

BUDGET, FINANCE, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Council of the County of Maui

MINUTES

April 8, 2022

Online Only via BlueJeans

CONVENE: 9:03 a.m.

PRESENT: Councilmember Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez, Chair
Councilmember Tamara Paltin, Vice-Chair
Councilmember Gabe Johnson, Member
Councilmember Tasha Kama, Member (out 6:04 p.m.)
Councilmember Kelly Takaya King, Member
Councilmember Alice L. Lee, Member
Councilmember Michael J. Molina, Member
Councilmember Shane M. Sinenci, Member
Councilmember Yuki Lei K. Sugimura, Member

STAFF: Lesley Milner, Legislative Analyst
Jerry Paredes, Legislative Analyst
Kasie Apo Takayama, Legislative Analyst
Richard Mitchell, Legislative Attorney
Yvette Bouthillier, Committee Secretary
Lenora Dinneen, Council Services Assistant Clerk
Jean Pokipala, Council Services Assistant Clerk

Dawn Lono, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Shane Sinenci
Gina Young, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Shane Sinenci
Kate Griffiths, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Gabe Johnson
Roxanne Morita, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Gabe Johnson
Axel Beers, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Kelly Takaya King
Ellen McKinley, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Kelly Takaya King
Sarah Sexton, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Kelly Takaya King
Sarah Freistat Pajimola, Executive Assistant to Councilmember
Keani Rawlins-Fernandez
Kainoa Kaumehelwa-Rego, Executive Assistant to Councilmember
Keani Rawlins-Fernandez
Davideane Kama-Sickels, Executive Assistant to Councilmember
Tasha Kama
Lois Whitney, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Tasha Kama
Evan Dust, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Tasha Kama
Angela Lucero, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Tamara Paltin
Christian Balagso, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Tamara Paltin
Jordan Helle, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Yuki Lei Sugimura

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

April 8, 2022

Zhantell Lindo, Council Aide, Moloka`i Council
Denise Fernandez, Council Aide, Lāna`i Council
Mavis Oliveira-Medeiros, Council Aide, Hāna Council Office
Daniel Kanahale, Council Aide, South Maui Office
Anabelle Hernandez, Council Aide, Pā'ia Office

ADMIN.: Michele Yoshimura, Budget Director, Mayor's Office
Sananda Baz, Managing Director, Department of Management
Josiah Nishita, Deputy Managing Director, Department of Management
Erin Wade, Chief of Planning and Development, Department of Management
Tyson Miyake, Chief of Staff, Mayor's Office
JoAnn Inamasu, Economic Development Coordinator, Office of the Mayor
Alexander de Roode, Economic Development Specialist II, Office of the Mayor
Allison Cleghorn, Economic Development Specialist II, Office of the Mayor
Hannah Shipman, Economic Development Specialist II, Office of the Mayor
Cody (Pua) Pata, Executive Assistant I, Office of the Mayor
Kristina Toshikiyo, Deputy Corporation Counsel, Department of the Corporation Counsel

OTHERS: Hōkūlani Holt-Padilla
Francine Aarona
Jill Wirt, Maui Nui Marine Resource Council
Leilani Pulmano
Charen Kepler
Charity Hartman
Kumu Kaponoai Molitau
Kumu Cody Pueo Pata
Kaleo Cullen
Nunu Judd, 4th Grader, Carden Academy
Malia Luna Lucia Cole
Charmaine Kailipaka-Day
Deidre Tegarden, Executive Director, Nisei Veterans Memorial Center
Isabelle Graf
Ui Tanigawa Lum
Keithjan Quilal-lan, Student, Maui High School
Derek Takeno, Student, Maui High School
Carmen Hulu Lindsey
Jaimie Moanikeala Whittle-Wagner
Momilani Awo
Kumu Haunani Paredes
Jen Cox, Executive Director, Adaption Dance Theatre
Scott Crawford, Executive Director, Kipahulu Ohana, Inc.
Brian Guadagno, Raw Elements Sunscreen
Sanna Kauhane
Lala Johnson

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

April 8, 2022

Ashley Lindsey
Kaniloa Kamaunu
David Daly
Kumu Nāpua Greig
Adam Radford, Manager, Maui Invasive Committee
Mary Kahana
Jay Penniman
John Harrisson
Robin Knox
Tweetie Lind
Lahela Aiwohi, Hawaii Hotel Alliance
Christine Davis
Sam Akoi
Kumu Mehanaokala Hind, Council for Native Hawaiian Advancement
Ka'uiki Lind-Kipahulu
Kumu Kahulu Maluo-Pearson
Meagan DeGaia, Destination Manager, Maui Visitor County Bureau
Dean Frampton
Maile Davis
Lana Coryell
Lori Buchanan
Leslie Wilkins, Maui Economic Development Board
Alison Wright
Kimberly Thayer
Autumn Ness
John Irish O'Hara
Mary Ann Pahukoa
Jazmyne Vilorina, Student, Maui High School
Cailyn Omuro, Student, Maui High School
Carol Lee Kamekona

PRESS: Akaku: Maui Community Television, Inc.

**ITEM 1: PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2023 BUDGET FOR THE COUNTY
OF MAUI (Resolution 22-81 and Resolution 22-82)**

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: . . .*(gavel)*. . . Aloha kakahiaka kākou. ‘Ekolu minuke i ka hala o kahola ‘eiwa ma ‘ewalu o ‘Apelila i ka makahiki ‘eluakaukaniiwakāluakūmālua. E ‘olu‘olu mai, e ho‘omalū ke Komike Mo‘ohelu Kālā a me ho‘omohala Waiwai. ‘O wai kaluna ho‘omalū o kēia Komike o Keani Rawlins-Fernandez. Aia au ma‘ane‘i i ka Moloka‘i District Office ke noho ho‘okahi nei no au ma kēia au au. It’s 9:03 on April 8th, 2022. Will the Budget, Finance, and Economic Development Committee please come to order. I’m your Chair, Keani Rawlins-Fernandez. I’m at the Moloka‘i District Office, alone on my side of the office, and we have our community outreach specialist Zhantell Lindo on the other side of the office, and we have no testifiers here this morning. And Ms. Lindo, please notify me in the chat or text if you hear otherwise

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

April 8, 2022

throughout the testimony. Aloha po‘alima, and welcome to level five of our budget session. I keia lā, me ko kākou eia hope luna ho‘omalū o Tamara Paltin. Aloha.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Aloha kakahiaka, kākou, I’m transmitting live and direct from my house in Nāpili, and I have with me two keiki, a little under the weather. No testifiers at the Lāhainā District Office today.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Paltin, hope your keiki are feeling better quickly. Councilmember Shane Sinenci, aloha.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Kalimera, Chair. Aloha kakahiaka, kākou. **Oli no au ina pono mai ka aina o ka‘ualani ha‘aha‘a eia wau ma‘ane‘i e ko‘u kākō‘o** Iwalani Medeiros. Aloha.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo. Aloha. Councilmember Mike Molina. Aloha.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Aloha kakahiaka, Madam Chair, my colleagues, and everyone else joining us for our Budget and Finance meeting. I’m transmitting this morning from our District Office out here in beautiful Pā‘ia, and I’m accompanied by my Executive Assistant Ana Lillis. And currently, we have one, two, three, 22 individuals signed up to testify. Nah, just kidding. We have no one signed up to testify here at the District Office. Just trying to lighten things up this morning, Madam Chair. Looking forward to a very productive, long day. Aloha.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: And you thought that 22 testifiers at the Pā‘ia District Office would lighten things up? . . . *(laughing)*. . . Mahalo for that laugh, Member Molina. Council Chair, Alice Lee. Aloha.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Aloha, Chair and Members. Kalimera, all the way from the Island of Greece. Also, I am here alone in my workspace, looking forward to another wonderful day with all of you. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Kalimera. Councilmember Kelly King, aloha.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Aloha, kalimera, and I am in the Chambers today, and we have quite a few live testifiers. Excited about that. That...I don’t think I need to announce every...all the Staff that’s here, because we’re in a public space, so...looking forward to expeditious and...and efficient questions today of the testifiers.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member King. And did you get a haircut?

COUNCILMEMBER KING: I did. I...I had --

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: *(Inaudible)*

COUNCILMEMBER KING: -- I had booked it for 8:30 last night, because I thought that’s when we were going to be done, so I had to go home and come back.

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

April 8, 2022

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Looks good.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Councilmember Gabe Johnson, aloha kakahiaka.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Aloha, Chair and Councilmembers...Committee Members. I'm...or, kalimera, if I say that right. I'm home alone in my workspace. There's no testifiers at the Lānaʻi District Office, but I'm looking forward to those who are willing to testify in other places. Mahalo, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, and I see in the chat, for the South Maui District Office, that there aren't any testifiers. Mahalo, Mr. Kanahēle.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Sorry, I forgot to say that. I'm sorry about that.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Thank you. I did too. Okay. Councilmember Yuki Lei Sugimura, aloha.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Aloha, good morning. I want to let all of you know that we have, in our audience in the Chamber, celebrities. Absolute celebrities. Hulu Lindsey, Nāpua Greig, Pueo Pata, you know, Adam from MISC, I mean, there's real people here sitting in the audience, and I asked them to please take a picture with us. So Kelly King and I did a group shot, we're going to post it on Facebook. And we also have Diedre Tegarden. I mean, I...I didn't get everybody to say hello yet, but I can hardly wait to begin a day like this, and have all these people here in the Chambers. I'll get autographs for you, if you want. Good morning.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Sugimura. Yes, please get autographs for me too. And Pro Tem Tasha Kama, aloha.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Aloha kakahiaka, Chair, and kalimera to all of my colleagues and those in the Chambers. First of all, I want to say, Mr. Molina, you know, Chair has been talking to us all week, and she said yes, let's speak things into existence. You better watch out, those 22 guys are going to be coming at you. Second thing, I want to tell Member Sugimura, don't take pictures without me. I'll be down there during lunch. And the third thing is, I expect us to have a great meeting today. I expect it to be short, but I expect it to be one in which we can collaborate and we can coordinate, and have an expeditious meeting today, so we all can have a great holiday weekend. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Speak it into existence, Pro Tem Kama. Mahalo. Okay, from Corporation Counsel, we have Deputy Corporation Counsel Kristina Toshikiyo, aloha.

MS. TOSHIKIYO: Aloha, Chair, and kalimera...mera...kalimera, sorry. And aloha, to all the Committee Members.

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

April 8, 2022

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: And from the Office of the Mayor, Budget Director Michele Yoshimura, aloha.

MS. YOSHIMURA: Good morning, Chair. Good morning, Members. Happy Friday.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Happy Friday. Our Committee Staff, Committee Secretary Yvette Bouthillier, aloha.

MS. BOUTHILLIER: Aloha, good morning, Committee Chair and Committee Members.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Budget Committee Analyst Lesley Milner, aloha.

MS. MILNER: Aloha, Chair. Kalimera, Members.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Legislative Analyst Jerry Paredes, aloha.

MR. PAREDES: Good morning, Chair and Members. Kalimera.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Legislative Analyst Kasie Apo Takayama, aloha.

MS. APO TAKAYAMA: Kalimera, Committee Chair and Members.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Legislative Attorney Richard Mitchell.

MR. MITCHELL: Kalimera, Chair and Members.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Council Services Assistant Clerk Lei Dinneen, and Council Services Assistant Clerk, Jean Pokipala. Aloha. Okay, and our disclaimer. Please see the last page of the agenda for information on meeting connectivity. We have our one item, one big item, on today's agenda, BFED-1 Proposed Fiscal Year 2023 Budget for the County of Maui. We have 51 individuals on the list to testify, and 22 at the Pā'ia District Office? No, we better stop saying that, huh? Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: It could happen.

COUNCILMEMBERS: . . .*(laughing)*. . .

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: And we would welcome them, if they did. All right, so...so Members, we'll...we'll follow the same protocol that we did yesterday. I thought that it worked out really well. And we'll begin with public testimony. Oral testimony via phone or video conference will be accepted, as well as in person. Please note that if you are signed in, you are on the list to testify, even if you did not request to testify. Please let Staff know in chat if you are signed on and do not intend to testify. Testimony on the budget is not limited to the departments scheduled for today. As noted on today's agenda, in-person testimony will be accepted in the Council Chamber and the six courtesy testimony sites. Testifiers wanting to provide video testimony, please join by

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

April 8, 2022

going to the BlueJeans meeting link noted on today's agenda. Testifiers wanting to provide audio testimony, please join by calling the number and entering the meeting code, also noted on today's agenda. Written testimony is highly encouraged. Instructions on how to submit testimony can be found at mauicounty.us/testify. Oral testimony is limited to three minutes per item. When testifying, please state your first and last name. If you're testifying on behalf of an organization or are a paid lobbyist, please inform the Committee. And I started showing the 30-second clock on the screen to help testifiers know where they are in the three minutes, and I'll continue doing that today. Staff has posted a link to the testifiers log in the chat, so that testifiers will be able to see where they are on the list. Please be mindful of the use of chat during the meeting. Chat should not be used to provide testimony or chat with Councilmembers or other testifiers. If providing testimony, please be courteous to others by muting your microphone and video while waiting your turn to testify. And then a quick question to the Members before we proceed with oral testimony. Yesterday, we had discussed giving Councilmembers up to a minute to ask their question, and then giving testifiers up to a minute to respond. What I did yesterday, though, that we hadn't discussed, was if the question and answer...if the question was a quick question, and the answer was a quick answer, and then the Councilmember asked another question, and there was another quick answer, I...I gave that...that back-and-forth exchange up to two minutes. Is there...are there any objections to...to how I did that yesterday? Okay, I see heads shaking no, so I will continue to do that.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: *(Audio interference)*

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Pro Tem Kama. So I'll continue doing that this morning. All right. I have three minutes on the clock, and I'll start with the first of our 53 testifiers. Kumu Hōkūlani Holt-Padilla, followed by Francine Aarona. Oh, there we go. Okay, we hear you. Oh, there you are. Aloha.

. . .BEGIN PUBLIC TESTIMONY. . .

MS. HOLT-PADILLA: I'm Hōkūlani Holt, Kumu Hula of Pā'ū O Hi'iaka. Waikiki, O'ahu is my birthplace. Waiehu, Maui is the place that I was raised, and I currently live in Kauahea, Wailuku, Maui. Wailuku is my river, Ka'ehu is my shoreline, and Maui is my homeland. Hula has always been in my life. My hula descends from a matrilineal line of kumu hula of Maui. I am, because of them. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in strong support of funding for the Hālau of 'Ōiwi Art in the proposed Fiscal Year 2023 budget. I submitted written testimony, but I also would like to highlight a couple of points. Hula is community, and the community is where hula thrives. There are over 25 hālau hula in Maui Nui, and each of them provide Hawaiian cultural learning for all ages, all ethnicities, all religions, all genders, and all physical capabilities. Hula shares its knowledge and learning with everyone, whether you are 5 or 85, hula can be for you. Whether you live here for generations, or arrived last month, hula can be for you. Whether you pray to Kāne, Buddha, your ancestors, or a Heavenly Father, hula can be for you too. Hula is for everyone. A hula student will learn how to live well on our island home. As a cultural practice, hula is designed to do just that; to teach land and ocean

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

April 8, 2022

stewardship, to teach values and behaviors like kōkua, laulima or cooperation, hoʻihi or respect, and mālama, to care for things. This too, helps us all live well in our homeland. Over many decades, hālau hula and kumu hula have contributed to our community. So an investment in hula is an investment in our community. As a cultural center for our community and the world, the Hālau of ʻŌiwi Art will inspire connection, and uphold cultural excellence, which is inherent in hula. Mahalo for your consideration, and please vote to support full funding for the Hālau of ʻŌiwi Art. Mahalo.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Impeccable timing, Kumu Hōkūlani. Members, any questions? Pro Tem Kama, I have a minute on the clock.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you, Chair. Thank you for being here, Kumu Hula Padilla. You know, I...I want to thank you for what you just said. So my question to you is, do you know any of the hālau that actually have classes for adults with special needs?

MS. HOLT-PADILLA: Yes. Kumu Hula Uluwehi Guererro, I know for a fact, because we used to share a wall at the Maui Arts and Cultural Center. So he has students that are in wheelchairs that come to his hālau hula as well.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you. Thank you much, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Pro Tem Kama. Member Paltin?

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Kumu Hōkū. I did have a constituent call me yesterday, concerned that this would affect the funding for Kumu Kealiʻi Reichel's building. Do you know if it would, and what kind of efforts are being made to reach out to the kumu hula here in West Maui so that they know more?

MS. HOLT-PADILLA: Yes, I have had conversations with Kealiʻi, and he did submit a letter of support for this Hālau of ʻŌiwi Art. And in his letter of support, he also shared that it is all about all of us, not one or the other. And because his particular area is also focusing on agroforestry and agro food sources, that too, is a...is an additional support to what we want to do in hula, no matter where we are. As far as West Maui, we are in active conversations with Kumu Hula Holoau Ralar, and she is part of our team of...of kumu hula to...to bring this Hālau of ʻŌiwi Art forward.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Mahalo, Kumu. Mahalo, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Paltin. Seeing no other questions. Yeah, there...there should be a...a hālau in every district, at least one. Mahalo, Kumu Holt-Padilla.

MS. HOLT-PADILLA: Mahalo.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Our next testifier is Francine Aarona, followed by Jill Wirt.

MS. AARONA: Aloha.

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

April 8, 2022

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aloha.

MS. AARONA: Mahalo for always allowing me to share my mana‘o with you. You all know me as Auntie Mopsy, the community advocate, but I come to you today with a different kuleana. If you’ve read my testimony, you will find that I graduated as a kumu hula in 1974, under Auntie Ma‘iki Aiu Lake. I won’t go into my written testimony, have the pleasure of reading it, but I just want to reinforce that testimony that I sent in to you in asking you for your kōkua in voting to support the full funding of Hālau ‘Ōiwi Art. You know, Maui has a chance to be the leader of our State and global community, and I ask that you be the first County to adopt this construction, this...this venue, which is a lot of money, a lot of money, but long overdue. Be the first. So you were the first to adopt Huamakahikina, a declaration of kumu hula. And if I knew Pūeo and everyone was going to be there in the Chambers, I would gladly have been there to serenade all of you. You’re probably going to have a party there. But anyway, you know, our chants and songs tell the story of our heritage, and our kuleana to the ‘āina, and our way of life. Through the accomplishments of our kumu hula here on Maui and the musicians, you know, they tell and celebrate the stories of our home, they sing of its beauty, and they bring both joy and pride to our larger community. So I ask for your kōkua in voting to support the full funding of the Hālau for ‘Ōiwi Art, and remember, let’s follow Kalākaua, who is known as the Merry Monarch, as he traveled to all the islands to revive the art of hula. Let’s continue that art with his legacy. So mahalo. I mahalo you for all the decisions that you have to make for Maui County, and I ask for ke Akua’s blessings to be on you on this beautiful day, mahalo. I still have time left.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo. Yeah, you still have time left. You were so concise.

MS. AARONA: I know, and if I...I would have joined those 22 people up at the District Office, Mr. Molina. I would have been there testifying in front of you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Ms. Aarona. Seeing no hands for questions, we thank you for your testimony this morning. Aloha.

MS. AARONA: Mahalo. Have a beautiful day.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Our next testifier is Jill Wirt. Please correct me if I’m saying your last name wrong.

MS. WIRT: *(Audio interference)*

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Followed by Leilani Pulmano.

MS. WIRT: You said it correctly, so great job. Good morning, aloha, Chair Rawlins-Fernandez, Vice-Chair Paltin, and Members of the Budget, Finance, and Economic Development Committee. My name is Jill Wirt, and I represent Maui Nui Marine Resource Council, where I work as a project and research coordinator. Thank you for providing me the time to testify. We live in a time when our coral reefs are facing serious threats, namely

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

April 8, 2022

climate change and sea level rise. But it's important to note that there are significant threats to local reefs that originate on land, right here on the islands of Maui Nui. We're asking for funding to address those threats, to give our corals the best shot at resiliency and survival. Sediment runoff from land is the biggest issue for our corals. Sediment carried by runoff into the ocean settles on corals, impeding their ability to get food from sunlight. Sediment that settles on the ocean floor interferes with coral reproduction, and it prevents coral larvae from settling on the hard substrate they need to start new coral colonies. Runoff also carries pollutants, including excessive nitrogen, which can cause overgrowths of invasive algae that block sunlight from the corals, and can cause coral harm. That's why Maui Nui Marine Resource Council is asking you to support the \$225,000 in the Mayor's proposed budget. This funding will help us prevent sediment runoff from Pohakea Watershed into Mā'alaea Bay, and support our work to address stormwater flooding and runoff in North Kihei. This funding will also support our reef-friendly landscaping program, which educates and assists resorts, hotels, and the community in transitioning away from synthetic fertilizers, herbicides, and pesticides that harm corals. This budget line item will also support our oyster bioremediation project in Mā'alaea Bay, to use caged non-reproducing oysters to filter sediment and pollutants from the water. It will also fund ongoing ocean water quality monitoring at 29 locations on Maui. We can...we also view visitor education as essential. We need visitors to understand the right way to interact with our fragile coral reefs. Actions such as walking or standing on corals, or using sunscreens with reef harming chemicals are to be avoided, as they are especially problematic during times when our corals are under stress. That's why Maui Nui Marine Resource Council asks for your support of \$100,000 of funding for visitor education programs, which is in the proposed budget. Corals that are stressed by sediment, runoff, and other pollution are corals that are less resilient to the impacts of a warming ocean, to sea level rise, and climate change. At the same time, sediment and runoff are not insurmountable problems, and can be solved by people in our community working together. On behalf of our team at Maui Nui Marine Resource Council, I would also like to repeat our statement of support for the proposed County funding of \$700,000 to complete the acquisition of the 257.8-acre parcel in the Pohakea Watershed, so it can be held and managed as part of the State Forestry Reserve. Thank you for this work...for your work this week, and next week on this important 2023 County budget, and thank you also for your continued support of programs working for clean ocean water and healthy coral reefs. Mahalo.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Ms. Wirt. I see questions from Member King, followed by Pro Tem Kama.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Thank you, Chair. I also see Member Paltin with her hand up. Thank you for being here, Ms. Wirt. And I'm assuming that you folks, because you do so much with so...with the little bit that we give you, that you have a grant writer on staff as well in your organization? Because I know you get other monies. And then my question is about when you talk about visitor education, have you been able to change out those...those banners at the airport now that the County has a stricter ordinance than the State law? You know, you have those banners up at the airport to...to advise tourists when they come in about the State law. But now that we've passed our

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

April 8, 2022

ordinance, were you able to change out those banners? And I'm asking this because I haven't been to the airport for a while, obviously.

MS. WIRT: I don't...not that I have heard that they have been changed, but we have been discussing updating them for the --

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay.

MS. WIRT: -- *(audio interference)* State law.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay, that would be helpful. Thank you. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member King. Pro Tem Kama, followed by Member Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you, Chair. Thank you for being here, Ms. Wirt, and thank you for your testimony. Out of the requested funds on the Mayor's line item, do you know what percentage of that is broken down into administration, operations, and equipment?

MS. WIRT: I do not know the breakdown exactly. But I would be happy to provide.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you. Thank you very much. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo...mahalo, Pro Tem Kama. And then Member Paltin, you were signed on as Guest 73, so I renamed you, so that it says Tamara Paltin at the bottom. Okay. Member Paltin.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: 73's my lucky number. Nah, nah. Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Ms. Wirt, for your testimony. I just wanted to ask a clarifying question about the sterile oysters. In terms of economic diversification, have you ever thought of going into the pearl business? I heard that Pearl Harbor had the same kind of pearls as Tahiti, and then maybe you guys could fund your projects through that economic diversification, through pearl oysters.

MS. WIRT: That is a great idea, and something we haven't thought of yet. We do sometimes have the pearl oysters kind of latch on to the cages, so they are there. It's almost like another natural recruiting event. There is just some concern, since we have had issues with theft in the past, that if they're in the same place, that could be a potential issue. But that's a...that's a great idea I'd be happy to suggest to the team.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Yeah, all of those oysters are in undisclosed locations, for the general public's information. They might be at Mā'alaea, or they might be somewhere else. We don't really know.

MS. WIRT: Okay.

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

April 8, 2022

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Paltin. Okay, seeing no other questions, we'll thank you for your testimony this morning.

MS. WIRT: Mahalo.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aloha. Our next testifier is Leilani Pulmano, followed by Charen Kepler.

MS. PULMANO: Good morning, Chair and Committee Members. My name is Leilani Pulmano, and with me is Charen Kepler, our Executive Director. I'm on the board of the Ka Ipu Kukui, and I'm also a proud alumni of the Ka Ipu Kukui Class of 2009. I'm testifying in support of the funding for the Ka Ipu Kukui program. Ka Ipu Kukui is a nine-month program that educates, cultivates, and inspires emerge...emerging leaders to contribute to a thriving future for Maui Nui. It's created by residents of Maui County, is focused on Maui County, and for Maui County's emerging leaders. The program has graduated 174 Fellows, and the current cohort includes 14 Fellows. You are very familiar with many of our Fellows, including Councilmember Paltin. We're extremely proud to say that many graduates have continued on their leadership path. Our Fellows include two elected officials, four County of Maui appointees, many of our Fellows have, or are, on State and County boards and commissions, many of our Fellows come from businesses, and are either running their own business, or managing businesses that employ hundreds of employees. Many of our Fellows are themselves educators, enriching the minds of younger leaders with broader perspectives that they've gained from Ka Ipu Kukui. Many of our Fellows are leading programs at nonprofits, or serving as board members of nonprofits, with missions related to environment, economic development, health care, agriculture, technology, culture, to name a few, doing important community work. All to say that the Ka Ipu Kukui Fellows are fulfilling our goal of embracing service of our community. We're asking for an increase in our budget to help fund our commitment to an executive director position so that we can continue to grow our leadership training and move towards being financially independent. Your support of the program has allowed 174 Fellows to hone their leadership skills, and grow into the leaders they are today. So on behalf of all my Fellows, thank you for your past and continued support of the Ka Ipu Kukui program. And next, you'll hear from Charen Kepler, who is filling that role as our executive director.

MS. KEPLER: Thank you, Leilani. Aloha, esteemed County Councilmembers. Oops, she has a question. Should I stop? Kelly has a question.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: *(Audio interference)* I'll just ask the Members for their questions after you're...you're pau.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Yeah, I can wait.

MS. KEPLER: Okay. As Leilani mentioned, my name is Charen Kepler. I'm the new executive director for Ka Ipu Kukui, and I've been with the organization since November, 2021. Over the past several months, I have seen this year's cohort grow with knowledge about the inner workings of Maui Nui. I've seen them inspired to be a part of a positive change.

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

April 8, 2022

This, in turn, inspires me to work my butt off to make sure that this program not only continues for the next 14 years, but also that this program continues to provide the Fellows opportunities beyond the one-year program, that keep them inspired to be a crucible of light. Therefore, a strategic plan to become financially independent has risen as top priority for us. We so appreciate the Council's support and funding over the years, but now it's time for us to expand the program, and to expand our fund development. Many of you are well acquainted with the program, but you don't know me, so I'm hoping that I gain your confidence today. While working at the Old Lāhainā Luau prior to Ka Ipu Kukui, I had the amazing opportunity to be the project director and manager of their 30 Acts Of Aloha philanthropy and community giving efforts. This one-year project was able to give over \$100,000 to multiple nonprofits on Maui, all through the fundraising projects that we pursued, and that I oversaw. I also have experience in grant writing, which I gained working at Goodwill Industries of Hawai'i as the Director of Maui County of Operations. Working on Federal and State grants, Goodwill was able to operate several workforce development programs on Maui, successfully gaining more funding for program expansion. Ka Ipu Kukui aims to be self-sustainable. However, I just got here, and it will take a little bit of time for us to find our niche in fund development. But this is why we ask you to support us for the upcoming fiscal year, so that we can continue the program activities while attacking our strategic plan. So, I thank you again today for hearing our testimony, and your time and consideration.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Good job, you two, well under three minutes. Member King, followed by Pro Tem Kama.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Thank you, Chair, and aloha, both of you. A great testimony, love your enthusiasm. And I just wanted to...was there...what's the magic number about 14 years? You said you hope it continues on to 14 years. Is there something...is this a number you pulled out of a hat? And then the other question I want to ask you is, what percentage of graduates stay on Maui? Have you been able to track that from your program?

MS. PULMANO: I can answer. So the 14 years is just saying that we have had 14 years under our belt. We hope to continue --

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Oh, okay.

MS. PULMANO: -- for 14 more. And in terms of your question, that's a great question. We haven't done any analysis on how many stays in Maui, but my guess would probably be about 75 percent of us are still here on Maui.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay, that's a great percentage. But maybe you could do that tracking that, because that...that's really helpful to know for the future of your program.

MS. PULMANO: Agreed. Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: All right. Aloha. Thank you, Chair.

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

April 8, 2022

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member King. Pro Tem Kama?

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you, Chair. Thank you for being here, Ms. Kepler. So my question is, I'm looking at the line item budget, and I see 45,000 in here. Is that what you're asking, and is...for your ED?

MS. PULMANO: We're actually asking for 45,000 --

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Yeah.

MS. PULMANO: -- which is an increase from 34,000 --

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: 4.

MS. PULMANO: -- I believe.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Yeah, yeah. And is that sufficient for your ED? I mean, or are you getting other funding to match that somewhere else?

MS. PULMANO: Yes, we're certainly getting other funding from...to match with some...with that. We have tuition, we charge tuition, but that's nearly not enough to run our entire program. And we also do grant writing.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Okay, okay. Well, thank you. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Pro Tem Kama. I have one question. I have a minute on the clock. Mahalo for your testimony. So to clarify, the program is for Maui County, and I know the program does not have someone...a participant from Moloka'i this year, and last year, or the last time, it was like maybe half of the portion of the program. So what are your plans to ensure that there is Moloka'i participation next year, and into the future?

MS. PULMANO: We tried really hard last year, actually, and had a candidate. And unfortunately, the candidate didn't meet the...our COVID policy, and we had a very strict COVID policy. But we're hoping that she joins us this year. So we're leading that groundwork to do that, but we were also making sure that a lot of our feelers are just calling people from Moloka'i to be able to do that. And we've committed also to people from Moloka'i that we would help them with their travel expenses, which I think was a big discouragement for people applying.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo for that response. Okay, seeing no other questions, we'll thank you again for your testimony this morning. Aloha.

MS. PULMANO: Thank you.

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

April 8, 2022

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Our next testifier is Charity Hartman, followed by Kumu Kapono'ai Molitau. Aloha.

MS. HARTMAN: Aloha, Committee Chair Keani Rawlins-Fernandez and esteemed Members of Maui County Council. My name is Charity Apelila Kaiwi-Hartman, a constituent residing in Kahului, but originally from Hāna. I serve as the Agency Director at the Maui Food Bank to oversee 180 partner agencies and food distribution programs throughout Maui, Moloka'i, and Lāna'i. The purpose of my testimony today is to urge your continued support of the Ka Ipu Kukui Fellows program, a program of Maui Economic Development Board. The mission of Ka Ipu Kukui is to educate, cultivate, and inspire emerging leaders to contribute to a thriving future for Maui Nui. I am currently a member of this year's cohort, class of 2022. When I first heard about Ka Ipu Kukui, I was very excited about the opportunity to learn more about the issues and deficiencies within our community. Moreover, I was excited to be a part of improving those issues. I've had the opportunity to meet with, learn from, and discuss some of our community's greatest challenges, with various key leaders throughout Maui County and our State. Together with my cohort, we've explored important issues facing Maui Nui, such as infrastructure, water, land use planning, economic development, social outmigration, local outmigration, housing, health care, social services, and governance. For the first time in my life, I've had the opportunity to visit Haleakalā Observatory at East-Facing Ahu. I also had the opportunity to visit 'Iolani Palace, and walk through the halls and rooms our monarchs did once upon a time. But my most memorable experience was when our group was able to plant native trees and shrubs on the Island of Kaho'olawe. I got to stand in the places that were desecrated by repeated bombing, and nothing I've read or heard about Kaho'olawe in the past affected me the way it did to be there in person. It was as if I could feel the injustice and violence that happened, and I was surprised that it felt personal, and it broke my heart. Yet I felt fortunate to be a part of the restoration process. This program has broadened my perspective and understanding of not just the issues we face today, but of Maui Nui as my home, of who I am, and what my role is as an emerging leader in this community. I'm learning to overcome fears and insecurities to achieve a greater purpose. I understand now that my involvement in the community is crucial to a thriving future for Maui Nui. I have a part to play, I can contribute. It is my kuleana to apply what I've learned through the program to benefit this community. So thank you so much for the support of Ka Ipu Kukui's Fellows program in the past, and for the opportunity to speak with you today. I strongly urge you to vote in favor of continued funding of Ka Ipu Kukui. Mahalo nui

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Ms. Hartman. You must have timed yourself. That was impeccable timing. Okay, Members, questions? Member Sugimura.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you. Thank you, Chair. Thank you very much for your testimony. It was very compelling. I'm just curious, maybe I should have asked the previous Ka Ipu Kukui testifiers, but what is the tuition to join? What is the cost?

MS. HARTMAN: I...I believe this year it was 1,400, but employers can sponsor the Fellows so that...I could be wrong, so I will let Leilani correct me if I'm wrong.

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

April 8, 2022

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Oh, okay. I'll...I'll ask her. Thank you very much.

MS. HARTMAN: Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Sugimura. Pro Tem Kama?

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: I'm going to ask this of Charity too, but I...you may want to...so good morning, Charity. Thank you for being here. Thank you for your testimony. So aside from maybe the employer potentially offering to take the tuition, but if you're not employed, does the program offer scholarships? Do you know that?

MS. HARTMAN: I am not sure.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Okay (*audio interference*) --

MS. HARTMAN: But I can find out.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: (*Audio interference*)

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Okay. Thank you...thank you, Chair. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Kama. Okay, we're going to go to our next testifier. Kumu Kapono'ai Molitau, followed by Kumu Cody Pueo Pata.

MR. MOLITAU: 'Ae. Welina mai keaoloha i au o ko [*Hawaiian spoken*]. Good morning. *Welina mai ikela.* My name is Kapono'ai Molitau, and I am Kumu Hula of Hālau Nā Hanona Kūlike 'O Pi'ilani, and a Hawaiian business owner of Native Intelligence here in Wailuku, Maui. I stand before you to testify in strong support of funding for the Hālau of 'Ōiwi Art in the proposed Fiscal Year Budget 2023. As a kumu hula in Hawai'i for the past 28 years, and educating hundreds of our Maui Nui community, and our Hawai'i community, the Hālau of 'Ōiwi Art would provide a long overdue support for the culture and practitioners that make our home Nō Ka 'Oi. We, as kumu hula, all feel that hula is integral. It's integral to the culture and our community. Hula and hālau hula also represent our islands throughout Hawai'i and the world. Our hālau hula on Maui have brought so much joy and pride to our island home, and with the establishment of the Hālau of 'Ōiwi Art, this level of excellence will continue to support and celebrate the arts and practices of our home. Personally, I've invested the majority of my life to hula, and have invested in this community known as hālau. These investments are long-term, and the main goal for these investments into our community is to provide a safe place of learning for our haumāna. Providing such a place dedicated and designed through the lens of hula creates a visible and reliable space for education, performance, preservation, and the excellence of art and culture in our own home. Further, as a cultural center, our community in the world, the Hālau of 'Ōiwi Art will foster relationships, inspire connections, and uphold cultural excellence for all. And lastly, as a kumu hula, the space is not only an investment for the near future, but will have lasting impacts on our community's identity for generations to come. Mahalo nui for all of your service to our Maui Nui. Please vote to support full funding of Hālau of 'Ōiwi

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

April 8, 2022

Art. Mahalo. Ooh, nervous. Kala mai. First time I ever did that in my life. (*audio interference*).

