

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

MINUTES

April 2, 2025

Helene Hall, Social Hall

CONVENE: 6:04 p.m.

PRESENT: Councilmember Yuki Lei K. Sugimura, Chair
Councilmember Tasha Kama, Vice-Chair
Councilmember Tom Cook, Member
Councilmember Gabe Johnson, Member
Councilmember Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez, Member
Councilmember Shane M. Sinenci, Member
Councilmember Nohelani U'u-Hodgins, Member

EXCUSED: Councilmember Tamara Paltin, Member
Councilmember Alice L. Lee, Member

STAFF: Keone Hurdle, Legislative Analyst
Yvette Bouthillier, Senior Committee Secretary
Criselda Paranada, Committee Secretary
Megan Moniz, Legislative Attorney

Mavis Oliveira-Medeiros, Council Aide, East Maui Residency Area Office

OTHERS: Dean Wariner
Lipoa Kahaleuahi, Executive Director, Ma Ka Hāna Ka 'Ike
Mike Opgenorth, Director, Kahanu Garden
Claire Kamalu Carroll, Office of Economic Development
Kane Kanakaole, Branch Manager, Maui Economic Opportunity
Eileen Comeaux
Fawn Helekahi, Teacher, Ke Kula Kaiapuni O Hāna
Keaka Helekahi, Ma Ka Hāna Ka 'Ike
Keahi Lind
Matt Keiley, Member, Maui County Farm Bureau
C. Ka'uiiki Lind, Makai Watch Coordinator, Kīpahulu 'Ohana
Meleana Kurokawa
Ka'iulani Tanaka-Sanders Sullivan, Director, Hāna Community Association
Maya Ross, Teacher, Hāna High & Elementary School
Shanrae Ng, Driver, Maui Economic Opportunity
Scott Crawford
Akaneki Lind, President, Hāna Canoe Club; Event Coordinator, 2025 Sarah Joe
Memorial Race
Noe Lecker
Mary Kauī Kala-Brook, Culinary Instructor and Financial Instructor, Ma Ka Hāna
Ka 'Ike

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Lehua Park

Mark Tanaka-Sanders

Earle Medeiros Jr., Maui Economic Opportunity

Clayton Carvalho Jr., Member, Hāna Advisory Committee; Member, Hāna
Community Association; Basketball Coach, Hāna High & Elementary
School

Dawn Lono, President, Hāna Business Council

Others (20+)

CHAIR SUGIMURA: . . .*(gavel)*. . . Welcome everybody to the Budget, Finance, Economic Development Committee. We are your Councilmembers here nine [sic] strong and we are here to hear what you have to share about what you think the County needs to include in the Fiscal Year '26 Budget. Thank you for allowing us to be here. My name is Yuki Lei Sugimura, the Chair of this Budget, Finance, Economic Development Committee. And at this time I want to introduce somebody that you all love and know which is our Shane Sinenci, and you can...he can introduce all our Councilmembers and your Staff which we would.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Okay. Mahalo. And thank you Yuki Lei Sugimura. She is the Upcountry-Kula representative. To my far right we have Nohe U'u-Hodgins from...our Pā'ia representative. Mr. Tom Cook is our South Maui representative. On the far left we have our Pro Tem Tasha Kama, she is our Kahului representative. And next to her we have Ms. Keani Rawlins-Fernandez, she's our Moloka'i representative. And Mr. Gabe Johnson is our Lāna'i representative. Our East Maui Staff that's here is we have Dawn Lono, Mavis Medeiros, and from our outside office we have Don Atay and Jock Yamaguchi, and they're also joining us today. So, welcome everybody to...this is our second budget meeting. Last night we were up in Pukalani and tonight we're in Hāna. Real quick just for a couple things in this budget, there are...the Mayor's...we did receive the Mayor's budget on Tuesday and some notable things for Hāna is that he put in some extra funding for student travel. He also...there's...oh, he also put some monies in Open Space funding for our food resiliency hub and our food aggregation center as well. And for those nonprofits that I see here, there's some competitive grants in arts and culture, small business, and tourism management. So, those are some of the things that the Mayor put in the budget. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. I also want to thank our Office of Council Services Staff. So, we have at the far end Yvette Bouthillier. Hi. And Megan Moniz, she's an attorney. Keone Hurdle, OCS Staff, Legislative Staff and I think I see Kamalu Carroll there helping us register people. So, that's called over and beyond the call of duty.

MS. MONIZ: Cris. Secretary.

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CHAIR SUGIMURA: And what?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Criselda.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, Criselda. Sorry, Criselda. Did I miss anybody else? Keone, Criselda, Yvette. Austin. Austin who is...you're actually a Hāna resident, a Upcountry resident from *Akakū*. Thanks for driving out here. So, all the meetings...the residency meetings are being filmed and later on *Akakū* will show it to the public on *Akakū* station. So, we appreciate you making the time to be with us. I also wanted to mention Gale and you can tell me his last name.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Notestone.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Where are you? Okay. Stand up. So, this is...Members, maybe for us, this is who MEMA has appointed to be the MEMA person for Hāna. Yeah. So, all of East Maui. Thank you very much. I think you're a retired firefighter and you must have connections or worked...worked with our administrator.

MR. NOTESTONE: Yeah, full-time.

ITEM 1: PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2026 BUDGET FOR THE COUNTY
OF MAUI (BILL 41 (2025), BILL 42 (2025), BILL 43 (2025), BILL 44 (2025),
BILL 45 (2025), BILL 46 (2025), and RESOLUTION 25-83)

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah. Thank you. Thank you for doing this. Thank you, everybody. So, we are excited to hear what you want to share with us. I...we...we are here to listen to you. When you do come up to the mic, we are filming you, and that you will be given three minutes to tell us what item you want to talk about because you can talk about anything in the entire budget, and 30 seconds to complete. Be ready in case the Members have questions for you. And first testifier please.

MR. HURDLE: Chair, the first person to testify is Dean Wariner, followed by Lipoa Kahaleuahi.

. . . BEGIN PUBLIC TESTIMONY . . .

MR. WARINER: Good evening. My name is Dean Wariner. I'm a retired teacher...

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Cannot hear. Mic's not on.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: The switch on the mic. There's a switch. Press it up.

MR. WARINER: I'm a retired school teacher, and I'm here to try to interest you in building a swimming pool in Hāna to teach the keikis to swim before they hit the ocean. We do have a swim program at the school. They bring them down in the spring, most...mostly

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about 12 and under. And they go through...what...getting used to ocean water but not really learning to swim. And ocean swimming is a lot different than freshwater swimming. And I think Maui has a great system of swimming pools but we're not close enough to really use them. Second thing that I would like to encourage is the road between town and Kaupō is miserable. It's been miserable since I've been here 27 years. And even though we get a mile of paving, it never seems to catch up with things that...that are falling apart. Because we have a lot of heavy traffic and by heavy I mean bulldozers and dump trucks and cement trucks and our little road just can't handle that. And so, it ends up with...with potholes and breaking...the trucks are so heavy that they break the actual roadway. And then when they try to repair it, they don't have the equipment. They can't roll asphalt because they don't have a roller. And so, they just depend on the cars that are coming back and forth to...to smooth it out. And the problem with that is it's...it lumps up and then gets knocked off and it's a pothole again. So, those are the two things that I wanted to interest you in tonight. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you very much. Any Member have questions? Member Kama? There's a mic right there.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Thank you for your testimony. So, do you know who owns the road in which you're speaking of that needs all these repairs? Is it a State highway or County?

MR. WARINER: I...I think...I think the State goes from Kahului to Hāna Town and then after that the County picks up the rest of the...the highway to Ulupalakua.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Thank you. Okay. Thank you. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Thank you very much.

MR. WARINER: Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Next testifier, please.

MR. HURDLE: Chair, the next testifier is Lipoa Kahaleuahi.

