear Mr. Chan Hodges:

Thank you for sharing Mayor Mike Victorino's letter of support for the **Maui ESG Investment Project and Ahupua`a Conference**. Issues pertaining to the Environment, Social Responsibility, and Corporate Governance (ESG) are going to define investment, capital markets, governments, education and leadership in the coming decade. And institutions and communities that are able to show leadership and find sustainable ways of living will thrive.

Hawaii is uniquely positioned to become a center for sustainable and impact investing, creating jobs, developing new industries and technologies, and providing opportunities for Maui County to become a global center of learning and leadership. Through convening community participants, industry thought leaders, asset owners, money managers and other stake holders, the Maui ESG Investment Project and Ahupua`a Conference will be an important step on Maui's journey to a profitable and sustainable economic future.

I am currently an investment fellow with the University of California. At the U.C., I help guide and advise the Office of the Chief Investment Officer, which oversees \$114 billion in assets, on matters relating to impact and sustainable investing. Previously I was a journalist for over 15 years, focusing on institutional asset management, including writing about many of the world's largest asset owners. I have experience organizing high-level impact investment conferences that were attended by world leaders and business owners, investors representing trillions of dollars in institutional capital, philanthropists, and innovators.

As you know, during the past 12 months I have been in discussions with Responsible Markets on how to best address the existing market gaps in the world of ESG investment. I am pleased that our discussions have led to the development of the Maui ESG Investment Project and Ahupua`a Conference. As an advisor to one of the largest institutional asset owners and a recognized expert on impact and sustainable investment, I have numerous demands on my time and responsibilities. But this initiative is so timely, representing such a unique, massive opportunity, that I felt it was well worth my time and effort. The potential to make the University of Hawaii at Maui College a center for learning and innovation around sustainable investment -- and a pathway for training and jobs in the new sustainable economy -- is particularly exciting.

I am absolutely delighted to see Mayor Victorino offer his bold leadership in championing this much-needed initiative. The County of Maui can show the world how investing with Hawaiian values, with respect for the water, the land and its people along with the surrounding community can be a driver of growth, change and economic prosperity.

I look forward to continuing our work.

Regards,  
Imogen

Imogen Rose-Smith  
Investment Fellow, University of California

# Manage ERS investments for long-term gain, not quick profits

By Kehau Filimoe'atu

I recently retired after serving in Maui County's 911 emergency dispatch center with the Maui Police Department. A civil servant for almost a quarter of a century, I've experienced relief, achievement and an awkward blessing of great retirement expectations.

My retirement benefits — like thousands of my fellow public employee retirees in Hawaii — depend largely on the investments of the Hawaii Employees' Retirement System (ERS). With \$15 billion in assets, the ERS has shares in more than 800 companies, which means it owns a slice of the whole economy.

A pension fund that owns a piece of nearly everything can be sustainably managed



*Kehau Filimoe'atu lives on Maui and considers herself to be a public servant for life.*

like a Hawaiian ahupua'a, recognizing that an improper diversion of water — wai — upstream will result in a loss in the lo'i kalo — wetland taro field — downstream. Because Hawaiians recognize that water is the source of life, waiwai is our word for wealth. An ahupua'a approach to investment understands that

when waiwai is excessively diverted or misused, the overall economy withers and stagnates.

An example of such a transaction took place this summer with the purchase of Whole Foods by the ERS' second-largest holding: Amazon.

The day the deal was announced, Whole Foods and Amazon increased their combined stock market value by \$14 billion (for this, ERS' pensioners say mahalo piha).

However, dozens of grocery companies whose shares are also owned by pensions simultaneously lost \$34 billion in stock market value because investors expect the Whole Foods acquisition to cause a significant "upstream" diversion of grocery sales to Amazon.

For na kupuna of the ERS, our kuleana is to ensure that our waiwai is not improperly diverted. We need to ensure that our economic ahupua'a sustains future generations so they will inherit the sweat equity we left behind as public workers, civil servants and community caretakers.

What can we do? The people of Hawaii can encourage those who invest in our corporations, which many of us are the beneficiary owners of through our pension funds, to serve the long-term interests of our communities.

Government officials can also take an ahupua'a approach to public service. NextEra's acquisition of Hawaiian Electric Co., for example, was rejected by the Public Utilities Commission because it was determined that the proposed purchase

would result in an excessive diversion of waiwai from the community.

Another option is for corporate board members themselves to recognize that it is their kuleana to consider the needs of employees, the broader community and Hawaii's overall sustainability. Hawaii law already allows corporations to consider other factors beyond short-term, narrowly defined shareholder interests.

Furthermore, the interests of beneficiary shareholders such as myself and those of the community are often one and the same. Such an ahupua'a approach further serves shareholder beneficiaries because it results in a healthy overall economy, which is what ultimately increases the value of our pension funds.

For the benefit of retirees like myself and for the sake of our children and grandchildren, we need the owners of our corporations to require corporate leadership to be proactive in building lasting value in our communities, rather than seeing their kuleana as primarily extracting short-term profits while defensively reacting to community concerns and regulatory protections.

To investors who work to structure their ownership in a manner that embraces the ahupua'a approach by requiring community consideration, creating real lasting value reflective of Hawaii's culture and building an economic platform inclusive of our local people and their mana'o, I say e komo mai — let the waiwai flow.



## **EDB Committee**

---

**From:** amber@hrphana.com  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 10, 2019 2:30 PM  
**To:** EDB Committee  
**Subject:** 2020 Fiscal Year Budget Testimony  
**Attachments:** Testimony for Budget Committee Hearings.pdf

Aloha:

Please find the attached testimony to the Economic Development and Budget Committee regarding the 2020 Fiscal Year Budget.

Thank you,  
Amber

HRP HANA, LLC  
PO Box 1447  
Makawao, HI 96768

April 10, 2019

Council of the County of Maui  
Economic Development and Budget Committee  
[edb.committee@mauicounty.us](mailto:edb.committee@mauicounty.us)

Re: 2020 Fiscal Year Budget Testimony

Aloha Committee Chair and Members,


Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony. My name is Amber Starr and I am writing today on behalf of HRP Hana, LLC (HRP), formerly known as Hana Ranch Partners. We would like to take this opportunity to express support for the Items J.-9 and J.-10 of the Special Purpose Revenues – Schedule of Revolving/Special Funds for Fiscal Year 2020.

HRP has been working in collaboration with the Hana community non-profit Ke Ao Hali'i, a community nonprofit dedicated to protecting and preserving the natural and cultural resources of the Hāna moku and the customary and traditional practices of Native Hawaiians of the region. HRP and Ke Ao Hali'i have been coordinating and engaging with local government to facilitate the purchase and donation of numerous properties along and near the Hana coast.

The approval of these budget line items as described in Appendix A-II Special Purpose Revenues will assist with these conservation efforts.

Mahalo for this opportunity to provide testimony today, and for your commitment and dedication to Maui County.

Kind Regards,



Amber Starr

PHONE: (808) 573-6444