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mai hopo. Mahalo, Kumu Molitau. Members, questions for our testifier? Member Sugimura.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you. What an honor to have you here. I can't imagine you'd be nervous with all of the blessings I've seen you do, and the speeches you've made, and things you did for First Friday, and we are blessed to have you. So you have been in the background for planning this 'ōiwi resource center, and I wonder if you could share that with us too?

MR. MOLITAU: You know, the...the amazing conversations that are amongst kumu, and amongst like-minded folks, the excitement, the...the amazing opportunity to know that there's a space that will be dedicated to hālau, dedicated to hula, and practitioners of the art, of those that all love Hawaiian arts, that, I think is really at the...the kahua, or the foundation of these conversations. So having those on...on, you know, a Zoom meeting or...or in person, is...is just lovely. And we collectively all think that what will the next generation be able to...to have for them and moving forward? It's such a special idea. So yeah, good fun, those conversations, I tell you.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you for your hard work.

MR. MOLITAU: 'Ae.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Sugimura, and if you could, please remember, clarifying questions as much as possible --

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: (*Audio interference*)

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: -- at least in a clarifying way. Okay, Member Sinenci, I saw your hand up, followed by Member...Pro Tem Kama.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I don't think they know for sure, how big it --

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, I'm going to have to mute your speaking. Sorry for the interruption.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Aloha, Mr. Molitau, and mahalo for your testimony this morning. I understand that the hālau is going to be built in Wailuku Town. I was just wondering what kind of historic...historical connection does it have with...with Wailuku?

MR. MOLITAU: In terms of hālau and hula? Is that the question?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Maybe --

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

April 8, 2022

MR. MOLITAU: I --

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Yeah, go ahead.

MR. MOLITAU: Yeah, so when we think about hālau and we think about hula, it's...it's widespread, right? Every moku has...every moku has identities for...for hālau and...and genealogical connections to chant or...or other things like that. And so when we think about this space in general, and...and where it's located, I believe Kumu Pueo Pata will explain a little bit more about that particular wahi, and...and really, the...the foundational pieces that when we think about hālau moving forward, the community that's going to outreach, it's not only Wailuku, but it's...it's all of Maui Nui, it's all of Hawai'i, Kou Hawai'i pae 'āina. And so that's an exciting opportunity later on. Also, we have to also think that this is not going to be the only hālau that is going to be made here in Wailuku, but looking forward, what it would be like to have one out in your hometown in Hāna for the folks in Hāna, for the folks Upcountry, for the folks out in Kihei, for the folks out in Lāhainā, for the folks out in...in Lāna'i, and as well as Moloka'i. So when we think about Maui Nui, we have to think about Hawai'i as a whole, and not just particularly Wailuku.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Mahalo for that clarification. Thank you, Chair.

MR. MOLITAU: 'Oia.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo for that clarifying question, Member Sinenci. It was a joke, it was a joke. He knows that wasn't clarifying. Okay, Members, we're trying to ask clarifying questions, yeah? But yeah, I...I love that vision, Kumu Molitau. Members, any other...oh, sorry, Pro Tem Kama, you had your hand up already.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Yes. Thank you. Thank you, Chair. Thank you for being here, Kumu. So you know, I...I...I can sense the excitement in your voice as to what is going to be coming forth in this year, because when I think about hālau, I understand that, but you know what I look at too, is the art side of our culture. So when you look at the art side of our culture, what are those things that you envision in your mind occurring at this hālau?

MR. MOLITAU: Oh, we don't have enough time for that conversation, but I will say this, the amazing parts to bring in the areas of folks like, oh, we'll just say kapa, or we'll say things like ohe kāpala, we'll say things like weavers, we'll say things like textile makers, even today. So when we're thinking about arts, we're thinking about not only foundational components of what makes us brilliant, but bringing that into 21st Century learners today. And so that...that, to me, is really important. And that, to me, is really exciting. Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Not bad for one minute, but thank you. We'll have more discussions and soon, I'm sure.

MR. MOLITAU: Ā 'oia.

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

April 8, 2022

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you, Chair. Mahalo.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: We certainly will, Pro Tem Kama. Okay, seeing no other hands, we'll thank you, Kumu Molitau, for your testimony this morning. Mahalo.

MR. MOLITAU: 'Ae. Mahalo.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aloha. Our next testifier is Kumu Cody Pueo Pata, followed by Kaleo Cullen. Aloha.

MR. PATA: Aloha mai, ē Budget Chair Rawlins-Fernandez, Vice-Chair Paltin, and esteemed Councilmembers. I'm Pueo Pata, I am on personal time off from my job as the cultural advisor to the Mayor, so that I can provide personal testimony in full support of complete funding for the Hālau of 'Ōiwi Art. I've been a kumu hula for 21 years. My hālau is Ka Mālama Mahilani here in Kahului. I began hula at the age of 16 in September of 19(*muffled*), under Nona Kaluhiokalani, and her master, Uncle George Na'ope. By late spring of '92, Uncle George requested that I be taken into training to become a kumu hula, and that training found me living with my masters for extended periods of time, and I've worked for and alongside them in various endeavors. Part of my training involved them sending me to study intensively under other masters, although altogether they numbered seven; five kumu hula and two masters and other forms of 'ōiwi arts and traditions. In my time spent with them, the last one passing in 2011, aside from their own homes, not one of my masters had a permanent space to convey their teachings. We were migratory in where we practiced, and adaptable in how we used truly varied and oftentimes challenging spaces. As kumu hula and practitioners, we have been resigned to bearing the complete burden of procuring safe and conducive spaces in which we can teach, and through which we can pass on the truly rich and unique knowledge and traditions that we have inherited from our masters. The monumental challenges that we face are some of the same ones faced by so many generations of practitioners and masters before us. We endured, because of our deep commitment to kuleana, and we've always strived for complete competence and mastery, despite various types of adversity. What level of mastery would I be at if facilities like the proposed HOA existed when I was learning, or when my masters were learning? One can only speculate, but it's my hope that my own nieces and nephews, and future students, will never have to speculate on such a thing. All of us who support the Hālau of 'Ōiwi Art are certain that such a facility will most definitely have a huge and positive impact on the practitioners, who will be able to call the space home for their traditions, the effects of which will ripple down through the next generations for the betterment of all of Maui County, Hawai'i, and the world. I personally feel that this is an investment we can all be proud of, and I hope that it's also evident in the outpouring of diverse testimonial support you've received. Our community is truly amazing. I'm a member of Huamakahikina, a member of Maui's Hui of Kumu Hula, and a practitioner of various 'ōiwi arts, as well as the cultural advisor to the Mayor. Should any of you have any comments, questions, or concerns, I would be happy to meet with any of you, for any of those reasons, in any of those capacities. Thank you so much for your time. Mahalo.

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

April 8, 2022

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Impeccable timing, and mahalo for sending me that memo on what color to wear this morning.

MR. PATA: You're welcome.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: I jest. Members, questions for our testifier? Okay, seeing none --

MR. PATA: Thank you very much.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: -- mahalo.

MR. PATA: Aloha.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Our next testifier is Kaleo Cullen, followed by Charmaine Kailipaka-Day.

MR. CULLEN: Aloha. Aloha, Chair Rawlins-Fernandez and Members of the Budget Committee. My name is Kaleo Cullen, I'm association president for Ka 'Ohana 'O Kahikinui, Inc., also known as KOOK. I'm also a resident of moku 'o Kahikinui. I'm testifying in support of a 60,000 budget priority grant introduced by Councilmember Yuki Lei Sugimura for sustainability and clean-up of feral animals impacting our community, especially the depletion of our fragile Koa forests and native habitat. For the past decade or so, we've been working diligently to remove ungulates, mainly the cattle, from our 4,500-acre parcel that we've [sic] trying to enclose to bring back our forests and native habitat. We work in partnership with Leeward Haleakalā Watershed Resource Partnership, as well as the Department of Land and Resources...Land and Natural Resources, Department of Fire and Wildlife, and also various ranchers. So we, you know, we ask for your support in this endeavor, and...yes.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, mahalo for your testimony, Mr. Cullen. Member King, you have a question?

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Thank you, Chair. I think we discussed this item yesterday, but I'm glad you're here, because I...I...when I first heard it, I had visions of...when you talked about cleanup, of a helicopter going around looking for carcasses. But it sounds like you're talking about actually pulling the herd, or...or keeping the feral animals out of that area; is that correct?

MR. CULLEN: Yes, ma'am.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay (*audio interference*) --

MR. CULLEN: Because most of the terrain up there is hard...oh...

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

April 8, 2022

COUNCILMEMBER KING: No, I...I just remember when they used to do that with feral goats in Haleakalā. So is that the, kind of the same thing that you're talking about with these Axis deer...the Axis deer problem?

MR. CULLEN: Yeah, so...yeah, we're using helicopters to get to the ungulates that are up. The terrain is kind of rough in that area.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay.

MR. CULLEN: And mostly the helicopter --

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay, thank --

MR. CULLEN: -- for...would be to remove most of the ungulates, yes.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay, you're talking about the live ones that are running around.

MR. CULLEN: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay, thank you for that clarification. Thank you, Chair.

MR. CULLEN: You're welcome.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member King. Council Chair Lee, did you have a question?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: *(Audio interference)*

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: I was just trying to...can you hear me now?

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Yeah.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay, I was just trying to signal Member King that we couldn't...I couldn't hear her, because when you talk away from the microphone, your voice comes off as really soft.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo for that, Council Chair Lee. Members, any other questions? Pro Tem Kama.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Mr. Cullen, for being here. So I may have missed it in the beginning opening statements, but how many years has Ka 'Ohana O Kahikinui be...been doing this type of...of mitigation in terms of the Axis deer?

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

April 8, 2022

MR. CULLEN: For at least 15 years.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: 15.

MR. CULLEN: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Okay, thank you. Thank you, Chair.

MR. CULLEN: You're welcome.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Pro Tem Kama. Member Sugimura.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: One clarifying question, what is the name of your nonprofit again? I think you opened with it.

MR. CULLEN: It's Ka 'Ohana O Kahikinui, Incorporated. And we're a 501(c)(3) organizations [sic] in compliance.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you.

MR. CULLEN: You're welcome.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Sugimura. Pro Tem...no? Sorry. Member Paltin.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Oh, it was a question for you, if all the questions of the testifier were finished.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo, Mr. Cullen, for your testimony.

MR. CULLEN: Mahalo.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aloha.

MR. CULLEN: Councilmembers, Chair Rawlins-Fernandez. Aloha.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aloha. Member Paltin.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Chair, when we used to do the district testifying, we would let the students go first and the seniors go first, and I see that there is a number of students from the Carden Academy. Maybe we can let them go as a group, so they could get back to class if there's no objections from the Members.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo for that suggestion, Member Paltin. It was something that we discussed the other evening, and I know that was something that the Committee supported doing. So Members, are there objections to asking if there are any youth

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

April 8, 2022

groups with us this morning, and then we can have them go now, and then we can get back to our...our list of adult testifiers? Any objections, Members?

COUNCILMEMBERS VOICED NO OBJECTIONS.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, great. Okay. Member Paltin, I don't...I don't know...okay, there's some. Okay, I will ask for the youth that are testifying for Carden Academy to...to please make yourself known, and if the adults, so the teachers at Carden Academy, could please help with identifying each of the youth testifiers? And if you could please identify yourself as well, any of the teachers at Carden Academy Grade 4.

MS. COLE: *(Audio interference)* Aloha, my name is Kaiulani Cole, and I'm one of the moms of one of the students that's going to testify. I believe that Mrs. Kennedy, their teacher, is right in the middle of teaching. So we have Nunu Judd and Malia Cole here to...to give their testimony. Thank you.

MS. JUDD: Good morning, Members of the Budget, Finance, and Economic Development Committee. My name is Tanuanua *(phonetic)* Judd, and I am a 4th grader at Carden Academy. I am very passionate about the preservation of...of the Hawaiian culture, and the protection...of the Hawaiian culture, the protection and reviving of it. It is important that Hawai'i's story is not forgotten. That's why I'm asking you to fund the Hālau of 'Ōiwi Art project for me and all future generations. Thank you for your time, and I support all of...and support all of Hālau of 'Ōiwi Art.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo. Will you please say your name for the record?

MS. JUDD: My name's Tanuanua Judd.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Ms. Judd, for your testimony this morning. Members, do you have any questions for our testifier? Seeing none, we thank you so much for your testimony this morning. Enjoy the rest of your day. Aloha.

MS. COLE: Aloha, kākou. I'm Malia Cole, and I go to Carden Academy. I have written a testimony, but I would like to speak as well. The future of Hawai'i is in our hands, and if BFED funds this project, the future of Hawai'i and hula will thrive. As some people before me have said, hula is community. On behalf of the next generation, I am asking you to fulfill our request to fund HOA. Mahalo.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Ms. Cole. Members, any questions for our testifier? Seeing none, we'll mahalo you for your testimony this morning. Good job. 'E nō maika'i. Okay. Are there any other testifiers from Carden Academy? In the chat, I'm seeing there are no more testifiers. Mahalo piha. Mahalo. So 18 of us agree. Mahalo for that in the chat. Okay, mahalo again, Member Paltin, for that suggestion. And then Staff, if you're able to let us know if there are any more youth groups to testify, you can direct message me, and then I can take them up as a group again, so that they can go back to

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

April 8, 2022

class, or whatever it is that they're doing. Okay, so we'll go with the next testifier, Charmaine Kailipaka-Day, followed by Diedre Tegarden.

MS. KAILIPAKA-DAY: Hi?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aloha. We can hear you.

MS. KAILIPAKA-DAY: Aloha kakahiaka, Charmaine Kailipaka-Day, noho mai Kahikinui. I'm here to support the Community Development Cleanup and subsist...sub...I so, so nervous...Sustainability Program that we have running here in Kahikinui. This community was created in 1999. We got our leases from Hawaiian Homes, and so began our reforestation project, which we...we've...we've been doing all these years, and along with the management of the animals. And so we have workday programs, where people come in and they help us clean and make the community a better place to live in, help us put in fire roads, help us do things like that. And then in exchange, they help us remove the ungulates that are multiplying. And through the years, we've helped many communities by providing food from the animals to them, and we really appreciate the help that we could have. And I also want to say that...how should I say? I also support the kumu hulas for their nā 'iwi...and the arts program, because I think that's really a far-thinking thing. I taught hula in Keanae for 17 years under our Hālau O Kēia Lā, and also in the front of my lawn in Wailua Nui. So it's a wonderful thing, the foresight that these kumu have for the future. And that is my testimony today. Yes.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Ms. Kailipaka-Day. You did a great job with your testimony.

MS. KAILIPAKA-DAY: Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo. Okay, seeing no questions, we'll thank you for your testimony.

MS. KAILIPAKA-DAY: Okay.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aloha. Our next testifier is --

MS. KAILIPAKA-DAY: Aloha.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: -- Diedre Tegarden, followed by...I've been notified that we have *(audio interference)* on the line. Ms. Tegarden.

MS. TEGARDEN: Good morning. Kalimera, aloha kākou, and **go rai hinna mina-sama**, ohayo gozaimasu, Committee Chair Rawlins-Fernandez, Council Chair Lee, and all Members of the Committee. Good morning. My name is Deidre Tegarden. I'm the executive director for the Nisei Veterans Memorial Center, and may I just say, it is so lovely to be here in person with everybody. At a clubhouse meeting in 1952, the returning veterans of the 100th Infantry Battalion and the 442nd Regimental Combat Team adopted a motto of continuing service. They wanted to make things better for the community to

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

April 8, 2022

which they came home. The motto manifested itself differently on all islands. For Maui, it was the dream and the eventually...eventual building of the Nisei Veterans Memorial Center campus, which began with Kansha Preschool and our Maui adult daycare center, Oceanview facility. The Nisei Veterans Memorial Center is requesting a line item grant in the amount of 150,000 in the upcoming fiscal year County budget. Nisei Veterans Memorial Center manages Maui's only intergenerational center, located on Kahului Beach Road, right across from the ocean. And anyone who knows the area knows that the salt air, rough wind conditions, deteriorate our buildings much quicker than other places. Maui adult daycare center and Kansha Preschool were the first to be built on our campus back in 2006. And due to harsh weather conditions over the years, many items have deteriorated beyond the ability to fix them. So to that end, Nisei Veterans' request for funding this year includes items to be used by all campus partners, to make sure that our keiki and kūpuna are safe. These include updated playground equipment and playground surface, so that both the children and seniors can have a place to enjoy each other's company; a new industrial refrigerator and freezer, which is used by Kansha and Maui adult daycare center; venting in the Maui adult daycare center bathrooms and showers; new doors with panic hardware that are needed for Maui adult daycare center; and outside ceiling vents and roofing that have been deteriorated by the said salt air. We're also looking for funding for archival software equipment. NVMC arch has over 200 special collections of Maui's Nisei and some Sansei veterans, dating back to World War I, in some cases over 100 years old, including items like this senninbari. We need to scan and photograph each item, not only to allow the originals to rest, but to be able to digitize these collections and make it accessible online for students, researchers, and community members, both Statewide, nationally, and globally. With a mission of inspiring people to find the hero within themselves through the legacy of the Nisei veterans, we seek not only to perpetuate what was noble about . . .(timer sounds). . . the past, but engage in the transformation and renewal of our society for the future. Thank you very much.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Ms. Tegarden. Okay, I see questions from Member Johnson, followed by Member King.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Ms. Tegarden, just a quick question, clarifying question. Does your adult daycare have a waitlist?

MS. TEGARDEN: So the Maui, we have one of the adult daycare centers on our campus, and that's the Oceanview facility. They do...they are able to allow people to come in. I don't know that they have a waitlist right now. Since COVID happened, you know, a lot of things changed. I also want to...this was not your question, but I also want to state for all the Members, that the money that we are requesting for Maui adult daycare center, Oceanview facility, are things that we, Nisei Veterans Memorial Center, are responsible for and should, and by no means, if Maui adult daycare center is coming in for a line item separately, that has nothing to do with what we are asking for.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay, thank you so much. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Johnson. Member King.

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

April 8, 2022

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Thank you, Chair. Great to be here in person with you, Deidre. But I just wanted to...just for...I think I know the answer to this, but just to clarify, where you're located is outside of the sea level, the...what we call SLR-XA, which is the sea level rise area?

MS. TEGARDEN: Just, yes.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Just outside of it? Okay, I think you're high enough. And then I also wanted to ask you if...I thought I had heard that you've included also artifacts and some memorabilia for...from the internment camps as well?

MS. TEGARDEN: We have, thank you for that statement. We have...currently we have an exhibit specifically about internment. Many people, when they think of internment, think of the West Coast Story as you are very well aware. But Hawai'i and Maui specifically had a very large internment story. And yes, we do have things from the Maehara family, Hanzawa, Munekiyo.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: That's great. Okay.

MS. TEGARDEN: Yeah, thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay, thank you. Thank you for that. Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member King. Seeing no other questions, we'll thank you for your testimony this morning, Ms. Tegarden.

MS. TEGARDEN: Thank you very much.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aloha.

MS. TEGARDEN: Aloha.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: All right, I'm going to call on the students from Maui High School. If you'll please turn your video on. Staff has notified me that Jazmyne Vilorina and Cailyn Omuro may be students. Okay, we'll check on them again after the next testifier then. Okay, the next testifier is Isabelle Graf, followed by Ui Tanigawa-Lum.

MS. GRAF: Good morning, Members of the Council. My name is Isabelle Graf. I was...I've been living on Maui since February, 2014. I am here to support the continued funding of the MEO BDC program that supports microloans for people like me. Thanks to them, I was able to open a small shop after I lost my job due to COVID. I used to work for the Maui Tropical Plantation, so I lost my job with another 275 people. In November last year, I was able to open at the same location where I lost my job, Maui Tropical Plantation, a small, local arts and crafts shop, and then I started with 12 local vendors. Everything is made or designed here on island. It's been less than six months since I opened, and nowadays I have 22 local artists or small vendors that are making an

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

April 8, 2022

earning, or a living, thanks, you know, to this opportunity that was given to me. If it wasn't for their support, I would not have been able to realize this dream of mine, and to be able to help and to give back to the island. As well, this business has allowed us to donate part of the funding to organizations like nonprofits, like Adaptive Maui, Maui Hui Mākeke, and other organizations that protect the local reef and marine life. Also through the products that we handcraft and create all together, we are kind of sharing a little bit about Maui's history, and culture, and tradition, and we have items made out of Kapa, Hau, woodwork, and we're kind of trying to share and educate, you know, island visitors, and as well, we're providing kama'āina to local residents, so that way they also feel welcome and part of the community. So I just wanted to say thank you to everyone, you know, because I'm really happy that I've been able to help everyone in the community as much as I can. And I have big plans, and if it wasn't for MEO, I would not be here today. So that would be it.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Ms. Graf. Member King, you have a question?

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Yeah, thank you, Chair. Just clarifying, you're...what...the...the program you're talking about is the Core Four program, Isabelle?

MS. GRAF: No, I did not attend the Core Four program. I started a business plan on my own, and through BDC, they advised me and help me polish my...my business program. And then thanks to Heather Wells that works at MEO, and her boss, David Daly, they were able to, you know, help me clean up everything, so that I'm prepared, you know, to be able to repay my microloan.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay, that...no, that's...you answered my question. But that's a...that's the...a different business program than Core Four for MEO?

MS. GRAF: Yeah, it's different, yes.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay. Okay, and then your...your project that you were talking about, was that...is that the one that is in the courtyard there at...at Tropical Plantation?

MS. GRAF: Yes. It's next...located to the two zip lines.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay, good job. I've been there, and it's great to see all those local vendors. Thank you for being here.

MS. GRAF: Thank you very much.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member --

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Could you hear me that time? Better?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yes, that was clear.

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

April 8, 2022

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Trying to move the microphone closer.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Seeing no other questions, mahalo for your testimony this morning, Ms. Graf. Aloha.

MS. GRAF: Thank you. Aloha.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, our next testifier is Ui Tanigawa-Lum, followed by one of the students from the Maui High Blue Thunder robotics team. Aloha, Ms. Tanigawa-Lum.

MS. TANIGAWA-LUM: Aloha mai kākou. My name is Ui Tanigawa-Lum, and I am an attorney and a hula practitioner. Mahalo for this opportunity to testify in strong support of funding for the Hālau of ‘Ōiwi Arts. I’d like to send my aloha to you folks, but also to the many kumu hula there in Chamber. As many of you know, I was born and raised in Makawao, Maui, where the communities that raised me also helped to shape my trajectory and passions as an adult. Over the many decades that my kumu, Nāpua, and...and also Kahulu, have been a part of our community, hundreds, if not thousands, of haumāna have benefited from their teaching in Upcountry Maui. The same is true, I’m sure, for many other hālau throughout our island. My time in hālau was formative, not only as a young woman, but also served as a catalyst for my passion for justice, as well as my work as an attorney. My motivation was simple. I did not understand why it was so hard to practice culture on our island home. And while I have fond memories of getting splinters from the floor in Hali‘imaile, learning about having light feet like Ke‘elikōlani when dancing on a creaky floor, or during...doing duck walks around school cafeterias, and rolling out the carpet in Auntie Hulu’s garage for practice as a six-year-old, I think we must do more to support hula in our communities. We must invest in that which makes our home and island so special. And aside from my role as a hula practitioner, my work as an attorney now largely seeks to perpetuate and actualize important protections around traditional and customary rites and practices, like hula. Our laws in Hawai‘i are unique because of its cultural underpinnings. Our Ali‘i recognized that in order to survive on an island with finite resources, caring for the land must be reciprocal and regenerative. And that fundamental understanding is reflected in our laws and our practices today. Hula practitioners are often leaders in environmental stewardship, resource management, and much more, and this is because, in part, hula requires an intimate understanding of, and relationship with, our ‘āina and its resources. Given climate change, food insecurity, and a global pandemic, these valuable lessons are readily available to us through hula. With my training and education, I can confidently say that the Hālau of ‘Ōiwi Art will have a direct effect on our community, on environmental stewardship, culture identity, and much more. That said, I know you folks have a long day ahead of you, so I just mahalo you all for your

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

April 8, 2022

work on behalf of our community, and ask you to please fund, fully fund, the Hālau of 'Ōiwi Arts today. Mahalo, and aloha.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Ms. Tanigawa-Lum. Seeing no questions, we'll thank you for your testimony this morning. The next testifier before we take our morning break, is a student from the Maui High Blue Thunder robotics team, and please correct me, as I likely will mispronounce your name. Keithjan Quilal-lan.

MR. QUAILAL-LAN: All right, let me just get settled here. Hi, good morning, everyone. I'm Keithjan Quilal-lan, I am currently a senior for Maui High, and I am representing MEDB. Just, the main thing, I guess want to say off the bat is, I guess the support from the MEDB and, like, the funding they give us, really helps the students, especially, like, students like me, who were able to participate in these kinds of programs, just I guess, learning the skills and...yeah, learning the skills of STEM. And I guess that leads me to another point. I'm sure, like, I think what Mr. Imada told you guys, is I am a member of Maui High's Blue...robotics team, Team 2443, where I think this past weekend, we were able to compete at the Hawai'i Regional, and we were the winners, being the 2nd seeded alliance, and we won the entire thing. And I guess that's all because many students who I guess revolved their, like, learning around STEM had like an avenue to pour out their, like, their interests. Like me, I first got introduced to STEM back in, I think it was in the 7th grade, and I'm not sure if you guys know who Mrs. Suzuki was, she's the STEM teacher for Maui Waena, and basically from her, she taught us, like, the basic skills of STEM, like how STEM can be, like, used in, like, life. And then I continued to do that program, and then the thing is, Maui Waena and Maui High have a good relationship when it comes to, I guess the STEM program, so I transferred over from Maui Waena STEM program to Maui High STEM program, which was led by Mr. Imada. And then ever since then, I've been in STEM, so it's my seven...seventh years [sic] in STEM. And yeah, that's basically, I guess the general gist of it, just...yeah.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yeah --

MR. QUAILAL-LAN: Oh, and here's --

MR. TAKENO: I'd just like to say, for...for me, when I...I think I really only got involved when I came to the...the team. I think one of the...one of the biggest things I feel for...for our robotics team is that unlike in, like, the classroom...unlike all these times in class and whatnot, when you're working on your own project competitions at the science fair, when you're working by yourself, with this kind of activity, you all have to work as a team. One of the things that...that I'm proud about for our...our win at the regionals is that with every skill...it was an entire alliance that won. Without anybody in that alliance, we would not have been able to do what we did, and I think that that's...it's a very valuable lesson, showing that we won, because we...we could work better as a team. Yeah.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, and will you please identify yourself for the record?

MR. TAKENO: Oh, my name is Derek Takeno.

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

April 8, 2022

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Derek Takeno. Okay, mahalo. I saw questions from Member Sinenci, followed by Member Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Mahalo, Chair, and aloha, Mr. Quilal-lan and Mr. Takeno. I was just wondering if the robotics class is an elective class, and also if you are looking at a college or university that specializes in robotics?

MR. QUAILAL-LAN: Okay, so the robotics program itself is like an afterschool club, however, Mr. Imada teaches, I think, two classes. There's engineering...there's an engineering class, and there's a STEM Capstone class, so I'm...I'm part of the STEM Capstone's class and he's part of the engineering class. Basically, how it works is while other students do, I guess the...the regular projects --

MR. TAKENO: Right, yeah.

MR. QUAILAL-LAN: -- we are allowed to, like, work on, like, robotics stuff. And that's been good...or that's still good, because the stuff we do for robotics still, like, I guess adheres to, like, the class's rubric and, like, what the class is supposed to be teaching.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: And the college?

MR. QUAILAL-LAN: Oh, and then for college . . . *(timer sounds)*. . . I wouldn't say I was...I would go to like a, like, a robotics college, but I want to do, like, I guess, engineering, if that makes sense. So I already applied and got accepted to San Jose State University, where I'm going to be studying aeronautical engineering.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Congratulations. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Sinenci.

MR. TAKENO: And a...

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh.

MR. TAKENO: Okay, so . . . *(inaudible)* . . . am not as...I'm not as certain as to the college, but I do...I am looking at applying toward a college to focus mostly on engineering. I'm not sure if fully that would be robotics, but one of the things is, is that what we do in robotics, it...it follows engineering very...and relies heavily on engineers and several other fields like that. So like, we have to use the design process when we try to build a robot, we try to improve it, we would be looking for, like, ways to make it better, and try taking notes on I guess the benefits of each decision. It's just a lot of the same things.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, mahalo, Member Sinenci. Member Paltin, followed by Member King.

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

April 8, 2022

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Oh, thank you, my first question was for Keithjan, I guess. Did you say your team is 2443?

MR. QUAILAL-LAN: Yeah.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: I just was wondering, is there a significance to that? 2443?

MR. QUAILAL-LAN: Not necessarily, because I guess how...so how FIRST works, is basically your number determines, like, how early you registered your team. So we'd be the --

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Oh, okay.

MR. QUAILAL-LAN: -- 2,443rd team to do it. But yeah, there's...I wouldn't say there's, like, a significance with the number 2443. I guess just over time, we made it significant, because a cool thing we like to do with, like, the 2443, is line it up, so it becomes, like, a thunderbolt. And that's, like, I guess our mascot for the team.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Oh, right on. And I just wanted to make sure you guys know that we need engineers, so when you guys pau graduate, come back. . . .*(timer sounds)*. . .

MR. QUAILAL-LAN: Yeah.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Paltin. Member King.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Thank you, Chair. Aloha and congratulations to Maui High School, so proud of you guys. Just a quick question. You may not be able to answer this, and that's okay. Maybe we can get someone from MEDB, but is the robotics program funded under STEM, or is there a separate, like, pot of money that they use to fund the robotics program? Do you know?

MR. QUAILAL-LAN: Umm...

COUNCILMEMBER KING: If you don't know, that's okay. I just wanted to --

MR. QUAILAL-LAN: From like...so from what, like, I understand how our team's funding goes, so I know we have some funding from MEDB, and then we also get funding from our Maui High School foundation, which is basically just I guess anyone, like, donates to, like, the team, and that's how we get most of our funding. And grants and other stuff like that, and sponsorships.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay. Okay, that's good to know, because I do donate to Maui High School foundation, since both my kids graduated from there. So great job, guys. Thank you, Chair.

MR. QUAILAL-LAN: Thank you.

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

April 8, 2022

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member King. Pro Tem Kama.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you, Chair. Thank you for being here, two young men. So my question is, you...you're...the program you're both in is an afterschool program. How many students are in that afterschool program?

MR. QUAILAL-LAN: So currently there are 29 members, and then it's split into three different departments. So we have our Document Department, which is, like, in charge of PR and, like, getting our team out there. And then we have our Program Department, and our Building Department. So our Building Department has about 15. I know there's three or four documenters, and then the rest are programmers, so a total of 29 students participate.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: And this is all after school. How long...how long is your program after school? I mean, is it from 4:00 to 5:00, or 3:00 to 6:00, or...

MR. QUAILAL-LAN: So mainly our...usually how it goes, is straight after school we meet from...or from 2:00 to 4:30, we have a study hall, and then from 4:30 to 8:30, that's how long we stay. And that's the majority of the season. . . .(timer sounds). . . However, like towards, I guess, the ending, I guess when, like, deadlines are coming up, we start meeting, like, over the weekend. So, like, for Saturday and Sunday, we'd be from, like, 8:00 to 3:00, and then if we're, like, really in trouble, and we're, like, we really need to get things done, we basically stay for how long, until, like, we have to go home.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you. Thank you for your dedication. And thank you, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Pro Tem Kama. Seeing no other questions, we'll thank you two for your testimony today.

MR. QUAILAL-LAN: All right. Thank you.

MR. TAKENO: Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aloha. Okay, Members, we're going to take our morning break. We have 68 that are signed up, we've gone through about 15, and about four or five have dropped off, so you can do the math on that. It's 10:35, and we'll take a ten-minute break. Any objections?

COUNCILMEMBERS VOICED NO OBJECTIONS.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: All right, so we'll reconvene at 10:45. It's 10:35 on April 8, and the Budget, Finance, and Economic Development Committee is now in recess. . . .(gavel). . .

RECESS: 10:35 a.m.
RECONVENE: 10:47 a.m.

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

April 8, 2022

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: . . .(gavel). . . Will the Budget, Finance, and Economic Development Committee please return to order. It is 10:47, and we are continuing with our public testimony. We have about 48 testifiers to go. And before we get started on the list, I'll check again if there are any keiki on, any students, or any kūpuna. Member Sugimura.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: So we have Hulu...Carmen Lindsey in the audience, and I don't know if she considers herself a kūpuna, but we might want to consider her also.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Members? Any objection?

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: I don't have any objection to that, Chair, and as the...I think as the Chairman of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, we should give her that opportunity. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, mahalo, Pro Tem Kama. We'll...we'll take up OHA Chair Carmen Hulu Lindsey next, followed by J. Moanikeala White [sic]-Wagner.

MS. LINDSEY: Aloha mai kākou. Can you hear me?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Loud and clear.

MS. LINDSEY: Mahalo. Thank you for the kūpuna perk. I appreciate it. My name is Carmen Hulu Lindsey, and I am the proud mother of two kumu hula. Kumu Kahulu Maluo-Pearson and Kumu Nāpua Greig. I'm also the chairperson of the Board of Trustees of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, and am your island trustee. I have watched my two daughters grow as hula practitioners from the very young ages of 25 and 20 years old, respectively, in the culture that they love so passionately. Mahalo for this opportunity to testify in strong support of funding for the Hālau of 'Ōiwi Arts in the proposed Fiscal Year 2023 budget. I remember hearing a discussion between Nāpua and Mayor Victorino, when he first ran for the County Council. He asked her, her concerns, and she responded that there should be facilities built in...built to accommodate hula hālau. She said there are football, soccer, and baseball fields, basketball, volleyball, and tennis courts, even skateboard parks, but nothing for hula. The many hula hālau would have to rent little spaces, or operate out of their garages. I built a hālau for my daughters, then our neighbors complained of the excessive traffic on hālau days. The kumu hula do not charge enough to pay for rented spaces, yet our County has not made it a priority to invest in hula, which ultimately is an investment in our community. The Hālau of 'Ōiwi Art would provide a space dedicated to, and designed for, hula, and would create a visible and reliable space for education, performance, preservation, and excellence of art and culture in our island home, which is recognized as a leader for our State. Hula is a constitutionally-protected tradition and customary practice, and is not only integral to Kānaka Maoli, but to the entire County of Maui as well. Can you imagine a Maui without hula? Hula tells the story of our history, of our home, of our 'ohana, our love, and bring both joy and pride to our larger community. Kumu...kumu hula, also known as cultural practitioners, are experts and leaders of our community. The Hālau of 'Ōiwi Art would have...would

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

April 8, 2022

support and celebrate these arts and practices. Please vote to support full funding of the Hālau of ‘Ōiwi Art, which is long overdue to this island home we consider so special. Mahalo for your service, Councilpeople, to our island home. Mahalo nui.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair Lindsey. Members, questions? I see a Member...a question from Member Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Mahalo, Chair, and [Hawaiian spoken] Hulu, nice to see you this morning.