MS. KAHALEUAHI: Aloha. Good evening, Chair and fellow Councilmembers. Mahalo nui for being here and for this opportunity to testify. I'm Lipoa Kahaleuahi and I'm here representing Hāna, the various Hāna nonprofits and specifically Ma Ka Hāna Ka 'Ike. I want to express our deep gratitude for your support of...of our organization over the years, and I want to speak to both the financial and the social capital that we've been able to build off of to...to serve our community. So, the first is that the investment that you put into us is not just a dollar amount, it is a catalyst for significant...for significant impact. Through our careful financial stewardship, we leverage every OED dollar at an impressive rate. Last fiscal year, we earned an additional \$6.25 for every dollar that the OED invested in us. That allows that dollar amount to work harder for our East Maui community. Beyond that financial efficiency, the social capital that we've been able to build within our team has been able to allow our staff to become experts in their fields

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in agriculture, culinary, and building and construction. For example, our Mahele Farm Manager and Community Outreach Coordinator have been...played advisory roles for Hāna's Food Hub project. Additionally, our Community Outreach Coordinator and I have represented Ma Ka Hāna Ka 'Ike in the steering committee that developed the Maui County Food and Nutrition Plan that just came out. And our culinary and building program managers and their teams are continuously sought after for insight and advice. And I also want to make a shout out to our students, especially those in our 'Ōlelo Hawai'i program who we continue to lean on as leaders as we continue to invest in those program opportunities. The County's financial support and continued partnership not only enables this level of impact, but also sends a strong message to other donors about the effectiveness of our programs. With your support, we can continue to build a thriving, self-sufficient East Maui community, along with our many community partners, including MEO, who for us allows our students to stay after school and work. Hāna Youth Center, who during the summer and intersessions provides youth programs for many of my colleagues who have children. Hāna Arts, who serves Hāna school as well. MISC here, who is continuously battling an array of invasive species in our district. Kahanu Garden also provides educational opportunities for our youth in partnership with Mahele Farm. Ala Kukui, Ke Ao Hali'i, the Hāna Business Council, the Hāna Community Association, Hale Hulu Mamo, just some to name a few that I ask for your continued support. Mahalo nui for your time, and come visit us anytime.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. Any questions? Seeing none. Oh, mahalo for the poi, that's from you. Oh my, we all took seconds and thirds. Very good, thank you. Next testifier.

MR. HURDLE: The next testifier is Mike Opgenorth, followed by Claire Kamalu Carroll.

MR. OPGENORTH: Aloha ahiahi. Brought my boy Hoku up here with me. But yeah, I'm the Director of Kahanu Garden. My name is Mike Opgenorth. Been there for about ten years, just over ten years now, and have seen some great things and a few things that wanted to just kind of express additional support for, one, being invasive species, right? I mean, I know it's something that comes up every single year, and it's probably something that's probably getting tired of...of, you know, being heard all the time, but it's something that's just growing in seriousness. You name it, it affects every part of our life, right? From doing agriculture, our tourism industry, ranching, and so much more. So, you know, today I'm probably going to talk a little more about fire ant than anything. That's something that you might have heard is on Ulaino Road right outside of Kahanu Garden. I want to first thank the support of MISC, because they've been very responsive in not just identifying, because they were the ones that found it in the gulch, but they also were very quick in producing maps and follow-up and doing treatment in less than two weeks from the time that they found it. And so, they're continuing to survey. We're really thankful for that. But it's also interesting to watch how small and tight that crew is, you know? They do a lot with very few people, and just want to acknowledge that they could do more if they had more folks on the ground helping them. So, it goes beyond, of course, we've got coconut rhinoceros beetle is a very real concern. I know it's not here yet, and we hope that it never gets here, because if it does, it's very hard to contain, as you guys have seen on O'ahu and other islands. So, yeah, invasive

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species, please continue to support those initiatives and grow your support for those as you can. It's just something that's going to continue to balloon as it gets worse. So, I know it's hard to spend a lot of money now on it when it's every year, but it's...it's going to make a difference. Also, just want to express support for our local Hāna nonprofits. Being one of them, Kahanu Garden is part of the National Tropical Botanical Garden. Our headquarters is on Kaua'i, but we've been deeded the land where Kahanu Garden is today in 1974. So, last year, we just hit 50 years at Kahanu Garden, and it's pretty exciting to see how that place has grown, right? 293 acres, and we care for a lot of rare native species and also rare kupuna crops that are not represented anywhere else on Maui Nui. So, all the support that we get from the County via grants makes a huge impact in our ability to take care of these plants and the heiau, of course. Yeah, so I think those are kind of my main things. I...you know, just again, a little fire ant thing. It's...I think we can extinguish this in East Maui if we add additional resources. It's still within reach. I know we've got to pick our battles, but yeah, thanks you guys for being here, and thanks for all your support. Aloha.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you very much. Any questions? Seeing none. Thank you. Thank you for bringing your son. Next testifier.

MR. HURDLE: Sure, the next testifier is Claire Kamalu Carroll, followed by Kane Kanakaole.

MS. CARROLL: Aloha. Good evening. Before I start, just want to let you know I work for the County of Maui OED Department. I run the American Job Center and Maui County Business Resource Center, but I'm a lifelong resident of East Maui. So, I'm here testifying on a number of things. I needed 30 minutes, but I'll stick with three. Resilience hub. We really need one in...in Hāna, and I say Hāna because it is a centralized area. Our police, our fire, our first responders are all here in Hāna. If anything, the school is a Red Cross site at the gym, and our power generator is right down by Kawaipapa Bridge. So, we already have a plan, and I'll be happy to forward that to all Councilmembers. Parks. We're so grateful to have a swing and a half-done skate park, and three monkey bars when you'd walk down the steps at Hāna Ballpark. Yay us, because you know what? I'm a proud grandparent that my children going figure it out, how to be active. County land. This is what we really...we talk about open space. We talk about requests from our community. You know, we hardly get land to even build something on it. Yeah, it would be nice to have one swimming pool in the middle of the ballpark. We got to think of all these things. Our town has grown. We're a multigenerational town. I'm seventh generation, and I have grandchildren. Nonprofits, especially big highlight to MEO. They...they rock it. Our kids get to go to sports, our kūpunas get to go to shopping, doctors, visit the insurance company, events. I'm trying for go fast. Land tax. Somebody once told me, oh, you only need one house. So, my mom is one pure Hawaiian. We talk about kānaka. We never did sell. The tax is going up. I kind of went figure 'em out. For those of you don't...who have a couple of houses, long-term rental, I help you do one long-term rental exemption. You know how much people do not know about this? Good thing the department is right downstairs from me, and I'm maha'oi, not nīele. But that's one big help. But we got to educate our community. No do what's good just for you. Spread the word. You know, the fire, this

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one breaking my heart. Yes, I was there from day one. But you in Hāna now, we get one house in Keanini Street [sic]. Everybody know Auntie Ida's house went burn down. . . .(timer sounds). . . I hope that's 30 seconds. But we should try to help other people in our community, not just Lahaina. Because right now they're scrambling for look for one place. Short-term rentals, that one...that one is really hard for our community. We get Aloha Week, Taro Festival. We get funerals. We get luaus. We get weddings. We no more places for stay. And not one person in this room will tell that their family was like, oh, figure it out. Call the campgrounds. It's hard. It is. I see two points on the whole situation.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Can you sum it up?

MS. CARROLL: There are 32 places to eat before you even reach the center of this community. You know who stay owning in the food trucks? Our residents. They live here. We like...keiki o ka 'āina remain here. They no love your home. They go move away. They cannot....they cannot afford it.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Claire, can you...Kamalu --

MS. CARROLL: Yes.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: -- can you sum it up? Yeah.

MS. CARROLL: Okay. Three minutes.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Or more. Any questions? Seeing none. Thank you. Give our best to your parents.

MS. CARROLL: I will. Mahalo.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Next testifier.

MR. HURDLE: Chair, the next testifier is Kane Kanakaole from MEO, followed by Eileen Comeaux.

MR. KANAKAOLE: Aloha. My name is Kane Kanakaole. I am the Branch Manager for Maui Economic Opportunity here in East Maui. I would like to thank you guys for making time to come out here and listen to us. We appreciate all of your guys' support, and we ask to continue to support this and help us sustain this vital lifeline source and service which we offer here in Hāna. Over the past year, I've worked for MEO. I've seen how much of an impact it makes on our community. And I'm proud to be this pillar where people can come and ask for support. And now, on behalf of myself, I would like to address the issues with roadways and the Maui County water supply. I live right past St. Peter's Pu'uiki Church, and it's been an ongoing problem where there's leaking with. . . .(audio feedback). . . Okay. Right past Pu'uiki there's just been an ongoing issue with leaks, and from those leaks, there's potholes kind of similar to what he said, we

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live pretty close to each other. And I think it's time because right before that, there was...they fixed the waterline and repaved the entire road, but right past Pu'uiki, it stops, and you'll see the difference. And that's one of the biggest issues for me personally and for MEO as well because we transport people back and forth through there, so if we can focus on getting that fixed and paving the roads past there, that would be great. Mahalo.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: You got that, Shane? Okay.

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

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, okay. Any questions? Seeing none. Next testifier, please.

MR. HURDLE: Chair, the next testifier is Eileen Comeaux, followed by Fawn Helekahi.

