

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

**MINUTES**

**April 17, 2019**

**Council Chamber**

**CONVENE:** 9:03 a.m.

**PRESENT:** Councilmember Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez, Chair  
Councilmember Kelly T. King, Vice-Chair  
Councilmember Tasha Kama, Member  
Councilmember Alice L. Lee, Member  
Councilmember Michael J. Molina, Member  
Councilmember Tamara Paltin, Member  
Councilmember Shane M. Sinenci, Member  
Councilmember Yuki Lei K. Sugimura, Member

**EXCUSED:** VOTING MEMBERS:  
Councilmember Riki Hokama, Member

**STAFF:** Leslee Matthews, Legislative Analyst  
Shelly Espeleta, Legislative Analyst  
Christy Chung, Legislative Analyst  
Yvette Bouthillier, Committee Secretary

Seated in the audience:

Kate Griffiths, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Kelly T. King  
Jennifer Karaca, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez

Zhantell Lindo, Council Aide, Molokai Council Office (via telephone conference bridge)  
Denise Fernandez, Council Aide, Lanai Council Office (via telephone conference bridge)  
Mavis Oliveira-Medeiros, Council Aide, Hana Council Office (via telephone conference bridge)

**ADMIN.:** Michele M. Yoshimura, Budget Director, Office of the Mayor  
Lori Ann Y. Tsuhako, Acting Director, Department of Housing and Human Concerns  
Linda Munsell, Deputy Director, Department of Housing and Human Concerns  
Kay S. Fukumoto, Economic Development Director, Office of the Mayor  
Jeffrey Ueoka, Deputy Corporation Counsel, Department of the Corporation Counsel

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**OTHERS:** Cynthia Santiago, Executive Director, Ohana Makamae (Hana Council Office via telephone conference bridge)  
Susan Pirsch, Clinical Director, Maui Youth and Family Services  
Miyo Miyasaki-Kim, Director of Veterinary Services, Maui Humane Society  
Art Vento, President and Chief Executive Officer, Maui Arts and Cultural Center  
Robert Kawahara, Treasurer, Maui Humane Society  
Doug McLeod  
Sherry Duong, Executive Director, Maui Visitor Association  
Kathy Louis, Program Director, Homeownership and Housing Counseling Program, Hale Mahaolu  
Britney Bautista, Participant, Best Buddies Hawaii  
Sarah Man, State Director, Best Buddies Hawaii  
Dr. Judy Aikawa, Executive Member, Maui Humane Society  
Leslie Mullens, Board Member, Maui Humane Society  
Ronald Schmidt, Board Member, Maui Humane Society  
Brian Kohne, Kuleana Movie LLC  
Jody Reale (on behalf of Maui Humane Society)  
Marlynn Tanji, Hale Mahaolu  
Danielle Bergan, Community Coordinator, Mental Health America of Hawaii  
Richard Yust, Executive Director, Maui Food Bank  
Keri Kalilikane, Counselor, Homeownership and Housing Counseling Program, Hale Mahaolu  
Rudy Balinbin, Specialist, Homeownership and Housing Counseling Program, Hale Mahaolu  
Tiare Lawrence, Community Relations, Mahi Pono  
Doreen Forsberg, Caregiver, Maui Adult Day Care Center  
Joyce Kawakami, Executive Director, Feed My Sheep  
Autumn Ness  
Patricia Loughran, Mediation Services of Maui  
Bevanne Bowers, Executive Director, Mediation Services of Maui Inc.  
Mark Wilson, Officer, Maui Humane Society  
Scott Hopkins, Operations Director, Feed My Sheep  
Cesar Gaxiola, Executive Director, J. Walter Cameron Center  
Kelly Pearson, Chief Executive Officer, Boys and Girls Club of Maui  
Michele Navarro Ishiki, Program Director, Aloha House Residential Treatment Program  
Claudine San Nicolas, Program Director, Hale Kau Kau  
Tom Blackburn-Rodriguez, Executive Consultant, Go Maui, Inc.  
Paul Janes-Brown, Secretary, King Kekaulike Foundation for Performing Arts  
Suzanne Antounian, Executive Director, Maui Adult Day Care Center  
Shay Chan Hodges, Maui United Way  
Amy Halas  
Kehau Filimoeatu

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Others (10)

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

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CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: . . .*(gavel)*. . . Aloha kakahiaka kakou. 'Ekolu minuke i ka hala o ka hola 'eiwa, ma 'umi kūmāhiku o 'Apelila, I ka makahiki`elua kaukani umikamaeiwa. E 'olu'olu mai, e ho'omalū ke Komike Ho'omohala Waiwai me Mo'ohelu Kālā. 'O wau ka Iku Ha'i o keia komike, Keani Rawlins-Fernandez. It is 9:03 on April 17<sup>th</sup>, 2019, will the Economic Development and Budget please come to order. I am your Chair Keani Rawlins-Fernandez. I keia la, me ko kakou, eia Committee Vice-Chair and Council Chair Kelly King.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Aloha kakahiaka, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aloha kakahiaka. Member Shane Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Aloha kakahiaka.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aloha kakahiaka. Member Mike Molina will be joining us momentarily, as well as Member Alice Lee. Member Riki Hokama is excused. Member Tamara Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Aloha kakahiaka, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aloha kakahiaka. Member Yuki Lei Sugimura.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Good morning.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Good morning. And Member Tasha Kama.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Aloha Pō'akolu, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aloha Pō'akolu. Mai ka Administration, we have with us...oh, and Member Alice Lee has just joined us. Oh, and I'll come back to you for your --

VICE-CHAIR KING: Your language of the day.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: --good morning in whatever language you have --

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Oh, okay.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: --this morning.