MS. LINDSEY: Aloha.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: And I mahalo for your testimony this morning. I...I also agree, hula has no...for us, beyond monetary value. It's priceless. However, as...as responsible Legislators, and we did meet with Kumu Hōkūlani Holt-Padilla earlier, and she said that there was some matching funds at the Federal level. So I was just wondering if there was possible State matching funds as well? If you...if you're aware of any?

MS. LINDSEY: Well, has...I'm not familiar with what the Legislature is doing, but we should have asked them for an appropriation.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Okay, we can check with our State Legislatures [sic]. Mahalo, for that. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo --

MS. LINDSEY: Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: -- Member Sinenci. Seeing no other . . . (timer sounds) . . . oops, sorry. Oh, oh, okay, there are more questions. Member Sugimura, followed by Member Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: I think Member Paltin was first.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: All right. Member Paltin.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Chair Lindsey, for your testimony. I just was wondering if OHA, as well, was supportive?

MS. LINDSEY: We...we have not brought this before the board, but there is no question that they would support it. And, you know, we may have funds that might be available for application in our grant...in our grant situation. And I think that the hula group should look at the releases of grant applications that's actually just been released, and see if they can apply for part of it. Last year, OHA gave out \$16 million in grants, so I would encourage all of Maui actually, to look at the grants that OHA put out, and see if you folks can qualify, because I...I want that money to come home to Maui.

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

April 8, 2022

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Mahalo, Chair Lindsey. Mahalo, Chair Rawlins-Fernandez.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Paltin. Member Sugimura, followed by Pro Tem Kama.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Yeah, thank you, that was going to be my question to our prestigious kumu hula and legacy for Maui, and I really appreciate you being here. I do want to also echo what you said, that standing right there, I remember Nāpua Greig said your exact words about we need someplace for our hula practitioners to practice, and called us out to do something like this. So thank you very much. I'm grateful to your commitment to this, and I hope we do...are able to get some OHA funding and...to apply for it appropriately. And besides want...besides thanking Pueo Pata and who you have gathered with of the hula hālaus, I want to thank the Mayor also, which you echo that this was brought up years ago; is that right? From Nāpua? So thank you very much. It's happening.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Sugimura. Pro Tem Kama.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you, Chair. Mahalo for being here, Hulu. So I want to ask you, you know, we've talked a lot over the years about how, you know, the County does things, and the Office does things, and is there a process for the County to partner with the Office? Because we all kind of like deal with the same peoples, right? So do you have a process for when the County wants to partner with you on certain issues, or projects, or things like that?

MS. LINDSEY: Well, we're always open for kūkākūkā, but you know that the Office of Hawaiian Affairs gives out money only through grants and to nonprofits. So unless it's something that is different that we can justify, we encourage conversations with anything Hawaiian.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Specifically with this . . . *(timer sounds)* . . . issue we're talking about...Chair, if I may follow up? Thank you. If I may, Carmen, talk about partnering, because this project is a \$54 million project, it's scheduled for one year of funding. I would like to see it spaced over the next few years, but I also would like to see some partnerships between the Office and anybody else that we could get to come and do this for all of our people, especially for our Kānaka Maoli, who are the indigenous people of this place, who deserve this. Long overdue, long overdue. But I would like to see it done today, as opposed to ten years down the road. So that is my question in terms of partnering with you folks, and actually getting this done.

MS. LINDSEY: Unfortunately, Councilwoman Tasha, the Office of Hawaiian Affairs do not fund capital improvements. We do not.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Carmen.

MS. LINDSEY: You're welcome.

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

April 8, 2022

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Pro Tem Kama. I see your hand, Member Molina. I have a question, and then I'll call on you.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Okay.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo, again, Chair Lindsey, for your testimony. Yes or no, has the County ever come to OHA to ask for help in building swimming pools?

MS. LINDSEY: No, it has never.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Has the County ever come to OHA to help with building baseball fields?

MS. LINDSEY: No.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: How about soccer fields?

MS. LINDSEY: No.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Courts, gyms?

MS. LINDSEY: No.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh, okay. Mahalo for that clarification. Member Molina.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Yeah, thank you, Madam Chair, and aloha, Ms. Lindsey, and thank you for being here and expressing support. Just kind of dovetailing off of the questions asked by my colleagues. So as the Chair, are you open to at least...and I know typically the Chairs of any boards have influence on scheduling their agenda. So is this something you're open to at least having the discussion with the board in the near future about whether it be support, or at least making the other board members aware of this wonderful center that we're considering?

MS. LINDSEY: I would be open to any discussion to anything, even if the answer is negative. I would welcome the discussion, in case there is a possibility that it can become a reality. So yes, I would welcome the discussion.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Okay, yeah, that'd be wonderful if you could get it on your...whenever you can, at your next scheduled board meeting, to have the discussion. So thank you. Mahalo, Madam Chair.

MS. LINDSEY: Thank you. Mahalo.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Molina. Okay. Member Sinenci...oh, okay. Mahalo for your testimony, again, Chair Lindsey. All right. Our next testifier is J. Moanikeala White [sic]-Wagner, followed by Momilani Awo.

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

April 8, 2022

MS. WHITTLE-WAGNER: Aloha mai kākou.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aloha.

MS. WHITTLE-WAGNER: Aloha, Chair Keani and the Maui Nui Councilmembers, as well as my fellow kumu hula and others in the Chamber, and who are in this meeting. I'm Jaimie Moanikeala Whittle-Wagner, noho au Pauwela-Ha'ikū, Maui. I'm the fourth child of Kirkland James Whittle, Sr., and Patricia Katherine Perry of Kaimukī, O'ahu. I am the wife of Aaron Wagner, the mother of four, grandmother of four, who moved to Maui for an excellent job opportunity in computers back in the 19-somethings. And fell in love with this island and County, that was so deeply rooted in culture, where there are only one to two concrete buildings. A place in Hawai'i where I could safely raise my growing family, prepare my own hula implements, and gather my own supplies from the 'āina, and not have to rely on store-bought items. Having attended a school for Native Hawaiians for 12 years, it wasn't until I moved here to Maui, through my first cousin, and kumu hula, Cliff Needham Palikumaikalewalani Ahue, who taught and rooted me in hula and culture, and who passed on Hālau Na Maile Ku Honua to me. I am here today to testify my full, strong support of full funding of Hālau of 'Ōiwi Arts, as outlined in detail in the Huamakahikina letter dated April 6 from the kumu hula perspective, and to also emphasize the practice of hula through Hawaiian methodologies. My personal experiences on O'ahu for a place of hula were a storage room above 9th Avenue Bakery, a home on Kalākaua, built in World War I. Moving to Maui, hālau was at Pali's home, in the...at his hale in the back patio, at my place of work, on the hotel landscape, in banquet rooms, as well as my home. Hālau of 'Ōiwi Arts will provide a place for hula to live. Let this County Council be the beginning and example of future space for hula community, and all it encompasses. As we are currently experiencing on a national level the first black woman taking a seat in the U.S. Supreme Court, this is a pivotal time and opportunity for Hawai'i, starting on Maui, by supporting the first community-based Hālau of 'Ōiwi Arts, to be the flagship and the beginning for future community facilities dedicated to hula. We too, here on Maui, can be, and will be, pivotal in our future of hula. Now is the time. I ask for your full support of Hālau of 'Ōiwi Arts for generations to come. Mahalo. . . .(timer sounds). . .

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo. E kala mai. Members, questions? Seeing none, we thank you for your testimony this morning, Ms. Whittle-Wagner.

MS. WHITTLE-WAGNER: Mahalo nui. A hui hou.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: A hui hou. Our next testifier is Momilani Awo, followed by Kumu Haunani Paredes.

MS. AWO: Aloha mai, kākou.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aloha.

MS. AWO: Mahalo to Keani Rawlins-Fernandez, Chair; Tamara Paltin, Vice-Chair; and Committee Members for accepting my testimony today. My special aloha to my Kumu

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

April 8, 2022

Hula Hōkūlani Holt. To all the kumu hula, and to my hoa hula, greetings and love to you all. My name is Momilani Awo, and I'm very pleased to be here to offer strong support of funding for the Hālau of 'Ōiwi Art in the proposed Fiscal Year 2023 budget. I was born and raised on Maui, and for as long as I can remember, hula was a part of my family. My mom's name is Pā'ū. My grandma must have thought, and wanted to see, her future in the world of hula. I vividly recall as a child, my mom being called up on stage at nearly every party we attended. It was amazing. Her hula life began around age eight. Her hula lessons were held in homes, in garages, a church hall, and a cafeteria; wherever her kumu could find space. As a young child, my hula journey began in the garage of Rena Ching in Kahului. This is where I tried to learn the basic hula steps, motions of the hands and feet, and how not to complain, even when my arms were tired of dancing with the 'ulī'ulī. My brother Alika (*phonetic*), my sisters, Portia (*phonetic*) and Lana (*phonetic*), and myself, have the privilege of learning the roots and branches of hula in Pa'ū O Hi'iaka. I'd like to quote from the book, *An Unwritten Literature of Hawai'i*. The most telling record of a people's intimate life is the record which unconsciously makes in its songs. This record, which the Hawaiian people have left of themselves, is full and specific. When, therefore, we ask what emotions stirred the heart of the old time Hawaiian as he approached the great themes of life and death, of ambition and jealousy, of sexual passion, of romantic love, of conjugal love, of parental love. What his attitude toward nature, and the forces of earthquake and storm, and the mysteries of spirit, and the thereafter. We shall find our answer in the songs . . . (*timer sounds*) . . . and prayers and recitations of the hula. The importance of your role in approving the full funding of Hālau of 'Ōiwi Art is a significant and tangible recognition of the value of hula traditions and its inspiration for Hawai'i and the world. Our descendants will thank you. Mahalo Nui.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Ms. Awo. Members, questions for our testifier? Seeing none, we'll -- mahalo nui for your testimony this morning. Our next testifier is Kumu Haunani Paredes, followed by Jen Cox.

MS. PAREDES: Aloha mai, kākou. I am Haunani Paredes, and along with my...my husband, Ili'ahi, we are Nā Kumu of Hālau Kekuaokalā'au'ala'iliahi. After hearing testimony from kumu hula this morning, I feel like we are the young kumu hula of them. We are 17 years as being kumu hula of our hālau, and we have a hālau of about 250-plus students. Majority of those students are age 13 and under. We have become parents of not just our biological children, we have two ourselves, but of all of our students. And we are so proud of each and every one of them. They come to us at the tender age of three years old, and they come from all walks of life. We not only teach hula, but we teach life lessons within our hālau. For me, as a keiki, I grew up and I started dancing when I was three years old too, under the direction of Alexa Vaught in Kihei, and it was at the old Kihei school. I continued my education with Auntie Nina Maxwell, up in Pukalani, at Pukalani Elementary school. Then I went with Keali'i Reichel and Uluwehi Guerrero, and we would practice at 'Īao Elementary School...well, intermediate school, and then at the Hawaiian Homes Hall in Paukukalo. But none of those structures, none of those hālau or places of practice were their own. We moved from place to place, and wherever it was, that is where hula and life lessons were conducted. We have this amazing opportunity now to create a place of...a structure that we can call home for some hālau,

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

April 8, 2022

as well as artists, and a place that we can just come, and be safe, and practice all forms of art within our Hawaiian community. We are gifted with the trust from other parents to educate their...their keiki, their pride and joy, and through HOA, through Hālau of ‘Ōiwi Arts and this structure, we can make that more possible. So we strongly, strongly encourage you to support the funding for this project, and we hope...it is our hope, that we can...we can have this structure also in different communities in Maui County, so that everybody can benefit from this. And so this is the start of that. So mahalo nui for allowing me the time to...to share our story and our plea. . . .(timer sounds). . .

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo. Members, any questions for our testifier? Seeing none. Well, mahalo for your testimony, Kumu Paredes.

MS. PAREDES: Aloha.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aloha. Our next testifier is Jen Cox, followed by Scott Crawford.

MS. COX: Aloha. Aloha, Chair. Aloha, Committee Members. My name is Jen Cox. I'm the Executive Director for Adaptations Dance Theater, Maui's contemporary dance company here, that seeks to inspire and contribute to the culturally dynamic and continually-growing community of dance on Maui through creativity, collaboration, and performance. I do have to say it is really humbling to speak about dance in this room. Oh, I get so emotional all the time...filled with testimonies from these incredible practitioners. And let me just say, that it is really exciting to envision a completed Hālau of ‘Ōiwi Art as a cornerstone of a thriving and vibrant Wailuku Arts District, so...get myself together. And for our part, we are nearing a decade as a nonprofit organization, engaging thousands in education and performance initiatives all across Maui at Ke‘opuolani Park, The Maui Arts and Cultural Center, ʻĪao Theater, A‘ali‘ikuhonua Creative Arts Center, all the dance studios in Maui, most recently just around the corner in front of the courthouse as part of the County's Small Town Big Art program, all in an effort to build a presence in where our communities gather, so that we can strengthen our mission's reach. I am here to ask for your support in the \$25,000 grant under the Culture, Arts, and Tourism section of the office...included by the Office of the Mayor in support of our Bring It Home program. This is a month-long artist residency and performance series that creates opportunity for Maui-raised dancers to...who are currently pursuing professional careers elsewhere, to come home and share their craft with the community that raised them. By honoring their professionalism and artistry with paid performance opportunities, we can, and are, building a world-class contemporary dance home here on Maui. No longer will the hundreds of student dancers across Maui be told that they have to leave for years on end, and potentially for the duration of their careers, in order to pursue their passion. *(Crying)* Sorry. Pre-pandemic, Bring It Home brought back at least two guest artists each summer between 2016 and 2018 to join our resident cast in choreographing and sharing compelling, meaningful works created by Maui's own. In 2019, we brought back five homegrown dancers to join a cast of nearly 20 artists in our biggest Bring It Home production to date, enjoyed by over 500 audience members over the course of a three-show weekend. I'm proud to report that several of those guest artists have since become Maui residents

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

April 8, 2022

again; the ultimate achievement and return on investment for this program. When our contemporary dancers feel confident that they can continue to work in their craft within a company of supportive and inspiring professionals on a consistent basis, they return. As we continue to reopen in the ways that make live performance safe and feasible for us to bring back Bring It Home, we are empowered by the County's belief in our impact as role models for Maui student dancers as resources and collaborators for Maui's working artists, and as the conduit for those, we will bring home again with your support. Thank you for believing in this work, and for allowing me to share our passion for this program with you. I also am grateful for my colleagues, dancers, and supporters who have, likewise, submitted written testimony, sharing their perspectives on their personal experiences with ADT and this Bring It Home program. Thank you again so much for your consideration.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, for your passion, Ms. Cox. I see questions from Member Johnson, followed by Member Sugimura...was that your hand, Member Sugimura? No? Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: No, I was clapping.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Morning, thank you for your testimony. I really appreciate it. I have a question specifically about the Bring It Home program. Do...do the artists that you bring back, are...do they struggle with housing?

MS. COX: So most folks, luckily, still have family here, so they can often stay with their families. But we do on occasion have to provide housing and transportation, and we get really creative among our extended ADT 'ohana to make that happen with the limited funds we have.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Yeah, I understand. It's just, there's certain, like HUD, for example, has programs for artists...housing for artists. So I just was wondering if you're aware of that, and if you guys are working on that. If you want, send me an email. We can talk about it offline. Thank you so much. Thank you, Chair.

MS. COX: Thank you. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Johnson. No other questions, we'll thank you again for your testimony, Ms. Cox. Aloha.

MS. COX: Thank you so much, aloha.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Our next testifier is Scott Crawford, followed by Brian Guadagno.

MR. CRAWFORD: Aloha, Madam Chair and Members of the Committee. Aloha kakahiaka. I wanted...with your permission, can I share my screen to show you a few photos?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: You may.

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

April 8, 2022

MR. CRAWFORD: I'm...let's see. I think we should be able to.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: We can see it.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Can you see it? Okay. So I'm here...oh, my name is Scott Crawford. I'm here as the Executive Director of Kīpahulu 'Ōhana, Inc., to testify in support of Special Purpose Revenues, Open Space Fund Item I-3 for the acquisition of 'Ōpelu Point. And I just wanted to share a few photos, to give you a little...a little, you know, information about this very special property. It's in...as you can see, this is just the context of the property location on the lower left in Kīpahulu. This is an aerial view, with the TMK and Kīpahulu 'Ōhana has many agricultural products, and we actually have a State lease on the property directly to the right...to the east of this property, called Papaloa, where they have a banana orchard, and field crops, and cattle pasture, so it will fit very well to manage these properties as a unit agriculturally. And then, as you know, we also are in the process of seeking designation of Kīpahulu moku as a community-based subsistence fishing area, because it is one of the product resources. And this is a really special property in terms of the coastline of Kīpahulu, facing to the south and to the west, and one of the only...one of the only open space accessible points still left in Kīpahulu. So I'll just run through a few more photos here in my last minute. This is looking at the property from the west. This is from the rock protruding out into the open, just looking at the shoreline in front of the property. This is looking at Lelekea, which is right around the corner, from...is visible from the property, and then (*audio interference*) and Alelele is just beyond that over on the left of this photo, and then this is the view from the property looking out across towards Kaupō. So we really appreciate the Mayor including this item in his budget, and we appreciate the Council's support for this...for this request for the Kīpahulu 'Ōhana to be able to steward this property for the future, for the community and for future generations as part of our agricultural and shoreline management program. Mahalo.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Perfect timing. Mahalo, Mr. Crawford.

MR. CRAWFORD: . . . (*telephone ringing*) . . . Oops, that's my phone.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo. Okay, questions, Members? All right, seeing none, thank you for your testimony.

MR. CRAWFORD: Okay, mahalo.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aloha. Our next testifier is Brian Guadagno--and please correct me if I said your last name wrong--followed by Mary Kahana.

MR. GUADAGNO: It's [gwuh-DAWN-yo], very close. Well done. Aloha. Good morning, Chair Rawlins-Fernandez, Vice-Chair Paltin, and Members of the Council. My name is Brian Guadagno, I'm the founder of Raw Elements Mineral (*audio interference*). We're extremely dedicated to support the community partnership plan to (*audio interference*) both (*audio interference*) environmental health, to support Maui Nui Destination

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

April 8, 2022

Management Action Plan B. Specifically B-1, to promote Hawai'i's sunscreen law, and educate visitors about proper sunscreen use through the Go Hawai'i app, and other visitor education programs, and B-4, to encourage, and if needed, provide incentives to visitor industry partners for *(audio interference)* and recognize those partners who have exceeded *(audio interference)*. These actions have been made a high priority to support the County Council's unanimous ordinance *(audio interference)*, going into effect on October 1st of this year. In commitment to fulfilling this mineral sunscreen only action, Maui Visitors and Convention Bureau has initiated partnership with us, Raw Elements, and is working with County, DLNR, and several ocean *(audio interference)* schedule *(audio interference)* support of B-4, incentives will be provided to hotels in the form of complimentary dispensers and the initial fill of sunscreen for industry partners that plan to continue on with the initiative. This program follows a blueprint in which Raw Elements has extensive experience and success models with other public municipalities and State Government, health, and environmental, and parks departments, all coming together with private industry and community NGOs for a common good. Through experience, I can attest that mineral sunscreen dispenser programs of this nature foster long-term social change, which help reduce our ecological footprint, and enhance public health programming in the locales where they are deployed. These programs increase awareness, drive education, afford community residents and visitors alike to have the opportunity and access to safe sunscreen to protect themselves, while promoting the use of mineral sunscreen, supporting increased sales for local businesses carrying mineral sunscreen at retail. Again, we are excited and fully committed to support Maui's pioneering efforts, and to protect people and place, and making this program an overwhelming success. Thank you for the time today, and allowing me to provide testimony to the Council. Mahalo.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Mr. Guadagno. Would...would you please repeat the organization you're with? It cut off when said that part.

MR. GUADAGNO: Raw Elements Mineral Sunscreen.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo. Member King, you have a question?

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Yes, I do. Thank you. Can you hear me okay?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yes. Loud and clear.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Thank you for being here, Mr. Guadagno. And I...you were...forgive me if you...if you said this, but you were breaking up during your testimony, so I didn't catch everything, but do you actually...are you personally living on Maui?

MR. GUADAGNO: I am not, no.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay, is there a presence of Raw Elements on Maui?

MR. GUADAGNO: There is presence, we have --

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

April 8, 2022

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Someone who --

MR. GUADAGNO: -- brand *(audio interference)*.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay, I just wanted to ask you if you were...if you guys were working directly with Jeff Bagshaw, because I know he's been ongoing efforts to publicize our new ordinance, and he's trying to get a celebrity PSA to help promote it. Are you working directly with him?

MR. GUADAGNO: We...we have been, and he's...he's just done a fantastic job all along.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Yeah, he has. Okay, so I just encourage you, if you have a local presence, that maybe we could connect and all work together on this. I really appreciate you being here. Thank you. Thank you, Chair.

MR. GUADAGNO: Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: . . .*(timer sounds)*. . . Mahalo, Member King. Okay, seeing no other questions, we'll thank you for your testimony today.

MR. GUADAGNO: Mahalo.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aloha. Okay, and just for the Members' information, instead of being the clarifying question police, if the question does not sound clarifying, I'm putting one minute on the clock, okay? Just...just so you know what I...what I'm doing. Okay, any objections to that?

COUNCILMEMBERS VOICED NO OBJECTIONS.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, great.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: No, objections, but I thought we...you were doing that anyway. Putting one minute --

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: No. No, one...one minute total, instead of --

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: -- the two minutes that I said I was doing.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Pro Tem Kama.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Okay, so we all agreed that we would only ask clarifying questions, right? And I know that some of that has not happened today, so you need to help us, to remind us, that when we're going, and I know you don't want to be a police, but we're

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

April 8, 2022

on number 20-something in our testifying, we still got 40 guys left. More people might come, because they're so excited. I really would like to get out of here, really, honestly, before 8:00 tonight. I still got to go home, feed my Lena. But anyway, that's just me. Just, Members...thank you. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Pro Tem Kama. I...I have been trying, but the Members haven't really been responding, so that...that's how I compromised, by just making the time shorter. Hopefully that works out, we'll see. Okay. Our next testifier is Mary Kahana, followed by Sanna Kauhane. Mary Kahana, you're unmuted. Oh, okay, you're unmuted again. Oh, I don't...Staff, I...I've unmuted her. Okay, we will try again. Every time I click to unmute, it mutes again, so I'm not sure what's going on. Staff, if you could --

MS. MILNER: Chair . . . *(Audio interference)* . . . This is Lesley. She's showing as unmuted on our end now. We were able to unmute her.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mary Kahana? Okay, Staff, will you please try to work with her again while we go to the next testifier?

MS. MILNER: Yes, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Sanna Kauhane. Mahalo, Ms. Milner.

MS. KAUHANE: Okay, aloha.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aloha.

MS. KAUHANE: My name is Sanna Kauhane, and I'm testifying here today on behalf of Hui Nā Mamo Aloha 'Āina O Honokohau. To save time, I'm testifying on behalf of many members. We are 501(c)(3) based in Honokohau Valley in West Maui. We have requested Open Space funds to purchase an oceanfront parcel of land in our valley before it gets put on the private market. Our hui focuses greatly on lo'i restoration, resource preservation, 'ōlelo Hawai'i, and education. We place a great emphasis on educational outreach to all of our Lāhainā emersion keiki, from Pūnana Leo to Lāhaināluna, these haumāna huaka'i out to the valley, and we provide them with the space to practice their culture and use their language outside of the classroom. This connection to place is extremely important, and we will be growing our program, so that these keiki can be hosted on a regular basis. Acquisition of this parcel will allow us a much-needed permanent space to offer these valuable cultural and educational experiences to our Lāhainā keiki. As you know, West Maui is quickly running out of open spaces for Kānaka to make this connection. Please help us save this parcel for West Maui's future 'ōiwi leaders. Mahalo.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Ms. Kauhane. And double mahalo for your conciseness, and representing many. Okay, Members, questions? Seeing none, we'll thank you for your testimony. Mahalo. Okay, we'll go to our next testifier, Lala Johnson, and we'll check back in with Mary Kahana. Ms. Johnson, I think you may be muted.

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

April 8, 2022

MS. JOHNSON: Can you hear me now?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Loud and clear.

MS. JOHNSON: All right. Aloha, kākou, Chair, and also all the County Councilmembers. So my name is Lala Johnson, and I am from Waiehu. So I just wanted to make clarification that I'm not related to Councilmember Gabe Johnson, although I've heard that he's a pretty cool guy, and I can also do my genealogy on my husband's side to see if he's related. But going back to being from Waiehu. So my ancestors, and we are lineal descendants, our ancestors are from this place. Our 'ohana continues to exist in this place till this day. My Tutu, who was a kahu of this place, was also a caretaker...caretaker of the iwi, knowing where all the caves that existed. We played in the sand dunes as little children, and we were told by our kūpunas, leave it alone, and just aloha them. So this is a way of life that we had in Waiehu. We took care of the 'āina and the iwi, and it took care of us. So I hear about hula, in...which is also a part of us too. We danced hula, or we...we practiced hula in Waiehu, and hearing from all these kumus is exciting, but Kumu, of course, Hōkū Padilla, Auntie Hōkū, I learned that my kumu was her auntie, actually, and I appreciate hula, because it did...it did help me on the 'āina at the time when my mother had passed at a very young age. So it helped me. So I understand about what...what hula can do. But I want to also take you to 'āina. So we all know that our kūpuna, the kūpunas, they know that 'āina is life. It's embedded with mana. Our 'āina provides everything we need to survive. It's an intimate level Kānaka Maoli that is connected to the land by generations of kūpuna who lived on the land before us, and whose iwi still rest there. That's the emotional ties are...are with our families, and the aloha we have for them extends to the land that feeds us. So this is where Waiehu is, and how we have been able to practice our culture. So today I come to you as a lineal descendant, and also as an advocate to oppose any type of funds, general funds, whatever funds, to develop anything on kuleana lands in Waiehu. So I'm going to be a little bit more specific. The place where once it was known as Imi O Kekahua, which is in...which is the Hale Maha'olu Kekahua project, I'm asking that no need to budget funds for this...towards this...this project, you know, because we are in litigation at this time. So please consider, and...and with humility, I'm saying this, that you use your 'ike, your knowledge, and...and your na'au, as you put this budget together, because we . . .(timer sounds). . . (audio interference) as well. So to close, everything is just...let's not...let's not waste the taxpayers' money, yeah? Because it's in litigation, even for the across the street, everywhere in Waiehu is our sacred 'āina. Families are still there. So mahalo to all of you. I know this is not easy for you at this time to put this budget together, but keep us in mind. Mahalo nui.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Ms. Johnson, no relationship to Member Johnson. Members, question? Member Paltin.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Ms. Johnson. I just wanted to clarify. If the litigation ends, one way or the other, what happens then?

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

April 8, 2022

MS. JOHNSON: When the...so, like I said, we will continue to occupy land, and to still be there, and there's always the appeal, yeah? So it's going to be a long haul. It's a long haul.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Thank you.

MS. JOHNSON: But...yeah. It's a long haul. Mahalo.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo. (*Audio interference*) I have a quick question to just clarify that you were supporting the Hālau of 'Ōiwi Arts, but opposing the Waiehu development?

MS. JOHNSON: Thank you for making that clarification. When I came on, it's just that I saw all the kumus, and I didn't expect all the kumus and what was going on. So you know, as far as, you know, I know Auntie Hōkū and all of them, and I...and I respect them as well, so...and understanding. As far as, because I don't know, I didn't do my research on any of that, so I just wanted to mention...and we're doing hula in Waiehu with our own family, we may not be able to...to compete in a hālau, but you know, we're doing...we're doing it as a family, so yeah, I just wanted to share. Mahalo.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo. No other questions, we'll thank you for your testimony today. Aloha. We'll check back in with Mary Kahana. Oh, okay, I see Ms. Medeiros has asked if we can call her again at 12:00 p.m. Okay. We'll...we can do that. Okay. Our next testifier is Kaniloa Kamaunu, followed by Ashley Lindsey. Mr. Kamaunu, I think you may be muted. Oh, it shows that you're not muted, it...it might...you might need to log off, and then log back in. And then...and then I'll...I'll go to the next testifier, and then call on you. Okay, Ashley Lindsey, followed by Kaniloa. Aloha. Oh, Ms. Lindsey, it looks like you may be muted as well.

MS. LINDSEY: Aloha, can you hear me?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh, there we go. Yes, loud and clear.

MS. LINDSEY: Aloha mai. 'O wau 'o Ashley Awakea Lindsey. I am a Wailuku resident, a lifelong community member, and the former chair of the Maui Redevelopment Agency. At...at the beginning of my term in the MRA, I sat as a member amongst the other members, and we were envisioning Wailuku; what it was, what it is, and what direction we should go from here. We learned that historically, there was a concentration of wāhine-managed lo'i kalo, in the specific...in this specific 'āina where the Hālau of 'Ōiwi Arts will be, is one of the largest lo'i kalo managed by wāhine in Wailuku. People came out of the woodworks with their memories of Wailuku, from the old fairgrounds, the crack seed store, National Dollar, Ooka's, parades, hotels, events, and more. Wailuku was the big city. After all the nostalgic memories of what Wailuku was, we came to the reality of what Wailuku is at the time. We knew that Wailuku was no longer the gathering place it was. Instead, people went to and from their government jobs, medical care, or judiciary business, and maybe they'd stop and grab something to eat at some point in the day. There was no reason to be in Wailuku beyond the Monday through

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

April 8, 2022

Friday, 8 to 5 workday, except for you folks who are there all night. And many small businesses were having a hard time staying open, and little was left to honor the culture or native people of this place. Then in front of us, was an opportunity coming to us in the form of what most of us know as a parking lot, something needed in Wailuku at the time, and a project that's been in the works for longer than anyone should be proud of. To the common eye, it looked like nothing beyond the monotony of government jobs, medical care, and judiciary business. But what we saw on the...as the MRA members was not a parking lot. It was an opportunity to make Wailuku a gathering place again through the second phase of the project, the Civic Center. With...with community input, we were presented with great ideas; a grocery store, a food truck hub, children's playground, interactive water features, event venues, and more. It had functional design elements honoring the Nā Wai 'Ehā, lo'ī kalo, and mana wāhine of Maui. And it was the gathering place center Wailuku really needed, and what we had...the MRA were actually trying to do. We didn't want another parking lot, we wanted this. We wanted a gathering place, something that honors Wailuku, something that honors our nostalgic memories of this place, something that honors the Kānaka 'ōiwi, something that brings life and culture back to Wailuku, and something the community can stand behind. The Hālau of 'Ōiwi Arts is more than anything we could have dreamed of. Please support its funding in full. And on another note, I am also a graduate of Ka Ipu Kukui, Fellowship Class of 2011, and would...and wouldn't have been on the MRA or...I serve now on the Maui Planning Commission, which I would not without that program. So please also support its funding in full. . . .(timer sounds). . .

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Ms. Lindsey. You got me all choked up now. Members, questions? Seeing no questions, we'll mahalo you for your testimony.

MS. LINDSEY: Mahalo.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aloha. We'll check back in with Mr. Kamaunu. Kaniloa Kamaunu?

MR. KAMAUNU: So can you hear me now?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yes, I can hear you loud and clear.

MR. KAMAUNU: All right. Kaniloa Kamaunu, Waihe'e Valley. I guess I have two areas I'd like to speak to. The first one is about the affordable housing money that the County is looking at using to do work in Waiehu on that property of the Pehuino 'ohana, which one of their descendants spoke on. And I'm here as the 'aha moku on this point, and we have supported them. We've actually had correspondence with Mr. Johnson, Councilman Johnson. And, you know, we...we kind of thank...well, we should thank his committee for being...doing his due diligence to make sure that the County is not investing money unwisely and allowing this court case to...you know, to go forward first, before any of these decisions are made upon the property to support it or to not. I also would like to reflect that in this court case, whether or not the defendants actually win, this is still a land...this is still a land issue, and right now it's only Equity Court, we're only dealing with whatever equity MEO is claiming. It really doesn't have to do anything

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

April 8, 2022

with the land issue or with title. That has to be settled on the State level with the land...with the Land Court. And if this...and if this property, supposed property owner, MEO, feels that they have a standing, then that is where, actually, they should be holding their case, not in the County, because really, the County has nothing over title, as far as the title is concerned, that belongs in Land Court. But once again, it is ill-advised, especially with the movement of today, as you can see, heavily, what's going on in Lāhainā, Kaua'ula, we missed the kapu in that situation with a lot of the kuleana that are making a move to go back. Thank you, Chair. So I would be very cautious in putting your money into an area that may be questionable as far as standing is concerned. So thank you on that issue. The second issue, if you don't mind? Do I have to wait for questions on this issue?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh, mahalo, Mr. Kamaunu, it's...it's one agenda item, so it's one three-minute.

MR. KAMAUNU: Oh. Oh, okay, I'm sorry. That's all right. I'm fine then.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: But we have --

MR. KAMAUNU: I just wanted to...sorry. I...I thought I heard earlier was per issue, but you're...you're correct. You say there's only one issue. Sorry. I just wanted to make mention about the hula hālau, that movement they're having. I am in support, just a short tidbit, you know, when I went to Washington and I was among the First Nations people, I went to an area where they have a community center, and the community center had a...had an area that had a museum. And when I saw that, it brought tears to my eyes because we don't have that. You know, we don't have that.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh, Mr. Kamaunu, I...I think --

MR. KAMAUNU: That --

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: -- you may have muted. Oh, there we go.

MR. KAMAUNU: I'm in support of the...the funding for that project, and thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Mr. Kamaunu. And oh, we have...we have testimony every day, so if...if you would like to elaborate more, Monday morning at 9:00, if you'd like to provide more testimony, you're welcome to.

MR. KAMAUNU: Okay. All right. Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Councilmembers.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Members, questions for our testifier? Okay, I'm going to...I'm going to say that's not your hand being raised, right, Member Sinenci? Okay, okay. Mahalo, Mr. Kamaunu, for your testimony.

MR. KAMAUNU: Aloha kākou.

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

April 8, 2022

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aloha. Our next testifier is David Daly, followed by Kumu Nāpua Greig. Mr. Daly?

MR. DALY: Thank you, Budget Chair. Can everyone hear me okay?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Loud and clear.

MR. DALY: Perfect. Okay. My name is David Daly. I am the Director of MEO's Business Development Center, and I'm here today to thank the Council for their continued and future support of our microenterprise program here at MEO. We are committed to helping entrepreneurs and small business owners through, and with the help of, our programs here at MEO, which is the Core Four business planning classes, the Small Business Micro Loan Program, which was mentioned earlier with the testifier, the Agricultural Micro Ag Grant Program, as well as adult and youth financial literacy workshops. We are committed to the business community and to entrepreneurs here on Maui, and I just want to thank you all for your continued support.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Mr. Daly. Members, questions? And we'll extend our mahalo to you for the management of it. Member Johnson, I see your hand. Question?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Thank you, Chair, just a quick question for Mr. Daly, clarifying. You mentioned your Micro Grants for the ag...the Agricultural Micro Grants. Have they been expended, or are they being fully used?