MS. COMEAUX: Oh, can you hear me? I'm kind of short. Testing, testing, test. Okay. Got it. Okay. You can hear me, right? Okay. Okay. So, I'm here to support the Hāna pathway, which I have been harping about for since 2010, and I think it's got a little momentum right now, and I would like to see that momentum continue with the research and everything. I know changes are hard. It's...it's hard in Hāna to make changes, but we've seen changes happen here, and the 45 plus whatever many...I was a young girl when I got here, and now I'm older with kids, that...changes come, and they're not always easy, and this pathway might not be easy, but I think it's time. It's time because our schools have changed, our stores have changed products, our kids have changed, we've got many more people here now, and so I really want to support the walking bike path. I don't bike as much as I used to, but if there was a safe way for me to do it, and there was a safe way for me to get my seven-year-old out there, I'd take him. So, I just really want to support that. I also want to support Hāna Arts, and also MISC that's getting rid of all the invasive species. We gather the fern shoots out in the wild, so we see the Micronian *[sic]* happening. We see how bad it is, and I tell my workers, you see it, you stop, you pick it, you get it. It's beyond belief at this point. I mean, that really needs to be supported. It really needs a massive amount of people to get the Micronian that's happening, and the other invasives that...too many, but that's the big one for right now. And also I want to support Hāna Arts. Hāna Arts is something that my grandchildren are into. They did a great show there the other night, and so we want to support Hāna Arts. And that's all, folks.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. Any questions?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Just to let...it's...it's now called the Hāna Pathway, but it was previously the Greenway Project.

MS. COMEAUX: Oh, thank you. I was...

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: For the...yeah, for the --

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MS. COMEAUX: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: -- so the Members...yeah.

MS. COMEAUX: Oh, wait, one more thing. Hey, thanks for fixing Maka'ala Road. It's really good. It's really good, and so I say whatever on the road. Thank you so much.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Good job.

MS. COMEAUX: Yeah.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you.

MS. COMEAUX: Okay.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you very much.

MS. COMEAUX: Thanks for coming.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Next testifier.

MR. HURDLE: Chair, the next testifier is Fawn Helekahi, followed by Keaka Helekahi.

MS. F. HELEKAHI: Okay. Wait. Okay. There we go. Just squeeze this. Aloha mai kākou, o wau no'ō Fawn Helekahi. Aloha and welcome to Hāna. Mahalo for coming out here and taking the time to allow us to be able to come and testify verbally and not having to do the drive and/or Zoom. But you know, we are so blessed that we have all these options, and I definitely want to take the time to be able to come out here and advocate for many things that...that helps to service our community and/or to better not just our...our living here, but also for the future generation. Everything's done for the future generation, and I'm a teacher at Kaiapuni [sic] right now, which is the Hawaiian medium pathway here at the DOE school at Hāna School. It is growing significantly, and this next step is a very tremendous step in the growth because now our eighth graders, which is the alaka'i class or the leading class in Kaiapuni, is now going to become high schoolers. And with the budget of the school that our po'o kumu is dealing with, it definitely won't be significant enough for the growth of the teachers that will be needed for our high school subject areas. So, my daughter is in a part of the...the alaka'i class, the leading class, and I am a part of the core group of parents that eight years, nine years ago, had came together to help to grow this...this school, to be able to have a choice for the first time in Hāna's history of the education choices that we want for the future of our...our keikis. And so, I'm definitely here to advocate for those nonprofits that support the diversity of the education of our kids and not just the normal DOE standards of the subject areas that's provided. So, Ma Ka Hāna Ka 'Ike definitely brings into the educational environment there at Hāna School, especially allowing these cultural type of workshops for our kids from K to 12 on both the English side and on Kaiapuni. And this sometimes, because now we're funneling all of our Hawaiian

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speakers to the Hawaiian medium pathway, that will now we become a lack of Hawaiian teachers on the English side also. So, being able to have that connection to cultural practices through education at school really will help to diversify even the side...on the side that's not the Hawaiian language. Ma Ka Hāna Ka 'Ike also provides these...these...these programs for our kids to be able to find a trade if they know that they're not the academically studious ones, that they have some options of getting some experience if they want to go into culinary, if they want to go into . . .(timer sounds). . . building and construction and other subject areas that there. So, I'm going to wrap it up really quickly so you don't have to kick me out. But Hāna Arts definitely is a great support also from Kaiapuni and bringing in arts for the...the English side too. And also Kipahulu 'Ohana has also provided a lot of cultural practices there for our students so they can be able to take these field trips and not just do it within the Hāna Town, which you kind of keep them here because it's faster. Get there five minutes, get back five minutes compared to a half an hour to a 40 drive...minute drive out to Kipahulu. But they've always been there for our kids to be able to have that 'āina connection, the authentic part. And MEO, we got to woohoo, MEO has been there in all aspects of our community in supporting all of our festivals, supporting our kūpuna, supporting our community in being able to have that access out to Kahului. I'm one of them and I get six kids and they all use it. So...and one more just to wrap this all up, invasive species. I definitely want to support Mike Opgenorth's earlier testimony on invasive species. So, let's name them, right? We got Miconia, we got coqui frogs, and we got fire ants. It will change our lifestyle forever if we do not be able to control it now. Education is key, being able to allow everybody to do their part. Mahalo.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you.

MS. F. HELEKAHI: Have a great evening.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. Any questions? Go ahead, Member Kama.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Thank you. Thank you for your testimony.

MS. F. HELEKAHI: Aloha.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Aloha. How many students do you have in the eighth grade program? And do you expect an increase in that in your ninth grade program?

MS. F. HELEKAHI: So, right now with the eighth grade, they hold a strong 16. Give me...Keaka, how much in your class?

MS. K. HELEKAHI: 12.

MS. F. HELEKAHI: 12? Okay. 12. But however, they're the larger side of the school. So, Kaiapuni is...it's expanding tremendously. And more than...about two thirds of the students are going that pathway right now.

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VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Okay. Okay.

MS. F. HELEKAHI: Yeah. And estimated 200 students in Kaiapuni from K to eighth.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Okay. That was my next question. So...so you...so as...so, are your classes increasing or decreasing as the children get older?

MS. F. HELEKAHI: As they move up, it's going to increase. Usually before this, it was one class at a time.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Yeah.

MS. F. HELEKAHI: So, it's just one teacher at a time.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Yeah.

MS. F. HELEKAHI: Now is a whole high school worth of subjects --

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Yeah.

MS. F. HELEKAHI: -- that needs to be taught --

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Yeah.

MS. F. HELEKAHI: -- for ninth grade. So, that's going up maybe four teachers. And that's me being not generous, right? But really, if we look at the subject areas that's required for a ninth grade student in any DOE school, they have six required classes, you know. So, they use the teachers that they have --

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Yes.

MS. F. HELEKAHI: -- and their...their specialties, their --

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Yes.

MS. F. HELEKAHI: -- mastership on the Kaiapuni side. And they...and they also subsidized with Ma Ka Hāna Ka 'Ike --

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Yeah.

MS. F. HELEKAHI: -- with Hāna Arts. Hāna Arts supports in some of our positions also.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: So, how many teachers do you folks have on staff currently for your students?

MS. F. HELEKAHI: Currently right now, eight students, eight classes.

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VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Okay.

MS. F. HELEKAHI: And...but they do have EAs, right?

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Yeah. Okay.

MS. F. HELEKAHI: Parasite...para-educationalists.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Do you happen to know what your budget is?

MS. F. HELEKAHI: You know, I'm not in the budget in that part.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Okay. Okay.

MS. F. HELEKAHI: So, unfortunately I cannot give that one, but I could connect you to the po'o kumu.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Okay.

MS. F. HELEKAHI: I may tell him you like...you like know that question. I'll write that down for him.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Okay. Thank you.

MS. F. HELEKAHI: Tell him to get that answer to you right away.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Thank you. Thank you, Fawn. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Anybody else have questions? Thank you. Thank you very much.

MS. F. HELEKAHI: Mahalo.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Next testifier.

MR. HURDLE: Chair, the next testifier is Keaka Helekahi from Ma Ka Hāna Ka 'Ike, followed by Keahi Lind.

MS. K. HELEKAHI: Aloha mai kākou. My name is Keaka Helekahi and I'm in the eighth grade in the Kula Kaiapuni program. Right now, I'm going to be talking about the Ma Ka Hāna Ka 'Ike program in Hāna, as well as asking for your continued support to provide us funds while we provide the keiki with great learning opportunities. While we learn the safety in cooking, we also learn the hard work put into our produce and more hands-on things like growing it from our 'āina. They also teach us the importance of cooking, learning about everything that happens before getting into the kitchen. Most of everything we cook is grown from our own hands and planted with the same hands that

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prepare everything, and then cooked into really delicious foods. But most...but what's most important with our culinary program is that our Ma Ka Hāna Ka 'Ike program provides our cooking to...to a lot of our Hāna kūpuna every week and delivered to them through Aunty Lehua. While these are just some ways that Ma Ka Hāna continues to teach and provide our community with great learning opportunities, while also teaching us to stay connected to our 'āina at the same time. Mahalo.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you very much. Any questions? Seeing none. Thank you very much. Next testifier.

MR. HURDLE: Chair, the next testifier is Keahi Lind, followed by Matt Keiley.