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

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CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: All right. We have with us from the Administration, Budget Director Michele Yoshimura.

MS. YOSHIMURA: Good morning, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Good morning. From Corporation Counsel, Deputy Corporation Counsel Jeff Ueoka.

MR. UEOKA: Good morning, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Good morning. Committee Staff, Leslee Matthews.

MS. MATTHEWS: Aloha, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aloha. Yvette Bouthillier.

MS. BOUTHILLIER: Good morning.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Good morning. Christy Chung.

MS. CHUNG: Good morning, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Good morning. And Shelly Espeleta.

MS. ESPELETA: Good morning, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Good morning. And Member Alice Lee, in Scottish.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Good morning. All the way from Scotland, madainn mhath. Sounds Samoan, but it is Scottish.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Madainn mhath.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Good morning.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Good morning. And at our District Offices, we have Ms. Mavis Oliveira-Medeiros in Hana, Denise Fernandez on Lanai, and Zhantell Lindo on Molokai. Okay, Members, we have our one agenda item today, EDB-1, Proposed Fiscal Year 2020 Budget for the County of Maui. Quick reminder to please silence everyone's cell phones and noise-making devices. We'll begin with public testimony on EDB-1. To testify, please sign up with Staff. Testimony is limited to three minutes, and upon...to three minutes. If you're still testifying beyond that time, I will kindly ask you to complete your testimony. When testifying, please state your name and who you're representing. Please also indicate if you are a paid lobbyist. We'll first check in with our District Offices. Ms. Oliveira-Medeiros, will you please, at Hana, will you please call your first testifier?

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MS. OLIVEIRA-MEDEIROS: Aloha kakahiaka, Chair. This is Mavis --

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aloha kakahiaka.

MS. OLIVEIRA-MEDEIROS: --Oliveira from the Hana Office. And I have one testifier. Her name is Cynthia Santiago, and she's testifying on EDB-1.

**. . .BEGIN PUBLIC TESTIMONY. . .**

MS. SANTIAGO: Hi, good morning. My name is Cynthia Santiago, and I am the Executive Director for Ohana Makamae. I just want to start by saying thank you to the County for funding us for so many years and for the growth actually that we have experienced in our agency. Because of the County that we've been able to continue providing treatment for substance abuse for adults in Hana. Substance abuse continues, as you all know, to be a problem everywhere, and it continues to be a problem in Hana as well. So, we really appreciate funding and continued funding for our treatment services. We've also been able, because of the County, to provide mental health counseling services in Hana, which is a great advantage as well, very needed. Our services are part-time and our caseload is full. So, I just want to thank you for that. Also we, because of the County, most recently we've also been able to expand and provide batterers intervention treatment. Before this, our residents who were in trouble with the law for domestic violence were having to travel two hours each way to meet the requirements of the court. So, thanks to the County we're also able to provide batterers intervention services. Research for a small town is difficult, but I can tell you this from having boots on the ground that we are serving more people in treatment and continuously are looking and feeling that our ice problem just as much as the rest of Hawaii continues to increase as well as dealing. We also have an increase in vaping in the high schools. And that is a nationwide problem as well. So, all that just to say we need to continue providing the services for those people who are looking for a way out, looking to, you know, make right what they've done, what they're doing, and live better lives. And so, we're here for that. So, I'd like to promote Ohana Makamae for funding as well, of course, as the rest of the nonprofits in Hana who we work with hand-in-hand and partner with to give that all-around support that is needed out here. Let's see. We have new staff. We have been fortunate to be able to hire an individual with a master's in addiction and with solid years of clinical experience, as well we are...we have been able to provide training and support for local staff that are pursuing their certification...

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Ms. Santiago, will you please conclude your testimony?

MS. SANTIAGO: So on a second note, I also want to ask --

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Ms. Santiago?

MS. SANTIAGO: --for continued --

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Ms. Santiago?

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MS SANTIAGO: --paving of the back roads. I love going the back way. It's beautiful and I really appreciate the fact that the roads are being paved. And that we can take our regular-size cars over there and get to town without the traffic of the front way. So, I appreciate your time and your service, and thank you very much.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo. Members, any need for clarification? Seeing none, thank you so much for your testimony, Ms. Santiago.

MS. SANTIAGO: You're welcome.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. That was their only testifier. Okay, Ms. Fernandez with the Lanai Office, will you please call your first testifier?

MS. FERNANDEZ: Good morning, Chair. This is Denise Fernandez at the Lanai Office, and there is no one waiting to testify.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo. Ms. Zhantell Lindo at the Molokai Office, will you please call your first testifier?

MS. LINDO: Aloha, Chair. This is Zhan at the Molokai District Office. There's no one here to testify.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo. Ms. Matthews, will you please call our first testifier here in the Chamber?

MS. MATTHEWS: Yes, Madam Chair. Our first testifier signed up to testify is Susan Pirsch, testifying on behalf of Maui Youth and Family Services, to be followed by Miyo Miyasaki-Kim.