MR. DALY: All the grants have been awarded, and we're currently in the process of disbursing those funds.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: That's great to hear, Mr. Daly, keep up the...your hard work. Mahalo. Thank you, Chair. No further questions.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Johnson. Seeing no other questions, we'll thank you for your testimony this morning. Aloha, Mr. Daly.

MR. DALY: Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Our next testifier is Kumu Nāpua Greig, followed by Jay Penniman.

MS. GREIG: Aloha mai, kākou. Aloha, to our esteemed Chair, Keani Rawlins-Fernandez, and all of sitting Councilmembers. O wau Jaye Ka Wai'ala Ka Oio Nāpua O Pi'ilani Lindsey-Nakasone, better known as Nāpua Greig. And I am elated and just overjoyed that I can be here today, and lend my voice to support...strong support the full funding of the Hālau of 'Ōiwi Art. In 2016, I sat here in the Council Chambers as our hālau brought home...oh, kala mai. I'm also the Kumu Hula of Hālau Nā Lei Kaumaka O Uka, a hālau that my sister Kahulu and I founded in 1996. Today...this year, we celebrate our 26th year practicing hula in Upcountry Maui. Mahalo. In 2016, I sat here with my haumāna, Maile Kalama, as she was returning home as the reigning Ms. Keiki Hula. I sat here

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

April 8, 2022

with...with Ili'ahi and Haunani Paredes, as they had just won overall awards at the Keiki Hula competition also. We were receiving resolutions from the County Council, and I will never forget, that day we also shared the Chamber with the Little League team that just came home from winning a national tournament. I don't know what sports kine people call their competitions, so kala mai if I don't have the athletic terminologies down. But I remember very distinctly, Councilman Victorino, today our Mayor, reading the resolution. And in his...his reading, he said hula is the most recognizable art form of Hawai'i to the world. And I sat here in the Council Chambers and I thought, now there's a distinct difference between this Little League team and us. See, it's...it's...it's...we can understand that our Little League teams, our...our soccer teams, our...our Pop Warner football teams, our robotic teams, have gone from Maui throughout the world winning all of these competitions, because they have places. There's a baseball field in every district of our County. There's a football field, there's basketball courts, there's all of these...these spaces for all of these activities to take place. But there is no space for hula. I remember that day Councilman Victorino, Shan Tsutsui, watching the...the meeting was like, wow, Nāpua, we've never even thought of it that way, until you just put it this way, so...however, many kumu hula have taken on second jobs and sacrificed the income of their 'ohana to be able to provide some kind of space for hula. But as we see today, our brothers and sisters are being priced out of the . . .(timer sounds). . . housing market in a matter of two years. There is fear that my fellow kumu hula will find it even more difficult to keep up with these surmountable [sic] leases. But now...so I have your funding for skaters, even dog parks have always been available, or have...have been available. But now I urge you to be the model, the example, the blueprint, the beacon for all of Hawai'i to follow. I urge when you approach the matter of funding this center and others like it in our future, I ask you to not think of equal funding, but instead realize we are playing catch up. I mahalo you in advance for making budget decisions that...that solidify our children and their children will have a home, or homes, to ensure that hula will always thrive on Maui Nō Ka 'Oi. Mahalo nui.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo. Oh, don't run away, come back, come back.

MS. GREIG: Kala mai, I was over. I'm hungry. . . .(laughing). . .

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Wait, we have questions from the Members, and I...I want to mahalo you, Nāpua, for making that declaration. You were the first person I ever heard state that we should have a place for hula in every district. And after that, it just...it stuck with me, and I wholeheartedly agree. Member Sinenci, you have a question?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Mahalo, Chair, and aloha Kumu Hula Greig. Mahalo for --

MS. GREIG: Aloha.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: -- staying on with us into the lunch hour. You mentioned the Mayor talking about hula as a gift to the world, and you, as a kumu hula that has traveled the world, how is this center going to be like a...a...a beacon or a brand to the rest of the world?

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

April 8, 2022

MS. GREIG: Well, today, I see...we have other models, like in Aotearoa, where they have marae in every community, cultural centers in every community, and that's why our Māori brothers and sisters have places where their...their culture can thrive. Today, whatever is happening culturally, is at the hands of each individual kumu hula. They are my heroes, because they sacrifice daily to make sure all this time that we've had places, that we've had opportunities, because we haven't had support from any kind of Government, anything, you know, to do what we've been doing. And so...I mean, we have champions of Merrie Monarch, we have...I mean, the...the Maui hālau are going into the world and making their mark. And just imagine what we could do if we had a center...or centers. Today, my hālau practices in an outdoor pavilion in Waiohuli, open to the elements, they freezing cold, because we have nothing Upcountry. We have no commercial space to even rent. We don't even have that option. So to have a place, is...is just...it's so, so, so important to the future of where we're going in hula.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: 'Ae. Mahalo nui, no kou mana'o nui. Mahalo.

MS. GREIG: Mahalo.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Sinenci. Members, any other questions? Okay. Seeing none, mahalo nui nō kou leo i kēia lā.

MS. GREIG: Mahalo ia o kou pākahi.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Members, it's 11:55, and let's see, we have about at least 30 more testifiers. Before I call up our next testifier, I just wanted to gauge the Members' preference on how to proceed. Would you like to continue on until 12:30, and then take our lunch break a little later to see where we can get to by then? Or would you like to take a break at...at 12:00, and then come back earlier? Please let me know your preference. Member King.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Thank you. Thank you, Chair. I'd like to take at least the next three...I think if we get through the next three testifiers, we will have cleared out the Chamber, because we have people that are waiting here physically. And that may be...hopefully that won't be a half an hour, but that's why I saying if we can get through the next three testifiers before we take our lunch break, then we won't have people waiting around in the Chambers.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member King, for that. Pro Tem Kama?

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you, Chair. Chair, I have a 12:00 meeting, so whatever the body decides, I'm okay with it, but I would probably step out for that meeting. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Pro Tem Kama. Council Chair Lee.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Likewise. I have a 12:00 noon meeting.

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

April 8, 2022

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: All right. Member Molina?

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Yeah, Madam Chair, I concur with Member King with regards to the testifiers at the Council Chambers, because we have to consider that they're on limited parking time too, yeah. So anyway, wanted to just share that with you. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Good point, Member Molina. Okay, so Members, shall we take the next three testifiers to clear out the Chamber, and then we'll take a...four. Okay. I see Member Paltin indicating four testifiers, so...okay, and then I see Member Sinenci asking for the person in Hāna as well, so...oh, that is the person in Hāna. All right. So the three in the Council Chambers, and then the one in the Hāna District, so that's a total for four, and then we'll take our lunch break. And Members, do you want to come back at 1:00, or at 1:30, or at 1:15?

COUNCILMEMBER KING: 1:30.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: 1:30.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: All right. Okay. Mahalo, Members. Then we shall proceed in that fashion. We'll take the next four...I...I think perhaps I should ask for help. I'm not...so the next four on the list are...the next three on the list are...are the individuals in the Council Chambers right now?

COUNCILMEMBER KING: No. No, Chair. I was...the third one is in the Council Chambers, so I thought if you were going in order, we take the next three. Adam Radford is here in the Chambers. Jay Penniman and John Harrisson, I believe, are virtual, and there's one other...are you waiting to...oh. Oh, oh, okay. So just Adam is the only one that's in the Chambers right now. So if you wanted to take him, and we could ask the other two to wait. But I didn't know if he wanted to go in order, so I was saying if you take the next three, that will clear out the Chambers.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Understood. Okay, Members, any objections to moving forward in that fashion? We'll take the one testifier in the Chambers, and the one testifier that's at the Hāna District Office, and we'll ask...we will humbly ask the testifiers that are connected online to return after we reconvene at 1:30. Any objections to that?

COUNCILMEMBERS VOICED NO OBJECTIONS.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: All right. Mahalo, Members. Okay, we will take up Adam Radford, followed by Mary Kahana.

MR. RADFORD: Thank you, Chair, and Members, for your flexibility and understanding of all of our precious time. I wanted to start by saying I am a Ka Ipu Kukui graduate as well, but I'm here representing the Maui Invasive Species Committee as the manager of the program. And so I...I'll try to make it brief, because I know we're...you're obviously short

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

April 8, 2022

on time, and just wanted to say thank you, as always, for your longstanding support, and on your long hours as you go through this process. But so, as I suppose you know, the Mayor's FY'23 budget is essentially flat for the Maui Invasive Species Committee, which also supports the Moloka'i-Maui Invasive Species Committee as compared to last year. So that grant is now administered through the Office of Climate Change, Resiliency, and Sustainability. The...the great part of how the budget is outlined this...this year, and we greatly appreciate, is that it just says Maui Invasive Species Committee, rather than having items that say Little Fire Ant or Coqui frog, or other things, so it provides a lot more flexibility for our projects, but meaning on Maui, Moloka'i and throughout Maui Nui. Because really what we were created to do is be gap fillers like early detection rapid responders, and so that helps us accomplish that. But what we're here to ask, with the support of Member Sinenci's office, is for an increase in the budget of \$800,000, which would get us closer to where we were in FY'20. So in FY'20, we got a significant increase for work on Coqui frog control, and that helped us get resources, so meaning trucks, sprayers, citric acid, things like that in place, but then that funding dropped the next year and in subsequent years. So what I'm asking for is not just for that project, that's just an example of the need for sustained funding, to see these projects really move forward. For example, we're barely holding the line in the Maliko Gulch area. We're barely holding the line on Miconia in East Maui. It's not in West Maui, that's a huge success, and we have lots of successes along the way. Like, for example, Coqui frogs are not widespread throughout Maui, but with this increased funding, we think we can actually move forward on these really big projects that we've not been able to really do. Again, we've been able to hold the line, but not...not really move even into the gulch, for example, in Maliko. And for example, Moloka'i hasn't seen an increase in staffing for a long time. So what this would propose is at least two new positions in Moloka'i with supporting equipment, like vehicles and things like that. We'd like to double our crew in Hāna, which is much needed, and also ramp up our efforts, as I mentioned, on Coqui frog control. The other is that aerial operations have waned in the last few years due to funding. For example, last year, which we call our Pampas season in the summer, that's when Pampas grass flowers and it's easy to see. We...we typically would fly all the known areas in West Maui. We didn't fly it at all last year, because we didn't have the funding to do so. . . .(timer sounds). . . So I'll end at that, and just say thank you again for your support. Happy to take questions. I can submit this testimony with a more thorough description as well to help answer questions. But thanks again, as always. It's great to actually see some of you in person and others. And yeah, thank you for your time.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Mr. Radford. Yes, we'll watch for your written testimony. That'll be very helpful. Member Sinenci, your question?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you, Chair. No question, but to let the Members know it's Item 52 in your Granicus, Mr. Radford's testimony. Then if no objections, I was going to ask that Mr. Radford stay on when we bring up the proposals. It's my proposal, Number 47.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. I assume your office has coordinated with Mr. Radford?

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

April 8, 2022

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Yep, and it looks like it's about 5:47 to 6:00 tonight.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, Members --

MR. RADFORD: That's fine with me.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, mahalo, Mr. Radford. Members, any objections? Okay, Member Paltin.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: I just had a question, when you mentioned that you haven't flown at all in the West Maui Mountains. Is that MISC flies their own, and the watersheds fly a helicopter on their own, and you guys don't communicate? Or when the watersheds fly helicopters, that's through MISC funding to look for invasives?

MR. RADFORD: No, that's separate funding. So that'd be the watersheds fly on their own and we fly on our own. We do communicate and cooperate when appropriate, but like last year, for example, with COVID, we could only have so many people in a helicopter. So that was a limitation. But we work really closely with Mount [sic] Kahālāwai on...on both their target species and ours. So we do work...it's a collective effort. So not just the watershed partnerships, but also the State, so like DLNR and others.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Do you also coordinate with Pu'u Kukui? I know that they fly and look for invasives as well.

MR. RADFORD: We have in the past, not recently, to be honest.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Okay. Okay, thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo, Member Paltin. Member King, followed by Member Johnson.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Thanks for being here, Adam.

MR. RADFORD: Sure.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Nice to see you in person. When you're...if you're looking...if you're scouting, if the flying over is for scouting, have you considered using drones?

MR. RADFORD: We have. We actually are partnering with the lead entity on that in the State, which is Dr. Ryan Perroy's lab out of UH Hilo. So we're looking at early detection, both with drones and with imagery.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay.

MR. RADFORD: So we're...yes.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: I think that's a...that...that's a great idea, and it uses a lot less.

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

April 8, 2022

MR. RADFORD: Yes, absolutely. And we're even looking at control methods via UAV.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay, thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member King. Member Johnson?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Thank you, Chair. Good afternoon, Adam. Do you have other funding sources, and then how much do you get from the State?

MR. RADFORD: Last year, we got about \$840,000 from the State, just from the Hawai'i Invasive Species Council, but we also have been working with our local Department of Land and Natural Resources on a contract for Coqui frog barrier work. That's a two-year contract, it's \$1.5 million. So that's State funding also. And then we have several proposals in process now that are Federal, so through like Department of Defense and other places. So funding provided by the County remains heavily leveraged.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay. Thank you, Adam. Thank you, Chair. No further questions.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Johnson. Member Sugimura.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you, Chair. Nice to see you, and thank you very much for waiting patiently in the Chambers, appreciate it. So I got asked, and I know...I always think of MISC as being Coqui frogs, and fire ants, and whatever, but I got asked if you would...you are part of the Axis Deer task force, and I said no, and they asked me why not? So...

MR. RADFORD: So we have been, in the past, we're not active right now. But we actually were very involved in that task force years ago, and helped create the action plan for management on Maui, and some of the early research, in terms of like how many deer are actually on Maui, and what would it be to be...what would it need to get to a sustainable number?

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you. I'll call you.

MR. RADFORD: Yeah. Yeah, that's fine.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Sugimura. All right, seeing no other questions, Mr. Radford, would you be able to get your documents in writing to us before this evening?

MR. RADFORD: Yes.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, great.

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

April 8, 2022

MR. RADFORD: Yep. And just thank you again for your time and your longstanding support. Much appreciated. Mahalo.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo for your testimony. Okay, and then we'll go with our final testifier before we recess for lunch. Mary Kahana.

MS. KAHANA: Aloha mai, can you all hear me? Aloha. My name is Mary Ann Kahana. I'm one of the board of directors for Ke Ao Hāli'i, which is a nonprofit group here in Hāna. I'm here today to support the purchase of TMK 14715 in Hamoa from the Open Space Fund. I'm from the Pi'ilani lineage. My grandpa is George Kanawai Pi'ilani. I currently live on Pi'ilani generational land, which is located next to this parcel. And the significance of this parcel is there is two heiaus, literally next to it. It's approximately like 500 feet. You can see Hale O Lono that needs to be restored from this parcel. Unfortunately, because of the overgrown trees, a lot of our people here don't know that that heiau is embedded in the vegetation, and it's a...a sad sight to see. In regards to this parcel that I'm requesting funding, we're pleased to say that we received 200,000 from Conservation Legacy Land Program, and we are seeking \$800,000 more, which is the remainder...remaining cost of purchasing this parcel. And please do know that I'm grateful to the entire hui for what you guys have done to save Mokae, and Maka'ala. This parcel sits across the road of Mokae. Based on our mo'okuauhau, both Pi'ilani and Lonos are 'ohana, and we have strong pilina for this 'āina. I feel that it's my kuleana to protect these 'āina, to include what comes with the 'āina, such as it has the high potential of having iwi...iwi kūpuna, which requires further archeological studies. And a portion of the parcel is historical. What we plan to do with the parcel is we'd like to protect it, conserve it, do more (*audio interference*) studies on it, and perhaps have a baseyard for Keauli'i. Currently, there is no physical presence for those who are here to protect our 'āina, who's watching over our 'āina, and willing to place it under conservation versus high-end development. So I just wanted to thank you for having me, and I would also like to support our hula legacy, because I'm also past haumāna of Chinky Mahoe. I'm also board of director of Kali'ula Foundation. And my uncle was also a past kumu hula, the late John Pi'ilani Watkins, here from Hāna. And I also would like to support Adam Radford for all his efforts, his team, of what they've done for Hāna regarding the MISC.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Ms. Kahana. (*audio interference*)

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: (*Audio interference*)

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Member Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Mahalo, Chair. And mahalo, Members for staying on to hear Ms. Kahana's testimony into your...the...the lunch break, and she's also on her lunch break as well. I just wanted, if there are no objections, I...I wanted to see if Ms. Kahana could stay on as a resource when we get to the item later on this evening. It's...it's Number 60 on your proposal, PP-60. And...and I believe Ms. Milner would be up...uploading in eComments Ms. Kahana's written testimony. Thank you, Chair.

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

April 8, 2022

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Members, any objections?

COUNCILMEMBERS VOICED NO OBJECTIONS.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, mahalo. And then Ms. Kahana wouldn't be staying on, she...she would go and then come back later, yeah? Okay. We don't want to torture her. Okay. All right. Mahalo for your testimony, and we'll see you later tonight.

MS. KAHANA: Mahalo.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. All right, Members, it's 12:12, and we'll reconvene our meeting at 1:30. For those waiting to testify, Staff did repost the testifiers log in the chat so that you can see where you are on the list to testify. We...again, we'll reconvene at 1:30, and continue with public testimony. It's 12:13 on April 8th. The Budget, Finance, and Economic Development Committee is now in recess. . . .*(gavel)* . . .

RECESS: 12:13 p.m.
RECONVENE: 1:33 p.m.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: . . .*(gavel)*. . . Will the Budget, Finance, and Economic Development Committee please return to order. It is 1:33 on April 8th and we have bare quorum Members, so please try not to move from your seat. Okay, we don't have quorum anymore, we have Member Sugimura. All right, Members. So we are still in public testimony. Mahalo, Ms. POKIPALA, for informing us that there aren't any testifiers in the Chamber. Member PALTIN, for the disclosure?

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Yes, my husband pau hana, so I transitioned to the Lāhainā District Office, and I'm here with my EA, Angela and Christian Balagso, and we have no testifiers currently at the District Office.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Great. Mahalo, Member Paltin. All right, Members, so we have about 20 more testifiers on the list, and so I have some ideas to suggest before we continue on with testimony. One is that we will not take up Department of Liquor Control today. We'll save them for after Department of Water Supply next week, Wednesday, April 13th. Any objections?

COUNCILMEMBERS VOICED NO OBJECTIONS.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Members. All right. And are there any...so I...I would also like to see if the Members would be willing to not ask any more questions, whether it's clarifying or not.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: I promise.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Yes.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, no objections.

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

April 8, 2022

COUNCILMEMBER KING: I agree.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Okay, great. Great. Okay, okay. Perfect.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you, Tamara.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: What did she say?

COUNCILMEMBERS: . . .*(laughing)*. . .

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. And then depending on where we get, I'm thinking that perhaps we save all the priority proposals for next week, Thursday. Either next week Wednesday, or next week Thursday.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: That sounds good.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: No objections, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Awesome. Okay, so we won't be here until 11:00 p.m. tonight. Wonderful. I love that idea. And then aloha, Member Molina. Okay, all right, so --

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Chair?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Member Molina, did you hear what we all agreed to?

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Yeah, I caught the tail end of it, so no objections.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Molina. All right. We will proceed with testimony, starting with Jay Penniman, followed by John Harrisson.

MR. PENNIMAN: Aloha.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aloha.

MR. PENNIMAN: Chair Rawlins-Fernandez, Members of the Committee, I'd like to express my sincere appreciation. I am Jay Penniman, I manage the Maui Nui Seabird Recovery Project, and my sincere appreciation out to the Committee and the Council for their support of all the mālama 'āina work that goes on across the County, the Maui Invasive Species Committee, the watershed partnerships, the forest bird and seabird projects, and all of the cultural connections that go with those things. They are completely tied together, and tears to my eyes, they came this morning with the kumu hulas expressing their appreciation for what is really an important thing. And we certainly support, really having dedicated places for hulu...hula across the island, you know, starting Wailuku, that is great, and each community, it...it would be wonderful. My project, of course, is speaking for nā manu kai, the seabirds. And I have talked to most all of you many times about this, and I really do appreciate all of the support that the Council has given us

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

April 8, 2022

over the years. And...and many of the...that...much of that support has been expressed through our outreach and our ability to connect. We've worked with Nā Hua Ho'ohuli I Ka Pono, supporting young people coming from the community, and we want to continue that kind of mentorship, and then have these students come back and take over the positions that we are running right now in the County that it...these should be --

SIRI: Sorry, could you say that again? Hmm. I'm having trouble --

MR. PENNIMAN: For some reason, Siri thought I was talking to her. Yeah, so anyway, seabirds, you know, they are really responsible for coastal resilience and being able to support our coastal reefs, the ecosystems, the air, the fishes, the limus, the 'opihi, all of it is really important to have seabird nutrients coming in there. And the Council right now is considering methods that could help the seabirds; for instance, the light attraction problem that we have there, the feral cat issues, and I'm really pleased with where we are going in terms of addressing those issues. So mahalo nui, for all of that. We would like to advance our work more, and include *(audio interference)* Keanae work *(audio interference)* that's established *(audio interference)* with that, and I would share those Council *(audio interference)* mahalo for all your support.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Mr. Penniman, thank you for your testimony today. Aloha.

MR. PENNIMAN: Aloha.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Our next testifier is John Harrisson, followed by Tweetie Lind.

MR. HARRISSON: Aloha, Chair and Committee Members, I'm John Harrisson, the Director of Research and Analysis with the Maui Economic Development Board, and I'm testifying in support of Councilmember King's budget proposal Number 5, page 41, for funding an implementation plan for the Maui County Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy, the CEDS, mandated by the U.S. Department of Commerce, and its Economic Development Administration, the EDA, every five or six years. MEDB has conducted and convened the CEDS on behalf of the County since 2005, convening and facilitating economic sectoral community engagement, to propose economic development strategies to decision and policymakers for the next five years. So the EDA mandates the CEDS process to address several issues, including industry sector growth, the barriers to growth, and economic vulnerabilities, opportunities to add to economic resilience and diversification are additional key goals. The aim of the CEDS is to identify and prioritize potential new sectors or clusters, as well as critical infrastructure needs and gaps. That's the mandate required by the EDA. While the CEDS is a benchmark used by EDA, the Federal Government, and State Government, to...to fund infrastructure and other projects, a shortcoming of the process is that there is no formal structure or process, and most importantly, funding, for follow-through assignment of responsibilities and pathways to realize investments in resources. The present 2022 cycle, which is already underway, is promising to be different, as the County Council and the Mayor's Office of Economic Development have specifically recognized that this post-COVID environment makes it critical to aggressively pursue economic diversification and most importantly,

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

April 8, 2022

to assign identified economic development and diverse...sorry, diversification strategies and SMART goals, goals that are specific, measurable, achievable, relevant, and time bound. The proposal includes community engagement to bring buy-in and support from the wider community of residents for those SMART goals, development of a diversification business plan, the use of cutting edge technology tools to identify viable growth sectors and high wage occupations, and the development of economic implementation plans for each selected cluster. And we expect to complete this scope of work within 18 months of funding. By these means, the budget proposal will give teeth to the CEDS process and create actions that will bring substance to . . .(timer sounds). . . (audio interference) for economic diversification. Thank you for your consideration.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo for your testimony. No questions? Our next testifier is --

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Chair, I have a question of you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh, yes?

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Can I ask a question of you? Yeah, I just wondered...so if we have...we're not asking any questions of testifiers, but if we want someone to...to be there on Thursday for a proposal as a resource, do you want us to ask you now, or should we just work with them offline and let you know --

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: -- who's going to be there? Okay, I'm going to do that.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, mahalo.

MR. HARRISSON: Mahalo.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Our next testifier is Tweetie Lind, followed by Robin Knox. Okay, we saw your video. I think that was Tweetie Lind. Tweetie Lind? You'll...you'll need to unmute on your end, and I...I think you got your video on for a second. Okay, maybe Staff, will you try to assist Ms. Lind while we go to the next testifier, Robin Knox? Oh, oh, oh, shucks. Oh, there. Tweetie Lind? Your...your video is on...or not. Okay. Robin Knox.

MS. KNOX: Aloha, Chair. Aloha, Councilmembers. Thank you for letting us testify. I know this is a long time (audio interference) meetings for you (audio interference) budget. I want to testify in support of Item 3 of Chair...Councilmember King's proposals for the South Maui wetlands. This allocation would support three different projects, and I've had the pleasure of working with all three groups; the Save the Wetlands Hui, 'Āina Kōkua, Wai O Hui Kai, Rooted Kekahi Me Ka 'Āina. All three of these groups are taking care of our shorelines and our wetlands, restoring native plants, and helping our community to really make a connection to the culture and to this important natural

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

April 8, 2022

infrastructure. All of the latest reports on climate change say that taking care of our watersheds, and our wetlands, and our shorelines is our best defense to protect our freshwater supply in the face of climate change. So that work is very important. And all three groups have also worked very closely with the County Departments, figuring out ways to streamline permitting for groups that want to help take care of our resources and...and helping even to define wetlands, and how the policies for treating wetlands in our County. I also think the other proposals for the Mā'alaea wastewater and the sand erosion study are very important and valuable. We don't want sewage going into the...the ocean, and unfortunately, we have a large concentration of injection wells at *(audio interference)* and those injection wells are in jeopardy. We can do better than that, but they really need the County's help in order to access State revolving loan funds. And then the acquisition of the Pohakea watershed, that's a great example project, and I hope we can do more of that also for our other watersheds. But that's a good investment for the County to provide green space and recreational space, but also space that serves our watershed health, and to protect the reef, and ocean water quality. And the planning, the MEDB, economic diversification plan, I think that's essential at this. Here, we know that, you know, from the pandemic experience, we know that we've got all our eggs in one basket right now, and we really need to diversify, so that we're more resilient, because who knows what's going to happen next that's going to affect our economy. So if one sector is down, if you have other sectors in your diversity, then you won't be hit so hard, no matter what happens with one. . . *(timer sounds)*. . .

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Ms. Knox, for your testimony. Aloha.

MS. KNOX: Aloha.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, we'll check with Tweetie Lind again, followed by Lahela Aiwohi. Oh, there we go.

MS. LIND: Hi, everybody. Can you hear me?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yes, loud and clear.

MS. LIND: Can you hear me? Okay.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: We can see you and hear you.

MS. LIND: Okay, thank you, thank you. I took off my glasses. I can see better without them when I am this close. But right now, I'm at...I'm on O'ahu. My husband has cancer, fourth stage, so we're at Hope Lodge, which is with the American Cancer Society, at Clarence Ching's building, and we're very privileged to be here. And I promote a place like this and to *(audio interference)* don't have one on Maui, but O'ahu is fine. Anyway, I'm here, my name is Tweetie, I born and raised Hāna. I have *(audio interference)* kids and *(audio interference)* a few of those background. Alice Lee is my classmate, *(audio interference)* used to be with the Kūpuna Council. Shane, thank you very much for the work you've been doing *(audio interference)* days, of course, Mike, when you were *(audio interference)* we all were. And Yuki, I've talked to you little bit, *(audio interference)* to

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

April 8, 2022

meet you in person, because I have been following the things that you have been doing outside of the County Council projects. Well, I'm to talk about the open space. It's a really rare, rare opportunity that we have... had with *(audio interference)* we testified in, I think, it was in October, and here, it's already in April, and *(audio interference)* how fast this came about, so I'm here to *(audio interference)* for your support, to support the 'Ōpelu Point project. It's a very, very important project. It's a land that is one of the last few, as you could see that Scott had showed you the beautiful picture of that place, it's one of a kind. Not only from the ocean, the land itself, but the mauka just looking up on the mauka, where all our water, and greenery, and everything comes from. So this 'Ōpelu Point plays a very important part in our community and probably outside of Kīpahulu too. It could be an educational center for the CBSFA, which is having to do with fishing. There's a little house there that we just realized that it could be like a caretaker's home, educational center, whatever *(audio interference)* what's with all these places, it's also like a whale sanctuary. The whales come and take a rest right out in that area where is 'Ōpelu Point and the nine acres that we call Hokoloa *(phonetic)*. . . *(timer sounds)*. . . *(audio interference)* Oh boy, I better hurry up then, yeah? It also could be a...a place where the boats could come in and probably drop off supplies, in case both of our roads go off already. So this would be one place that we could *(audio interference)* not only to have to build, build, build, okay? It's already there. We just have to work the 'āina, okay? I thank you --

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Thank you, Ms. Lind.

MS. LIND: -- very much. I know I haven't been talking to good, but thank you so much to all of you. Just thank you for your *(audio interference)* so I really appreciate it. The whole Hāna will love all of you if you support this project. Thank you, very, very much. A hui hou. Bye, Alice.

(electronic device sound)

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: I have a question. No questions?

MS. LIND: Okay, I'm done, thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Ah, okay. Can I make a comment?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: No. No comments.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Oh, okay. Shucks.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Lahela Aiwohi, followed by Christine Davis.

MS. AIWOHI: Aloha e, Chair Rawlins-Fernandez, Vice-Chair Paltin, and Members of the Committee. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify this afternoon. My name is Lahela Aiwohi, and I'm testifying on behalf of the Hawai'i Hotel Alliance and, again, just as an individual and being, you know, born and raised on Maui, and now a resident of Waiohuli here in Kula. I am testifying in support for the funding of Hālau of 'Ōiwi Art.

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

April 8, 2022

Growing up, I was surrounded by a family embraced...that embraced our Hawaiian culture, and thrived on learning more about its richness and its beauty, to be able to teach not just our 'ohana, but other Kānaka as well. More importantly, it was to instill and educate nā keiki of the battles that we, as Kānaka, have gone through, and the importance of knowing what we as Hawaiians stand for and exemplify. Through generations, we have seen hula bring harmony to a world of constant chaos. Hula has been embraced by countries all over the world. As bombs go off and gun shells explode, a Ukrainian hula dancer recently explained how the art has been able to provide some peace of mind and calmness for her and her family while the war is literally going on in their...in her own backyard. How great would it be for Maui County to construct and bring forth a building to perpetuate hula and the various arts for which hula serves as a nexus. As a Hawaiian, I am excited to see this in the budget proposal, and to have our County be the first in the State to create such a place in assuring this valuable source of our culture to continue in a space that will provide growth, education, exhibits, activities, and events. I understand that this is a large investment, but I'm also aware of the empowerment this will provide for our kūpuna, our kumu hula, our keiki, and the future generations. The Hawai'i Hotel Alliance fully supports the funding of Hālau of 'Ōiwi Art. As the hotel industry incorporates the Hawaiian culture in its hotels, we would love to see a centralized hub in Wailuku, Maui, as a place to have hula and the varied 'ōiwi arts flourish. So again, hopefully you know we are 100 percent behind this, and this is something that if we have the opportunity, we'd love to take that opportunity and work with. But mahalo for allowing me to testify this afternoon. Have a good afternoon.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: You too. Mahalo, Ms. Aiwohi. Our next testifier is Christine Davis, followed by Sam Akoi. Christine Davis? Staff, I don't see Christine Davis on...signed on right now. Member Sinenci.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: *(Audio interference)*

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Yeah, I'm going to step out and let her...I'm going to step out and let her use the...the testifier computer went down. Hold on.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Sinenci. Christine Davis?

MS. DAVIS: Hi, everybody. Sorry, I just...I'm coming back. I left work, so I'm a little bit discombobulated. Okay, the first thing I want to say is that I found testifying for this year for the budget very confusing, and as such, I missed out on the opportunity to give additional testimonies on other items that are important to me. Like I thought it was like other years where, like, for example, I wanted to testify about affordable housing yesterday, and I thought I could mention it today, but it's already pau, so --

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Can.

MS. DAVIS: Oh, I can? Oh, okay, sorry, I stand corrected. So...but yeah, I...I...Hāna has a great, great need for affordable housing. So anything that you could do to help facilitate that would be really appreciated. I strongly support funding MISC to help East Maui

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

April 8, 2022

control Little Fire Ant and Miconia. They are very serious problems to our watersheds, and East Maui could also use better quality job opportunities that are purposeful and rewarding, and pay a livable wage. A coworker was telling me that Miconia across the mountain, and now it's in his valley in Kīpahulu, growing through vine and Hau brush. So I really hope that you guys take it very seriously, and give MISC what they need so they could continue to work on those projects. I strongly support Ke Ao Hali'i. This group has worked so hard to protect and restore the parcels that's already funded. Like, I went there on a volunteer trip, and I was astounded, like, how...how much has been cleared. It's really impressive. So please continue to fund their excellent work, and empower them to protect another parcel from development. My understanding is that this one is close to a heiau, and they said in Hāna, it's...you need to protect and conserve these places. So please fund Ke Ao Hali'i, so they can continue their great work. Let's see. Okay, and then the last thing is I strongly support funding a position for Archeologist II. It's imperative that the County provides the means for iwi kūpuna and wahi pana to be discovered and protected. Mahalo for your time and your hard work, and I hope everybody has a great weekend. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Ms. Davis. Our next testifier is Sam Akoi, followed by Mehanaokala Hind.

MR. AKOI: Aloha. Aloha, kākou, County Councilmembers and Chair Keani Rawlins. Good to see all you folks. I'm Sam Akoi, IV, I reside in Hāna. I'm a board member of a conservation committee, and an aha moku representative of Hāna. I'm speaking in support of the purchase of an 8.58 acre parcel in Haneo'ō, as proposed by Councilmember Sinenci, proposed Number 60. The land has some significant archeological sites. It surrounds the historical Haneo'ō complex that has three known heiaus, including Hale O Lono. We request your support for a Council to place 800,000 into the FY'23 Open Space, Natural Resource, Cultural Resources, and Scenic Views Preservation Fund. Although we only asking for 800,000, we have about 200,000 from Legacy Land Commission recommended an award of 200,000 towards the acquisition of this parcel. I'd like to thank you for all that you have...that you do, and I ask for full support in this. I also would like to support Adam for the Maui Invasive Species Committee. When it first started with Bob Hobdy and them, I was one of the...the crew members work there, and I retired there. I worked there ten years in...in Hāna, and finished up in Pi'iholo, the old Maui High School. Yes, I'm...I'm in full support with...with that. Thank you very, very much, everyone. You have a pleasant day. Mahalo.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: You, too. Mahalo for your testimony today. Aloha.

MR. AKOI: Aloha.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Next testifier is Mehanaokala Hind, followed by Ka'uiki Lind...Ka'uiki Lind.

MS. HIND: Aloha mai, kākou. I'm not sure if you can hear me. Can you guys hear me? My camera's not on. Okay.

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

April 8, 2022

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: We can hear you.