MR. KEAHI LIND: Hi. My name is Keahi Lind. I'm from Hāna. And I'm speaking before MEO. MEO has been there for all the kids at Hāna School for all of our field trips to go to the bay, to our houses, everywhere. Without MEO, all my friends and me will be stuck at school waiting for our parents. And I just really wanted to support MEO because I think it's a really good bus. And all the people who work for MEO are really nice people. They're nice to all the kids on the bus and...and all the kūpuna on the bus. Mahalo.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: You want to speak a little louder? Are you done? Oh you're...mahalo. Okay. I didn't hear you. Very well done. Thank you very much. We're all taking your picture.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Chair, I have a question.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh you have a question, go ahead.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Aloha, Keahi.

MR. KEAHI LIND: Hi.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: How old are you and what grade are you in?

MR. KEAHI LIND: Nine and third.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Thank you. Well done. And thank you for being here tonight.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you very much. Next testifier.

MR. HURDLE: Chair, the next testifier is Matt Keiley followed by Ka'uiki Lind.

MR. KEILEY: Good evening. My name is Matt Keiley. I've been farming in Hāna for over 35 years. I sit on the Farm Bureau board and they asked me to testify, you know, in support of your continued funding. I'd like to thank you for your funding in the past, and I'd like to see continued support for the agricultural community. I just want to speak to maybe one program, the...the Ag in the Classroom program, which is really

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successful for the...the Farm Bureau. It's basically maxed out. Can only take so many students every...every year and it's maxed out and it's really successful. And it's a really important program, I see, because the average farm...farmer in Hawai'i is 62 years of age. So, we need more enthusiasm in our youth for...for farming. I find that youths are more into using their two thumbs a lot. So, there's nothing wrong with that if you're maybe behind a computer. But what else am I going to talk about here? Oh, the...oh, the microgrant program. That's an important program. I haven't been eligible for most of the grants due to I don't grow edible crops. I'm a flower farmer and I grow...I have a nursery as well. But we were eligible for one grant, let's see, back right after COVID. And we were able to purchase a small excavator and it's really helped our...our bottom line. We've...we've increased in the last four years our gross sales between 40 and \$50,000 each year. You know so, it's important to...to...you know, it seems like...\$25,000 seems like small money in the big picture, but it's...it helps small businesses tremendously. And I'd like to see some more continued support for non-crop people because you look at Lahaina and Kula, they're going to need trees and ground cover and sod, all those types of things, which, you know, people need to increase their inventories to service that market when it becomes available. And I'd like to see that, you know, stay here on Maui versus coming in from O'ahu or the Big Island, right? Keep the money here on Maui. I realize that, you know, money might be tight because of the...I think there's a downturn in tourism and as well as we don't know what's going on with the Federal Government. So, there's a couple of things. I'd like to express my support for all these nonprofits in Hāna as well. They do a great job there. That...the carpentry program at the school is a great, great program. My son is a product of that and he...he's self-sufficient now. I don't have to write checks. So, that's good. Let's see. Oh, the pathway thing, I think that's a good thing too, you know. I...I would ride a bike if I was on the pathway. But you know, the...the roads here, they're just too crazy. I don't want to get run over. You know I want to see my grandkids maybe get married or something, you know. So, I thank you for coming and allowing me to speak. Aloha.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you very much. Member Sinenci has a question.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Yeah. Thanks, Matt. I don't have a question, but just to remind everyone and thanks to Member Rawlins-Fernandez for spearheading the creation of the microgrants. So, that's continuing for people to apply for. And there's also, I believe, some ag education pot of money too --

MR. KEILEY: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: -- for...for people to apply for.

MR. KEILEY: Okay. One more point. The...the Miconia people, I think they're understaffed because I've...I've been speaking about a problem I see on the Hāna Highway. And maybe you've got to think outside the box a little bit. Maybe we could work with the prison labor, with the State, you know, to increase the workforce. Might be something to think about. Thank you.

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CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you very much. Next testifier. Okay. Yeah.

MR. HURDLE: Chair, the next testifier is Ka'uiki Lind, followed by Meleana Kurokawa.

MR. KA'UIKI LIND: Hello, everybody. Aloha. My name is Ka'uiki Lind. I was born here in Hāna, raised out in Kīpahulu. I guess, first of all, I want to talk about, like, things that affect me and my 'ohana, which is the property tax reduction, which is, thanks to you guys, we finally got the 'Āina Kūpuna tax bill on our beloved lot Kalaulani (*phonetic*) in Papahawahawa. Another thing is the back lot, you know, is...is messed up. We have three lots, and we pay...we can't, you know, qualify for ag tax break, so we're not farming or whatever. But maybe we...for Keani, maybe we can look into legislation that can take...this is what OHA told me. There was legislation in 1850s that created government agents to accept the purchasing of properties, both in 1851 and 1853. This is what legislation is referencing, also known as subsequent legislation. I'm not a lawyer, but I just wanted to know how come we can't qualify for the kuleana tax break and pay zero taxes. This...I think Kamehameha V gave us our property. My tutu is Daisy Mailou. I don't know if you know her. She's still alive. So, I'm doing this for her and my 'ohana. That's tax break for the families that still have...because like from Kaupō to maybe Ko'olau, you have a lot of land grants that don't qualify under that...that tax bracket. So, how you interpret that law, manipulate it to make it work for families like us, that would be helpful. Okay. So, other things, put my...my work cap on. I'm the Makai Watch Coordinator for the Kīpahulu 'Ohana. We're one year through with the CBSFA. Thank you for the resolution back then to support, push it forward. So, we're worried about poaching in the fishery. You know we have a Makai Watch program. We get funded from the State, Hawai'i Community Foundation. So, I just ask for more, if you guys can give funding. I understand the current budget situation. We're in on a federal level, state, county. But also switch back off my hat. The CBSFA is doing good. The bridges to Kaupō maybe, you know, Federal can get funds. I don't know what's going on up there, but there's...there's no passage to Kaupō. I mean, I remember when the wood...the bridges were wooden. You know, back where I live in Kīpahulu, the dirt road ended right there. And we caught 16 miles buses, you know, back and forth to Hāna Town. So, anyway, affordable housing, all the way to aquifer development in Hāna, Maui, if possible. Water meters in Koali, you know, the problems with the brokage. They put a water meter because Hāna Hui (*phonetic*) tried to develop the...the Mū'olea lowlands. And I...my parents and other people argued that the County should take the land and that... . . .(*timer sounds*) . . . So anyway, 20 more seconds. Kamehameha Schools out in Kaupō. I get one whole list. I'll write it up and send it to Shane and this board, the information. Yeah, give them what they need to succeed in Kaupō because it's...my tutu is from Kaupō, Kīpahulu, and it's a hard life, you know, eating sweet potato, no bridges, and my grandma's still alive. Ninety-five. So, blessings to you guys. You know, I hope...it's hard to make empirical decisions, you know, pyramids. Good luck. Aloha.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. You're going to submit whatever you're reading and writing and send it to Member Sinenci?

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MR. KA'UIKI LIND: Oh yeah, yeah. I'll sum it up.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

MR. KA'UIKI LIND: Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you.

MR. KA'UIKI LIND: Yeah.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Next testifier.

MR. HURDLE: Chair, the next testifier is Meleana Kurokawa, followed by Ka'iulani.

MS. KUROKAWA: Hi. My name is Meleana. I'm born and raised in Hāna. I'm here today to propose and discuss a community playground. I started this project for a scholarship that prompted me to find something the community lacks. It didn't take me long to realize we have no public playground for our keiki to safely play. To take action, I started a petition for community support. In a few weeks, I managed to receive 410 signatures. This shows me that our community thinks we need this playground as much as I do. I also sent letters to some of our community leaders and got a response from Shane Dudoit, Dawn Lono, and also Uncle Shane. These responses helped me realize some minor obstacles. I understand this process is lengthy and has to be done through CIP division with regards to special management rules. The people and leaders...oh, sorry. I implore the people and leaders here today to hear the need of our community and begin the planning, budgeting, and permitting to move forward with making a playground that our community can be proud of. Imagine growing up your whole life with no set of monkey bars or having to drive two hours to the nearest playground. Having a playground would greatly enhance the well-being and healthy development of our children and community as a whole. Mahalo.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. So, you have a petition? You did a petition?

MS. KUROKAWA: Yes.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. You have your...you want to submit your testimony to us? If you could.

MS. KUROKAWA: This paper that I have?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah, if you could. Very well done. Any questions?

MS. KUROKAWA: I have...I have copies of my letter too, I can...

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

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MS. KUROKAWA: Okay.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Could you give it to...

MS. KUROKAWA: Yes.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, Member U‘u-Hodgins has a question for you.

COUNCILMEMBER U‘U-HODGINS: I don’t...I don’t really have a question, but I wanted to let you know that two years ago, I made that one of my priorities to bring Hāna a playground, and I will follow up on the status of that and we’ll get back to you. Thank you so much. But I would love to have that petition and I can forward it over to Parks so they can, you know, make it quick.

MS. KUROKAWA: Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER U‘U-HODGINS: Thank you.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Chair, I have a question.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yes.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Thank you. Thank you for being here, Meleana.