MS. PIRSCH: Good morning. My name is Susan Pirsch, and I'm Clinical Director of Maui Youth and Family Services. We are extremely grateful for the wonderful funding County of Maui has provided us in support of our adolescent substance abuse out-treatment programs. We're hopeful that you can continue some of the support, and toward that end I want to share with you our youth's testimony. Obviously, I can't bring our youth to testify, but they've written up some of their experiences in our treatment program at graduation. One young man wrote, at MYFS I learned about different sober activities I can do to have fun without drugs. I appreciate the different lessons that taught me about what drugs can do to me and the risks I took by using. I'll definitely carry what I learned in this program with me in everything I do. A young girl wrote, my experience at MYFS was very good. I learned a lot about being sober and dealing with problems without weed. I was treated well, and all of the counselors were very nice. And they provided good activities to learn about being sober. I was very happy with my experience, and I'm happy I'm leaving sober. To whom it may concern, this program put me on a different path and made me see things in myself. I enjoyed the people and the staff in the class. The staff was really helpful and friendly with me. For me, it was hard to get clean. I was so mad at myself for getting in this

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class, but what I learned is that I can overcome challenges with a little help. And finally, I feel IOP really helped me for the past few months. When I first came to IOP, as intensive outpatient, I felt as if I was lost. My mental and emotional health was at a critically dangerous level. Through IOP I realized my strengths, what I'm good at. I learned acceptance and thought-stopping skills. I learned that drugs harm much more than just your body, but also your relationships with others, your mental health and everything around you. By the end of IOP, I had longer sober periods. I feel much healthier, and I'm leaving knowing that the counselors did their absolute best and gave so much effort into me. I'm very satisfied with their service. So, we're hopeful you folks will help us continue that work, and that we can help our kids learn these life skills and how to live a life free of some substances. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Ms. Pirsch. We have a question...we have two questions for you. Chair King and Member Sugimura.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Don't frown, it's actually a good thing. Thanks for being here, Ms. Pirsch.

MS. PIRSCH: Thank you.

VICE-CHAIR KING: So, you're with...grouped with Aloha House. You got I think three agencies.

MS. PIRSCH: Yes, yes.

VICE-CHAIR KING: What's the other one. I forgot. I just had lunch with Frances Duberstein not too long ago. But so I just wanted to ask you, the \$200,000 that's in the budget, is that the one you're...towards your capital campaign?

MS. PIRSCH: No, I'm actually testifying for the program money. And I think it comes under community funding or may come under...I don't think it's a community partnership grant.

VICE-CHAIR KING: No, I'm just looking at...it's under program, but I just...I didn't...I saw it wasn't funded in the past so this is new funding for Maui Youth and Family Services?

MS. PIRSCH: No, we've received 60,000 a year --

VICE-CHAIR KING: Okay.

MS. PIRSCH: --from the County for this particular program --

VICE-CHAIR KING: Oh.

MS. PIRSCH: --substance abuse treatment.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Okay.

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MS. PIRSCH: So, excuse my naiveté.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Okay, you might...maybe you're listed in here more than once then, okay. So, you're expecting...so your program was asking for 60,000 this year?

MS. PIRSCH: Yeah.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Okay.

MS. PIRSCH: Thank you.

VICE-CHAIR KING: I'll check into that. Thanks.

MS. PIRSCH: Thanks.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair King. Member Sugimura?

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you. Nice to see you here, Ms. Pirsch.

MS. PIRSCH: Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: And are you then continuing on with your journey of educating our youth?

MS. PIRSCH: Oh, yes, yeah. We have many programs in Maui Youth and Family Services. And the one the County holds up is the substance abuse treatment, which is afterschool, five days a week. And we're able to provide transportation from the schools and various pickups to remove that barrier. And then they get a snack, and some education, and some time to be honest about their use, yeah. That's the key.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you. There is a line item for substance abuse, and Housing and Human Concerns is probably where they get their funding from.

MS. PIRSCH: Yeah, I think so, excuse me.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Substance Abuse Program, 600,000. So, they're probably in it.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Sugimura.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: They're probably . . . *(inaudible)*. . . Yeah.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, seeing no other questions, mahalo nui for your testimony this morning, Ms. Pirsch.

MS. PIRSCH: Thank you.

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CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Ms. Matthews, will you...yeah.

MS. MATTHEWS: Yes, Madam Chair, our next testifier is Miyo Miyasaki-Kim, testifying on behalf of Maui Humane Society, to be followed by Art Vento.

MS. MIYASAKI-KIM: Good morning, Budget Chair Rawlins-Fernandez and Committee Members. My name is Dr. Miyo Kim, and I'm the Director of Veterinary Services at the Maui Humane Society. As you know, we are the only open admission shelter on Maui and last fiscal year, we took in over 6,200 animals. That's an average of 17 animals every single day. And we can proudly say that we have the highest rate of animal lives saved of any open admission shelter in the State of Hawaii. How do we do that? We lead the State in innovative and progressive animal welfare programs. Well-known national organizations such as the Pet Smart Charities, Petco Foundation, and the Humane Society of the United States all have put their faith in us by providing us with grant funding to continue our life-saving work. As an example, for just \$20 you can get your dog spay-neutered and microchipped. And for only \$10, you can get your cat fixed and microchipped. Nowhere else in the State of Hawaii can you get services at these prices, and probably most of the United States as well. These surgeries would normally cost you between 100 to \$1,000-plus which puts it out of reach for many people. We not only treat animals for their medical problems, but we also address their behavioral health as well. As they're waiting for their forever homes, our dogs get to go out into play groups. They get to go on dog walks with our many volunteers. And they get an occasional outing with the public on our Beach Buddy program. We also have a thriving foster program. And these are for animals that go...stay out of the shelter in foster homes until they're healthy and old enough to be able to be put up for adoption. Because we are an island, we receive more animals than we have homes to adopt them. And for that reason, we have to transfer out hundreds of animals every year to adoption rescue...adoption-guarantee rescues on the mainland. We have partnered successfully with the County for the compassionate care of animals. But in all my 23 years I've been with the shelter, the County has never been able to fully fund the services that we're mandated to provide per our County contract. I humbly ask that you pass the Mayor's budget as proposed. If you do, it would be the closest we've ever come to being fully funded, and it would be a milestone for us. In addition, we're requesting funding for two new humane enforcement vehicles. These are needed for us to continue to provide the public...to keep the public and animals safe out there. Thank you for allowing us to partner with the County in providing these much-needed services. I promise you, it will be monies well spent. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo for your testimony. We have questions for you. Chair King?