MS. HIND: Okay, maika'i. Mahalo. Okay. For some reason, my camera won't go on. But you know, maika'i kēia. First of all, on behalf of the Council for Native Hawaiian Advancement, we'd like to state, along with our written testimony, but in voice, with our leo, the support...strong support for the Hālau of 'Ōiwi Arts on Maui. I'd also like to take this opportunity to mahalo all of you, and mahalo Chair Keani Rawlins-Fernandez and all the Members of your Committee for considering this. And I would just like to say how immensely proud I am and amazed I am. Your guys' board, this County, has been fearless in...in this effort to support not only the practice of hula, but also just the...the...the practice of culture. And you guys have verbalized it throughout today, and also a year ago with your guys' resolution to support the Huamakahikina Declaration. You guys have such a tremendous courage in...and...and I'm saying that, because I am on O'ahu at this moment, right? And we...and mahalo to Hawai'i Island County also, but you know, just to have this brought up, for you guys to be totally behind on the kumu hula on your island, and then now supporting a space for this, I would like to say, you know, in my 20-plus years of...of engaging with politicians and...and policy makers, I'm just...I'm just full-on mahalo all of you for your...again, your tremendous support. It is unlike that I've seen for the arts and for...for hula. And yeah, thank you for...I'm going to echo just this for a second, what Kumu Hōkūlani Holt had said earlier that hula is community. Hula is not only for community, hula is community. And your guys' support of that hālau area will also bridge in not only hula, which is the largest Native Hawaiian cultural practice in the world, mind you, next to probably surfing. Surfing comes in a close second, yeah? But they don't know that they're a Hawaiian cultural practice. We got to...we got to let them know that, yeah, too, so...but mahalo nui, you know, for...for Kumu Hōkūlani Holt, for stating that. And I got to say, I don't I do not say this often, because I am born, bred O'ahu, but Maui No Ka 'Oi. Maui No Ka 'Oi. Thank you, this...this Committee and the rest of your board, for...your County Council for being, again, so brave in this. And I look forward to showing up at the opening of the Hālau of 'Ōiwi Arts, proudly from O'ahu, you know, in...in giving my...my thanks and praises to all of you, yeah? On behalf, again, of the Council for Native Hawaiian Advancement, we stand in support of your efforts. And thank you very much. Aloha.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Kumu Hula Mehana Hind. Aloha. Our next testifier is Ka'uiki Lind Kīpahulu [sic], followed by Kahulu Maluo Pearson.

MR. LIND: Aloha, Honorable Councilmembers, Chair Fernandez...Rawlins-Fernandez, County Councilmember Shane, (*audio interference*) Ka'auiki Lind, and everybody else, e kala mai. I'm here to testify on behalf of Item 1, (*audio interference*) Open Space Fund for the Kīpahulu 'Ohana. The kako'o thing is...kākou thing, you know, is like, there's now more than not only us involved. There's quite a few people. We have a board, so just to set that straight. I was born in Hāna, raised in Kīpahulu. I run the program for the Kīpahulu 'Ohana. The last program, because of COVID, the program that's coming up, is a preschool and 5th grade coming up to Kapahu Farm, so it's going to be a unique take on the, because of after COVID, pre-COVID, whatever-COVID, and so I'm really

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

April 8, 2022

waiting for this to happen. I also grow...during COVID, we grew a lot of vegetables and fruits to service the Hāna farmer's market. We have...we only have limited funding, so right now, I work for our own funded program through the Kīpahulu 'Ohana (*audio interference*) pay me to produce bitter melon, cabbage. We have the...we have the infrastructure at Kīpahulu 'Ohana to produce that, but we need...we like expand to the south of us, be – up Papaloa next to 'Ōpelu, because not only conservation, but us, for the farm approach, we can't raise eggs on State lands because of the...we can't raise chickens on State...State lease lands. So this will help us to...something to do with the...the waste, yeah? So we would like to...we have cattle...our cattle...our cows escape...bird...we work on fences with the USDA, NRDC [*sic*], one of our many partners in the Kīpahulu community. We also had a boat purchased by (*audio interference*) through our hukilau run by the next generation, so...and then I also run the (*audio interference*) help with the CBFSA. And I want to invite you all to next week's meeting on the 13th. We have the State coming out to pick out the site, site scoping. So on that, again, acquisition of 'Ōpelu Point. We would hate to see fake agriculture. We want to see real agriculture (*audio interference*) and our community, and doing real things. Aloha.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Mr. Lind Kīpahulu [*sic*]. Our next testifier is Kahulu Maluo-Pearson, followed by Meagan DeGaia.

MS. MALUO-PEARSON: Can you hear me?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yes.

MS. MALUO-PEARSON: Okay.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, we can see you too, now.

MS. MALUO-PEARSON: Aloha, kākou. Mahalo, Committee Chair Rawlins-Fernandez, Vice-Chair Paltin, and our esteemed Committee Members. Hoo, I'm nervous. I am Kumu Hula Kahulu Maluo-Pearson, and I'm here to show my strong support of Hālau of 'Ōiwi Arts, and to humbly ask you to approve full funding as requested in Mayor Victorino's budget. Like many of my fellow Maui kumu hula, hula has an integral part of my upbringing, as I know it has been for thousands of Maui youth and community members throughout the ages. I'm going to take a breath. I want to believe that my mother had the foresight and knew how hula would forever influence my life, to the point where hālau and hula was the only activity that I was allowed to do. No canoe paddling, no soccer, no baseball, only hula. In that time, I was fortunate to study with Auntie Emma Farden-Sharpe, Kumu Hula Iola Balubar, Kumu Hula Ray Fonseca in Hilo while I attended UH Hilo, and the always inspirational, ever knowledgeable, Kumu Hula Hōkūlani Holt, who so graciously took my sister Nāpua and I through the 'uniki process, so we could be recognized by our peers as kumu hula. Early in our teaching career, my sister and I learned very quickly that a huge challenge every hālau deals with is finding a home, securing a place where your students feel safe, where the kumu hula feels safe. We went through years of moving from one facility to another. When I started my own hālau a few years ago, I knew this; I knew I didn't want this for my students.

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

April 8, 2022

So I am one of the kumu hula that rents a commercial space. It's very costly, and a space like Hālau of 'Ōiwi Arts would definitely provide a well-designed place for learning and the preservation of the arts and culture. I would like to echo the kumu hula who have testified so eloquently, and a lot less nervous than mine, before me, and urge you to support the construction of the Hālau of 'Ōiwi Art. Something of this magnitude will not only be such a wise commitment to the community, provide long overdue support for the culture, the practitioners, and the members of our community that make our home so special, it will become the . . . *(timer sounds)* . . . piko, or the center of all things truly cultural, and where 'ōiwi art and practices will truly thrive. I ask you to make this investment for not only the near future, but for the lasting impacts on our community identity for generations to come. Again, I ask you for your full support. Mahalo.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo. Mahalo, Kumu Hula Maluo-Pearson. Aloha.

MS. MALUO-PEARSON: Aloha.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Our next testifier is Meagan DeGaia, followed by Dean Frampton.

MS. DEGAIA: Aloha, Chair Rawlins-Fernandez, Vice-Chair Paltin, and Councilmembers. I'm Megan DeGaia, destination manager for the Maui Visitors Bureau. Thank you for this opportunity to speak before the County Council today. 2020 and 2021 were, no doubt, challenging years for all of us. As we all work together to ensure the safety and health of our community, as well as our visitors, our MVB team shifted our strategy from marketing to support and educational messaging for visitors and the community, in line with the County of Maui, HTA, HVCB, and State guidance. Our team was in the trenches, calling and emailing visitors to help them navigate through the quarantine and safe travels process. In total, HVCB and its island chapters answered over 437,353 calls, and 116,235 emails. Like you, the Maui County Council, we at MVB are committed to carefully and effectively rebuilding a stronger community, while staying connected with the residents, our partners, and visitors. On behalf of MVB, I want to say thank you for the opportunity to contribute to the County Council's focus and substantiation for tourism management for Maui County. This initiative has proved to be a critical component of the Hawai'i Tourism Authority's Destination Management Action Plan, or DMAP. The focus of the DMAP is to create positive contributions to the quality of life for Maui County's residents, as well as a branding plan that defines and amplifies regenerative tourism for Maui Nui. My role as destination manager, which started in August, 2021, is to oversee all of the activities of the DMAP program. HTA plays an essential role in sustaining our team's efforts to successfully and effectively manage the Maui Nui DMAP plan. The DMAP program is all about reaching out to visitors with a message about the importance of respecting local communities, and our relationship to our home when they visit, by teaching them concepts like mālama, and the interconnectedness of people and the 'āina. This plan is continuing to educate travelers about the responsibility they share with our residents to mālama ku'ū our home. Through the DMAP, I've made strong connections with essential community members on Maui, Lāna'i, and Moloka'i. Through these connections, we're working together to facilitate a number of exciting programs and community partnerships,

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

April 8, 2022

including the Mālama Lānaʻi Restoration days. Today, we're asking for the County Council's support as we're focused on dedicating this year's grants to assisting with the continued execution of the Maui Destination Management Action Plan for Maui Nui, 2022 to 2023. Our grant goal objectives will ensure that all that's outlined in Maui's DMAP will be set in motion and not shelved. 2022 promises to be a year of remarkable partnerships and progress. The magnitude of what stands before us will take a team effort of titanic levels. We all need to keep focused and work together to institute regenerative tourism, help to creatively bring in revenue to protect our resources, and keep our communities safe. Thank you so much for this opportunity today. Mahalo.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Perfect timing. Mahalo, Ms. DeGaia. Aloha. Our next testifier is Dean Frampton, followed by Maile Davis.

MR. FRAMPTON: Good afternoon, Madam Chair, Councilmembers.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aloha.

MR. FRAMPTON: My name is Dean Frampton, and I am a...testifying today as an individual. And normally I'd be here to speak to the Council about the CIP budget, or maybe I'd be complimenting the Chair on her efforts to retool the water rates, the water rate structure, or maybe I'd be encouraging the Department of Water Supply to work a little more collaboratively with the Wastewater Department to treat R-1 water's source in Wailea. But that's not why I'm here to testify today. The reason I'm here is to speak in favor of the Mayor's budget, and specifically the Hālau of 'Ōiwi Arts. Some time ago, I was fortunate enough to sit with two kumu hula. They were kind enough to share their vision with me, and it was actually an aha moment for me, as they explained, or they described the County facilities, tennis courts, golf carts, dog parks, skate parks, all important facilities to our community. But the conversation highlighted the disparity between...the disparity in the lack of facilities for...for hula. And I was struck by the simplicity of the question. And I was actually inspired to do what I can to support their efforts. So inspired, it drove me, as a haole, to have the nerve to speak to this Council about Hawaiian cultural values. So I apologize, I feel a little out of place, but...and a little out of my element, but the kumu hula are guilty for inspiring me. And so I'm here to testify today in support. And as I thought about this facility, I had to place it in my mind. And to do so, I had to look...I had to look through my own personal lens, and that took me back to my experience canoe paddling. And back when I started at Hawaiian Canoe Club, we were in a shack by the river mouth at Kahului Harbor, and then we eventually moved next to the Chart House and another old shack. And then we eventually we moved to the new facility, the new hale. And fortunately, back in the mid-1990s, Maui County had the foresight to fund that facility, and A&B had the generosity to give the land. The County made an investment back then, and today it continues to pay dividends. That hale has become a foundation or pillar, continuing to preserve, protect, and enhance Hawaiian cultural values. It has literally touched the lives of thousands of kids in our community, as well as thousands of adults. And it's generational. I mean, happy...I'm happy to say my 16-year-old son is in the Kamali'i program, and he's part of an authentic cultural experience that will stay with him for the rest of his life. He and myself are beneficiaries of that...of the County's original

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

April 8, 2022

investment. I see this as a long-overdue investment, an investment in our future, and the ROI, the return on investment, will be generational and everlasting. And lastly, I want to say that the private sector needs to step up as well too, and we need to support additional facilities in the various communities throughout our County, and I pledge to do what I can to help in that regard. So thank you for allowing me to step out of my place and to share with you my thoughts. And thank you for your efforts in this difficult and arduous budget process. Aloha. . . .*(timer sounds)*. . .

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Right at the buzzer, Mr. Frampton. Mahalo for your testimony. Maile Davis, followed by Lana Coryell. Maile Davis?

MS. DAVIS: Oh, hi.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aloha.

MS. DAVIS: Okay, thank you for your time today, Maui County Council. It's been a long day, so I hope to keep this short while truly expressing my firm support in continuing to support Mālama Hāmākua Maui over here in the Hāmākualoa area of Maui's North Shore. My name is Maile Davis, a Ha'ikū resident, working with Mālama Hāmākua, and a descendant of the area. I think one of the last times I testified in person was in 2017, in support of supporting these Peahi lands with my daughters. So a full...full circle that I hope continues. There's been tremendous progress in the last year, due to the support of the Councilmember Molina, the entire Council, the OED office, and various County departments all working together. Mālama Hāmākua Maui has been hosting monthly workdays on the County Open Space lands, where residents and visitors have been cleaning and clearing over three 40-foot roll-off containers of trash, tires...any kind of waste that you can imagine, it's there. And we do that once a month, and all the bins fill every month. It's...it's astounding. The land that I'm talking about is the open space purchased by the County a few years back. And Mālama Hāmākua is forging ahead, really exploring with the County how best to manage this area. As old pineapple fields, now cane grass, and a haven for those wishing to illegally dump all sorts of trash, and also a heavily used path to get to the surf spot, Jaws, our efforts have begun to make a difference, opening land, reducing the fire load on the land, increasing visibility, and really leaving a presence on the area. We have seen a reduction of dumping as we move forward. The support from the County has also allowed us to leverage additional funding towards our project. Please do visit us, learn more, and support Mālama Hāmākua Maui, as it is a space for all Maui County residents to enjoy. Attending this meeting, I was also happy to learn a bit more about what was on the agenda today, and I would also like to add my support for the Hālau of 'Ōiwi Arts and the land purchase in Hāna, as that's mirroring what we're doing, and really strongly support an open land purchases, and also support of MISC and Adam, as we work hand in hand together in the Hāmākualoa area to keep the land clear of all pests. Thank you for your time today.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, for your testimony, Ms. Davis. Our next testifier is Lana Coryell, followed by Lori Buchanan.

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

April 8, 2022

MS. CORYELL: Good morning...or good afternoon, I guess, Maui Councilmembers. Thank you for taking the time to hear all of our testimonies. My name is Lana Coryell, and I'm the Deputy Director at Hui No'eau Visual Art Center. I was born and raised on Maui. I grew up taking art classes at the Hui, and I now have the honor of working for a wonderful organization that helps around 20,000 people each year to experience the benefits of arts education. I am also a 2019 graduate of the Ka Ipu Kukui Fellows program, which helped me to learn how to do things like this, and become a more engaged member of our community. So I'm here today primarily on behalf of Hui No'eau, but I'm also supporting Ka Ipu Kukui. But back to Hui No'eau. First, I want to thank you for continuing to support us. We are very appreciative to have our Art With Aloha cultural programs, and youth and family programs as line items on the proposed budget, and we ask for your support this year. Throughout these pandemic times, the Hui has continued to serve our community by providing uplifting art programs that also boost our creative economy. Especially lately, I've seen how the visual arts are so important for our overall health and wellbeing, and how art classes teach important skills that support us, both personally and professionally. Our Art With Aloha and youth programs provide opportunities for students to learn useful skills and gain cultural knowledge, all while connecting to one another, and this place that we call home. I am especially proud of our youth outreach this year, which served more than 7,000 children in Maui County. We even surpassed the number of keiki served pre-pandemic. We collaborated with 15 schools and community groups to bring art into classrooms and homes across Maui County, serving many underserved youth, and filling a great educational need for our next generation. I'm hoping to read two quick testimonials. This is from a parent: Due to COVID, my daughter was feeling quite isolated, and I think absorbing the societal stress associated with COVID. I would pick her up after art camp, and I saw she was relaxed and grounded. Art camp was therapeutic for her, and she continued to ask for art supplies. I'm truly grateful to the staff of Hui No'eau for bringing joy and calm into my daughter's reality during a challenging time. And this is from a student: I am a happier and more fulfilled person while taking art classes at Hui No'eau. Without the Hui, I would not have access to a beautiful studio, or even an ugly one, and appreciate the gift of such a wonderful community place to make art. People join together in stimulating conversations about artistic interests, processes, and work. Hui No'eau is a Maui treasure. So with much gratitude to all of you, these programs have really helped a lot of people in Maui County. So we humbly request your support, and thank you for taking all of this time and attention to our programs, and everything . . . *(timer sounds)* . . . in Maui County.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Ms. Coryell, for your testimony today. Aloha. Our next testifier is Lori Buchanan, followed by Wailani Vilas Boas *(phonetic)*.

MS. BUCHANAN: Aloha, honorable Councilmembers. You know, I always going to have to take time in the beginning to do the most important thing, was just to convey how much I love you guys. You heard from CNHA earlier. Wow, we do spend time in other counties watching other Councilmembers and how they operate. And I had to think that on the news the other night, they said that Hawai'i was ranked Number 4 for inclusivity, and they must have been at one Council meeting in Maui Nui. So with that, I just want to say, thank you, thank you, thank you. Mahalo. We love you guys. Of course, I am

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

April 8, 2022

here to support earlier testimony by Adam Radford and the Maui Invasive Species Committee. We are the arm on Moloka'i, working hard to protect our resources. And as the testimony I listened to, I was like, we so hand in hand with the culture aspects, because of the effects of invasive species on culture. You know, Hala, the demise of Hala, everything from sweet potato bugs, you name it. It's in the attack of ags in every aspect. Our work is so important. And I have to say that I have to support everybody else's testimony today on any kinds of land acquisitions, whether it be in Hāna or Honokohau, or wherever. The hālau, you know, so honored to serve with Hōkūlani and Cody and Molitau, so...on the CRC, I mean, the task force has been amazing for me as one community member. But again, mahalo, mahalo. I know you cannot ask questions, but burn rubber. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you. I will be here any time during the next times of budgets if you guys have any questions. Love you all. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Love you, too. Mahalo for your testimony. Aloha. Our next testifier is Wailani Vilas Boas, followed by Leslie Wilkins. Wailani? I don't see Wailani on right now in the participant list, so we will go to Leslie Wilkins, followed by Alison Wright.

MS. WILKINS: Aloha. Aloha, Chair Rawlins-Fernandez and Members. My name is Leslie Wilkins, and I'm honored to serve as MEDB's President and CEO. We're a values-based nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization, guided by respect for our environment, culture, and a sense of place. With a mission to inspire innovation in business, education, and community, with a priority focus to build entrepreneurship in sectors that can help diversify our economy. On behalf of our board and staff, I will begin by saying thank you for all your hard work and diligence, and I'm here to give a brief ROI. We developed and will continue MEDB's business assistance webinar series, providing technical information and resources, ranging from accessing capital, financing, retooling operations, SBA products, increasing web presence and e-commerce, to helping farmers understand resources available to the...by the USDA. We also instituted a Women in Business series. Together we have over 7,600 views. We continue MEDB's one-on-one customized coaching for startups through mature growth companies. This past year, we have given customized coaching to more than 500 Maui County businesses. We have leveraged this by winning a competitive SBA \$1 million grant to reach minority-owned and rural businesses, beginning with a cohort to get SBA women-owned businesses certified. We know that economic development must be linked with education and workforce development. To assure we are growing a skilled workforce aligned with the sectors we are trying to build, we are offering students health care, career pathways, clean energy, agri-tech, IT, geospatial, aerospace, cybersecurity, robotics, AI, creative media, virtual reality, 3-D printing, and environmental remediation; and most of all, growing an entrepreneurial mindset in our students. Thank you for investing in us, so we can invest in our future workforce and problem solvers. Our programs establish a pipeline from kindergarten to careers. In addition to leveraging the County's funding with Federal, State, and private-sector funding, with an approximate four-to-one ratio, we secure industry standard software. A recent example is Microsoft Minecraft for our teachers, which teaches coding and computer science interdisciplinary, like in history and social science even. We train teachers in MEDB's original place-based curriculum and STEM service learning, K through 12 clean energy

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

April 8, 2022

science and entrepreneurship. We are the regional Hawai'i partner for co.org, to build teaching capacity and computer science, to overcome the digital divide by providing equity of access to digital skills. We provided over 100 paid internships in various STEM fields and agriculture. Quite frankly, every business and industry . . . *(timer sounds)* . . . needs a skilled STEM workforce. Thank you for this opportunity.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Ms. Wilkins, for your testimony today.

MS. WILKINS: Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Our next testifier is Alison Wright, followed by Blossom Feiteira.

MS. WRIGHT: Good afternoon, everyone. My name is Alison Wright. I'm the President of the Maui Association of Landscape Professionals. In the past, we've received funding through the Maui County Farm Bureau, through the Office of Economic Development. So our Organization, MALP for short, is an all-volunteer organization, and we are for sure part of the landscape industry. And if you know the landscape industry surrounds everything you do in your life, from your yard to everything you drive by on the way to work to your workplace. I'd say we were the largest, least discussed industry in the island. We do a lot of partnerships with people, including Maui Nui Botanical Garden, where we have events cohosted with them. We have events with...we've partnered with Maui Invasive Species Committee. We take care of gardens as a landscape industry, in partnership with the seabird organization. But anyway, if you have...we're the people to come to if you have any questions about plants, water use, pesticides, all of these things that have come up recently in the County Council. Our basic mission is to promote continuing education in our industry. We've run programs to have members receive national certifications in different landscape groups, anything from arborist associations to the National Association of Landscape Professionals. We've brought other programs here on Maui and that...that is our basis, to basically create more continuing education programs for our community. Currently, our purpose is to...because we are all volunteer, and we are just a board that's all volunteer, we're looking to potentially see if we can hire a program manager to be able to expand our opportunities that we can offer. So that's what we are interested in. Through the Farm Bureau is where we put our grants. But if you have any questions regarding any of this, we're very excited to be able to partner with anybody, or if you have any...like I said in the recent times, water use has come up, and water use, one of the biggest uses for water on any property is typically the irrigation systems. So we're the people to talk to, to create more awareness in the industry. And we'd love to actually partner with the Council on this, and to be able to answer your questions, or make sure you are working with the right people in the industry for that. So if you have any questions, I know you can't ask now, you can email us directly at malp.maui@gmail.com. So that's M-A-L-P dot M-A-U-I at Gmail dot com. And again, we thank you for your time, and as said in the past, we have events like, for example, you may have come to the Arbor Day Garden Expo, which we partnered with the Maui Nui Botanical Gardens with the last few years. So if...again, we appreciate your time, and I know you have a lot more testimony . .

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

April 8, 2022

(timer sounds). . . to go through today. And again, send us an email if you have any more questions. Thank you so much.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Ms. Wright. Our next testifier...uh, oh...okay, I guess Ms. Feiteira was disconnected...is Kimberly Thayer, followed by Susan H.P.

MS. THAYER: Hello. Good afternoon, Committee Chair, Vice-Chair, and Committee Members. Thank you very much for this opportunity. I would like to testify as an independent citizen in favor of funding for three items, the first being the Ka Ipu Kukui Fellows program. I am a very proud and grateful member of the 2010 class of Ka Ipu Kukui Fellows. And that year in the Fellowship still stands as one of the most enriching years that I have had in my life. And that year with the Fellows changed the course of my life. It led me to serve on the Maui County Arborist Committee for a term and a half, it led me into being on the Planning Commission, where I serve today. It also led me into my career that I'm in now with the Mauna Kahālāwai Watershed Partnership. And the network of alumni from the Fellowship has been beneficial even all through these years, and it is inspiring every year to see the new group of Fellows. And it is through and through, a benefit for our entire community, our entire island. So I hope you continue to fund that program. The second item I would like to speak on is the Department of Water Supply County Grant Subsidy Program funding for MISC, who testified earlier, for all of our watershed partnerships, for Auwahi, for The Nature Conservancy. These are all organizations that are completely dedicated to saving, and perpetuating, and preserving our native forests. These are the forests that are the source of our water supply. So if anybody has turned on their faucet today, your clean water is a result of the...all of these organizations that are working tirelessly to protect our ecosystems, that this is all we have and if we lose them, they are gone forever. So I hope you continue to support their funding. And the third item I would like to speak in support of is the Hālau of 'Ōiwi Arts, which you've heard plenty about today. But I would just like to share my personal story. I am a very fortunate and grateful to be a student of Kuma Kaponō'ai Molitau in Hālau Nā Hanona Kūlike 'O Pi'ilani. My husband is also a student, as are my two kids. And it...this is...hula, it bonds our family, it bonds our 'ohana with other 'ohana, it creates an enriching village around our kids, which is, like, the definition of community. So an investment in hula truly is an investment in our community. And I hope you listen to all the passion in everybody today, to give support to that endeavor as well. So that's all I have to say. Thank you all for your time, and effort, and energy in everything. Mahalo. . . *(timer sounds)*. . .

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Ms. Thayer. Mahalo for your testimony today. Our next testifier is Blossom Feiteira, followed by Susan H.P. Oh, Ms. Feiteira, your...your audio is not working. I see that you're unmuted, but we cannot hear you. I can read your lips, but we cannot hear you. Perhaps signing off and signing back on? You want to do that, and then I'll go to the next testifier and call you again? Okay, mahalo. Sorry about that. Okay, our next testifier is Susan H.P., and then we'll check back in with Ms. Feiteira. Susan H.P.? Ms. Feiteira? Still no audio. Staff, maybe sharing the phone number, you want to try calling in? And then maybe the audio can work that way. Okay. And while Staff is working with Ms. Feiteira, we'll go to our next testifier, Autumn Ness.

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

April 8, 2022

MS. NESS: Aloha, everybody. Can you hear me?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aloha, loud and clear.

MS. NESS: Ah, okay. My name is Autumn Ness. I want to clarify that though I do work for Councilmember Johnson, I am off the clock today. I am coming to you as the Maui Hub Board Vice President from Maui Hub's new office in our new, big warehouse. First of all, thanks to you all for believing and investing in Maui Hub last budget session. I am so grateful. The grant that we were approved for, for this fiscal year allowed us to move into a bigger warehouse. We are ordering a new van of our own, a box truck. I'm just so excited, I wish I had time to give you a tour of the facility right now, but since I don't, we can do that later. My point is, across the...the County and the State, so many of us have put time and resources into building out a market and the infrastructure to support the market for locally-grown food, and it's working. The demand for locally-produced food is there, and we are moving it to restaurants, direct to consumer, State- and Federal-funded programs that feed keiki and folks in need; all want local food. We're doing a great job. However, we are now coming up to the next stage of the food system problem, and that is that we've created such a market, there's actually not enough supply, there's not enough food. We actually have trouble sourcing enough bananas and papayas for market. And that makes sense, you know, why would producers be producing an abundance of food, when historically there wasn't a huge market for it before, right? So we created the market, now we have to even things out and create a supply. So we have to get really serious about putting resources behind building supply, specifically getting more and more farmers on land with water, training them up, growing the supply chain, the supply chain from farm or ranch to market, and everything that goes with that. And that's going to take money. The reason tourism is our economic driver is because tons of resources were put towards tourism from every direction to make that happen; tax breaks, project approvals, exemptions granted, land and water allocations. We prioritized tourism in really, really big ways. We went all in for years, and now we see how extractive that has been. So if we as a County are serious about making ourselves more food secure, we have to put as many resources into food production as we did into the tourism. And we have to do it like right now. We have to go all in, just like we did on tourism. For me, what that looks like in this budget specifically, is increasing the microgrants fund to at least \$3 million. I mean, that's...that's pennies in the bucket. I have seen with my own eyes, working through the Food Hub, what those grants have produced in our community, and how that leads to a...directly to an increase in food production. That money grows more food, so keep funding that program. To put it in general terms, don't skimp on the funding to build out the Department of Ag. Every year that we don't spend enough on that . . .(timer sounds). . . Department is one year we lose. And last, to fund a position for an Ag Park Manager in that department, somebody whose sole job it is to get our ag parks up, running, functioning, and just pumping out food. Thanks very much, you guys. I know you have a long day.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Ms. Ness. Aloha. Our next testifier, we're going to go back to Ms. Feiteira. Ms. Feiteira?

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

April 8, 2022

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Chair? Oh.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Member Paltin?

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Her last four digits is muted on her end.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yeah, I keep unmuting it, and then it goes back to being mute.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: I forgot what the number to press...star-4? Or star-6?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Star-4.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Ms. Feiteira, if you can hear us, try pressing star-4. Okay, we're...we're still not hearing you. Staff, will you try to work with Ms. Feiteira a little bit more, and then we'll go to the next testifier? John Irish O'Hara.

MR. O'HARA: Thank you, Chair. Oh, yeah. Aloha, kākou, Members. Good to see you guys again. My name is John Irish O'Hara, and I am a resident of Hāna, Maui. I'm with the nonprofit group Ke Ao Hali'i, Save the Hāna Coast. We have asked for your kōkua and help in the past in trying to protect coastal lands, and you have supported us, and we mahalo you for that. The community of Hāna also mahalo you for letting us...giving us the privilege to be the stewards of the parcel of land in Mokae and Maka'alaē. You have allowed us to prevent the development of these lands, and keep them protected for future generations. Today, I'm testifying in support of open space funds for purchasing of Haneo'o land, TMK 1-4-007-015. This land is located in the Hamoa complex...complex, and is considered wahi pana, sacred lands. This land is adjacent to three known heiaus, as verified by archeologists. This land is most likely also a major burial ground for our iwi kūpuna. The iwi kūpuna are at rest, and are at threat of being disturbed and maybe relocated, if the land is allowed to be purchased by investors with the intent of developing the land.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mr. O'Hara, I...you're frozen. Oh, and so is Member Sinenci. Okay, I think it might be a Hāna...oh, Mr. O'Hara, can you...can you hear me?

MR. O'HARA: Yes, I can hear you. You can hear me?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh, okay. Now I can.

MR. O'HARA: Yeah.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: It --

MR. O'HARA: That's how Hāna. Hāna always like that. We in and out, the computer. You know, as I speak, the lands on the makai side of the highway are still up for sale, and is being speculated by investors for development. The land by Kau'iki Hill was sold, and purchased by the Mani Brothers of the Hyatt Regency...Hyatt Hotel. The land in Haneo'o

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

April 8, 2022

adjacent to this parcel, was recently sold...105 acres were sold. So the...the threat of the lands being sold and developed still exists in Hāna. I mahalo you for your kōkua in the past, and I mahalo you nui . . . *(timer sounds)*. . . for your time and your kōkua. Mahalo nui.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo for your testimony, Mr. O'Hara. Okay, Staff did we get...did we have any luck with Ms. Feiteira yet?

MS. MILNER: Chair, she's logged in on her phone and her computer right now.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Ms. Feiteira? Okay, the audio is still not working, Ms. Feiteira. Okay, we're going to go to May Nakahata *(phonetic)*, and then we'll check back in again. Hopefully, the next time will be the charm. May Nakahata? Council Chair Lee?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: How many more testifiers do we have?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: One, two, three. Okay, we'll check with Kim Albright *(phonetic)*. Kim Albright? Okay, Mary Ann Pahukoa.

MS. PAHUKOA: Aloha. Caught me off guard. Aloha mai, Chair and Councilmembers, I'm speaking regarding your budget. I know you guys have a long day, I'm going to try to keep this short and sweet. Supporting the Open Space Fund, Item 3, regarding Kīpahulu 'Ohana *(phone ringing)* kala mai. I'd like to just express my support to these grassroots organizations, and their works to conserve and preserve these lands that are, you know, back country, very rural. When we support our grassroots organizations, we are supporting our kūpuna and those who are in their 70s, and their elders who have passed on already. We support their missions and objectives to better their communities with land and righteous, good, solid, foundational projects, and organized minds, inspiring students and teachers, with you know, support from our elders. We have the opportunity to better not just Maui, but all of Hawai'i to be prosperous. To be successful, these grassroots organizations, they need a base, and they need to be connected to these lands, you know, to educate the students, to invite haumāna, to invite visitors *(phone ringing)* kala mai. Busy woman over here. Today is kŭlolo day people are just *(audio interference)*. So back to...supporting these grassroots organizations, you know, I know there's a price on paradise *(phone ringing)*, we all know that there's a price to support sometimes, but there's...there's always a price to create these projects, and I mahalo you guys for really picking and choosing the...the old...the old guys, you know, the noncorporate guys. But I just wanted to mention it is priceless to carry on the knowledge of our kūpuna. It is priceless to do good in the community. It is priceless to feed our community and our 'ohana. So with these lands, you know, you can grow bananas and papayas for Maui Food Hub like crazy, which I just wanted to mention, Maui Food Hub, you really got to reach out to more East Maui 'ohana, who have those bananas and papayas. But anyway, mahalo for you guys. And you know, the history...like Uncle said, the history of, you know, land sales in East Maui to millionaires and the wealthy have disenfranchised our people. You know, that's just the truth. Our Kānaka need the lands to support, I like to call, our generational class,

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

April 8, 2022

you know, the...the people who have been here for seven to ten generations, to strengthen our families, to support...you know, East Maui can grow a lot of food, and so we can support out here. We support already with the water, so mahalo . . .*(timer sounds)*. . . you guys, and have a good day.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, for your testimony, Ms. Pahukoa. Aloha. All right. Staff has let me know that Ms. Feiteira will submit written testimony, due to today's technical issues. We're going to try again with May Nakahata. And Ms. Nakahata, if you could push the M on your keyboard, that may help to unmute you. Or...or you may need to log off and then log back on if it's...if it's still not working. Okay, May Nakahata indicated that she will also submit written testimony. Mahalo. Okay, Ms. Wilkins has indicated that their...the two prior Maui High students are available to testify now. And Jazmyne Viloría and Cailyn Omura [sic].

MS. VILORIA: Hi, hi. Okay, so hi, my name's Jazmyne Viloría. I'm testifying on the behalf of Maui High robotics team. I just really like to emphasize about our program is that our robotics program is such a different environment from a classroom. Inside a robotics program, students not only learn the skills, but also have a chance to apply it to an actual, real, tangible product in the end. So like throughout the season, it's very gratifying to see, like, wow, we're actually using geometry to find the angle of, like, our accuracy of the shooter or, like, wow, I didn't realize that this graph could actually, like, have, like, a visual representative of the data of, like, our line...line...or any programming. And just also having that, like, safe space and to actually grow, since it's such a uplifting club. So you really develop that growth mindset of how can I improve? How...how can I make the robot more accurate? How can I make it more efficient, rather than...rather than, like, acing the next test, and then just dropping it after. So you really develop a good mindset, which is important in not only a work life, but also in school.

MS. OMURO: I'm part of the build team, and also the drive team for our robotics team. I'm Cailyn, by the way. We actually were able to go to our Hawai'i Regional this week...or last week --

MS. VILORIA: Yeah.

MS. OMURO: -- and it was so cool to actually be able to travel and to meet all these different teams. One of my favorite moments of the whole competition was the fact that some of the other pit members and all the other students were actually looking at our robot, and they were complimenting us, and they're saying, wow, I can't believe you guys actually were able to weld. You guys weld in your shop? And we're like, yeah, we had students weld that. And then they're all, like, whoa, you guys must be lying, that's not true, because they're looking at how good our work was. And we were just...I was just shocked to see, like, wow, we actually can do something that not a lot of schools do, and we can do it well. And the fact that everyone was looking at our robot, especially during --

MS. VILORIA: Yeah.

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

April 8, 2022

MS. OMURO: -- the finals matches, and they were looking...drawing inspiration from it, was really gratifying to see, after having to really struggle...like, a big struggle during the build season after coming back from the pandemic. So the fact that MEDB, like, gives us the opportunity to do that is really cool. And I think that students in our robotics team get a lot of experience that normal high schoolers don't.

MS. VILORIA: Yeah, especially with, like, the whole...going through the whole engineering process of realizing there's a problem, and analyzing it, and just finding that one...or, like, the multiple ways you can create a solution, or, like, adapt to it. I think that's such a really important lesson that robotics teaches us, to apply in a work setting, or, like, outside of school and in our community.

MS. OMURO: Yeah.

MS. VILORIA: Yeah, I think.

MS. OMURO: That's all. I think so.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo nui for your testimony. Awesome work, and congratulations on all your work, and I'm sure the Councilmembers all agree, and are all applauding you. I'm sorry they can't congratulate you, so...