MS. KUROKAWA: Of course.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: When you did your petition or your survey with your community, did you all decide on where you’d like the park to be?

MS. KUROKAWA: I sent this, the letter that I was proposing for the playground, the main place was Pa‘ani Mai Park just --

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Pa‘ani Mai Park.

MS. KUROKAWA: -- because they have the swing sets already there.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Okay.

MS. KUROKAWA: And I also wanted to propose Hāna or Kīpahulu and Keanae as well, because it’s a far drive, like an hour from Keanae and 30 minutes to Kīpahulu.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Okay.

MS. KUROKAWA: Yeah.

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VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Thank you. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Hi. So, tomorrow we have the Parks Department before us. If you would like to testify, we're going to begin at 10:00 in the morning, and if you cannot, Member Sinenci and Member U'u-Hodgins will say something. But if you could submit to us your letter or any kind of written information, that would help them.

MS. KUROKAWA: Is that going to be here at 10:00 a.m.? Or...

CHAIR SUGIMURA: No, no. Online at the --

MS. KUROKAWA: Online.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: -- County Building. Yeah.

MS. KUROKAWA: Okay.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: So, you can do it online or in person. But...

MS. KUROKAWA: Sounds good. Thank you so much.

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

MS. KUROKAWA: Your office.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, yeah. You can go to the...yes.

MS. KUROKAWA: Okay. Thank you. Mahalo.

MR. HURDLE: Chair...

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Next testifier.

MR. HURDLE: Chair, the next testifier is Ka'iulani of Hāna Community Association, followed by Maya Ross.

MS. SULLIVAN: Aloha, everyone. My name is Ka'iulani Tanaka-Sanders Sullivan. Thank you all for being here tonight. I am representing as one of the directors for the Hāna Community Association, the nonprofits that we would like to advocate for. One of them...well, most all of them, you've already heard, we cannot live without MEO. They serve everyone from the keiki to the kūpuna, from every facet of the community. I mean, it's sports, it's kids programs, it's the kūpuna programs, it's taking them to the health center. So, we definitely want to encourage the continual support for them. We would also like to advocate for Hāna Arts and all the programs that they provide for our community. The goal of the Hāna Community Association is to advocate for our community and to bring the community together. So, I also like to thank all of you guys

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for being here tonight, because it's really cool to hear everyone's thoughts and ideas, and even for the people who are just here to listen and engage and see what everyone else is...has on their mind so. The other one is also Ma Ka Hāna Ka 'Ike. They...they have partnered with us on our annual events, such as the holiday program at Hāna School. And...and for that, that was cool this year, because every year it's been a tradition since pretty much everyone in here has been alive, where we get the brown paper bags with the nuts and the candy and, you know, the orange, all that stuff, apple. And Ma Ka Hāna, it was pretty cool because they donated their macadamia nuts from their farm, instead of just going to Costco and buying a bag of nuts. So, that was pretty cool to incorporate that into the bags this year. And then the Keiki and Youth Fest, all of those nonprofits partner with us on that too at the school. And then, it's perfect that I followed our playground advocate. Great job, because that is our other big thing, is seeing how we can actually get this. I know it's been many years of discussion. I grew up here my whole life until high school, and then I went to college, and I just moved home about two years ago, almost. And I was shocked to be like, whoa, that's still our same playground from when we were kids. And they just took it down to not be able to use. So, it's like, wow, we have been fighting for a playground for so long. So, it's cool to have forums like this, where we can hear from the kids who are advocating. A lot of people want a space where kids can go and run around and get their energy out. And it's also a good place to create community with, like, the families who are there, you know, while the kids are all going. And I know Pa'ani Mai Park is one of the things that we had talked about as well for it, but I know there's a lot of logistics. So, thank you for . . . *(timer sounds)*. . . even suggesting that she is able to come to the meeting for that, because that's how you progress the project. So, thank you for that, instead of just talking, actually doing.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. Any questions? Next testifier.

MR. HURDLE: Chair, the next testifier is Maya Ross speaking on behalf of STEMworks, followed by Shanrae Ng.

MS. ROSS: Thank you. Hopefully I'll do as good as my son, Keahi. I won't. Aloha, my name is Maya Ross. I'm a secondary teacher here at Hāna...in Hāna at Hāna High and Elementary. I was first introduced to Lalaine Pasion of STEMworks a few years ago through our school counselor. Lalaine was reaching out to Hāna School for any teachers that would be interested in taking students to a young ladies STEM-based camp called Excite. I'm an English teacher, so it wasn't a natural choice of an educational excursion for me, but I thought what a great opportunity for my students to experience and to be exposed to STEM opportunities. I reached out and agreed to be chaperone for two students. I've taken girls two summers now, and it's been transformative for our girls to experience. They're exposed to professions and areas of study they would otherwise not know anything about. Lalaine has always understood and been a champion for our rural students to have these kinds of opportunities, and it isn't without the support of the Maui Economic Development Board funding these experiences for our students. Lalaine called me up in February and told me about the STEMworks convention that would take place on O'ahu. Students from all over the State attend this major event,

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and a lot of them compete, bringing their STEM projects with them to enter. On March 25th, myself and three students woke up at 2:00 a.m., drove to the airport, and went to O'ahu to live this experience. My students were intimidated, overwhelmed, had no idea the scale of the event. They begged for us to leave, feeling as if the other kids were smarter than them. By the end of the day, we were engaged in breakout sessions, and by the next morning, my girls were excited to see the friends they made and engage further into the STEM opportunities they were given. One student wrote to me, it made me think about college and explore my choices for new majors. She's in the sixth grade. Her classmate said it changed her life, and I can tell you it did. She had never slept away from her papa before this trip. To see her growth in real time over the course of the two days brought me back to the reason of why I do what I do every day. A now eighth grader who I took on an Excite Camp wrote to me, I always find myself applying what I learned at STEM in my classes. It affected my thinking about learning new subjects. None of these experiences would be possible without the funding and support of the Maui Economic Development Board. I ask that you please consider them in your budgeting decisions. As I can tell you, it's created a huge impact on our students, particularly in the future of women in STEM. These grants help support outreach programs like Excite Camp and STEMworks, especially for rural areas. I pray the budget cuts does not affect our kids' ability to learn beyond what our rural school can offer. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Excellent. Any questions? Seeing none. Thank you. Are you going to give us a copy of your testimony? We'd love to have it. Wonderful. Yeah, thank you. Next testifier.

MR. HURDLE: Chair, the next testifier is Shanrae Ng, followed by Scott Crawford.

MS. NG: Hello. My name is Shanrae Ng. I wasn't going to testify, but I am now. I've been an MEO driver for eight months, and it has not only impacted the community, but also us as drivers. We are a lot more involved with our kūpuna and our youth, and it also...it...it's just...I've worked for the hotel for many years, and it's very different. I'm involved with tourists and our kūpuna. It has changed my perspective on people, and we'd like to...I'd like to mahalo you guys for continuing supporting MEO and letting me have a job. Also, a few concerns I'd like to talk about. It's just the roads from, you know, like my...Kane said, the Pu'uiki roads, it impacts us as drivers. You know, it's very uncomfortable for our clients as well on the bus, especially if you're driving a 14-passenger and, you know, it's bouncy and a little crazy, and also the road from Hāna to Keanae. I recently just got back, so it's also a very uncomfortable drive as well. I'm also here to support Hāna Arts as well as Ma Ka Hāna Ka 'Ike. They are a big change or let change in our youth to be not only academic in school, but as well as hands-on. Mahalo.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Very good. Any questions? Seeing none. Thank you. Next...

MR. HURDLE: Chair, the next testifier is Scott Crawford speaking on behalf of Hawai'i Farmers Union Hāna Chapter, followed by Akaneki Lind.