VICE-CHAIR KING: Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: And Member Sugimura.

VICE-CHAIR KING: I don't know if Jerleen is here but...

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MS. MIYASAKI-KIM: She's...I'm sorry she's not. She's on the mainland.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Okay. No, I just wanted to verify with you that the two vehicles are coming out of the revolving fund.

MS. MIYASAKI-KIM: Yes, they are coming out of the revolving fund.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Right, okay. Thank you.

MS. MIYASAKI-KIM: And we've been told that they have monies to cover that cost.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Well, yeah, I just...yeah, we'll verify that they...I think they do have enough to cover the two vehicles, probably if they had more, she would have asked for three.

MS. MIYASAKI-KIM: Yeah.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair King. Member Sugimura?

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Yeah, thank you. Thank you for being here, Dr. Kim. I did do a site visit of the Humane Society, and I will vouch that they do need some updating of their vehicles. And I think they've kind of Band-Aided it together, right, to...for the services that you provide. We did hear from the Molokai Humane Society. Is it connected? Is that...no, it's not connected. Okay, but thank you for your good work. I can't believe with all the work that you do, it's \$20 or \$10. Ten dollars for cats.

MS. MIYASAKI-KIM: Yeah, it's a deal. You couldn't --

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: It is.

MS. MIYASAKI-KIM: --get a better deal anywhere.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Right. So, thank you. I got my animals through the Humane Society and it does...they do have a lot of love there. Thank you. I support you.

MS. MIYASAKI-KIM: Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you very much.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Sugimura. Okay, seeing no other questions, mahalo nui for your testimony --

MS. MIYASAKI-KIM: Thank you.

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CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: --this morning. Ms. Matthews?

MS. MATTHEWS: Yes, Madam Chair, our next testifier is Art Vento, testifying on behalf of Maui Arts and Cultural Center, to be followed by Robert Kawahara.

MR. VENTO: Aloha, Budget Chair --

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aloha.

MR. VENTO: --and Members of the Council. Mahalo for your investment in the Maui Arts and Cultural Center. Today, you're going to hear from the Office of Economic Development. The MACC is included in the OED budget. Why OED? Because contrary to popular belief, the arts mean business. The MACC is an economic engine for Maui. In fact, the MACC means millions into the Maui economy, 7.29 millions to be exact. Those numbers are based upon a national study for Americans for the Arts that found that \$31.47 for every ticket sold actually is spent on something else besides that ticket. Did you get a babysitter? Did you buy a new pair of shoes? Did you go to dinner before? Did you buy gas to get to the event? With the 231,740 tickets that were issued, that's how you get \$7.29 million in the local economy. When we tracked all those checks that were issued from our accounting department, we verified that 89 percent of that value stays right here on Maui in the local businesses. Contrary to MACC's...contrasting with the MACC's economic impact is the fact that MACC is actually very accessible and has an incredible amount of free events. Over 60,000 people attended the MACC last year for free events. Twenty-five percent of the 240,000 people that came to the MACC, and at 1,700 separate events, were actually there free. Free events is the Ukulele Festival, the Slack Key Festival, Art Mix, free movie nights, et cetera. You name it, the MACC was free for 60,000 people. We like to say if you don't like what's happening at the MACC, well, you can come back tomorrow. There'll be another five to ten different events. But now you can actually just walk to a different building with the five to ten different events 'cause chances are three to four of those will be free. The economic accessibility of the MACC is only a portion of the story. The arts programming, Maui Arts and Cultural Center, and the diversity that it offers at the world-class facility is unparalleled. Inclusion in Hawaiian program, cultural program, visual arts, and arts education program that's considered a prototype for how to integrate the arts into the classroom is..just to name a few. How long do I have? Oh, it says it right here, okay. One of the other lesser known projects is our outreach programs. We ask everybody that comes to the MACC to do something besides just get on stage and perform. Go into the community. Go with us. Go to a kupuna center. Go to a senior service...go to keiki. Go to a social service agency. And that's exactly what we do to the tune of 16,000 people impacted in Maui County. And my time is up, and thank you so much so you don't have to cut me off. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo for your testimony. We have questions. Chair King and Member Molina.

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VICE-CHAIR KING: Thank you, Chair. Thanks for being here, Art. So, you have three line items in the OED budget --

MR. VENTO: Correct.

VICE-CHAIR KING: --Office of Economic Development. And just remind me what the...the first one just says arts and cultural center. I know what the other two are, the arts for education, and the capital. But what is the...the first line item is 318,000.

MR. VENTO: Three hundred eighteen thousand is the...is for overhead and the economic impact. It's outlined for different overhead activities at the MACC. It covers...it helps cover us a portion of some utilities. It helps us cover a portion of some marketing for the shows, and helps cover a general overview. That has been funded for the last 20 years or so.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Okay. And you folks are a nonprofit?

