

COUNCIL OF THE COUNTY OF MAUI

DISASTER RECOVERY, INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS, AND PLANNING COMMITTEE

September 26, 2025

**Committee
Report No. _____**

Honorable Chair and Members
of the County Council
County of Maui
Wailuku, Maui, Hawaii

Chair and Members:

Your Disaster Recovery, International Affairs, and Planning Committee, having met on September 3, 2025, makes reference to Bill 82 (2025), entitled “A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 10.04.030, MAUI COUNTY CODE, RELATING TO AUTHORIZED EMERGENCY VEHICLES.”

Bill 82’s purpose is to amend the definition of “authorized emergency vehicle” under the Maui Traffic Code to include emergency vehicles used by the Maui County Emergency Management Agency.

Your Committee is in receipt of a proposed CD1 version of Bill 82, approved as to form and legality by the Department of the Corporation Counsel, incorporating nonsubstantive revisions.

Your Committee notes that by broadening the “authorized emergency vehicle” definition, MEMA vehicles would be allowed to use emergency sirens and flashing lights when responding to emergencies. Further, MEMA vehicles would be exempted from speed restrictions and other traffic ordinances in the same manner as other authorized emergency vehicles.

The Emergency Management Agency Administrator said Bill 82 would improve emergency response countywide, but particularly in East Maui, Molokai, and Lānaʻi. With limited resources in these areas, authorizing MEMA vehicles to bypass traffic would allow rapid deployment to emergency scenes.

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Your Committee notes that MEMA personnel serve as incident commanders who must establish command posts, coordinate resources, and ensure effective multiagency communication.

The Administrator noted that the MEMA emergency fleet consists of six vehicles, each marked and equipped with four-wheel drive, emergency-light bars, sirens, mobile radios, and public-address speakers.

Your Committee notes Bill 82 would support the Maui Emergency Management Agency's 2025-2030 Strategic Plan, Objective 3.4: "Enhance the coordination and efficiency of emergency and disaster response efforts among all local government agencies, ensuring a unified, timely, and effective approach to managing incidents."

Your Committee expressed support for Bill 82, CD1, which would improve the County's emergency-preparedness and -response capabilities.

Your Committee voted 9-0 to recommend passage of Bill 82, CD1 (2025), on first reading. Committee Chair Paltin, Vice-Chair U'u-Hodgins, and members Cook, Johnson, Kama, Lee, Rawlins-Fernandez, Sinenci, and Sugimura voted "aye."

Your Disaster Recovery, International Affairs, and Planning Committee RECOMMENDS that Bill 82, CD1 (2025), attached, entitled "A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 10.04.030, MAUI COUNTY CODE, RELATING TO AUTHORIZED EMERGENCY VEHICLES," be PASSED ON FIRST READING and be ORDERED TO PRINT.

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**Committee
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This report is submitted in accordance with Rule 3 of the Rules of the Council.



TAMARA PALTIN, Chair

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ORDINANCE NO. _____

BILL NO. **82, CD1** (2025)

A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 10.04.030, MAUI COUNTY CODE, RELATING TO AUTHORIZED EMERGENCY VEHICLES

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

SECTION 1. This Ordinance's purpose is to amend the definition of "authorized emergency vehicle" under the Maui Traffic Code to include emergency vehicles used by the Maui County Emergency Management Agency during emergency response.

By broadening the "authorized emergency vehicle" definition, MEMA vehicles would be allowed to use emergency sirens and flashing lights when responding to emergencies, and would also be exempted from speed restrictions and other traffic ordinances in the same manner as other authorized emergency vehicles.

SECTION 2. Section 10.04.030, Maui County Code, is amended by amending the definition of "authorized emergency vehicle" to read as follows:

"Authorized emergency vehicle" means any [vehicle of the] department of fire and public safety vehicle or police vehicle, all ambulances, vehicles used by the Maui county emergency management agency while engaged in emergency response functions, and [such] emergency vehicles of government departments [or] used in public service [as] that are designated or authorized by the county council [of the County of Maui]."

SECTION 3. Material to be repealed is bracketed. New material is underscored. In printing this bill, the County Clerk need not include the brackets, the bracketed material, or the underscoring.

SECTION 4. This Ordinance takes effect on approval.

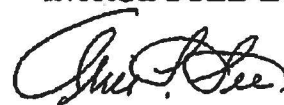
APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY:

/s/ Michael J. Hopper

Department of the Corporation Counsel
County of Maui

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INTRODUCED BY:

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Alice L. Lee".

ALICE L. LEE

Upon the request of the Mayor.