MS. VILORIA: Thank you.

MS. OMURA: Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo for coming back.

MS. OMURO: Thank you for having us.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: That was the end of our testifier list. I will ask if there is anyone on wishing to testify. If you would like to testify, please unmute yourself at this time, and you may proceed.

MS. KAMEKONA: Hello?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aloha, Ms. Kamekona.

MS. KAMEKONA: Awesome. Hi.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aloha.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: It's on.

MS. KAMEKONA: Oh, there we go. There we go. Okay. Aloha no, Chair Rawlins-Fernandez, Vice-Chair Tamara Paltin, and Committee Members. My name is Carol Lee Kamekona, as you all know. Prior to the arrival of the missionaries to our islands, we were an oral

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

April 8, 2022

peoples. We did not have a written language. Our means of communication and expression of feelings and emotion came through oli, mele, and hula. I don't have the grace and stamina required of a hula dancer, but I am a Kānaka Maoli, proud of my heritage and culture. With that said, I highly recommend and strongly support the full funding of Hālau 'Ōiwi for the Arts. It is long overdue that the culture of our peoples through Maui's kumu hula have a place they call home. On the flipside, as a retired veteran, I strongly support all projects that benefit any and all veterans. We paid our dues, Government needs to step up and provide for us. I strongly support the request for funding by the Nisei Veteran's Center. Mahalo for allowing me to come and testify before you today. Have a beautifully blessed weekend, and I hope this meeting doesn't become a sleepover for you all. Ke Akua pū. A hui hou. Aloha.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Ms. Kamekona, for your testimony. Aloha. I'll ask again if there's anyone on wishing to testify. Please unmute at this time, and you may proceed with your testimony. Okay, hearing no one speaking up, Members, are there any objections to closing oral testimony?

COUNCILMEMBERS VOICED NO OBJECTIONS.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Members. And accepting written testimony into the record? Any objections?

COUNCILMEMBERS VOICED NO OBJECTIONS.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Members. Okay, so it's our afternoon break time. Oh, and public testimony is closed, 3:01.

. . .END OF PUBLIC TESTIMONY. . .

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: And before we take our break, I...I...crunched a little bit of numbers. Mahalo, Ms. Buchanan. So if we finish...now that we've finished public testimony at 3:00, and we take up the Department of Management for about an hour half, that will take us to 4:30, and then the Office of the Mayor, just the questions, another about hour half, that will take us to about 6:00. So would you like to proceed in that fashion, and then we'll save the priority proposals for both the Department of Management and the Office of the Mayor for next week?

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Proceed, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: No objections. Great. Mahalo, Members. Okay, so 10 minutes or 15?

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Ten.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: 3:15.

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

April 8, 2022

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, we'll do 13 minutes. We will reconvene at 3:15. It's 3:02 on April 8, and the Budget, Finance, and Economic Development Committee is now in recess. . . .(gavel). . .

RECESS: 3:02 p.m.
RECONVENE: 3:18 p.m.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: . . .(gavel). . . Will the Budget, Finance, and Economic Development Committee please return to order. It is 3:18 on April 8th. All right. So we've completed our testimony of 70-ish people. Probably ended up being about 60. Now we'll take up...so we're...we're not...we're going to save the Department of Liquor Control for next Wednesday, April 13, after the Department of Water Supply. And so we will go to Department of Management. And, really quickly, we have the Department of Management's budget is \$22,124,777, of which 22,044,777 are from General Fund, 50,000 from Revolving Fund, 30,000 from Grant Fund. Two programs in the Management Department; the Management Program, and the Information Technology Services Program. There are a number of CIPs. 43,810,000 in General Bonds, 1.2 million in General Fund, and 11 million...oh, I don't remember what OG stands for. Rates and fees; fees for parking permits. We'll be taking up our priority proposals next week. There are some grant revenue and revolving fund employee parking...parking fee fund. There aren't any legislated...on...any legislation introduced involving this Department, and we have uploaded on Granicus, Executive Summary for the Members by Ms. Milner. And we have before us, Managing Director Sandy Baz, and Deputy Managing Director Josiah Nishita. Aloha. And then I see in the background, Budget Director Michele Yoshimura. Aloha, Managing Director Baz. Please let me know if there's anyone else from your department in the room, and you may proceed with a three-minute opening remark.

DEPARTMENT OF MANAGEMENT

MR. BAZ: Okay, thank you, Chair. Thank you, Members, for allowing us to present to you this morning...or actually, now it's afternoon, apologize. It's been a long day. We do have my Deputy Josiah Nishita here, and right off to the side of the camera is Erin Wade. She is our Planning Development Chief. As you mentioned, we have two different programs. The Management Program encompasses quite a wide variety of aspects, including the planning development, the construction management, security, ADA, EEOC, reorganization structure, all kinds of different things that we can get into as we go through the questions. And then IT manages the information technology systems for the County, except for the Legislative Branch. And you'll see some big initiatives in there. We can talk about some of the details. Chair, we're asking for a minimal request of six additional staff for the Department. We hope that the Council will support the Mayor's request. It is something that's needed, to be able to oversee the efficient, effective operations of the County, and of our IT systems. So thank you, Chair. I'll leave that at that, and we'll be here to answer any questions. Thank you.

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

April 8, 2022

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Managing Director Baz. And did you have any resource personnel that you brought with you? If you'd like to introduce them this time, you may.

MR. BAZ: Oh, yeah, thank you, Chair. For the Hālau of 'Ōiwi Arts project, CIP project, I would ask for the Chair's and Committee's indulgence to allow for Kumu Hula and Dr. Hōkūlani Holt to be a resource person.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Members, any objections to having Kumu Hula Hōkūlani Holt-Padilla as a resource person?

COUNCILMEMBERS VOICED NO OBJECTIONS.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Members.

MS. HOLT-PADILLA: Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: And mahalo for being concise, Managing Director. All right. The subject matter Committee Chair is Member Molina, yeah; is that correct? Okay, okay, we'll go to the subject matter Committee Chair, Member Molina, followed by Committee Vice-Chair Paltin. And before I call on Member Molina, the...what I have on our detailed schedule is three rounds. The first round of three minutes each Member; the second, two minutes; and then the third round, one minute. Are there any objections to how that's laid out?

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: No objections, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Pro Tem Kama. Okay, so for the first round, I'll put three minutes on the clock. Member Molina, followed by Committee Vice-Chair Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Thank you very much, Madam Chair. Good afternoon, Mr. Baz. First of all, the Analyst V positions, how long do you anticipate it would take to fill those position, and...or positions, and if we invest, I guess, what is it? 250,000 with these five, I guess, expansion positions, will this, in turn, potentially reduce the proposed overtime requests for 160,000? Pages 11-17 and 11-18 of the budget details.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Managing Director?

MR. BAZ: Thank you, Chair, and Member Molina. Those are really important questions. So you've been hearing from departments about the challenges with recruiting personnel. We, in IT, have the same challenges. We have been able to fill positions; in fact, even recently, we're making offers and interviewing. And so we have been more successful than in the past, as far as filling positions. We do have a challenge, we had somebody yesterday just turn down a position because of the pay scale, and we offered pretty much the maximum of that pay scale, and it still wasn't enough to...to recruit, you know, a very highly-qualified individual. So we're doing our best to fill those positions. As far as overtime goes, a lot of that overtime budget is for standby pay, because we are

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

April 8, 2022

required to be responsive, you know, in certain areas, 24/7, so that...that is standby pay. There is, of course, overtime required for doing operations outside of work hours, so that that does not impact the...the schedules, things like that. But with this additional Staff, I do foresee, once we can get filled and reorganized here, we'll have more efficient and effective response to our County services.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Okay. Thank you. My next question is the request for an additional EA position at 76,760. Could you elaborate on this, and I guess the responsibilities for this EA position?

MR. BAZ: Thank you, Chair and Members. So the Department of Management has quite a bit of responsibilities that are little, but very important things, vehicle usage policies and different things that we oversee that we're implementing. One area that I see a specific need in is through the operations of our 311 type of system customer service. You heard a little bit, and Councilmember Sugimura was on the Kula Community Association meeting with me, and we discussed, you know, when the Water Department had the lines go out because of the last big storm, I saw a major deficiency in the way that we communicate with our public and the services that are provided. The EOC operates on a certain functionality that is related to specific emergencies, but there is definitely a need for us to be able to communicate better with our community. And so one of the functions of this person . . . *(timer sounds)* . . . I have a...a developed an outline and piece we are working. We have a almost \$100,000 Homeland Security grant coming to support training throughout the County, and developing a system so that we can get information out there. It may not be emergency related, but very, very critical services to our community. So I...that's just a short, brief version of that.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: All right. Okay. Thank you very much, Mr. Baz, for your responses. Thank you, Madam Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Molina. Okay. We'll go to Committee Vice-Chair Paltin, followed by Pro Tem Kama.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Managing Director and Deputy Director. My first question will be Number 8 on the sheet transmitted by the Committee Chair. And I...I can read it, or...but it's page 701 of the program budget about Mahalani Street; 2 million was appropriated for renovations in Fiscal Year '22, with an additional 5 million for in expenses anticipated this year. But we did not see the CBS (*phonetic*) in this year's budget. And just wondering an update on the status, and when is the anticipated move-in date for this? I thought we purchased this around the same time as the Hawaiian Telcom building, but that one looks moving forward, and this one not so much.

MR. BAZ: Thank you, Chair, and Member Paltin for the opportunity to provide an update on this. 100 Mahalani Street is *The Maui News* building. Yes, you did authorize the purchases around the same time. We have been going back and forth with *The Maui News* in negotiations, and it has not closed. We basically sent a kind of last and final offer to them, and waiting for a final response. If that is...works out, then...then we'll

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

April 8, 2022

acquire it. If it doesn't work out, then we'll release that, and the funds will not be needed.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Okay, mahalo for that update and keeping us informed. The next question, I did get correspondence from a Wailuku resident that was surprised to hear about the Hālau of 'Ōiwi Arts. And although this resident is in support, she or he is just wondering about outreach to those that live nearby. They feel they kind of got a little bit left out of the conversation. Not that they don't support it, but just the public process and everything, I guess.

MR. BAZ: Thank you, Chair, and...and Member Paltin. We have done some outreach already regarding this. There's been some news articles and some information, and those that...in the community that have been interested, we have links on our WailukuLive.com website regarding issues about that. This really...this idea came out of the community. Back in 2019, when I became Managing Director and our...our Project Manager, Erin Wade, was working on this project. We had community meetings, and a lot of testimony came out against a...a civic complex. You know, having another Government building in there. And they were looking for different ideas. And so you know, we've been --

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Okay.

MR. BAZ: -- when this suggestion came out --

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: I...I'd like to --

MR. BAZ: Go ahead, I'm sorry. Okay, yeah, Chair.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Yeah, it's...the next question is about the investigative planning services. How will the funds be used, and is any anticipated to be used as an investigation of how the Nāpili Beach House, LLC project got a Special Management Area permit exemption?

MR. BAZ: So the investigation funds are utilized mainly for violence in the workplace and EEOC investigations. If something comes out about that, then, you know, we'll address that, but we have utilized the funds in the past that this Council's very familiar with. But we also are utilizing it currently for another violence in the workplace and EEO complaint. It does cost quite a bit of money when we hire a third-party investigator. And so this will be depleted by that.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Okay.

MR. BAZ: As far as the...okay.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Thank you. And then the next question I had was --

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Member Paltin.

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

April 8, 2022

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Oh.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Round two.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Oh yeah. I didn't hear it. Sorry.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Paltin. Pro Tem Kama, followed by Member Sugimura.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you, Chair. So I want to talk about an issue that we've been talking about. In the phones on the 8th Floor, when you call, all you get to talk to is somebody in one of our offices. But should somebody get locked in the 8th Floor and have no way of communicating to get out, such as they locked their purses in their office to go to the bathroom, and the door locks, and they don't have an ID to get them back in. And you have two phones, but the phones don't go anywhere, except internally. Is there a method to be able to get those phones connected, so that if you had to make an outside call, that was possible?

MR. BAZ: Chair. I'll...I'll be real quick. OCS can do that. Those phones have those capabilities, but you'll need to address that with the OCS Director.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Okay. Thank you very much, Chair, Mr. Baz.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Does that conclude your questions?

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Yes, Chair, for this round. Saving for the next.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: All right. Sounds good. Mahalo, Pro Tem Kama. Member Sugimura, followed by Member Johnson.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you. I think Member Kama was talking about my plight, so thank you for sticking up for me. But I wanted to...one of my priorities is about...really, about the MRA, and I know you have Erin there, so if I could. And this is about creating Wailuku Town to be a art center, and I wanted...is she there? Is Erin there?

MR. BAZ: Yeah, she's right on this side, yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: I thought...oh, okay. Anyway, I just wanted to say how I support that, and the...the big...small...Small Town Big Art program, as well as this 'Oiwi resource center, and all the other...you know, MAPA and the arts that are going on in the town. And I...and I know that there's a budget item in here under...on page 11-10 regarding the MRA, and I was just wondering if there's enough funding in there to launch a program like that, is my question.

MS. WADE: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Member Sugimura. We do have enough money for the...Small Town Big Art is also working on an arts district master plan currently

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

April 8, 2022

with the funds that have already been identified. Part of the \$30,000 from the National Endowment of the Arts grant is working for that. But we do expect to have additional budget requests to build up an arts district, either as a budget amendment at some future time, or in FY'24.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Oh, great. So you're saying that no money needed at this time, because it's already included. On program book page 380, it...it...there is a 30,000 grant from National Endowment from the Arts. So that's the grant you're talking about?

MS. WADE: That's right.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: All right. You guys are really doing good on the grants. Also, the Transportation, Housing, and Urban Development has on the same page, \$11 million grant, and I guess you guys can talk to us about that later. So you're basically covered, then, for the art district? You don't need any additional funding, but we're going to walk forward in terms of a policy and how to help you with that; is that correct?

MS. WADE: That's correct. Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Okay, I'm cookin', thanks, great.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: What ya cookin', Member Sugimura? Okay. Member Johnson, followed by Member King.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Chair. Some of my questions already been answered, but I do have one, and specifically to Lānaʻi. The Lānaʻi Veterans Cemetery. How much more does the Maui County Veteran's Council need to fulfill all the veterans cemetery's, or the needs on Lānaʻi's Veteran Cemetery? Do we need to create a new line item? And that comes from page 378, out of the budget proposal.

MR. BAZ: So yeah, thank you, Member Johnson, for the question. I'd like...I'd need to do a little more research on it. The actual management of the...if it's a...a Veteran's cemetery, is under the Department of Public Works, but we, Department of Management, provides grants to veterans organizations for various things. I know the West Maui one gets money specifically to maintain the veteran's cemetery over by Hanakao'o. And so we can look into that for sure. But I...I'm not sure if it would be Department of Public Works that would be doing it, or if it would be a grant through the Department of Management.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay, thank you so much, Mr. Baz. Thank you, Chair, I have no further questions.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Johnson. Member King, followed by Council Chair Lee.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Chair, I'm sorry about being late, it takes longer to get between here and Kahului than it does to get to Kihei with all the traffic. But welcome, Managing

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

April 8, 2022

Director. And first, I want to thank you for your accessibility and your response time, because I've always found you to be really easy to work with, and I appreciate that. So I want to start with a kind of a broad question. I've noticed there's quite a bit of expansion, like five analyst expansion positions, and the expansion in professional services. Are any of these...are any of the expansion costs related to strategic planning? And...and the reason I ask this is, you know, because every time I look at the performance measures, they seem to be more related to tasks than...than strategic goals. And when I look at the...they're not even called goals anymore. They're just kind of estimates of what can be done, rather than, you know, making a goal of doing more every year, it's kind of like, well, what do we think is the most we can get done? So do you have any thoughts on, you know, trying to do a better job of strategic planning and bringing that kind of training into each department?

MR. BAZ: Madam Chair, and Member King, thank you for the question. So, the Executive Assistant to, I guess, one position that got proposed, is going to be in relation to those kind of functionalities, as well. I have...currently have two Executive Assistants, and this third one will be able to look at not just the customer service, but also the performance management of the Department. I have some time, but my time is very limited to be able to do that, so Deputy Nishita and I, you know, go through and evaluate the departments and their functionalities and things, but really taking a comprehensive look at their performance management, is...is something that I would like a civil servant staff person that's going to be there for a long term, and actually develop a...a specific program. I also am working with IT on providing a dashboard-type system. We don't need any money for it, other than actual development of the content of the system we already have in place through ArcGIS, and we're really looking forward to providing more open data and you know, responsiveness to our community.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay, and are you looking for somebody who has expertise in strategic planning and performance management?

MR. BAZ: Yeah, we'll be looking for somebody, you know, should this position get approved and we've got to go create it, the...the class and qualifications for executive assistants are pretty stringent when it comes to management's executive assistants. So I want to be clear about that. They are civil service, they have to qualify under certain restrictions. But we'll definitely be looking for somebody who has experience in strategic planning, in customer service, you know, in...in responsiveness and system development, things like that.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay. Yeah, I would really support, you know, training for all the departments on that . . .(timer sounds). . . too. And then...oops, there's my time. Okay, wait for second round. Thank you. Thank you, Managing Director. Thank you for the response.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member King. Council Chair Lee, followed by Member Sinenci.

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

April 8, 2022

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Hello, Managing Director and the Deputy. I'm wondering, Sandy, if you operate off of a plan when you...with regard to acquiring buildings for...for new offices for our staffs, our departments?

MR. BAZ: Thank you, Madam Chair. So the...the only goal, plan, objective that has been really evaluated in the past was this idea of getting us off of rented space, right. Instead of paying rent and lease costs, we pay a...a bond mortgage. What we really are looking towards, and Erin Wade is...has been working with her Staff in Planning Development, is better evaluation prior to presenting it to the Council for acquisition. There, you know, we've learned some lessons over the past couple of years here with some of the purchases that --

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay, thank you.

MR. BAZ: -- that have been presented --

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: I appreciate that. Okay. So now, as a follow up, it...it seems that when it comes to the Council, it's ready to be purchased. You know, it gives us very little time to plan, analyze, to even visit some of these sites. And, you know, now we're...we're finding out that maybe *The Maui News* building is not going to work out for the County. But in the meantime, you bought the Federal Credit Union. And so are there other buildings that you're looking at, so that we know in advance what's coming down the pike?

MR. BAZ: Yeah. Thank you, Madam Chair. It might be something that we could talk to you about presenting, like an umbrella item in a committee, so that we could bring that up as discussions prior to sending it to BFED for the actual acquisition. I would support something like that.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay. All right. Because, you know, again, you know, we need to have more advance notice instead of just coming up in one meeting and saying, oh, we need \$50 million buy something, you know? We need to --

MR. BAZ: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: -- it's better to operate off of a plan.

MR. BAZ: Yeah, Chair --

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: And did I use my time?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: -- definitely. Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay, I have 39 seconds, so...and so the other thing is, as you know, we've been going back and forth over the Kalana Pakui Building. And you know, we need to make...set our plans for the future, and we don't even have that settled yet. And so we need to do that before we start buying other buildings. Because you folks have

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

April 8, 2022

the advantage of knowing where your departments are going in the future. We don't have that information.

MR. BAZ: Thank you, Madam Chair, and Chair Lee. You know, this is really critical to understand, and we are working on that. Some of the money that we're requesting this year was in planning development will help us to assist better processing of that. A lot of times, though, when we're negotiating with a landowner, they either don't want to advertise that...that they're negotiating with us or, you know, we're trying to keep things a little bit less public, you know. So bringing forward to you may...maybe if we could talk about it in executive session or something like that, but we can...we'll work...we'll work that piece of it out. But as...as far as the planning for future space needs goes, yes, we are heavily working on that. We have, as Deputy Nishita mentioned when he was talking about the Department of Ag, you know, we have people going into a building that's only going to be a short term, because they're going to eventually outgrow that. We have, you know, different growth areas, things take a while to get done. . . .*(timer sounds)*. . . But we want to make sure that we're doing it properly.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Thank you.

MR. BAZ: I'll leave it at that. Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: We've used up the time. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Council Chair Lee. Member Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Mahalo, Chair, and aloha Director Baz, Deputy Nishita, Ms. Wade, and Ms., Yoshimura. Mahalo for joining us this afternoon. My first question is on page 2 of the department questionnaire, Number 9. In Fiscal Year 2022, 69,200 was added to the Department of Management budget for the purpose of the LiDAR drone. So do you have an update of the drone, if it's been purchased, and if not, when do you intend to purchase it?

MR. BAZ: I'll let Ms. Wade answer the question.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you.

MS. WADE: Thank you, Member Sinenci. We have not yet purchased the LiDAR drone. We did have a Staff person, when the drone was requested, who was licensed to operate the drone, and that person has left the County since...since then. And in addition, the technology related to the LiDAR has improved significantly over the last few...several months. So at this time, we're identifying who's the right person to train, to be certified, to operate, before we make a purchase, and also hoping that the equipment that ultimately does get purchased --

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Oh, okay.

MS. WADE: -- is of the highest quality and standards.

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

April 8, 2022

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Okay, thank you for that. And then it looks like there's five new information system Analysis [sic] V positions. What will those positions be assigned to work on?

MR. NISHITA: I apologize, the words are really tiny here. But basically, we...we have positions...we don't have enough positions to manage the level of service that's required, just in general. In reality, we could probably use 15 or 20 new positions, but five is what was proposed. And we're looking at some areas to include the customer service functionality. So those employees that are going out and addressing the help desk needs to users, whether it's broken printers, or computer equipment that's not operating, or they are calling in because they need assistance with the application, being able to log in (*audio interference*).

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Okay, thank you. And then will the County Archeologist be able to utilize their services if needed?

MR. NISHITA: Oh, yes, the Archeologist is working very closely with our GIS team especially, and they are working towards that, and they'll be quite a bit...I mean, the IT does provide, you know, functionality and support to...to everyone.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Member Sinenci, you're muted.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Has there...was a salary being proposed for the Archeologist Assistant II position?

MR. NISHITA: Thank you, Chair Rawlins-Fernandez, and Member Sinenci. The position we're proposing to redescribe here . . .(*timer sounds*). . . the GIS Analyst V position. We can have discussion on that later if needed.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Okay. Thank you, Deputy. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Sinenci. Oh, and then, yeah, I forgot about the proclamation requirement. I have in the room with me my daughter Ka'ikenaona'alei Rawlins-Fernandez. All right. Oh, everyone's saying hi. Wave hi. All right, my questions. Three minutes on the clock. So my first question is regarding the Hālau of 'Ōiwi Arts. Will you please speak to the proposed timeline of that and anything else you'd like to share. And I know we'll likely have a...we will have a presentation after budget session on more of the details, but if you would please speak to some of the details in two and a half minutes.

MR. BAZ: I mentioned a little bit of the history, but I will let Erin and Auntie Hoku talk about the future timelines. So Erin.

MS. WADE: The timeline, once we are clear if we have funding, we will move forward with the planning and design process that's expected to take approximately 14 months. At the

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

April 8, 2022

completion of that, we'll be going out for construction bid with the anticipation that we would complete construction in early 2026.

MR. BAZ: So you already started the planning?

MS. WADE: Yes, the planning has, you know, been initiated in the conceptual form, but again, there's going to be additional opportunities for outreach and more discussions with the kumu as well.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo. Okay, and I guess if...Kumu Hokulani Holt-Padilla would like to add anything further because she was asked to be a resource.

MR. NISHITA: Chair Rawlins-Fernandez?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yes.

MR. NISHITA: If I may just kind of speak real quickly to the need for the full amount of funding now? Is that all right?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yes, please.

MR. NISHITA: Thank you, Chair Rawlins-Fernandez. So one big, you know, key piece of this is the consistency and commitment for, you know, planning purposes. So it's not just for the County of Maui's planning purposes and, you know, the community's benefit and knowledge, but also for, you know, our Kumu Hula who are working with us, as well as, you know, various community groups, educational institutions. You heard lots of testimony today from various, you know, private interests that want to be a part of, contribute, you know, whether funding or resources, to the project. And this opens up the opportunity for that to happen. We also, you know, need to demonstrate a commitment for our Federal funding purposes. You know, we have a great partner right now . . . *(timer sounds)* . . . in Senator Schatz who's working with us to secure funding for the project and that's what you see in the budget there. And right now he's in a key position as the Transportation, Housing, and Urban Development Committee as Chairman that oversees this budget line item, of which we could get grant funding for. So, you know, with the mid-term elections coming up, you know, the time is really right to be able to access that funding prior to, you know, any possible changes occurring at the Federal level, you know, in terms of the makeup of Congress. And then at the County level, we also just have the right people in place at the right time. So the Council has passed, yeah, you know, the declaration, you know, committing in the language of the resolution, be it resolved to fund, you know, hula to the fullest extent possible, and urging the Mayor to fund, you know, hula and associated arts to the fullest extent possible. And with, you know, the upcoming, you know, County elections that we have too, we have the right people in place at the right time now to really secure this for our future generations. So I'd just like to add that to the need for full funding at this time. Thank you.

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

April 8, 2022

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Deputy Managing Director. Okay. And I do see Kumu Holt-Padilla on, but my timing...my timer went off for me for my first round. But mahalo for being here. Okay, that was the first round, three minutes each member. Okay. Second round, two minutes each Member. We'll go back to Member Molina, followed by Committee Vice-Chair Paltin. I have two minutes on the clock. Member Molina.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Okay, yeah, thank you very much, Madam Chair. The..you know, the expansion request for Other Services 1.6 million and so forth, can you elaborate on that, page 11-21 of the Program Budget?

MR. BAZ: Thank you, Chair, and Member Molina. Thank you for the question. So if you look in IT Services' Detailed Budget, you will see there's a lot of big negatives and positives. We've been having some challenges with the Finance Department about how things were budgeted versus how they were paid out, of what category. So if you look at that, there is a cross-correlation like R&M Services Contracts is down \$3.7 million, almost at \$4 million because it got moved out to Contractual Services, 6112, and some to 6244, depending on what type of functionality it was. A lot of times...so what we figured out is it's not repairs and maintenance necessarily, it's, like, actual computer lights and software, you know. We have ongoing costs for...especially the programs that we have that are in the Cloud or in others, we have to require annual licensing costs and so those were put into the computer software and then Contractual Services, some of that is the equipment for, like, the network lifecycle equipment we have to replace and those contracts going to the Contracted Services.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Okay, great. And then one quick question before my time is up. How are we as far as software upgrades and equipment and...you know, especially the times we live in these days, you know, cybersecurity, I mean can you just answer that real quickly in the last ten seconds?

MR. BAZ: I'll be quick. We're okay, but not great. We really want, need to move forward and some of the funding this year will assist us in kind of forward . . .(timer sounds). . . in some major areas that will help with cybersecurity and overall functionality.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Okay. Thank you, Mr. Baz. Thank you, Madam Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Molina. Committee Vice-Chair Paltin, followed by Pro Tem Kama.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Thank you. I'm not sure if my question is for Director Yoshimura. I thought we had purchased the LiDAR Drone with our CARES money, following up on Member Sinenci's question. Or Finance? Is only Finance using it?

MR. BAZ: She'll check on that, but it looks like it was either Police or Fire.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Oh, I thought it was Finance. Okay. And then the other question is kind of an overall question of the Management Department as the overseer of the

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

April 8, 2022

Departments as a whole, and I'm not sure if the Administration is getting the same sort of calls that my office is getting in regards to homelessness and, you know, the most recent point in time bridge the gap count, Lāhainā numbers, which, I don't know if they're even accurate, have skyrocketed from the previous years. And so I just was wondering if you are working with Department of Housing and Human Concerns on getting a handle on addressing the issue. My exact question, I guess, to the Director yesterday is I'm not trying to advocate for a sweep or anything, but in the absence of supporting managed encampments, we're having unmanaged encampments across County lands. So I just was wondering if you're looped in and what the plans are there.

MR. BAZ: Yeah, thank you. We definitely participate with the Department, as well as Department of Police and Public Works and others that are engaged in interacting with the homeless. We have the Clean and Safe Programs . . .(timer sounds). . . which, you know, give some kind of assistance with the homeless, but it's a very, very challenging issue.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Okay, thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Paltin. Pro Tem Kama, followed by Member Sugimura.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: I have a question for Kumu Hula Padilla-Holt [sic] if she's still available, Chair.

MS. HOLT-PADILLA: Aloha.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Aloha. Thank you for being here and for hanging with us all morning, all afternoon, and hopefully not until too late tonight. But, you know, my question is...you know, there is...I don't know of any place in the State of Hawai'i that has a Hawaiian Cultural Center. The...when I Google Hawaiian Cultural Center, the Polynesian Cultural Center comes up, but that's not my idea of a Hawaiian Cultural Center, it's a mixture of all of our cousins, right? So when you look at this particular program that we're looking at, what do you see it as encompassing?

MS. HOLT-PADILLA: I see it as encompassing actually what we all are about as a community and as a Maui Nui and as a State, and that is to help people appreciate they're living in Hawai'i. Hula is done everywhere in the world, but you cannot know hula unless you are here in Hawai'i in order to know where the mele, where hula comes from. If you don't come to Hawai'i, it has no meaning. So for me, it is to provide the opportunity for people to appreciate the specialty that is Hawai'i. And with that specialty comes the way it is delivered to the rest of the world through its arts.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you for that response. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Pro Tem Kama. Okay, Member Sugimura, followed by Member Johnson.

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

April 8, 2022

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you. So on Budget Details 11-10, still talking about the MRA, I'm looking at Contractual Services and it's mentioning Clean and Safe Program. And I just wanted to be sure that the Clean and Safe Program is still okay. I think MRA is primarily Wailuku, but I know in the...this Clean and Safe Program stemmed from the good work that you did, Erin, in Wailuku. And just wondering how...is it alive and well?

MS. WADE: Thank you, Councilmember. Thank you, Chair. We do have programs active in Wailuku, Lāhainā, and Pā'ia. The Wailuku and Lāhainā programs are well established. The Pā'ia one has just started up this year. We have had a little bit of challenge in Pā'ia, primarily because we collaborate so closely with the Maui Police Department. Police have been...you know, they're short on staff and there has been a lot of reorganization recently, and a lot of what is required with the Clean and Safe is consistency in terms of coordinating with the ambassadors. So as of December, there has been full-time outreach staff in Pā'ia, and we're starting to make some good traction on decrease of vandalism and illicit activities in the immediate vicinity, but I'm still working as well to improve it. The goal, however, does fund in full the Wailuku, Lāhainā, and Pā'ia programs within the Department's Budget.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Member Sugimura, it looks like your...okay, I think the County...okay...or maybe just the 8th Floor...or 7th...8th Floor...yeah, the 8th Floor Internet might not be . . .*(timer sounds)*. . . working. So when Member Sugimura comes back, I'll give her 30 seconds.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: . . .*(inaudible)*. . . because Member King is on the 8th Floor, but I think she has a Mac.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh. Okay, because I see Pro Tem Kama also has poor network, but on *Akakū* I see our video cameras working. Wave your hand if you can hear me, Member Sugimura, because I can see you on the TV. Okay, she didn't wave her hand, so I don't think she can hear me. All right. Okay, the next person was supposed to be...oh, oh, no. It's Member Johnson and then we'll check on Member Sugimura after Member Johnson. Go ahead, Member Johnson.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay. Let's just cut to the chase. So how is the Department overseeing all of the other departments to achieve the goals in the CAHP, the Comprehensive Affordable Housing Plan. What specific projects are your priorities, and everyone knows that I say that if your hair is on fire...is there anything you can do to respond more quickly?

MR. BAZ: Thank you. Thank you, Chair. So my Department oversees a program called the Attainable Housing for Maui Nui Forum, it's run by one of my Executive Assistants, and we work with the departments regularly on projects that have been proposed so that they can hopefully work it so that their hair isn't on fire, and prevent the fire, and allow it to work smoothly. But when we do have issues with the Water Department, or Planning, or Public Works, or some other permitting agency, we birddog those, follow through, work closely with the developers to see if there's some kind of considerations

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

April 8, 2022

that we can provide to them or a way to assist them in getting the projects approved sooner. And really, we feel that's one of the best ways to let them do the work that they're experts at, and then we can assist them in making it flow smoother and quicker.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: You mentioned the AHMN Group, Sandy, I would love to be a part of that if there's...if empty seat at the table, sign me up. Okay. Thank you so much. Thank you, Chair, I'm all good. Mahalo.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, mahalo, Member Johnson. And Staff confirmed that Member Sugimura and Pro Tem Kama lost Internet, but I see Member King's Internet may still be working. Her video is, anyway. Member King, do you hear me?

MS. MILNER: Chair, this is Staff. Member King, I think you'll need to use your computer microphone because the Chamber laptop has disconnected.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, but will the speaker make it reverb?

MS. MILNER: Because the Chamber computer has disconnected, it won't come through the speaker until that's back online.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Okay, Member King. I guess you can unmute your device. That's what Staff is saying.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Member Paltin.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: I don't know if...I muted it for her yesterday, so I'm not sure if she knows which button to press, but it's up at the top of the keyboard.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. We'll go to Council Chair Lee, and maybe we can assist . . .*(inaudible)*. . . Council Chair Lee.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Thank you, Chair. Okay, Mr. Baz, I know you mentioned that...well, first of all, I did have a proposal, possible proposal to add two more positions to your Department. And I'm wondering if you...if it went through, would you have space for two more people?

MR. BAZ: Thank you, Chair, and Chair Lee. No, we're pretty tight in space now. We have people hoteling, working, teleworking and all that, and looking for more space.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: . . .*(Audio interference)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay. So the other thing is, I know you just talked about how you try to help expedite projects, affordable housing projects. But honestly...and this is not an indictment of you, but all of us. Government substantially adds to the cost of housing. I mean, huge cost to...because of the time involved. You know, if a housing

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

April 8, 2022

project takes five years or four years, that's a lot of time, and that's a lot of...and time is money. I think what's been happening in the past is maybe somebody from your Department is helping people at the beginning of the process more than going through the rest of the process when they have to go through all the departments. Because each department, as you know, has sort of like their own set of rules and their own set of requirements that they add on to every project. So that's...either you need another body or perhaps reevaluating what that...whomever you have assigned to it right now, what that person is doing. And I have run out of time.

MR. BAZ: Thank you, Chair. I'll answer briefly. Yes, I agree with you. Having a more dedicated Staff person, someone who is doing that now, as well as about ten other things that he does...so having a dedicated staff person, whether it's in my Department or whether it's in the Department of Housing and Human Concerns, I think would be incredibly beneficial.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Council Chair Lee. Member Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you, Chair. My next question is on page 2 of the Department questionnaire, number 10, could you please provide an update on the Wailuku Water Company System Acquisition? And what are the obstacles to this purchase? And would consultant services help resolve any of these issues?

MR. BAZ: Thank you, Chair. We are very closely working with the Trust for Public Land and the State of Hawai'i on the acquisition of the watershed and the system. We have sometimes weekly meetings, just had one the other day internally and externally to try to get this process through. We are trying to work through obstacles. A consultant would not assist because there's some challenges...we can get into in Committee discussion about why would that...really, at this point, where an additional consultant wouldn't help.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Okay, thank you, Director. And then my other question for Ms. Wade is, are there any specific needs to optimize productivity in the County Archeologist program?