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MR. CRAWFORD: Aloha, Chair and Members of the committee. Thank you for coming out to Hāna and listening to our community needs. I want to first off just kākou everything everybody else said. All our great nonprofits and everything, support. So much good work and collaboration. And I want to just mention supporting the...the Farmers Union grant that supports the FAM, Farmer Apprentice Mentorship Program, and some of that also comes to support funding for our Hāna Farmers Market, so it supports the administration of the market and is really...makes the market successful. And then I wanted to mainly just express my support for the...the Special Purpose Revenues Item I3, which as Councilmember Sinenci mentioned is the funds for the acquisition of the Hāna Hub property for...at 20 Uwala Road, just adjacent to the airport, for developing a certified kitchen, shared-use agricultural processing and aggregation facility. It's just something that has been identified and advocated for our...for our community as a need for years, decades going back, but it kind of gets started and then it stops and doesn't really happen, but a few years ago the Ways and Means Committee came to a tour through Hāna and heard about the need for this, and from that they suggested that we work with the University of Hawai'i Community Design Center to develop a proof of concept, and we're able to get some funding from the County to support that. And out of that, part of that process was a site selection study, and this property really rose to the top as the preferred site for this...for this project for a number of different reasons, but 14.5 acres right by the airport and has utilities and it already has some existing facilities, a small kitchen and a pavilion. So, we can get...we're working on getting that certified quickly in the short term, and we really need to be able to, like, support community events as a support kitchen for festivals like Taro Festival and Festivals of Aloha that those vendors can use...can use as a support kitchen, and then also just for our producers and entrepreneurs to have a place to do value-added processing and sort of collective aggregation and...and transportation to markets on the other side of the island for all the great food we grow. But it's...it's not economical for a lot of people to take their produce over to the other side by themselves, so a lot of it just ends up going to waste. So, you know, in the short term, we hope to be able to get the existing facility up and running and be able to support some of these functions, and then in the longer term, we're also really thankful to the Department of Agriculture included funding to the...in the congressional funding request to Senator Schatz' office . . .*(timer sounds)*. . . for this facility, and we'll be going back to the Ways and Means Committee and requesting some CIP funding from them. But the first step is the acquisition of the property, so we're really thankful that the Mayor included this in the budget, and would ask for your support for this...for this item. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you, Scott. Any questions? Seeing none. Thank you. Next testifier.

MR. HURDLE: Chair, the next testifier is Akaneki Lind of Hāna Canoe Club, followed by Noe Lecker.

MS. LIND: Aloha. My name is Akaneki Lind. Sorry, I lost my voice, but bear with me. I am here in support of MEO Transportation, as well as nonprofits, including Hāna Canoe

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Club and Kipahulu 'Ohana, as well as Ma Ka Hāna Ka 'Ike. All of these clubs have helped me and helped the community. But anyways, my name is Akaneki Lind. I'm the President of Hāna Canoe Club. Over the past few years, I've also served as head coach for the canoe club, Hāna School Girls JV Volleyball, and briefly coached MIL Paddling. In addition to my work in athletics, I hold a Bachelor's of Science in Nursing, and I've worked as a trauma and orthopedic nurse at a level one trauma facility in Colorado. My journey started right here in Hāna, where I paddled for Hāna Canoe Club until I left for college. I mentioned these titles not for recognition, but because they were made...they were made possible by the opportunities I was given. One of the biggest being the financial support of Hāna Canoe Club. Thanks to the club and dedicated volunteer parents, we were able to travel every weekend to Kihei, Lahaina, and Kahului Harbor. We paddled to Lāna'i, had the opportunity to compete in world sprints, and went to the State championship four to five years in a row, all with the club support. I'm here today to tell you...to tell you that your generosity has made a real difference in my life. Now, as an adult, I have the privilege of guiding and supporting the next generation of keiki. This wouldn't be possible without the incredible MEO crew, who have dedicated their time to transporting us in and out of Hāna. The MEO staff went above and beyond driving our kids to Lahaina, camp...camping overnight, and ensuring they got back safely the next day. Many of them sacrificed their summer weekends and worked overtime just so our kids had a ride. This past summer, we had anywhere from 50 to 60 kids at each regatta, and over 70 kids attending each practice. I'm also incredibly grateful to Uncle Shane and Auntie Dawn Lono...or Uncle Shane Sinenci and Auntie Dawn Lono for their support and encouraging...encouragement in applying for the Maui County OED grant. Thanks to their guidance, we were awarded a grant for the 2025 Fiscal Year to support our largest fundraising event of the year, the Sarah Joe. As the event coordinator for the 2025 Sarah Joe event, I look forward to utilizing these funds to increase participation, because I really don't like doing everything myself. Repair and invest in equipment, and continue in educating about the Hawaiian culture. Most importantly, this investment isn't just for the club, it's for our entire Hāna community, the very foundation of my success today. Mahalo nui loa to all of you, all of your unwavering support. I'm also here in support of Kipahulu 'Ohana, and as a laborer on the path to becoming a farmer, I found immense healing, comfort, and education through this work, not just for myself, but for the community and beyond. Aloha 'āina is everything. And also, I would like to also thank Ma Ka Hāna Ka 'Ike, they've been graciously helping Hāna Canoe Club, as well as Kipahulu 'Ohana, and the community. Anything we ask for . . .*(timer sounds)*. . . they're there. Mahalo no 'oukou a pau.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Well done. It takes a community, is your message. Wow.

MS. LIND: Yes. I'm hoping...

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Congratulations to you.

MS. LIND: I'm hoping the community...they're really, really stepping in, but I'm really hoping to step down on a few titles.

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CHAIR SUGIMURA: Any questions? Seeing none. Thank you. Next testifier.

MR. HURDLE: Chair, the next testifier is Noe Lecker, followed by Maya [sic] Brook.

MS. LECKER: Aloha, my name is Noe Lecker. Thank you for being here. And wow, what a privilege to follow after Akaneki, because I support everything she says. Pretty much, I feel like she read my whole testimony paper. But I want to shout out again to MEO. Thank you even for supporting that new bus that they have that's providing transportation to Kīpahulu. And so, grateful for that. And I also want to, again, support Ma Ka Hāna Ka 'Ike. They do a wonderful program with our youths. I don't want to repeat everything, but I want to talk about completing Pa'ani Mai Park, finishing the skate park, the parking lot. There was one time when they bulldozed the whole back section of that place, and then it just started to grow back. And so, I really would like us to focus on completing that skate park. Right now, our kids still use it, but it's dangerous. And I don't want any kids to get hurt. So, if we can focus on getting that completed. I also want to thank you for being part of the road construction from Kahikinui coming all the way through Kaupō. And I'm hoping that it doesn't stop there, because I live in Kīpahulu. So, if that road construction can continue on all the way to Lelekea, past Kīpahulu, all the way to Koali, that would be so wonderful. It will also help with the MEO bus and all of us, because it's wear and tear on our vehicles. Hāna School, I just want to give a shoutout to what they're doing with the farming and the culinary art that they're doing after school program, Hāna Youth Center, Hāna Arts. These are all nonprofits that help our community. And someone said on the platform, it takes a village, yeah, to...to...to build our community. So...and unity is a must. So, mahalo everybody for coming out, for supporting our community. And thank you again for being here. Mahalo.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, we have a question for you.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay. Sorry. Just a quick clarifying question. You said...mentioned the skate park. It's the second time I heard about the skate park. Can you clarify what exactly needs to be done on the skate park?

MS. LECKER: So, I think there's...they didn't complete the whole phase of the skate park, the parking lot part. That's why it...it...I believe that's why it can't be completed, because the parking lot, there's no parking. Only maybe five cars can park to use the skate park. The...they were supposed to use the bottom part of the road. I don't know the name of the road, but maybe Dawn can help me on that. But yeah, so there's really no parking. It's really unsafe. So, if we can focus on completing that project, I think we're in two decades of that project.

MS. LECKER: Maybe if Kamalu can have another three minutes, I'm sure she'll share more about that. Because I know she started...I mean, she was part of advocating for that.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

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MS. LECKER: Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. Next testifier.

MR. HURDLE: Chair, the next testifier is Mary Brook, followed by Lehua Park.

MS. KALA-BROOK: Aloha, everyone. Yes. Thank you for correcting my name. Yes. My name is Mary Kauai Kala-Brook, and I'm here to testify for the following nonprofits, Ma Ka Hāna Ka 'Ike, our Hale Hulu Mamo, which helps our kūpuna, as well as our Hāna Youth Center that focuses on all of our youth, as well as MEO Hāna, because they really help us in this whole circle of other nonprofits. They service everyone, as well as 'Ohana Makamae, and also two new categories that I want to add on there. One is our Hāna Athletics, as well as I just started a nonprofit organization called the Hāna Dragon Football Booster Club. And what this is, is basically it's a template that I'm using to help get that organized, and a template to help all the other sports that's in there. Now, currently, I am the culinary instructor, as well as the financial literacy instructor for Ma Ka Hāna Ka 'Ike. And as previously mentioned, with a lot of the other children that came up and testified, Ma Ka Hāna Ka 'Ike really helps our community, especially for the youth and the kūpunas. So, currently, we service 25 kūpunas. We...we do food distribution, where the students plant all the vegetables and food, and they harvest it, and they come into the classroom, they cook it, as well as packaging it, and they also sell it to the...to the public. So, it's a whole teaching process of from 'āina to sales. So, this year, being an instructor for them, we actually make probably about 1,200...2...2,200 meals a month that services our youth, and also 25 distribution packages that we do for our kūpuna. Now, I am asking you for an increase to help us service more kūpuna meals, besides 25 a week, because our kūpunas go on a six-week cycle, and we wish we could have them, you know, shorter cycle, maybe like a three-week cycle, instead of a six-week cycle. But we do service from Keanae to Kaupō. That's our range, so it's the East Maui. And since I've been doing that for a couple months with the people at Ma Ka Hāna Ka 'Ike, I've seen the faces of these kūpunas that...that receive these distribution bags, and a lot of them are a part of all the nonprofit organizations that I mentioned. And as well . . . *(timer sounds)*. . . as MEO, who helps us as well, and services and gets the food out. That's one of the big things that we really need help on it, as well as our Hāna Athletics. One thing we need from Hāna Athletics, and we can have your support on, is we need funding for transportation. It's hard for our students to go from Hāna, travel to Lāna'i, to Molokai, and back. Sometimes we have MEO helping us on transportation. But a lot of times we don't have the funds, so our students cannot attend those games, because we don't have enough on it. So, I hope that...take what I mentioned here, and help us to increase and become better, and be more self-reliant and efficient for our community. Questions?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. So, actually Shane will explain to you a program that we have that you would like to hear about.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you. The...the Mayor had put in \$20,000 for Hāna student travel.