MR. VENTO: Correct. We're 501(c)(3) nonprofit.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Okay, thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair King. And let the record show that Member Mike Molina is...has joined us. Aloha and good morning.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Good morning. Thank you for recognizing my presence here. Nice to be here.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Member Molina, your question?

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Thank you. Good morning, Mr. Vento. Thanks --

MR. VENTO: Aloha.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: --for being here. Art, you touched upon the Hawaiian cultural aspect of it.

MR. VENTO: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Can you tell us just briefly from the inception of the Maui Arts and Cultural Center when it first started, how much it's expanded and allowed and provided opportunities for our Hawaiian cultural events and classes, and so forth.

MR. VENTO: The MACC from the very beginning put a high, high priority on Hawaiian cultural programming. So much so that we built what's called a pa hula, a place for making or doing hula as part of the Maui Arts and Cultural Center as part of the original building. Important that the host culture is included as a very important piece. That set the tone for...as we began to operate, we actually have had

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Hokulani Holt-Padilla on staff as part of our cultural programming for many years followed by Kahulu Maluo-Huber. Not Huber anymore, Kahulu Maluo, sorry. Her partner's in the audience. My bad. But over the years, the programming has continued so much so that our Hoonanea programming is considered the primary Hawaiian programming throughout the State. And any number of 'ūniki and any of the graduation ceremonies happen on the pa and throughout. It's the...of the 1,700 events that happen, I don't have the exact number, but you can tie it culturally and then Hawaiian back to a very, very, very large number because it is a priority.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Thank you very much. Thank you, Madam Chair.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Chair?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Molina. Member Kama?

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you, Chair. Good morning and thank you for being here. So, I --

MR. VENTO: Good morning.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: --have a question.

MR. VENTO: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Does the MACC have the capacity and the pa, should it happen sometime in the future, to hold a similar festival such as Merrie Monarch?

MR. VENTO: Interesting question. As you know, Merrie Monarch is its own unique animal. So, on the pa specifically wouldn't necessarily be the cultural protocol for perhaps that type of performance, nor the capacity. In response to that, we actually do a festival, Ku Mai Ka Hula, hula appears, as you know. We've been doing that for 20-some odd years. But it's not necessarily to be in competition with Merrie Monarch. It's to shine the light on the popularity of hula in Japan and in Hawaii and bring the competition from a global standpoint, not just Hawaii. So, rather than creating your own Maui Merrie Monarch, we've created a festival that shines the light on the broad international nature of hula in a competition. And those Japanese halau have actually taken the competition right out from under some of our local halau over the years. But it's an incredible two-day event in September that showcases some incredible talent.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you, Chair. And I'll see you in September.

MR. VENTO: I look forward to it.

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

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you, Chair. Nice to see you here.

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MR. VENTO: Aloha.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: I always say you have the correct name, Art Vento, right?

MR. VENTO: Well, I just...I didn't want to work at Zippy's and change my name, so.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you very much. I...by looking at your request for funding, I think you tie into many of the testifiers here today in that you provide education.

MR. VENTO: Correct.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: You provide a vehicle for...to reach out into community. And I think Maui Youth and Family Service, I think I heard some of what you've done with Jake Shimabukuro and some other...can you talk about that? Other talents going...

MR. VENTO: Absolutely. In many ways there are dozens and dozens of other nonprofits and other arts organizations but mainly other nonprofits that use the MACC and use it successfully. But the MACC actually takes its programs out into the community to other nonprofits and finds ways to integrate into their program. If we...you know, in Hawaii, if can, can, right? So, we have the relationship with artists and performers. And, for instance, at the one that you're making reference to, we brought Jake Shimabukuro up to Aloha House. And it's one of hundreds of hundreds of these outreaches that we do at centers throughout Maui. Jake, well, what does Jake have to do with drug abuse? He's so squeaky clean. What does that...well, as a role model, one. But on the other, he played music with the residents. And over the course of time, you could see how the time taken by an individual like that, encouraged by the MACC, to come and spend that moment with them, gave them 45 minutes to just breathe. Forty-five minutes to think about recommitting to a greater goal and a personal goal. And those are the kind of moments that you can't put in the OED spreadsheet. I can't put in a CIP budget. But one of the gentlemen testified. He...actually, Jake asked him, come on up and play music with me. And he played music with Jake, and then he played his own...Jake asked him to play his own song. Jake, incredible as it is, learned the chord progression in a nanosecond, and jammed with him. At the end of the day, the guy came up to me, and he said, how is it that I'm in the lowest point in my life, I've been here twice. This second time at rehab. I have to be at the lowest point in my life in order to have the most exhilarating experience in my life. He goes, I'm not coming back. This is where I turn it around. And you just get chicken skin moments. And you go, this is why we do what we do at the MACC. If can, can. And if you can bring those guys out to the community, and you can bring 'em to the kupuna centers, you can make an inspiration for keiki, that's what we do. To the tune of about 16,000 impacted people last year.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you. And one last thing is that thank you very much for allowing the school bands, 'cause I've been to concerts.

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MR. VENTO: Absolutely.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: To use your wonderful facility. It's an honor.