MS. WADE: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Mr. Sinenci. We did request funding for monitors, archeological monitors to assist. As you know, the Principal Archeologist assists multiple departments with archeology tasks. And occasionally...most of the time we don't need monitors and occasionally we'll need two or even three at a time, so we requested that Professional Services instead of an expansion position. And then re-describing the GIS position is really going to help as well.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Okay. Thank you for that, Ms. Wade. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Sinenci. Okay, I asked Member King if she wanted to write it...write her question in the chat. Member King...oh, shoot. I think she said she couldn't hear us, yeah? I...okay. I was going to ask her if she wanted to...oh, can you hear me? All right. I'll put two minutes on the clock and there...oh,

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

April 8, 2022

when you spoke, Member King, maybe turn off your mic. Turn...oh, I forgot she can't hear us, yeah? Okay, I'm going to write it in the chat.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: . . .*(Inaudible)*. . . now, but I had to turn my computer back on. Well, they can't hear me. The mics aren't working.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. All right. Two minutes on the clock. Oh, okay. I'll do my two minutes, and then we'll take a recess. All right. Here we go. Okay, my first question is regarding a question that I asked Mr. Andaya during...oh, there's everyone...during the Emergency Management about alerting the community when...or sections of the community when E. coli is found, or any other alerts. Managing Director Baz, will you please speak to any efforts your Department has made to try to do some kind of robocalls or robotexts to alert our customers?

MR. BAZ: Yeah, thank you, Chair. So we are working with a vendor, the same vendor as our websites, they have a company called...product called Civic Ready that does a significant amount of ability for us to be able to notify individuals whether they've either subscribed or not in different functions. So a lot of it will be based on self-subscription. We are...that's what I had mentioned. I tasked one of my Staff with the development of a plan, and so we had developed a plan. We requested Homeland Security Grant Funds, those were going to be provided, \$100,000, so that we can do...build a cadre of public information officers, we set the, a specific notification. So basically, I want to have different notification schedules, right? So, one thing to notify when people...if there is an incident, you know, whether it's your trash not getting picked up or whatever, we want to be able to send out the different notifications based on different incident...you know, how important they are. And then also, I want to be able to have the...we have a cadence of response. So we want to be able to say you're going to get a update in four hours, you're going to get an update in a day, you're going to get an update . . .*(timer sounds)*. . . in a week, depending on, you know, what the situation is that that would be there. So that's what we're developing.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay great, yeah. Because there's a big difference between drinking E. coli and not getting your trash picked up. Mahalo, Managing Director. Okay, let's see if Member Sugimura can hear us. Will you unmute, I have 30 seconds on the clock so you can finish your questions with Ms. Wade. Oh. There's no audio now. Okay, I think we'll take that recess that we were talking about a little earlier, and then we'll work on...get this BlueJeans working. Okay. Okay, 15 minutes, 10...10, 15, which one...15? 4:30? 4:30? Ten, ten minutes . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: 4:30 is good.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh, there we go. Great. I just heard Pro Tem Kama. Member Sugimura? No. I think it was through Pro Tem Kama's device. Okay, we'll...4:25, we'll take a ten-minute recess and reconvene at 4:25. It's 4:15 on April 8th, the Budget, Finance, and Economic Development Committee is now in recess. . . .*(gavel)*. . .

RECESS: 4:15 p.m.

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

April 8, 2022

RECONVENE: 4:28 p.m.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: . . .*(gavel)*. . . Will the Budget, Finance, and Economic Development Committee return to order. It is 4:28 on April 8th. And mahalo, Chivo, for helping our Councilmembers to get back their audio. And we will go back to Member Sugimura. Member Sugimura, you had 30 seconds when your audio stopped...30 seconds back on, and you were asking questions of Ms. Wade. So if you'd like to finish those questions, you may do so, and then we'll go to Member King and Pro Tem Kama. Member Sugimura.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Okay, can you hear me? All right. So my question...I think Erin probably heard my question three times, but Safe and Clean Program, I'm concerned that there's no community police officer to implement the program, and I just wanted to get Erin Wade's comments that is in the Program Book, the Budget Details 11-10...page 11-10 about Clean and Safe. Short answer, I only have 30 seconds.

MS. WADE: Yes, at this point we are collaborating with Police to provide the needed services and I think that's going to keep improving as of . . .*(timer sounds)*. . . this last reorganization occurring.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Okay. Because it's in my question to the Police Chief when he comes. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Member King, I have two minutes on the clock for you.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay, really quickly, short answers. So, Managing Director, first I just wanted to find out what if...do you have any plans to bring the Clean and Safe to South Maui? Because we've had a lot of complaints about, you know, the safety and the cleanliness, especially post-storm and everything. And would you support funding for that program in South Maui?

MR. BAZ: South Maui has some unique challenges, for sure. We'd want to probably talk to you and maybe with the Maui Police Department at the same time and see how we can address those challenges. I'm open to it.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay. Yeah, we just...not really getting really much out of this Budget, to tell you the truth. And then I did, I have a question about page 373 of the Program Budget, goal number 5. If you look at the first objective, there have been...the numbers, like, go from 150 in '21 to 150 in '22 and down to 52 in '23 about the consistent information about construction impacts. And we seem to be having just as much if not more construction, but it looks like the number of monthly updates and social media information is going way down for this next year.

MS. WADE: Thank you, this is Erin. The intention is to continue communicating. We do the weekly social media updates, and have been doing a newsletter. But because construction was just kind of crunching along, there weren't, wasn't a lot of need for

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

April 8, 2022

additional updates. We have been doing also radio ads, perhaps you've heard one whenever we do road closures. So that will continue --

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Yeah, but...

MS. WADE: -- as long as the community impact.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Yeah, though my question is why is it so much less, it's like a third of what you did in the last two years?

MS. WADE: Yeah, because we're only planning to be working on the roadways themselves, which is the primary impacts to the community for another few months. . . .(timer sounds). . . Only probably one month into FY'24, three.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: I think my time is up.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member King. Okay, Pro Tem Kama, did you do your two minutes yet?

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: I did my two minutes, yes.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh, okay.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: And it turned into my one minute. Yeah.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh, okay.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: So we're on round three, right?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Yeah.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: So I think that concludes the two-minute round, and then we...so we'll go to our third round, which is one minute for each Member. Okay. We'll go to Member Molina, then Committee Vice-Chair Paltin. Member Molina.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: No, Madam Chair, I'll donate my minute to whoever wants it. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, Member Paltin. I have two minutes on the clock for you.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Thank you. I was wondering if you folks would be supportive if the Front Street folks wanted to put together a Lāhainā Special Improvement District similar to Waikīkī's Business Special Improvement District. And if Finance has a LiDAR drone, could they share it with Management?

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

April 8, 2022

MR. BAZ: Thank you. We'll look into both of those. We could definitely...you know, Front Street Improvement, if we could get some investment in there, that would be a really, really wonderful thing to do. The Waikīkī Improvement District is a little bit different because it has huge hotels to fund it, and so they have, you know, pretty significant amount of resources. Front Street is, you know, mostly just retail shops and restaurants and, you know, cultural things. But yeah, let's talk about that. I'd love to talk with you about that. And the Planning Department as well, right.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Yeah...and, I guess their...the...some of the business owners are talking about that. Any info on the LiDAR drone?

MR. BAZ: I'll check with the Department of Finance on the...if it'll meet the requirements of the Archeologist. LiDAR is one specific technology, but it doesn't necessarily mean that it does the same functionality that we're looking for. But we'll check with them.

MR. NISHITA: Yeah, and I think what was contracted was services, not purchase of a drone. So the services of the drone, yeah.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Okay.

MR. NISHITA: Thank you.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: And if I still have some time, I was just wondering about the changes to the municipal parking lot. Why was that needed?

MS. WADE: Thank you. We did have to redesign the building after finding four iwi kūpuna during construction. The decision was made to preserve in place, and therefore, building was redesigned and construction methods were altered for safety reasons. . . .(timer sounds). . .

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Paltin. Pro Tem Kama, followed by Member Sugimura.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you, Chair. So for Management, page 373, goal 7, improve County office space options in Central Maui. It says finalize office space plans for the County's main campus in Wailuku, completion 75 percent. What does 75 percent completion look like, and where is it?

MR. NISHITA: Member Kama, could you restate that page number?

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Yes, it's page 373 in the...in the...in the, this page book. And goal number 7, item 2. . . .(timer sounds). . .

MS. WADE: So...

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

April 8, 2022

MR. BAZ: Go ahead.

MS. YOSHIMURA: You can answer.

MS. WADE: Okay, thank you. We are planning to be working on the office space project. I don't know about the number that's in the book right now, but we will be evaluating the previous plans done for office space, and identifying how to assist in getting all of the departments into facilities that best serves the employees and the operations.

MR. BAZ: I think specifically, Chair and Member Kama, the numbers in there are related to the...it looks like more related to the Hawaiian Telcom building and, you know, what we're going to be renovating for this upcoming year.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: I understand. Thank you. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Pro Tem Kama. Member Sugimura, followed by Member Johnson.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: So I have no further questions, and I look forward to learning more as we go along about their...their many projects. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Sugimura. Member Johnson.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Thank you, Chair. My questions have been answered. Appreciate you guys' time. Mahalo.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Johnson. Member King, followed by Council Chair Lee.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Thank you. So Sandy...so, you know, there's a lot of software money in the budget for Management. Is any of that going to...related to or going to help you with any of the coordination of projects, maybe even with the State? You know, we're...we're having a huge issue in South Maui right now where there's three or four projects going on at the same time, and traffic is horrible, just horrible. I drove through traffic with Kai Kahele, and he's like, what's going on here? So it's the highway and South Kihei Road at the same time. So it just seems like there's no coordination of these projects and what they're doing to the community. So is any of the software designed to help you with that?

MR. BAZ: We probably already have the software capabilities that we need, but we would definitely need to meet with Department of Public Works and find out what kind of processes they would utilize at...you know, suggest maybe we can work with them on developing some kind of...and that could be part of our notification process too, as well, so that we have a graphical interface to identify, you know, where these locations are that are either . . .(timer sounds). . . road closures or construction or E. coli.

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

April 8, 2022

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay, that would be great. Because that's why I was worried about the notification numbers going down, you know, for this year because we're...we have, like, more construction with these affordable housing projects. So...anyway, we can talk about that offline too, hopefully. Thank you. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member King. Council Chair Lee, followed by Member Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Question for Erin Wade. Do you need more money for the Clean and Safe Program in Wailuku?

MS. WADE: Thank you, Councilmember Lee. We do not need additional funds for Clean and Safe at this time. I do have additional monies in there for landscaping because there's new landscaping that's been installed on Vineyard and Church Street.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Council Chair Lee. Member Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Mahalo, Chair. Just a follow up for Ms. Wade again. So it looks like, Ms. Wade, my proposal number 35 was to add an Archeologist II to help with the cultural mapping in the Archeologist Program. But it sounds like we could possibly use one of the GIS Analysts to work on the mapping. Is there another need in the office? I was thinking possibly, like, for research?

MS. WADE: Thank you, Councilmember. We have been talking about having someone who can read and write Hawaiian on Staff and assist us with doing that kind of research, as well as doing document proofreads, making sure that what we're putting out is of the highest quality. Because often the County's documents are held as the standard, and are...they get copied and repeated all over. So if we're putting wrong information or incorrect citations in there, it just gets . . .(timer sounds). . . repeated again and again.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Okay, great. Thank you. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Sinenci. Perfect segue into a question I was going to actually ask for Communications with the Office of the Mayor. I proposed a position for OCS to have a translator into Hawaiian communications. It sounds like your Department would be interested in that too. And then if you could also fit in yes, no, is the Moku'ula Parking Lot part of the Park Maui Initiative, and are there any carryover savings projected in FY'23?

MS. WADE: At this time it's not in Park Maui, but we plan hopefully for next fiscal year to have it included. I don't know about the...

MR. BAZ: Yeah, carry over savings, no, we'll spend every dime that we can get. Yeah, there's some major challenges that we're dealing with, and we'll really utilize the funds appropriately. So thank you.

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

April 8, 2022

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: And the position? . . .*(timer sounds)* . . .

MR. BAZ: Sorry, we can...that was the Hawaiian language, yes. You know, the Charter Amendment that is going to be in front of the community this election, we would really need somebody to implement that. So yes, we would support a position.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: In the Department of Management, or in the Office of the Mayor?

MR. BAZ: It would...it doesn't really matter, but just for continuity purposes and the Department of Management being civil service employees, it would probably be better to be in Department of Management so there's some consistency throughout any direction from Administration.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo.

MR. BAZ: The current Administration supports it, but I don't know about a new Administration.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo for that clarification. Okay. All right, Members, those were the three rounds of questions. Do all the Members feel satisfied with the three rounds? And then we also, you know, have the written questions that we'll get a written response to. Member Paltin.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. Just...I think that maybe they misunderstood your carryover...or if I misunderstood your carryover savings question with the Moku'ula Parking Lot. I believe that money can only be used for Moku'ula, and to my knowledge, none of it has been spent yet so we should have choke money in there, right?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: I'm sorry.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: I'm sorry, did I misunderstand your question?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yeah --

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Okay.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: -- I'm asking each of the departments to speak to the carryover savings of their Department. But I'm sorry if I was not clear, and mahalo for asking that to clarify so that the public doesn't misunderstand what I was asking.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Yeah, I was like holy cow. Thank you. Okay, got it.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Paltin. Okay, so the last part of our review process is to ask the Department if there was anything that came up after you submitted your Budget that you would like the Committee to consider to add to the Budget.

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

April 8, 2022

MR. BAZ: Yeah, thank you, Chair. We just conferred and no, I think what's in front of you is...is really comprehensive, it's a lot of work, you know. Every dollar in there means that there's some function, activity we're going to be providing. And you know, if you don't mind my indulgence, Chair, if you could, just allow me to thank my Deputy and all of my Staff within the Department of Management who work incredibly hard. You know, we have, of course, Erin and her whole Planning Development team, I have all the Section Heads at IT that have been doing double, triple work for a long period of time, we're going live with MAPPS here in another week, and looking forward to that. And really want to thank the support...thank the Council for their support over the years because without the funding and necessary resources to get this stuff done, we wouldn't be able to. But really big kudos to my Department Staff for those timeless efforts that they put in, and the challenges, and really seeing this County move forward. So mahalo, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Managing Director Baz, for incorporating your closing remarks into that as well. So we'll thank you all for joining us, and for answering all of our questions today. And we'll work with you folks to figure out when we can meet with you again to go over the Councilmembers' Priority Proposals so that we're not going until 11:00 p.m. tonight. It'll be next week sometime. Maybe Wednesday. Hopefully Wednesday. Okay. Mahalo, Managing Director, Deputy Director, and Ms. Wade. Aloha. Okay, all right, Members. We'll give the Department some time to set up. At...let's see, we'll try ten minutes, 4:55. And the rate that we've been going, we'll likely reconvene at 5:00 p.m., but we'll make it ten minutes. Any objection?

COUNCILMEMBERS VOICED NO OBJECTIONS.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: 'A'ole.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, and then my computer's getting fussy, so I'm going to restart it while we take our recess. All right. We'll reconvene at 4:56, 4:57. It's 4:47 on April 8. The Budget, Finance, and Economic Development Committee is now in recess. . . .(gavel). . .

RECESS: 4:47 p.m.
RECONVENE: 4:58 p.m.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: . . .(gavel). . . Will the Budget, Finance, and Economic Development Committee please return to order. It's 4:58 on April 8th, and we will review the next Department, Office of the Mayor. Oh, shoot. Oh...and the Executive Summary for the Office of the Mayor was done by Ms. Lesley Milner, and the Executive Summary for Department of Management was done by Legislative Analyst Jerry Paredes. Had to correct myself on that. Uh-oh. Where did the...sorry. Oh, there it is. Okay, so the Department...or the Office of the Mayor has a Budget of \$35,921,211, 25,423,657 of which come from General Funds, \$5,092,482 in Grant Funds, and 5,405,072 from Revolving Funds. There are three programs in the Office of the Mayor; Administration Program, the Budget Program, and the Economic Development Program. There aren't

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

April 8, 2022

any CIPs, no changes to the rates and fees, and that's...oh, there's only one rate and fee, that's the rental for the Kula Ag Park. There are several Priority Proposals, which we'll take up next week. Several grants, special purpose revenue, and no Legislation associated with the Office of the Mayor for FY'23 Budget. The plan is to do two rounds of three minutes and a third round at two minutes. Any objections to that plan?

COUNCILMEMBERS VOICED NO OBJECTIONS.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. And then after we do that, we can do another temperature check on the Committee. All right. Aloha, Chief of Staff. I'll invite you to introduce everyone you have with you in the room from the Office of the Mayor, and to provide your opening remarks. Aloha. Uh-oh. Okay. You're muted.

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

MR. MIYAKE: Can you hear me now?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: We can hear you now. Please proceed, Mr. Miyake.

MR. MIYAKE: Sorry. Thank you, Chair Rawlins-Fernandez. Good afternoon, Councilmembers. Thank you for having us here this afternoon. As you know, the Office of the Mayor consists of the Office of Economic Development, CDBG, the Budget Office, Office of Climate Change, Resiliency, and Sustainability, and we now also have a Cultural Advisor. Here with me today I have JoAnn Inamasu, OED Director.

MS. INAMASU: Aloha, everyone.

MR. MIYAKE: From our Office of Climate Change, Resiliency, and Sustainability, we have Alex de Roode, Emergency Commissioner.

MR. DE ROODE: Aloha.

MR. MIYAKE: Also, Alison Cleghorn, Environmental Coordinator.

MS. CLEGHORN: Good afternoon.

MR. MIYAKE: Joining us remotely, Ms. Hannah Shipman, Green Building and Resilient Housing Specialist. And also joining us remotely is our Cultural Advisor, Kumu Hula Cody Pueo Pata. During the past year, the Office of the Mayor's Staff helped set up test sites and vaccination clinics, assisted with at-home test kit distribution throughout the various communities. The Office Staff also helped our nonprofits in underserved communities receive PPEs and at-home test kits. Our OED Office continued their efforts to establish and support programs in our community, as well as our small businesses, which includes farmers and ranchers. Our Kuha'ō Business Center on Moloka'i and the Maui County Business Resource Center offered workshops to small businesses and entrepreneurs during challenging times. The Maui County Small Business Grant,

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

April 8, 2022

through the help of our credit union partners, supported businesses and restaurants with grant funding. Workforce Development established a Maui County Virtual Job Fair to assist job seekers and employers, and then organized a drive-through job fair, and eventually we'll do an in-person job fair and workshop, which is scheduled for May 12th. Our Climate Change, Resiliency, and Sustainability Office, also known as the CCRS, initiated a County of Maui Climate Action and Resiliency Plan, which is scheduled to be completed in October of this year. CCRS also initiated a Countywide Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment; completion of the assessment is planned for September of this year. CCRS also planned an advanced permitting for ten Level II electric vehicle charging stations. CCRS also selected a contractor to assist with the investment grade audit of all County facilities as a basis to inform energy savings performance projects for County facilities. And lastly, our CCRS office launched a new climate action through engagement hub, which is an online portal to engage our community around the County of Maui Climate Action, Resiliency, and Sustainability initiative. Their website is www.resilientmauinui.org. As we move forward, the Office of the Mayor will continue our efforts to establish and support programs for our community. We look forward to answering any questions you may have. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Perfect timing. Mahalo, Chief of Staff. Okay, Members, let's see. This is Member Molina as well, yeah, subject matter Committee? Okay. All right, we'll go to Member Molina, followed by Vice-Chair Paltin, and then Member Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Oh, okay.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Member Molina.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Thank you, Madam Chair. Good afternoon, or shall I say good evening, Mr. Miyake and everyone else from the Mayor's Office. Let me first start out with the food hub continuation request of 259,000. Now, that was removed, page 12-28 of the Budget Details, Members, for your information. Can you briefly tell us why the removal for that?

MS. INAMASU: Thank you very much, Councilmember. With regards to that, that was something put in the Budget by one of the Councilmembers, so that is the prerogative of the Councilmember. We did not put that in our Budget, but that was put in there to help support the food hub.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Okay. So...but you folks didn't put it in your Budget then, yeah?

MS. INAMASU: Not for Fiscal Year '23.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Okay, can I ask why then? Do you have that answer?

MS. INAMASU: That would be because it was put in by a Councilmember --

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Oh, okay. Okay.

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

April 8, 2022

MS. INAMASU: -- it was a matter of the items that were included to allow them to become self-sufficient.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: All right. Okay. Thank you. And then for the EA position, the 87,500 Cultural Advisor, what duties will this person be tasked with specifically? I mean, when I see Cultural Advisor, I assume this individual will, I guess, serve as a liaison to work with all cultures, or are there any...or any specific cultures that...I just want to ask that because, you know, you may have people out there...because this is funded with tax dollars, and if we focus it just on a specific culture or just one or two specific cultures, I just want to be...have a comfort level that there may not...to avoid any potential legal questions on it. And this is one of my questions too, that I would like in writing. So whatever you're telling us here, I would like to have that to be reinforced in writing. So if you could elaborate on that, roles and responsibilities of this position.

MR. MIYAKE: Thank you, Member Molina. Yes, so the Cultural Advisor is for the Hawaiian culture. The responsibilities would be--and I have Kumu Hula Cody Pueo Pata with us as well, thank you for being here--is to advocate for 'ōiwi resources within the County of Maui. Cody will also assist with collaborating with the Executive Branch and...as well as the Council to ensure pono management of the 'ōiwi resources throughout the County. He will advise and collaborate with projects and programs to care for and develop of 'ōiwi resources. If...Cody, if you wanted to add any other things.

MR. PATA: Mahalo so much. And so just in this particular meeting, we've heard even 'Ōlelo Hawai'i . . . *(timer sounds)*. . . and so the actual job requirements were kind of strict as far as what is going to be necessary between the Native Hawaiian community and Government interface. And so, yeah, I'm just here to address all of those things. I report directly to Chief of Staff Miyake, as well as to the Mayor.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Okay. Thank you, Madam Chair. I have a follow-up question on this matter, so I'll come the second round. But thank you for the responses. Thank you, Madam Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Molina. Committee Vice-Chair Paltin, followed by Member Sinenci.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN; Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Mr. Miyake. I had a constituent question, I'm not sure if this is the right place to ask or if I should wait until Parks, but it's regarding concessions dedicated to Moku'ula. The constituent says all the stewardship expenses for Malu Ulu o Lele Park and surrounding local Mokuhinia areas have been paid 100 percent out of pocket by Na 'Aikane o Maui Cultural Center and individual cultural practitioners. There has been no grant monies for this care, and the hui has never solicited nor accepted any donations since commencing cleanups last year. They are not aware of how they intend to utilize the funds, but are concerned that the Council or the public may wrongly believe that Na 'Aikane, as the right of entry permittee, has been consulted about specific expenditures. There's no memorandum of

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

April 8, 2022

agreement, no RFP has been issued by the Administration, and they want to make sure nothing odd is happening in the nonprofit's name.

MS. YOSHIMURA: Council Chair, Councilmember Paltin. I believe that was an ROE that was issued, but we will follow up with the Department of Parks and Recreation. Yeah, funding for Moku'ula, Mokuhinia does come out of the Hawaiian Cultural Restoration Fund, which is funded through the parking. So we...I'll look into it. Thank you.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Thank you. And I wasn't able to find an appropriation for this year, but I think last year there was 400,000 for planning, and one of the proviso was that they would work with the community, and I haven't heard anything about that. So do we know if that 400,000 has moved at all?

MS. YOSHIMURA: Councilmember Paltin, I believe they were reengaging with the archeological consultant. I will follow up and see, then have a response on...on Monday.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Okay, thank you. And then they also wanted me to relay that Mr. Fukuyama recently asked Na 'Aikane to apply for a 10,000 OED grant, but I don't believe they've done that yet.

MS. INAMASU: Hi Councilmember, thank you for that question. The application did come to the Office of Economic Development, and it is being processed for them.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Okay, thank you. I think my time is probably up.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Paltin.

MS. INAMASU: Thank you, Councilmember Paltin.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, next we have Member Sinenci, followed by Council Chair Lee.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Mahalo, Chair. And aloha, Staff, mahalo for joining us this afternoon. My first question was on page 2, number 5, if you could provide a current list of the Community Development Block Grant recipients if it's available. Was just specifically wondering if the Fire Department might have said that Hāna was a recipient of one of those grants.

MS. YOSHIMURA: Chair, Councilmember Sinenci. CDBG has submitted their resolution for your approval. I believe it's going to be on the April 22nd Council Meeting. There is a Hāna fire tanker in the proposal, 40...it's partially funded for Fiscal Year '23, 43,295. The total ask for the tanker was \$600,000. So should one of the other projects go through, that would be the first alternate project.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Oh, okay. Mahalo, Director. And then for my second question, I had an alternate proposal to offer, and it was to continue some funding for the ESG Responsible Markets, LLC, and I understand that there was some...I don't know if there

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

April 8, 2022

was some problems or some conditions placed on Responsible Markets. Should I...is there something I should be aware of, should I budget for ESG this year?

MR. DE ROODE: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Councilmember Sinenci. We are in receipt of Tier I and Tier II reports from Responsible Markets, and for this FY'22 grant period, and so far their...you know, their work has been, I think, meaningful in impacting the community. Until we've gotten through the whole FY'22 project period, we won't be able to give you, you know, a definitive answer on all deliverables, but so far it has been a positive project, and it was a line item proviso last year in...or in FY'22, rather. So currently it's not in our Budget, it would have to be added by Council.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Okay, mahalo for that clarification. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Sinenci. Council Chair Lee, followed by Member King.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Hello, Tyson and entourage. I have a question for Office of Economic Development. Ready? Okay. I was planning to add 100,000 to your Budget for Lokahi Pacific because they're one of the lead agencies, nonprofits, who can...who are...they're well-versed in managing grants...applying for grants, managing grants, especially for those nonprofits who don't have much experience with our daunting process. Do you think that's enough of money? Because we have so many up and coming businesses that may need help, you think 100,000 is enough?

MS. INAMASU: Thank you very much for that question, Chair. I think this is a little bit on the...couple issues with this. One of that would be usually the fiscal agent, the fiscal sponsor, I'm just saying there are several of them that we deal with through our office, they take a portion of the grants that they oversee, and normally it's about 10 percent, maybe 12 percent of the grant itself. That is their fee for managing the grant itself. And being that we have several different fiscal agents that we deal with through our Office, for the County to select one, I don't know if that is appropriate. I know that's not my judgment on this to say yay or nay, but I also know that your question was if that was adequate funding. Because they do get an...we work with Lokahi and we love working with Lokahi, so there's nothing against the agency themselves, but again, that--the way they get their funding is...for overseeing the grants itself is through that percentage that they take off of the grant, and that is on every grant in that standard. I hope that helps to clarify. I know it doesn't say if the 100,000 is enough or not, but my caution is the matter of the County favoring one over everybody else.

MR. MIYAKE: Chair Lee, you're on mute.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: You're on mute, Chair.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: I'm sorry. We do have grants designated for certain nonprofits, you know, for various services already throughout the County, not only in your section, but in DHHC there's many of them. So, I'm not worried about that, I just wondered if 100,000 was enough. Thank you.

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

April 8, 2022

MS. INAMASU: Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Council Chair Lee. Member King, followed by Member Johnson.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Thank you, Chair. My first question is for Michele, I think. Michele Yoshimura. I think that's you back there, can't tell, so small. So my understanding is that the Mayor's going to put in a Budget Amendment for this current Budget to complete the Ma'alaea Mauka...what we're calling Ma'alaea Mauka...it's actually Pohakea Watershed Area...purchase, because it needs to be done by September or so. Can you confirm that, whether the extra 700,000 will be proposed from Fiscal Year '22?

MS. YOSHIMURA: Member King, Yes. I just got it prepared today, going to try and submit it for the April 22nd Council Meeting, and it is because of the appraisal. We're looking for about \$6.2 million from the County, an increase of 700,000. Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay, perfect. Thank you so much for that. And my next question is for Alex de Roode, I think that's you there behind the mask. Alex, good to see you. So, you know, it sounded like from what you were explaining that you're working on the benchmarking bill, the energy and water usage. And, so, I just wondered if you...I know when we talked with the Managing Director about putting it under the Managing Director that you would be doing it, he talked about possibly needing another position for that. So, have you put in for an extra position for that, or is your current office sufficient? I thought you hired the third person at some point already.

MR. DE ROODE: Thank you, Councilmember King. We have not put in for that position in FY'23. I think where we left off the conversation was that that would be more appropriate to be housed in Department of Management. I'm not aware if they had put in a request for a position to support that. We are not currently adequately staffed within CCRS to take that on, but we did offer that we would be there to support Department of Management in that effort. So, certainly the energy savings performance contracting effort that's underway going to help contribute to that, but it would seem like it might be wise to support Department of Management in having adequate staffing to do it.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay, that's probably...I know he has had some expansion positions, I just wasn't sure between the two of your offices who was actually going to do that piece. And then...I don't know if I do have more time left...I also wanted to ask...and I'm not sure who this falls under, maybe...thank you...okay, maybe Tyson, you can tell me. There's a \$1 million Environmental Protection Grant Fund, you know, the...the pot of money, and then there are a whole bunch of organizations listed, but it didn't say who was getting how much. So, it that entire million dollars already parceled out, and can you give us a detailed like...not right now, but maybe in writing of who's going to get what, who's proposed to get how much of that million dollars? . . .(timer sounds). . .

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

April 8, 2022

MR. MIYAKE: Thank you, Member. Allison Cleghorn, the Environmental Coordinator, can address that question.

MS. CLEGHORN: Thank you, Councilmember. That \$1 million tagged for Environmental Protection will be a part of our reimbursable competitive grant program that we have taken from OED to house within CCRS, and our application launched this week, and we will have environmental groups submit applications. The deadline is May 31st. And based on those grant proposals, we will award that --

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay.

MS. CLEGHORN: -- \$1 million dollars . . . *(inaudible)* . . .

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay, so nothing's earmarked yet in that million dollars? That was my question.

MS. CLEGHORN: Not earmarked yet, that is separate from provisos for environmental . . . *(inaudible)* . . .

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay.

MS. CLEGHORN: Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay. All right, thank you. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member King. Member Johnson, followed by Member Sugimura.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Thank you, Chair. Good evening. Good to see all of you. So my first question is on page 437 in your Program Budget, the key activity goal 2.3, Economic Development Program Workforce Development is provide job training opportunities to assist for sustainable living wages. The FY 2021 actual amount was 51,638, but the FY 2023 goal is only 250. Please explain the significance between these amounts.

MS. INAMASU: Thank you very much, Councilmember. Thank you for raising that question because that was an error on my behalf in putting that in there. Actually, for Fiscal Year '23, we should put our goal at 37,000, so that was a mistake on my behalf. My apologies, and thank you for helping us with that and recognizing that. Mahalo.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Thanks. Understandable, thank you. Okay, those were all my questions. But Chair, I do want to announce to the Members and to the Committee that I do have someone arriving in my house right now, it's my daughter...Momo Johnson is here, so she...I am no longer alone. Thank you. I have no further questions.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aloha, Momo. Okay. Our next Councilmember is Member Sugimura, followed by Pro Tem Kama.

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

April 8, 2022

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you, so that's a happy dad, I can tell. So I'm envious, Gabe. So this is a question for OED. And as you can guess, I'm wondering now that we have...our COVID is...looks like we're getting better, are we...are the events going to slowly start folding in? And I noticed, like, for example, Festivals of Aloha, which during COVID, their 100,000 was cut back to 60 because they were not in-person. But now that it looks like they probably will be able to travel to Moloka'i, Lāna'i and Hāna is a really big thing for that event. But on Maui, is there a possibility for this, First Friday, all the other events, Kamehameha...are you going to be providing more funding like they were pre-COVID if it's earned or warranted?

MS. INAMASU: Thank you very much, Councilmember Sugimura. I appreciate the question. We are looking at slowly reopening. We got permission from Mayor to have discussions with the Friday Town Parties to see if we can execute some program. Some have opted to wait for Fiscal Year '23 funding. Some unsure because it does take them a while to get the program back up and running as they have...and we...with the Friday Town Party, which also includes Lāna'i Fifth Friday, so we are working with them to do that. And yes, we are looking forward to having more events. We do ask, though, out of caution, that the event planners still be cautious because we don't want to have anything form out any of these events. With regards specifically to Aloha Festivals, as you talked about trying to increase their funding, we're open to that if that's something the Council would like to do. We also see, on the other side, some of these events that are being funded by Hawai'i Tourism Authority. So that's part of the caution as we look at it, that they're getting additional funding. Keep in mind, though, HTA funding is on a calendar year, whereby the County's funding is on a fiscal year. So that's the caution we try to weigh out so that we can make sure we have funds to spread to other events as well.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Okay.

MS. INAMASU: But truly understand the value of the Festivals of Aloha.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Okay, so you're going to be gauging, and we don't need to put any more funding in because you'll get them funded based upon the need and the program. Thank you for that. And I have a...one of my priorities is...on 2-28 in Detail is Feral Animal Recovery Relief Program for 1 million, and in one of my priorities, I wanted to assist with Kahikinui to put in a \$60,000 proviso or condition so that it would be used for them for sustainability and relief of...you know, I guess they have a lot of cattle. But I just wanted to let you know about that, I'm considering it. You have any thoughts?

MS. INAMASU: Thank you very much Councilmember for that. With the Feral Animal Recovery line item that we have for the \$1 million, that is for the . . .(inaudible). . .

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: It looks like something happened to the audio on your side, Mr. Miyake. Do you want a brief recess to address the audio issue? We can see you, we just can't hear. Okay, we'll take a five, five minutes? Okay. It's 5:27...5:12...okay.

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

April 8, 2022

We'll reconvene at 5:12...oh, sorry. Oh, that was not correct math at all. Five plus seven is 12, that's 32, 5:32. All right. The Budget, Finance, and Economic Development Committee is now in recess. . . .*(gavel)*. . .

RECESS: 5:27 p.m.
RECONVENE: 5:32 p.m.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: . . .*(gavel)*. . . Will the Budget, Finance, and Economic Development Committee please return to order. We'll check the audio real quick. Mr. Miyake.

MR. MIYAKE: Yes. Hi there.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, there we go. Hi. Okay, you were finishing responding to...or Director Inamasu was finishing her response to Member Sugimura. Director Inamasu.

MS. INAMASU: Thank you very much, Chair. Councilmember, what I was starting to mention is that Feral Animal Recovery, the \$1 million is actually the mitigation fencing program that you are trying to get through approval on April 22nd to start that program with Lokahi. This would be a continuation of that. What I would like to refer you to though is on page 12-45, we do also have a million dollars there for Feral Animal Control; that is the program that we are taking from DHHC --

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Oh.

MS. INAMASU: -- and that may be more of an appropriate fit for your Kahikinui.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Oh, thank you. I thought it was a duplicate so that's why I didn't ask that question. Perfect, I will do that if the Members would allow me to. So thank you for also continued the mitigation and the fencing for the feral animal. On...on...on Program Book, page 40...

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Huh?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Sugimura.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Did the bell go off?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: I let you go...yeah, it went off a long time ago.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Oh, because I was continuing.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yeah.