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MS. KALA-BROOK: Oh, terrific. This is...this is exciting for us.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Yeah.

MS. KALA-BROOK: Because our students need it.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Because like us --

MS. KALA-BROOK: Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: -- Molokai and Lānaʻi, we...all the students need...need funding for traveling.

MS. KALA-BROOK: And so, MEO can help us too with that? Yeah? For --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: I think MEO --

MS. KALA-BROOK: -- whatever . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

CHAIR SUGIMURA: -- is always a source of transportation --

MS. KALA-BROOK: Yeah, because...really vital for us.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: -- but not...not particularly part of that grant --

MS. KALA-BROOK: Oh, okay.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: -- but connected together.

MS. KALA-BROOK: But it's for the school. Yes, thank you for that. I appreciate that.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Go ahead.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Actually, there's several pots of money in the County budget. There's the MIL --

MS. KALA-BROOK: . . .*(inaudible)*. . . Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: -- pot of money, but there's also money for Hāna, Molokai, Lānaʻi, that we did, I think.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: That is the...

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Oh, that's the money. So, it wasn't the Mayor, but anyways, it was us.

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MS. KALA-BROOK: Oh, well, thank you, Gabe Johnson. Okay, I'll remember you. Thank you. There, I'll come speak to you after this.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you.

MS. KALA-BROOK: Appreciate it. Mahalo.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: So, I guess the message is, get in touch with Shane.

MS. KALA-BROOK: Okay. Thank you. Appreciate it.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. Yes, Member Kama?

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Thank you. Thank you for being here, and for sharing with us all of the needs that you all have. But the transportation dollars that you're asking for an increase is for the young people to travel. But you're also asking an increase for the kūpuna, so that you can make more meals.

MS. KALA-BROOK: Correct.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: So, they don't have to be on a six-week cycle?

MS. KALA-BROOK: Correct.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Okay. Do you have an idea about what that increase is? I mean, in terms of...

MS. KALA-BROOK: Yes, we want to shorten to probably three weeks, instead of six weeks. And if we could add on probably another 20...20, 25, that would really help.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Dollars? Thousands? Hundreds?

MS. KALA-BROOK: Well, what I mean, 20, 25 is added bags. Right now, we currently do 25 bags, so we can get it up to 50 --

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Yeah.

MS. KALA-BROOK: -- and we can get more participation from our kūpunas to sign up on the list, so we can get them into the cycle.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: So, in terms of dollars and cents, what does that look like?

MS. KALA-BROOK: Great question.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: You don't have to answer tonight. You can...

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MS. KALA-BROOK: I think my director, she's not here, but I can get that information from you.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Okay. Okay.

MS. KALA-BROOK: It's Lipoa.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Thank you.

MS. KALA-BROOK: Yeah, because that would really help us out.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Appreciate it. Yeah.

MS. KALA-BROOK: Thank you.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Yeah. Because we need to know how much you want, right? Because...

MS. KALA-BROOK: Okay. I will get that figure for you.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Thank you. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh --

MS. KALA-BROOK: Do you have a question?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: -- anybody else, questions? No.

MS. KALA-BROOK: No.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Next testifier.

MS. KALA-BROOK: Okay. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you.

MR. HURDLE: Chair, the next testifier is Lehua Park, followed by Mark Tanaka-Sanders.

MS. PARK: Aloha. My name is Lehua Park. I'm going to start with community. So, some of the things, as you heard, I am completely in check yes for all the community partners that have spoken. I also work with Ma Ka Hāna Ka 'Ike, but something that I'd like to ask is the idea of funding for collaborative inclusion, meaning the thought of a home care agency. So, a private agency that someone would run, but then you collaborate with a nonprofit who's willing. That's an issue that we've had for some years, especially when we had COVID, that there wasn't an opportunity to do home care within the kūpuna's home, especially if there's multigenerational homes. So, that's an idea.

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Another idea is when it comes to...okay, this is interesting because as I say, I'm just like, oh, do I really want to do that? So, the idea is funding to become community service officers. So, we just recently got funding for Hawai'i tourism, right? We did this pilot project last year and it went well where there was five supposedly hotspots. One of them was Wailua because that's where I live. And you had community people build this ways of caregiving for that specific ahupua'a. Who knows better than the people that live there? But the idea is not just to help with tourism and the movement of traffic or the movement of people, but also to give them training that can then participate and partner with our officers to how can we manage cars parked where they shouldn't be. So, there's education piece, but there's also the piece that we can now possibly give tickets, right? But of course that comes with training. So, having funding go to something like that. And then another thing for community collaboration is the idea of having kūpuna-led cultural practices that elevate human attributes through something like lua, Shane Sinenci, and lā'au lapa'au. So, we do have great gifts in here, something like akule hale, something like lua, which many of community members have done. And so, that's something that we're working towards in partnering, hopefully with maybe Kamehameha, maybe with the County, someone like Ma Ka Hāna Ka 'Ike being a collaborative, but having kūpuna-led something like this. And lastly, for myself, and I think many of us had talked about this, is how the County roads is not being cared for. So, in case you guys have driven this road, our car, our life warranty on the car does not last. And that's because the roads have been using methods that does not work. . . .(timer sounds). . . It actually makes it worse. So, instead of paving and digging everything up, what happens is they use the method of patching and patching and patching. So, what that really does in, let's just take our body for example, right? If I keep putting something over and I never clean the wound, then it would still be infected. So, that's what our roads are going through, that's what our cars are going through, that's what the buses are going through. Imagine if you have 20 kūpuna in an MEO bus and then they're doing that the whole time, right? And we get the point, right?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: 30 seconds.

MS. PARK: So, mahalo nui, mahalo nui, mahalo nui.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. Next testifier.

MR. HURDLE: Chair, the next testifier is Mark Tanaka-Sanders followed by Earle Medeiros, Jr.

MR. TANAKA-SANDERS: Aloha ahiahi 'oukou. 'O ...(indiscernible)... ko'u inoa. I would like you to support, fund, and direct the Parks Department to create a comprehensive recreation plan for Hāna, including the outlying communities like Kīpahulu, Kaupō and Keanae, Nahiku. The County has not really invested in recreation infrastructure on this side of the island. Everything we have here is inherited from the plantation or the ranch. This building was built by Helene Irwin Fagan's family and it replaced a sugar cane warehouse, the train tracks went right through here. And they're still underneath this floor. This...when I was a teenager, we used to polish this floor. You can still see some

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of the varnish when I worked here. And all that brass railing was polished. All these things were polished. We had a commercial kitchen there that anybody in the community could use for a lū'au or a wedding or a funeral. And we...we don't even have toilets now. We got outhouses. But some work needs to be put into what we have, what we need, and ask the people what they need, not just somebody from Kahului Parks Department saying, this is what we're going to give you, a playground here or a swimming pool there. Those things are fine and it's nice to have those. But think of it comprehensively. What do the Hāna people want? We have a ballpark. Not because anybody asked Hāna people what do they want to play baseball. That was because the owner of the hotel owned a commercial baseball team and built that in the sugar field where the train used to come down here. That was fine when Hāna School was there. Everybody lived in an...in an old camp where your grandparents lived or the new camp. You could walk. Nobody had cars, so you could walk to the ball field. You could walk to school. Now the school is way out there. The State says that's their thing. There's no safe way for our kids that live in Hāna to walk to school, to ride a bike. And if we want to use the ball field or the gym or anything else, that's State property. That's not County. The plantation built a gymnasium up here where the Sea Ranch cottages are now and a swimming pool. And the ranch built the ballpark. And there's a lot of talk about Pa'ani Mai Park. That's great. Well, for 20 or 30 years it just sat there as a green field that they mowed. There was nothing there. Somebody paid for a skate park and somebody eventually put in toilets. But that whole thing was because the ranch didn't want to pay for housing anymore, so they built that subdivision for employees and filled in a hole. There's a big hole all the way to the County garage that could be used for expanding that park if that's what the Hāna people want. But first of all, ask them what kind of sports do they want to play. And if...if it's more skate parks or more swimming pools or whatever, fine. But that ought to be from a very basic planning stage with some thought put into it. . . .(timer sounds). . . Thank you for being here and listening.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you very much. No questions. Next testifier, please.