MR. VENTO: The school...as a matter of fact, we're right in the stretch of it. Right here in March is almost every school on Maui that wants to, can come and...it's on a Monday, Tuesday, or Wednesday 'cause that's the accessibility, you know, in the calendar that we can do. There's students to be on that stage, the same stage as the international orchestras, the international stars, that sense of pride that they get from being there, it's not lost on them. And the band teachers remind them of that. And they actually remind them how to act in such a...in a very specific way. Don't forget who you are, but remember where you are. And they walk off the stage, that stage, with a new sense of pride and a new sense of pride, contrasted with their parents in the audience who are looking up and saying, wait a minute. Didn't I just see Tony Bennett up on this stage? Didn't I just see the Tokyo String Quartet? That's my kid up there on that stage. Didn't I just see Baryshnikov on this stage? Same thing with MAPA. MAPA kids are dancing there. Those kids know that every international dance company has danced on that stage as well.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you, thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Sugimura. Member Sinenci?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you, Chair. I just have one question for you, Art.

MR. VENTO: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Your second items, and you mentioned capital improvements.

MR. VENTO: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Can you explain?

MR. VENTO: Capital improvements? Okay, we are...we've embarked...we come to the Council every year for some CIP support. We need to stay ahead of the curve at the MACC. We'll be 25 next year. Go figure. Where did the time all go? So, we've been very good over time staying ahead of the curve. Ten years ago when we were here talking about building the pavilion where now you see so many acts perform because that was what was needed to stay ahead of the curve, to reinvent ourselves. What we're working on now is outfitting and completing the back area around our community events lawn and stage. That's a \$6.3 million project. And what we've done is we've gone out and we've identified 5.1 million from other sources. What we're asking the Council is over a two-year period of 1.25 million, 600 this year, and 6.25 the next year to be a portion of that. Every time you do a project, and no exception at the MACC, you need a private...public/private partnership. And we are extremely good at making sure that foundations are involved. Individuals are involved.

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Corporations are involved. Finding ways to do that. But what they ask is, what's the State doing? What's the County doing? In order to leverage those funds, everybody needs to be at the party.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you.

MR. VENTO: Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Chair? One last.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Sinenci. And I'll ask a quick question. So how much is the State contributing to that?

MR. VENTO: The State at this point is at 1.75 million, and let's hope in about two weeks it'll be up to 2.5, so...

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo.

MR. VENTO: We've been...so.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Member Sugimura?

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Yeah, so, because we represent Maui County --

MR. VENTO: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: --can you talk about how your...besides Maui, Lanai, Molokai, Hana.

MR. VENTO: We consider absolute, positively Maui to be Maui Nui. And we bring performers to places where the residents can't make it to the MACC. If you can't come to the MACC, the MACC's coming to you, including Hana, Lanai, Molokai. We've...every year we bring not only our can-do days which is our art immersion program and our education program, but we bring two to three artists to each location over the course of the year. And have been doing so for 25 years. There are...there's a long list at each location. We are...education and outreach programs. Don't forget Lahaina as well, and so it's the going across the pali is important and we, while we don't...we won't do the same thing programs that we do at those far outreaching programs, we make sure we consider all portions and corners of...corners and curves of Maui Nui.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo for that question, Member Sugimura. Okay, seeing no other questions, mahalo nui for your testimony this morning, Mr. Vento.

MR. VENTO: Okay, thank you very much.

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CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Ms. Matthews?

MR. VENTO: Sorry to take up so much of your time.

MS. MATTHEWS: Yes, Madam Chair, our next testifier is Robert Kawahara, testifying on behalf of Maui Humane Society, to be followed by Doug McLeod.

MR. KAWAHARA: Good morning. My name is Robert Kawahara, and I'm the Treasurer for the Maui Humane Society. This month marks my ninth and final year as a director for the Maui Humane Society. I've reached my term limit. In my time as a director, I have seen the organization transform from a stereotype shelter where criticism abounds to an incredible shelter with a live-release rate of over 95 percent for dogs and 80 percent for cats. Our live-release rates are astounding, and credit should go to Jerleen and her team. Jerleen's absence today was unfortunately unavoidable due to a national animal conference occurring at the same time. I only bring up Jerleen's absence because I want the Committee to know that she is continuing to increase the organization's exposure to national grantors. However, the exposure is not what gets the grantors. It is the performance of MHS which leads to grants. The high performance of MHS under Jerleen's leadership with her team causes grantors to want to help our organization. We are being recognized by national grantors as a model of success. Grantors like to see their money well-spent, and Jerleen does that in spades. As Treasurer, I can attest to the fact that under Jerleen's leadership, we remain financially sound, and that our internal budget has continued to increase year over year. Much of that increase is through grants which allows the organization to make an impact in all areas of animal care. I'm lucky to have been able to serve on many boards and committees, both large and small. MHS is one of those organizations that is lucky enough to have a champion. Without Jerleen's leadership and her compassionate team, our community would be in a crisis, instead the organization has made significant strides in educating the community and making an impact both in live releases and controlling the feral cat population through MASH clinics which do free high-quality, high-volume spay-neuters for the community. I would also like to share with the Committee that I am amazed at not just the number of animals saved, but how they are saved. MHS' mission is to protect and save the lives of Maui's animals, accepting all in need, educating the community, and inspiring respect and compassion towards all animals. Reasons like space and health are no longer reasons to euthanize an animal. If an animal can be saved, you can rest assured that MHS does everything in its power to save that animal's life. Animals that come into the shelter are treated with respect and cared for with hopes for the best possible outcome, which is to find a forever home. Programs like trap/release, Wings of Aloha, and Hope Fund all contribute to MHS' positive outcomes. Please help Jerleen and her team to continue to make positive changes for our community with the support of this Council. Thank you for allowing me to testify on behalf of Maui Humane Society.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo for your testimony. Members, any questions? Member Sugimura?