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

April 8, 2022

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: You're welcome. Okay, next is Pro Tem Kama.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you, Chair. And thank you for being here, Tyson and team. So my question is for Ms. Inamasu. I'm on page 421 in the Program Book under the Office of the Mayor, and coming all the way down to the Maui Economic Development Board, and then following up with the Maui Economic Development Board, Inc., following up with Maui Economic Development Board Healthcare Partnership, following up with the Maui Economic Development Board Maui County Public High Schools Auto Program model, and then on the very bottom, the MEDB Moloka'i Schools. So how many...and correct me if I'm wrong, MEDB was established in 1982 to be able to diversify the economy, because even way back then we knew that tourism and ag were vulnerable, and therefore...and knowing that even ag was on its way out, and therefore we needed to take a look at sustaining our economy even back then. So if that is correct...so, I'd like to be able to ask...so, how much of our economy has been diversified since that time? And I think I just want to begin with that question to make sure I'm on the right track.

MS. INAMASU: Thank you very much, Councilmember. I know you're looking at the different programs that they have, and they've been heavily working with...and I think even when I first got introduced to MEDB that was a while back, it's been workforce development that they're looking at. And also, when you talk about the diversification, they're looking at some high-tech diversification. As you know, they also do the energy conference working with Alex here in the office, in the CCRS Office, and they also do the AMOS conference, looking again at high tech and looking at opportunities. But the heavy thing that that they've been doing...and it's not all of their efforts, but it is...a big bulk of it is the STEM projects, and that's growing our youth in the careers that they're looking at. And they have been exposed to equipment, to programs, that many students throughout the State have not. So there are opportunities there for our youth. And you heard testimony from some of the Maui High School students this morning, the opportunities that were posed to them. And I think when the two young ladies were speaking on how amazed some of their peers were at the type of work that was coming out of Maui, you know, and they represented the 808 very well. So I hope that helps to explain the...a lot more because they're doing healthcare, they do that auto...automobile repair thing, that program, to the extent with Maui High School initially with Dennis Ishii, and has now gone on to some other schools who are looking at outstanding and award winning products . . . *(timer sounds)*. . . that come out of the programs that they have. And they have, I think it's been two years now doing ag STEM programs too. Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Okay, thank you. And I heard the bell, Chair. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Pro Tem Kama. All right. I'll put three minutes on the clock. My first question is regarding carryover savings for FY'23. Are there any carryover savings being projected?

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

April 8, 2022

MS. YOSHIMURA: Chair, for carryover savings from the Office of the Mayor, it would come from grants that have not been executed because of issues that we may have with the grantee, but, basically that's where it would generate from. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo, Budget Director. Okay, the next question is regarding the micro grants. I saw that...first, I'm so grateful that the micro grants program is planned to be funded again; however, it's flat at 1.5. When the Council first it into the Budget we put in 2 million, and then last year it went down to 1.5, and then proposed again for 1.5. Is there a reason you didn't...you're recommending 1.5 instead of more?

MS. INAMASU: Thank you very much, Chair, for that question. We would like it to be more. I was trying to be conservative on what we had based on everything else that's going on and what we are also recommending throughout the budget, but it's an excellent program that they do, MEO, David Daly, he testified this morning, they run an excellent program. And with the help of Councilmember Kama, we have also offered some scholarships through that program. Once they graduate and they get their business plan, they compete for some funding which can help them get a kick start to their program, for their business. Thank you very much, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Director Inamasu. So when you say you would like it to be more...more as in like \$3 million?

MS. INAMASU: Thank you very much, Chair. That would be wonderful. I know it would help out so many small businesses or entrepreneurs that are trying to get started. So if that is the will of the Council, we would gladly take that, and I know MEO would be more than happy to execute that and work that. They do have a lot of respondents to that. So, thank you very much.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo. And so for this year, is the condition that the Council put on it initially to provide preference to, you know, those that are underserved, as well as preference to those that have not received the grant yet, and equity for Moloka'i and Lāna'i still part...still part of condition of that funding?

MS. INAMASU: Thank you very much, Chair. Yes, the stipulations, the conditions that was initially put to that micro grant . . .*(timer sounds)*. . . program...the micro grant program still stands.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Director. All right. We'll do our second round of three minutes, going back to Member Molina. Member Molina, I have three minutes on the clock for you, followed by Council...Committee Vice-Chair Paltin. Member Molina.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Okay. Thank you, Madam Chair. And just following up on that last question regarding the EA position. So, I mean, first of all let me say that I support the position, and I think you will need a link or a liaison from the Mayor's Office to work with whoever's going to be managing the center. So my concern is maybe retitling it or giving it a new title. Because when we say Cultural Advisor, it's very broad, and it could

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

April 8, 2022

cause some misunderstandings from the community about the responsibilities of Mr. Pata or whoever, yeah. So maybe just...I don't know if we could call it...let's call it for what it is, you know, maybe Center Specialist or Coordinator or something along those lines so there's no misunderstandings. And you know, I chair the GREAT Committee and, you know, as we all know, we got a lot of challenges and lawsuits because you never know who's watching out there. Because we got...in public testimony, people questioning our budget process and all of that. So anyway, just some food for thought. Rather than just calling it a Cultural Advisor, basically calling it for what it is, you know, specialist or coordinator, what have you, yeah. So anyway...and Mr. Miyake, so you do have...if someone from another cultural group calls the Mayor's Office for assistance, you have individuals in the Mayor's Office that can work with other cultures who have needs or concerns?

MR. MIYAKE: Thank you, Member Molina. Yes, we do. Office of Economic Development has them too.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Okay. Okay, great. Yeah. Just want to make sure we have all...got everything covered, yeah, just in case. Okay, and then my one more question, this is regarding the Workforce Development Program. The targeted number of kūpuna you plan to serve under this program, can you give us some rough numbers? This is page 415 of the Program Budget. Do let us know what type of services as well.

MR. MIYAKE: I'm sorry, Member Molina, can you please repeat the question?

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Yes. This is for the services under the Workforce Development Program, page 415 of the Program Budget. Basically what is the targeted number of kūpuna that you plan to serve under this program?

MS. INAMASU: Thank you very much, Councilmember. That is a Moloka'i Program that we are supporting...we have been, and we look to support again. Their goal to support in Fiscal Year '23 is 700.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Okay. Thank you. And one last question before my time is up, thank you for putting in monies for the cesspools, that's a big issue in my district, as well as Member Sugimura's, 1.2 million Cesspool Conversion Pilot Program. Quick yes or no, is the State offering some help, as well, on that too?

MS. CLEGHORN: The funds for this is from the Cesspool...is from the State Water Pollution Control Revolving Fund, so that's where we're accessing these --

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Oh, okay.

MS. CLEGHORN: -- monies.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Okay, all right. Great. Okay, thank you for that clarification. Thank you, Madam Chair.

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

April 8, 2022

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Molina. Committee Vice-Chair Paltin, followed by Member Sinenci.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. I think my questions are for Ms. Inamasu on the West Maui District Funds. I was wondering if conditioning, like, 50,000 for Pu'u Kukui to do fencing to keep the Axis Deer out could qualify for...under the environment portion? Or is that environment portion not allowed? Because the one that you guys explained the other day was only for farming and ranching and, you know, by water all things find life, and there's deer coming on our side now.

MS. INAMASU: Thank you very much, Councilmember. There are opportunities, you are correct, it is for farmers and ranchers initially, but I think I'd like to defer if you'd like to take it, Environmental.

MS. CLEGHORN: Yes, based on the description of Pu'u Kukui and the work that they'd like to do with that grant money, I think it would be appropriate for them to apply for an environmental protection grant or discuss putting that in the Budget.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: So not in the District Funds?

MS. YOSHIMURA: You could save the District Funds for other things. You could also look at the Department of Water Supply because they already have watershed protection money. You could probably expand the grant in that Department as well.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Okay. And then like what about for the District Funds in Economic Development, something like, you know, starting a business to create aquaponic systems for people, or something along those lines?

MS. INAMASU: Thank you very much, Councilmember. That could...again, another option there with aquaponics would be using our agricultural promotion dollars to support a program. You're welcome to use your District Funds, but I don't know if you would like to save that for some other things, but the aquaponics could be used through the agricultural promotion dollars. Thank you very much, Councilmember.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Okay. And then I did want to try and condition 60,000 of the ag mentoring and training money for West Maui because a lot of times, West Maui doesn't get the ag grant money like how the other districts are, and we're not called out, like Moloka'i or Lana'i. Would that be a problem to condition 60,000 of that?

MS. INAMASU: Thank you very much, Councilmember. You could do that. One of the things...just to share with you. We do fund the agricultural programs that are out in West Maui, or have outreach there. And one of the things that comes to mind is the Hawai'i Farmers Union United, they do have a chapter on the West Side, and they get funded as an entire chapter...I mean, I should say all four different groups gets funded through our office, whether it be through apprenticeship programs . . .*(timer sounds)*. . . or actual ag education, but it does touch West Maui. So you may not just see West Maui, but we do . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

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

April 8, 2022

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Because the last time they got it...I had it as a priority last time West Maui got that. So that's why I was just saying that.

MS. INAMASU: Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Paltin. Member Sinenci, followed by Council Chair Lee.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Mahalo, Chair. Miss...these questions are for Ms. Inamasu. Looks like some of the Members have asked some prior questions about the Kula Agricultural Park, so if Member Paltin will permit, I'll ask one of hers. What type of environmental cleanup is necessary at the Kula Agricultural Park?

MS. INAMASU: Thank you very much, Councilmember Sinenci. We have two lots that have been vacated, and unfortunately, the previous tenant did leave some items there that we need to handle with...and remove those. So we are being cautious and looking to do the environmental assessment, and also clean up for that property--it's two properties actually--before we can actually lease it out to new tenant...or tenants.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Oh, okay. Thank you for that. And then what is the timeline to get the second purchase for the Kula Ag Park online?

MS. INAMASU: The timeline, Councilmember, would be...I'm going to say it'll probably be a year and a half to two years. We are still in the stage of planning and design, and also the access for the water, which are critical parts of it. You know, so I would gauge about a year and a half to two years.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: And then you...okay, thank you for that, Ms. Inamasu. And you guys are properly funded to continue that work?

MS. INAMASU: We are partially funded, we will have to seek out additional funding. So far the funding that has come forward is from the State, thanks to Representative Yamashita.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Right, right. Okay, thank you for that. And then are there long-term planning for...to acquire more acreage from nearby lots to add to the agriculture?

MS. INAMASU: Thank you very much, Councilmember. At this current time, there isn't on the behalf of OED, that may be something that the new Department of Ag may want to consider and explore. I know that's been a conversation piece in previous meetings. So thank you very much.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Okay. Mahalo, Ms. Inamasu.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Sinenci. Council Chair Lee, followed by Member King.

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

April 8, 2022

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Thank you. Since we're on JoAnn Inamasu...JoAnn, with regard to soil and water conservation districts on Maui, would this program be in need of more additional funds?

MS. INAMASU: Thank you very much, Councilmember. I would like to defer that to Alex. That's no longer with OED. So Alex, if you don't mind, or...

MR. DE ROODE: Sure, yes. Thank you, Chair. Again, there's no...we have opportunities through our CCRS grants program where they could apply for additional funds. If the Council wishes to allocate funds directly to a soil and water conservation district, I'm sure they can use it, and do a lot of great work in the community, and they'll have a lot to cover in their scope. But we...at this time we have no existing funds in the Budget directly allocated...or I'll take that back. I'm going to invite Allison Cleghorn, our Environmental Coordinator, to provide more detail on that.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: I see 321,000.

MS. CLEGHORN: Yes, thank you for that question. That has been increased to 321,000. They met with us a while back and expressed and displayed need for increasing the capacity for adding additional staff member, as well as pursuing more grant opportunities beyond just County grants. So that in their increased capacity that they expressed need for. Thank you.

MR. DE ROODE: So are you asking, Chair, for the additional need beyond that?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Yes.

MS. CLEGHORN: Oh, I don't anticipate any additional needs beyond the addition 2-3.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: All right. Thank you very much. Thank you. I'm done.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo, Council Chair Lee. Member King, followed by Member Johnson.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay, thank you, Chair. Just real quickly, JoAnn, I could...I just wanted to follow up on the question that Member Sugimura was asking about Fourth Friday. So you're going to reexamine funding that through the Visitor's Bureau, it sounded like. Do you know if the Fourth Friday is going to start up this month? Because I was told they were going to try to get it...get one going this month.

MS. INAMASU: Thank you very much, Councilmember. With regards to that, just one clarification, the funding will come from our office, not through Maui Visitor's Bureau. It would be through OED. And so, as I mentioned, we have been in conversation. Fourth Friday, I don't think that they are ready to move forward, so that is still in discussion.

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

April 8, 2022

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay. So they might not even be able to use the 10,000 that we left them with, sounds like, for this fiscal year.

MS. INAMASU: I think they're looking at in about two months that they'll do it because they're all trying to ramp up a little bit. So --

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay.

MS. INAMASU: -- and it takes process for the matter of the grants to be executed.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay, that would only be one left in this Fiscal Year, just FYI. And then I wanted to...I wanted to address Ms. Shipman because you've been here the whole time. And just...have you been able to...you know, for the things that you were hired to do on the Green Building, have you been able to make any progress getting that RFP or RFQ out for, you know, green building materials? And do you feel like you're funded to accomplish those things in the coming year?

MS. SHIPMAN: So for Fiscal Year...first, sorry, I'm still learning the ropes, but thank you, Councilmember King.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: No wonder.

MS. SHIPMAN: For funds from FY'22, we haven't done any of those, but we've put in money for Fiscal Year '23, \$150,000 to be used for Professional Services to move forward in some of those areas. So a possibility it could be feasibility studies for building materials, design, and technologies.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay, that's excellent. And I'm still trying to look for those tapes to get to you. I found two of them, but there's like four on the hemp workshop, so bear with me.

MS. SHIPMAN: Great, thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: It's a busy time.

MS. SHIPMAN: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: And then one last question on the micro grants that I think Chair Rawlins-Fernandez was talking about. I got a question about...a letter...and maybe other members got that to from someone who got turned down from one of those grants was asking if there's an appeal process? So is there an appeal process, or should we just advise them to reapply in the following year?

MS. INAMASU: Thank you very much, Councilmember. I'm not aware of an appeal process, but it's also always open to them. But do understand that the grants have been awarded, the total amount has been...they're in the process of getting that 10,000 taken care of. So my best thing would be for them to look at reapplying, looking at maybe if

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

April 8, 2022

they have to call . . . *(timer sounds)*. . . Dave Daly or the . . . *(inaudible)*. . . figuring out what...with the first application.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay, so you don't really have an appeal process for that. I'm just trying to figure out what to tell this person.

MS. INAMASU: Not that I'm aware of.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay. All right. Thank you. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member King. Member Johnson, followed by Member Sugimura.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay, thank you, Chair. This question will probably be for Ms. Inamasu, thank you for all you do at the OED. I noticed on page 430 in the Program Budget, so much of those funds are geared towards agriculture, of course. So in the upcoming Department of Ag, do you have plans to move a lot of these into that Department of Ag, or are you going to wait for a year, or what is your plan on how to coordinate with the Department of Ag?

MS. INAMASU: Thank you very much, Councilmember Johnson. I believe the plan is to eventually move these over. It cannot happen immediately, and I think you have heard from the Deputy Managing Director Nishita, it's a matter of establishing the Department of Agriculture and getting them ready to go, then we will work with transition on getting these programs over to them so they can do the oversight, and do the final reporting and assessments, and everything like that. Thank you very much.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay, those are all my questions. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, mahalo, Member Johnson. Member Sugimura, followed by Pro Tem Kama.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you. This is for OED, and in my...one of my priorities is to add \$230,000, Maui County Farm Bureau, for livestock feed and mineral program related to feral animal control, and increase capacity of local meat processing, core equipment to service multiple farms, ranches, and vegetable growers. And I noticed that Maui County Farm Bureau doesn't have a line item in the Budget on page 430. Is there a category that it best...better fits?

MS. YOSHIMURA: . . . *(inaudible)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: On page 430.

MR. MIYAKE: Budget Director.

MS. YOSHIMURA: Chair. Last year, the line items that we had put in the Budget got compressed --

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

April 8, 2022

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Compressed?

MS. YOSHIMURA: -- with consolidated funds. So this year we honored that by not putting any provisos or conditions on the pots of money, and left it as an open, competitive pot for all agencies and organizations to apply for. So if you want to proviso, I would suggest that you...or if you want to condition the money, I would suggest that you would add additional funding to the...that line item.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Is the line item Agriculture Promotion and Agricultural Technology Fund? Is that what it's called?

MS. YOSHIMURA: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: The 1.3 million. Okay. Thank you for that. And then I also...oh, the feral animal on 12.5, thank you, JoAnn, that \$1 million. I'm hearing from large ranch owners that they are ready to put in fencing, and I wanted to do a kind of creative, kind of double our money that if...oh, double the grant, I guess, for large ranch owners, 40 acres or greater, that if they ask for, like a \$100,000 grant that they need to match it dollar for dollar. And I wanted to...of course the Committee has to approve it, but that's one of the things that I wanted to do based upon the things I've learned from working with the large ranch owners or large acreage and the axis deer or ungulate problem that they're having, to add to 12.5 again, that 1 million. Any comments?

MS. INAMASU: Thank you very much, Councilmember. With regards to the...you are speaking about the Animal Control, the one that was previously with DHHC; am I correct?

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Right, 12.5.

MS. INAMASU: 12.05, correct I think with that...if that is part of it, I'd like to also make sure...this is where my hesitation comes, I'd like to make sure that we have funding for Maui, Moloka'i, Lāna'i, and looking at that. But I'd also like to make sure once the Department of Ag comes online . . .(timer sounds). . . with the County, to look at the priorities with them as well. Because they would know more about the feral animals and the Axis Deer, but that is also your prerogative, if you'd like to add more money to help support the bigger ranches.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Sugimura. Pro Tem Kama.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you, Chair. Okay, JoAnn, we're still on page 421. We're still on the same item. So on the STEM Works afterschool, the Maui County Public High Schools, and the MEDB Moloka'i schools, how many schools are involved, and what is the total amount of students that are involved?

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

April 8, 2022

MS. INAMASU: Thank you very much, Councilmember. I don't have the exact number of students, I can definitely get that for you. As far as the schools themselves, I do know that it is on Maui County...oh, excuse me, Maui Island, I believe it is all the public schools, but I don't want to overstate that, and I'd be more than happy to get that information for you in writing if that would be okay with you. I'm sorry, I don't have the answer here.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Okay, I could appreciate that. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, mahalo, Pro Tem Kama. Oh, okay, it's me. All right. Okay. I think this is going to be for Director Inamasu, sorry, the most popular person in the room right now. To dovetail off of the questions Member Sinenci was asking about the Kula Ag Park funding to repair what was damaged by the previous tenants to prepare for new tenants, do we ask for a deposit so that it's not something that solely is...rests on the County and taxpayer dollars to pay for?

MS. INAMASU: Thank you very much. I don't think we ask for an initial deposit, but there are monthly payments throughout the year as far as for each of the tenants. Unfortunately, the tenant that has these two leases for this property has fallen far behind on lease rent, and this was prior to even me coming into the office. So in an effort...and there's legal action right now, and that's why things are somewhat pending in trying to recoup some of that. So I don't want to say too much to expose, but that's the --

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Got it. Mahalo.

MS. INAMASU: -- thank you for the idea though. I appreciate the idea.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yeah, perhaps it's something that we can look into outside of budget session. And then thank you so much for not putting \$4 million toward MVB. I appreciate that effort, and continuing the effort of the 500,000 for tourism management. For the FY'22 Tourism Management grants, would you be able to share who...which entities were awarded that funding?

MS. INAMASU: Thank you very much, Chair. At this point, of the 500,000, we did for the matter of the DMAPS (*phonetic*) and the management programs that we started, we did contract with Maui Visitor's Bureau. There were no other agencies that came through. So to continue some of the effort, I think we just recently amended the grants to MVB, not for the full 200,000 that remain, but for a portion of that. So we have not had, for Fiscal Year '22, any other agencies that have come forward to do tourism management.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo. Do you have the amount that was awarded to MVB?

MS. INAMASU: Yes, I do, Chair. Thank you very much. It is...in total it was 300,000 initially, and 100,000 that was amended, so 400,000.

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

April 8, 2022

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo, Director. Okay. That concludes our second round. Okay. This last round is for two minutes. And instead of going to each Member, since I heard a lot of Members pass already, just raise your hand if you would like the two minutes. Oh, okay. Looks like everyone would like the two minutes. Then we will take it in order. Member Molina, followed by Committee Vice-Chair Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Thank you, Madam Chair. I won't take two minutes, but continuing with the popularity of Ms. Inamasu, I have a question for her. This...with regards to the Makawao Parade, what is this...has anyone approached you about applying to do that parade? I know since COVID happened, it's been shut down. I know Mr. Hamamura, I think, was the last person in his group that did the parade. Any updates on that?

MS. INAMASU: Thank you very much, Councilmember Molina. I did get approached by Michael DuPonte if that is a possibility. I did...I believe that gentleman did reach out to Mike. So that was...I told him the person that would approve that would actually be Mayor. So he's going to have that discussion as well with the Mayor, and we...excuse me, we can move forward if that's the possibility on that big gathering. So thank you very much.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Thank you. That's good to hear, I hope it happens. Thank you, Ms. Inamasu. Thank you, Madam Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Molina. Committee Vice-Chair Paltin, followed by Member Sinenci.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. I just was wondering in our Resiliency Strategy, I do hear the Fire Department concern with Pā'ia, Kihei Fire Stations being close and moving back. I just was wondering, what is being done for the general public about moving back, you know? All the people in the SLR-XA and things like that. Are we kind of...I mean, there's 28 years to the projected one foot of sea level rise, and we all know that one foot doesn't mean one foot, you know, so just wondering on that.

MR. DE ROODE: Thank you, Councilmember Paltin. So you're referring to managed retreat or strategic relocation on...

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Or just tearing down buildings we know are going to topple over, like the house on Rocky Point, or Florida, and things like that. Like what are we doing? Because we see what's happening around us.

MR. DE ROODE: Yeah, it's multi-pronged. Part of it is identifying the risks to where the highest risk areas, and then there are aspects to...trying to assess potential costs of the assessed risk. And in my conversations I've had with various departments about this, whether it's the Department of Water Supply or Wastewater, the question becomes, do they continue to develop services in those areas long-term, right?

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Oh, the question is, I'm wondering as to the answer.

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

April 8, 2022

MR. DE ROODE: Yeah. I think part of it is exploring it in our Climate Action Resiliency Plan. So we're engaging with the resiliency hui, which is made up of County departmental representatives, as well as our Climate Action Resiliency Plan advisory committee, so we're looking really to the community to help inform that, we don't have a set policy to one way or the other at this point. . . .(timer sounds). . .

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: All righty then.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Paltin. Member Sinenci, followed by Council Chair Lee.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Mahalo, Chair. And yeah, it's Ms. Inamasu again. I was...I've been approached by the Ho'omāhua Initiative, and they're looking for a pilot program to...for a tourism app that would help to kind of manage high visitor areas on the island. And my priorities have been going out like hotcakes, so I was just wondering if...are...is there any grants available for that type of pilot program for these guys?

MS. INAMASU: Thank you very much, Councilmember. Actually, right on spot because MVB...and it's actually Meagan DeGaia, who you heard just earlier today for the...doing destination management and working through MVB, they are actually looking at a program and they've had some demonstration, so...exactly to gauge hot spots and looking at traffic--is there a lot of traffic going into Hāna, into East Maui--kind of diverting people to go to some other area. But I think if they can contact Meghan over at MVB, and at least find out where that is at this point. Thank you very much, Councilmember.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Okay, thank you for that contact information. And then just a general comment about reopening to summer and fall activities, like the Aloha Festivals, Made on Maui, are we prepared to open up...open that up again and...for people to start attending all of these venues?

MS. INAMASU: Thank you very much again, Councilmember Sinenci. Yes, we have...Mayor has authorized those two to move forward. But again, we do stipulate in our grant agreement about being cautious, and they do need to provide us with some safety plan in their agreement...in their application, I should say. . . .(timer sounds). . .

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you very much. Mahalo.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Sinenci. Council Chair Lee, followed by Member King.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: I just wanted to say thank you, Tyson, for the thousands of requests I've sent to your office, and for your very efficient responses. And that goes for your entire Staff. I yield the rest of my time to Member King.

MR. MIYAKE: Thank you, Chair Lee. Appreciate that.

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

April 8, 2022

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. That's kind of a partial time. We didn't decide on partial...it's all or nothing. Member King.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Thank you. Thank you, Chair Lee. I appreciate the thought. So actually I wanted to circle back to Michele Yoshimura. You know, when you were talking earlier about a different grant, and saying we should add to it, I think you were telling Member Sugimura rather than provisoing [sic]. Would that same advice go for the Environmental Protection Grant, the million dollars? If we have items that we want funded out of that grant, would you suggest that we add to the grant rather than proviso what's in there?

MS. YOSHIMURA: Chair, Councilmember King. Yes, I would suggest...or recommend that you add funding. The...I kind of had a...I think there was a grant workshop, they took in grant applications with the anticipated dollar amounts being allocated for a certain category. So I want to...if there is something that's out of the ordinary that's not currently funded, if you would add the funding to it, that would help.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay. It was funded in the past, but it wasn't in the Mayor's Budget, so...you know, that continuation of the wetlands projects. But I saw a list of...and I had asked this earlier, I saw a list of organizations I'm assuming are going to be applying for the Environmental Protection Grant, but it didn't say...you know, there were no earmarks, so I don't know who was trying to get what. But I don't want to usurp if those organizations have already been identified, so, that...I think that's good advice just to add to it. And I think --

MS. YOSHIMURA: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: -- my time is...yeah. Okay, anyway. Thank you for that, Michele, appreciate it.

MS. YOSHIMURA: Thank you. And Chair, if I may caution the Members again this year, when you put conditions in the Budget, could you kind of make it a little bit more broad so we have flexibility instead of being very specific . . . (timer sounds). . . . (inaudible) . . . amendment to make the changes.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo for that advice, Budget Director Yoshimura. Yes. We'll try to hone that in in Decisions Week to make it so that we don't have to come back for multiple budget amendments on one Priority Proposal. All right. Next is Member Johnson, followed by Member Sugimura.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Thank you, Chair. Again, this question is for Ms. Inamasu, beg your pardon. How do you feel about increasing the MEO Ag Micro Grants to 3 million?

MS. INAMASU: Thank you very much, Councilmember. If that be of what the Council would like to do, I know that that would help so many small time farmers out there, and I'm

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

April 8, 2022

sure that would be welcomed as far as the additional dollars. So thank you very much, Councilmember.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Thank you. Let's see. Okay, that's all my questions. Thank you so much, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Johnson. Member Sugimura...and Pro Tem Kama had to leave. Member Sugimura.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Yeah, thank you. So I also would like to thank the Mayor's Office for being very available during COVID. Thank you very much, Tyson, and your team. You guys were amazing answering phones from...phone calls from Honolulu were coming to us because you guys were the only ones answering the phone. I heard comments like that. So...but thank you for that and everything else you did. I just wanted to add to the Program Book, page 406, that 1.2 million State of Hawai'i Cesspool Conversion Pilot Project State Revolving Funds that we still need an ordinance, and I'll gladly take it up in my Committee to establish the policy so that we can receive the funds when it is applied, so I'm waiting for that. And then I also wanted to establish an E/P, Feral Animal Control...Feral Animal Management Specialist, just from doing the Axis Deer Task Force and seeing the amount of work there is, and the amount of need, and I just wondered where OED might recommend...or is it Department of Ag? I have 100,000 as a guess, but 100,000 Feral Animal Control and Management for an E/P.

MS. INAMASU: Thank you. Thank you very much, Councilmember. With that, I'm sure that will be welcomed as far as that, but I believe it would be best in the Department of Agriculture.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Okay, so it's no longer part of OED because that Kula Ag Park position.

MS. INAMASU: Yeah, that is the...that is the transition, so...

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Oh, okay. All right. Thank you very much, appreciate that. I think there's a huge need, get it all coordinated. Thank you very much, everybody. I really appreciate OED and the Mayor's Office for all that you are doing for us.

MR. MIYAKE: Thank you, Councilmember Sugimura.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Sugimura. Okay, all right. My final question is regarding the CEDS. So MEDB is updating the 2016 CEDS, the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategies. And we had Ms. Wilkens in our BFED Committee in January, and she told us that the deadline for the County is in June and August to the Feds for the Economic Development Administration. Is there an allocation for the CEDS in the FY'23 Budget?

MS. INAMASU: Thank you very much, Chair, for that question. Not in the FY'23 Budget, it is part of their funding that they receive now. It is not a one-to-one match, but it is a

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

April 8, 2022

portion that they...they demonstrate that the County is in support, and there's some dollars. So it's in the part of the Maui Economic Development Board as a hold, and that is their match to the EDA dollars to actually get the Feds done. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Director. And how much is that? Do you have that on hand?

MS. INAMASU: I'm sorry, I don't know the exact amount, but for some reason I'm thinking it's like...thinking it's about 80,000. But I can get you the exact amount, I may be off.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. I'll watch for that, or I'll just ask later. All right. And I will join in the love fest, I appreciate all of your hard work and I...you know, I really appreciate you, Director Inamasu, for really holding our grantees accountable to what they state will be their deliverables in their application to be good stewards of the taxpayer dollars. . . .*(timer sounds)*. . . Okay, so...

MS. INAMASU: Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: That concludes our round three. And I think...it seemed like all the Members were satisfied and had all their questions asked, yeah? Okay. All right. So I will invite...Member Paltin, you're making it a habit.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: I just wanted to confirm we still are getting the rest of the answers to the questions in writing at a later date. Okay, just double checking.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yes. So for all of the written questions, we'll get a written correspondence, the Office of the Mayor. Mahalo, Member Paltin. Okay, I will ask the Chief of Staff if there's anything that came up after you submitted the Budget that you would like for the Council to consider adding. And then you can also share your closing comments, since a lot of the directors have been doing that as well.

MR. MIYAKE: Nothing further, Madam Chair. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh, what about the Salary Commission's vote? Is there anything that we would need to consider?

MR. MIYAKE: Budget Director?

MS. YOSHIMURA: Chair, Salary Commission met today, there's a 5 percent increase that was approved, effective July 1 of 2022, for the Councilmembers and the Mayor. They'll vote on the Department of Ag, increase their funding failed, it still at 90,000 Director and 70,000 for the Deputy. So we would need to add 5 percent increase to the Council's Budget.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. And what about the Mayor's salary?

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

April 8, 2022

MS. YOSHIMURA: For the Executive Branch's Budget, we did do a . . . *(inaudible)*. . . 5 percent increase for all of the positions under Countywide, and not in specific Departments.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: So you'll have enough to cover the Salary Commission's decision there. And then we'll talk to our OCS Director to propose that amendment to OCS's Budget for that. All right. All right, I'll...that concludes our review process. So Chief of Staff, if you'd like to provide any closing remarks.

MR. MIYAKE: Thank you, Madam Chair and Members. We appreciate your time and energy, and I would be remiss to not mahalo, give a big mahalo to Budget Director Yoshimura, especially this next...this week and next week. But also, thanks to the Staff with me today, and the Staff in the Office of the Mayor. We appreciate your guys time and all you do for our community as well. So thank you all. Have a great evening. Aloha.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo everyone for all your hard work. Have a great weekend. Hopefully it's relaxful, restful...relaxing. Aloha. All right. Okay, Members. So I believe we had a total of 33 Priority Proposals for both the Department of Management and the Office of the Mayor. I will work with Staff to figure out how to fit that in next week, and then I will propose that to the Committee after we're able to figure out everyone's schedules, Department of Management's schedules, the Office of the Mayor's Staff schedules so that they are available for our questions to our Priority Proposals so we need to make sure that we coordinate all of that. Okay, I...that's it. I think everything that we've been doing has been really helping to streamline everything. I don't anticipate too much testimony. I think, you know, every year when we take up DHHC and OED, that's when most of the testimony come. So next week Monday, we have Department of Parks and Recreation, Department of Personnel, and Department of Planning. Members, comments, feedback. Member King.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: No...I mean, no comments on what you just said, but I just...if it helps any, you can withdraw the proposal I have for the 700,000 from the Open Space Fund because they're going to put that into this current year --

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: -- to do the -- to complete the purchase of the Ma'alaea Mauka property because that has to be done this year. So that's what...Director Yoshimura confirmed that they were going to bring that to the April 22nd. So one less proposal.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: That is wonderful. Okay, and then we'll figure out what number that is later.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: All right. Okay. And then Member Molina also withdrew one of his proposals. Mahalo, Member Molina. Member Sinenci, followed by Member Sugimura.

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

April 8, 2022

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Mahalo, Chair, for timekeeping progress today, and also mahalo to all the testifiers that came and shared their mana'o. Appreciated it.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Sinenci. Member Sugimura.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you. Based upon what the Managing Director said about the communication systems or networking and program that they're setting up, I'm going to withdraw my number 6, but it sounds like they're...because it sounds like they're already taking care of it. I think he said there's \$100,000 funding that they're working on, so this would not be needed because I think that what they are working on is encompassing what my concern was for my community. So number 6. You look like, not?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: I'm sorry...your PP number 6?

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Yes.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh, okay. Yeah, so if any of these...you know, if any of your...you can let Staff know if you want to withdraw any of your items. I'm just...if you are letting me know that you're withdrawing your items for Department of Management or Office of the Mayor, that would be good at this time so that we can coordinate with the two departments so that we know who to ask to come back. But we already went through proposal 6 so...yeah, mahalo for letting me know. Okay. All right. Number 6. Okay, any other questions, comments, feedback on the process? Oh...number 57. Sorry, Member Sugimura. Staff let me know that it's your number 6, but on the matrix, and on the detailed schedule, it's...it's number 57. So got it. Okay. All right. We're done. My brain's done, and I don't see any more hands for questions, comments, or feedback so I...oh, Member Sugimura.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: So I'll talk to Staff regarding what I just said, just to get it...make sure we're talking about the same thing. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: About the Communications IV, yeah?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yeah, yes. Staff was listening, and they got you. So it...I was the one that was confused. You were good, and Staff explained it to me via text just now. Mahalo, Ms. Pajimola for paying attention. Okay. Mahalo, everyone, for your hard work this week, and all that kākou efforts in streamlining this morning. I am sure you had a lot of burning questions during public testimony, but it really made a big difference by not asking questions for that second half so that we're able to get out of here by 6:30, and not 11 p.m. So I just want to extend my deep gratitude to all of you, to Akakū, and to all of our Staff in OCS, and all of our Council Office Staff for all of your hard work. Appreciate it. Okay, all right. It's 6:28 on April 8th...oh, we've been getting a lot of 8s and 8s, yeah? Did anyone else notice that? No? And the Budget, Finance, and Economic Development Committee meeting is now adjourned. . . .(gavel). . .

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

April 8, 2022

ACTION: DEFER pending further discussion.

ADJOURN: 6:29 p.m.

APPROVED:



KEANI N.W. RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ, Chair
Budget, Finance, and Economic Development Committee

bfed:min:220408:d

Transcribed by: Kaliko Reed & Crystal Sakai

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

April 8, 2022

CERTIFICATIONS

I, Kaliko Reed, hereby certify that pages 1 through 90 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.

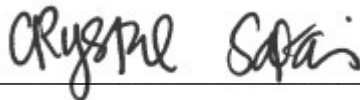
DATED the 19th day of April 2022, in Wailuku, Hawai'i



Kaliko Reed

I, Crystal Sakai, hereby certify that pages 90 through 132 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 19th day of April 2022, in Wailuku, Hawai'i



Crystal Sakai