MR. HURDLE: Chair, the last person signed up to testify is Earle Medeiros, Jr. of MEO.

MR. MEDEIROS: Aloha. I wasn't going to come up, but I am. I work for MEO. My name is Earle Medeiros, Jr. Worked there a little over six years. Saw a lot of changes, a lot of stuff that happened. And I'd just like to thank you that you guys support MEO all the way and all our nonprofits. And also, thank you to all of you on the Council. Thank you to our clients, our keiki, for what you guys do for us. And yeah, just keep community action going. And that's what we do. And our roads, yes, our roads need some work badly, as a driver. Yes. Our...we carry keiki and kūpunas, and yeah, it could use some work. Keep it short. But thank you guys again. Mahalo to all, everybody. Aloha.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Aloha. All right. Any more? Last...last call.

MR. HURDLE: We have one more that signed up, Clayton Carvalho, Jr.

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MR. CARVALHO: Aloha, Council. I wasn't prepared to speak, but I was motivated by people here who have already come to speak. And give you a quick introduction. I'm born and raised here; on the advisory committee, second term; Hāna Community Association, two terms; Aloha Week [sic] Chair; hi, Yuki--head coach of varsity basketball, girls and boys, middle school basketball, elementary basketball. The reason I'm saying this is because everyone here in this room wears several hats and is connected to so many nonprofits. So, everyone's testimony is authentic, especially thanking everyone else. I know everyone here has something to do with every single nonprofit. So, I do want to address the ones that maybe not....didn't get enough love is Hāna Farmers Market. And this is kind of connecting to the last administration right after COVID. I was in charge of bookkeeping and we funneled \$250,000 during 10-month period through Federal grants, but that was funneled through the Maui County Council who helped green light everything through HFUU, and imagine counting every single dollar by dollar to script to reconcile. That was our job, but we wanted to thank you for that. We didn't get the chance to thank you guys in person before. For me, I'm sorry if I'm following up some...something that somebody already said, and there's a reason why. I was late. I was driving on the road. I was following a County Council car or County car, and we both saw this car driving that drove off the road right in front of Coconut Glen's, and they're pulling it out and cause a traffic jam. I was right behind this County car. So, that kind of brings me up to my thing. Last year, we had a pilot program for, I believe it's called the East Maui Tourism Management Pilot Program. And it lasted, sorry, it lasted a few weeks or a few months, and then it shrunk and disappeared. There was a really good support for the County installing all of those no-parking signs. We had, I think, 10 or 20 at 10 different sites. And if anyone has drove-- driven that road recently, they're all gone, kind of just taken away or ran over or neglected. And yeah, there isn't a lot of neglect, so to speak, but I think the Hāna Highway is...is...is in neglect in some form or fashion. You know there's one month that we did traffic enforcement, and MPD bragged about how many citations they wrote, and that disappeared. And then the last thing for me is housing. I'm 40 years old, just turned 40. I've rented longer...I've rented for more than half of my life here in Hāna, born and raised. And I've only been alive for one housing project in Hāna. And we heard about . . .(timer sounds). . . this housing project that's about to start. It was about to start in 2017. And we are just starting to meet, and they don't really have an official timeline. And it...and it keeps slowing down. And if we really want Hāna to progress and keep generations, because I used to be the younger generation, now I'm the middle generation, and the younger generations will leave, because there's no housing. People my age do not...do not buy housing. They luck into it. That's reality. And I just want to ask for your help, maybe not so much for me, but for the generations beyond me. Thank you all for coming here. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: We have a question for you.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Thank you, Chair. Thank you for your testimony. I feel your passion, and I totally understand it. Can you tell me the holdup on...on the affordable housing project? Have you heard what is slowing it down?

MR. CARVALHO: There's permitting. Permitting was the biggest one. I know the fire slowed

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it down, and that's understandable. I think they're in the process right now of trying to purchase the land, or...or...or having it...someone who is maybe more versed. Yes, Habitat for Humanity. But that's, you know, that's only, I believe, 25 lots.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Right. We put the money in. That's why I'm wondering why the slowdown. And if you're...if you're telling us permits, and I'll certainly try to follow up on that, but I'm...that shouldn't be the reason why, right? Just like you said, the...the folks move away, and it shouldn't take that long, but thank you for that.

MR. CARVALHO: Yeah, I mean I'm sure, like I've only had great experiences at the Council, just so...just would like to see it...

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Come to fruition.

MR. CARVALHO: Yes, that's pretty much it, come to fruition.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Exactly. Thank you for that.

MR. CARVALHO: Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. Well done.

MR. HURDLE: Chair, that's all the individuals signed up to testify.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Wow. Dawn.

MS. LONO: Who, me? I just wanted to quickly address your question, Gabe. I was just actually on the phone with the engineer today. They're waiting for the last engineering to put in the electric poles at the Habitat for Humanity project. That's the last step. Yes. And then they can...Habitat can purchase the property and move forward. They have had a couple of meetings within our community to start the process with the community, but like he said, there isn't really a schedule yet, but hopefully that's coming really soon. So, that's an answer I got today. I kind of have a list, but I don't need to go through all of that. I just wanted to support, of course, I'm going to take off my...I work...I work for County Councilmember Shane Sinenci, I need to acknowledge that, but I'm going to take that hat off. And right now I'm going to be the Hāna Business Council President. And I just would like to support the purchase of the property for the resiliency hub, the community kitchen, the food aggregation center. We have big plans for that project and it's really a perfect site. And we're really excited that this is coming forward. So, we appreciate your support for that. Paving, I mean, Mavis and I...where's Mavis? We...we get calls every day, all day about the road, the paving, the condition. But the other one, we have a real problem with that I haven't heard about tonight is water; waterlines that are constantly breaking in Nahiku, especially. So, we get calls about that regularly. They finally, I think, fixed the water tank and put a new roof, but then the pipes were

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leaking and then people are stealing the water and there's just not enough water pressure. And you know, it's, it's a big problem. And somebody did mention the water at Pu'uiki, the waterline problem there. That waterline breaks all the time. And the road is now completely paved all the way up to that point. But right beyond that is where the waterline breaks. And that road is just a pitiful situation. So, if they could at least fix that, so it wouldn't break because every time it breaks, it digs up the road again, they got to dig up and fix it and all of that. And it's a mess. So, I don't know what the answer is to that. Just very quickly about Pa'ani Mai Park. I've been involved in that project for well over 20 years. We, the community, built that skate park. A little bit of help from the County, but with volunteers and an organization that came and did the actual cement work and stuff, we did that work. We, the community. The next step, and we do have a master plan, there is a Pa'ani Mai Park master plan. The next step that needs to be done before anything can be done in that park is the access road and the parking lot with handicap access. Until we have that, we can't do anything else in the park, including the playground. Now, we were able to replace what was an existing swing set there. It was existing, so we were able to do that. And there was more equipment there, and we were supposed to hopefully use some of the money that Councilmember U'u-Hodgins so generously mehele (*phonetic*) to us, and nothing has happened. And they did redesign. The road was supposed to come from the bottom, and Hāna Ranch was going to donate the land and all of that. Karla Peters got all those plans drawn up, the drainage system designed, everything ready to go, and huli maka flip, you know. Now they have it coming in from the top road into the park and considering that. So, it's all kind of a hammajang sort of situation. But we have been working on it so hard, and we just can't ever seem to get the wheels moving. So, thank you for listening. I love all of you guys, and it's a pleasure to work with you guys. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you, Aunty Dawn. All right. So, is that our last testifier? That was a great finale.

MR. HURDLE: Yes, Chair. We can do a last call. If there's anybody else in the audience who would like to testify, please come to the microphone. I'll provide a brief countdown. Three...two...one. Seeing no one. Chair, no one has indicated they wish to testify.

. . . CLOSE PUBLIC TESTIMONY . . .

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you very much everybody for being here. We have Member Sinenci, and you...they'll follow up on things that are area-specific, it sounds like. Very good. All of you, there's a survey that we're asking the community to fill out. So, if you go on mauicounty.us and fill out the survey, it'll...we're asking what the community wants to see in the budget. So, if you would take that time to fill it out, that's important.

COUNCILMEMBERS VOICED NO OBJECTIONS (excused: AL and TP)

ACTION: DEFER pending further discussion.

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CHAIR SUGIMURA: And thank you very, very much for having us here. You all deserve a big hand of...of appreciation. . . .*(gavel)*. . .

ADJOURN: 7:40 p.m.

bfed:min:250402-East Maui:crp

Transcribed by: Daniel Schoenbeck

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

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CERTIFICATION

I, Daniel Schoenbeck, hereby certify that pages 1 through 33 of the foregoing represents, to the best of my ability, a true and correct transcript of the proceedings. I further certify that I am not in any way concerned with the cause.

DATED the 7th day of April 2025, in Wailuku, Hawai'i



Daniel Schoenbeck