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COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you for your nine years of dedicated work. I saw on television that the Maui Humane Society had a pet sleepover. I saw it on the evening news. Were you participating in that or...

MR. KAWAHARA: Actually --

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: I mean I heard it raised a lot of money.

MR. KAWAHARA: --unfortunately, I was not as I'm a CPA, and I was in the middle of tax season.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Oh.

MR. KAWAHARA: But it was actually kind of good that I didn't because I think there was a lot of coverage that showed that everybody decked out their kennel, right. And I literally would've come with a pillow and a light. So, I'm actually glad that I did not attend. But I did support it financially for those who did attend that event.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: On the news, I think they raised \$40,000.

MR. KAWAHARA: It was incredible. It was incredible. And I think it's going to be an ongoing thing now.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: I hope next year you participate.

MR. KAWAHARA: I will.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Nice. Mahalo, Member Sugimura. Seeing no other questions...Member Lee?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: After the testifier leaves.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, mahalo nui for your testimony this morning.

MR. KAWAHARA: Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Member Lee?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Member Chair, could you ask Leslee how many testifiers we have left, please?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Absolutely. Ms. Matthews, will you please announce how many testifiers we have?

MS. MATTHEWS: Yes, Madam Chair, we're on testifier number 5 of 37.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Five of thirty-seven.

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MS. MATTHEWS: And testimony is still open.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: All right, thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Lee. Okay, Ms. Matthews, will you please call the next two testifiers?

MS. MATTHEWS: Yes, Madam Chair, our next testifier is Doug McLeod, to be followed by Sherry Duong.

MR. MCLEOD: Good morning, Chair Rawlins-Fernandez --

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Good morning.

MR. MCLEOD: --Chair King, Councilmembers. My name is Doug McLeod, and I'm here testifying as an individual in support of your funding for two local nonprofits, the Maui Economic Development Board, MEDB, and Ka Ipu Kukui Fellows. I'd like to spend most of my time this morning talking about MEDB, and in particular, their role with the Energy Conference that we hold every year on the island. Years ago we began as the Maui Energy Conference, but we have now become the leading energy conference in the State and then we are now the Hawaii Energy Conference. And again, that would not have happened without having an organization like MEDB. There simply are not organizations like this on the other islands that are capable of these technical conferences. And you may ask, how does that matter to local people? You know, does this really have any impact? And I'd like to offer Molokai as an example. And this year we're able to highlight in a panel something that we've been doing for a number of years, which is we've been able to bring leading experts from Australia, from the mainland, from Europe to come and really look at our problems and figure out what we can do. And we're at the point now where Maui Electric has the confidence where they've come forward with a very real plan for 100 percent renewable energy on Molokai and doing it in a way that will in fact lower people's bills. So, this has always been the dream. You know, could you do this. And frankly, it happens on Molokai first because the rates are the highest there. But again, as we think about, you know, how does it impact the community. Bringing all these smart people in isn't just an abstract thing. It really is leading to us doing some projects in renewable energy that are really world-class. I'd like to also talk for a moment about Ipu Kukui Fellows. And, you know, Ka Ipu Kukui Fellows is seeking a small increase this year in their funding. And they're, in essence, an organization that's emerging from the umbrella of MEDB. And they are a group that's designed to identify emerging leaders and work with them on educational programs that emphasize Hawaiian values. So, again I wanted to make sure that we could mention both these organizations today, and just want to encourage your continued support of MEDB, and your slightly increased support Ka Ipu Kukui Fellows. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo. Seeing no questions, mahalo for your testimony, Mr. McLeod. Ms. Matthews?

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MS. MATTHEWS: Madam Chair, our next testifier signed up to testify is Sherry Duong, testifying on behalf of Maui Visitors Association, to be followed by Kathy Louis.

MS. DUONG: Good morning, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Good morning.

MS. DUONG: Good morning, Members. I'm Sherry Duong, the Executive Director for the Maui Visitors Bureau. And I thank you for the opportunity to be here today to express my support for the proposed 2020 Budget for the Maui Visitors Bureau. You know, every year I stand here before you, and I share that we are the economic engine providing employment to 75 percent directly and indirectly to Maui County. But this year I'd like to share with you a different story, a new chapter for the overall visitor industry, which is managing tourism. Along with HTA, MVB seeks to manage tourism as opposed to targeting visitor numbers, to preserve Maui Nui while creating a better visitor experience that incorporates island education and aloha. Specifically, Fiscal Year 2019 efforts were focused on shifting away from tourism promotion towards a broader visitor planning and management. This mirrors a global shift to better conserve resources, emphasize community benefits, and minimize external impacts at top destinations. For example, in 2018 we created four one-minute videos that shared in our community's challenge of culture, ocean safety, environment, and astute rentals. We're also working with the Hana Highway regulation to further educate our visitors on the rules of traveling along the road to Hana. We're pleased to have recently establish a cultural advisory group for partners to use as a resource to ensure that our visitors have an authentic Hawaiian cultural experience. We're also in collaboration with the Maui Nui Marine Resource Council to bring quality speakers for their Know Your Ocean series. And we continue to take tangible steps to ensure our marketing efforts reflect smart and sustainable tourism initiatives. Now, I would be remiss if I didn't share with you some of the community givebacks that our groups participate while they're here on Maui. Our meetings and incentive groups, when they're here on Maui, they participate in Habitat for Humanity. We had 137 attendees that went about and repaired homes for the elderly in various locations here on Maui. They do beach cleanup. They participate in donating to the Maui Food Bank. And they also are at the Maui Ocean Center doing reef restoration. Now, while on the path on managing tourism, we must also acknowledge competing destinations that are now making a comeback after they are existing...their natural disasters and welcoming tourists with enticing packages. A careful balance between sustainable managing tourism and remaining a welcoming destination will ensure a robust Maui Nui economy. It takes just as many dollars to manage tourism as it does to market the tourism. So, further expressing my support of the 2020 proposed budget, thank you for your support.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo for your testimony. We have a question from Member Paltin.

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COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Aloha, Ms. Duong. Thanks for coming today and thank you for what you do for the industry. I was wondering if you...if you see the benefit in having events like the Maui Film Festival, or the Valley Isle Roadrunners, the Maui Marathon, for tourism in Maui?

MS. DUONG: Well, I think that, again, anytime that we're able to support our community at the same time bringing in our visitors, and again managing them as when they're coming in, it would be a plus for Maui. We'd be happy to collaborate. And I believe that the Maui Film Festival is also being supported right now with the OED. Is that right, Chair?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Yeah, so I was wondering if you would be willing to support it out of your proviso for your Maui Visitors Bureau funds?

MS. DUONG: That's a discussion that I would be happy to have with you as well with this member...body.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay, thank you.

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

VICE-CHAIR KING: Thank you. Thank you for being here. Just a follow-up on Councilmember Paltin's question. What is the level of support that Maui Visitors Bureau gives to the Maui Invitational? 'Cause I think I've seen that in your budget in the past.

MS. DUONG: In terms of dollars --

VICE-CHAIR KING: Right.

MS. DUONG: --that we provide? So, the support that we give them is what we...we're purchasing media for the exposure on the mainland at the prime time. So, what we're doing is purchasing three days of prime-time ESPN for those three days. And that is a \$400,000 value.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Okay.

MS. DUONG: And if you are into media and know the cost of it, for the amount of 400,000 really what we get back far exceeds what we have put in for that.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Okay, thank you. I think what we're getting at as a Council is maybe we should be looking at doing that same level of support for the Maui Film Festival since that also brings in a very high-level number of tourists but also the kind of tourists that we're looking for. The people who actually come here and spend money.

MS. DUONG: I have not seen the economic impact from the Maui Film Festival so I'd --

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VICE-CHAIR KING: You can work with them.

MS. DUONG: --be happy to look at that, and then we can compare whether, you know, apples to apples, if they're the same in terms of the economic impact.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Okay, thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair King. Member Sinenci?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Sherry, for being here. You mentioned the Hana Highway's regulation. In what capacity will you be working with the Hana Highway's regulations? We understand that the front highway is under State jurisdiction, and then the backside is County jurisdiction. So, what is your plans to work with the State in, you know, monitoring traffic?

MS. DUONG: Well, we're not a regulatory agency. So, it's very hard for us to, you know, to try to monitor those things. What we can do is, we work with Napua in trying to create messaging to the visitors as to the do's and don'ts. And that's what we're doing. We're helping her to create messaging in terms of brochures, getting the message out there in social media, and showing that type...and that's how we're supporting with her. We also are putting together safety seminars which I believe I've passed that out to you, and I encourage you to sign up for one of those to attend to see what we do. And Napua will be one of our guest speakers. And this safety seminar that we're having, it is to our associates of the hotel who have the first interaction to our visitors. So, they're able to, you know, tell the visitors, hey, this is what you don't do, or this is, you know, I would suggest you maybe going to this beach. And that type of seminar that we're having, the first line for the employee. So, those are things that we're helping with.

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

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Sinenci. Okay, I have a question. I have two questions. So, mahalo for recognizing the need to shift to visitor education and visitor management, from promotion. As we all know, Maui Island specifically is definitely being loved to death. So, you mentioned the four 30-second videos, and I understand that the cost for those four 30-second videos was not absorbed in your, in the \$4 million that MVB gets, and rather it was paid for from an additional line item for \$200,000 for visitor education. And so I was wondering if you could speak to how that \$200,000 was used for the four 30-second videos.

MS. DUONG: Okay, thank you. So, the 200,000 was a grant that was a separate from the OED line on there. Forty-thousand of that went to the Maui Nui Marine resource. And the remaining 160,000 was provided to MVB to produce the videos. The production of the videos themselves were about 50...60,000 to produce the four one-minute videos. And we were very fortunate that we were able to save the cost on that because at the time that we were doing these videos, our corporate office, Hawaii Visitors and Convention Bureau, were also on-island doing some other production

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work. So, we were able to piggyback on their resources which helped cut our cost down. Otherwise, to produce a video is much more than that. And the remaining dollars is going to be used to push those videos out into the platforms to our target market to...for them to be able to...‘cause they’re right now currently on Facebook, YouTube, Instagram, and they’re being shown in our hotels in-room TVs.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo. Okay, and my second question is, I just recently learned that the Molokai Visitors Association only receives \$200,000, and they primarily do visitor education on Molokai. So, I was hoping you could kind of speak to why it’s so low, and if you’re envisioning allocating more for Molokai, and how much does Lanai get?

MS. DUONG: So, each, Lanai and Molokai is allocated \$200,000, and that is just for their own specific programs. All the programs that we do under the umbrella of the Maui Visitors Association encompasses both Maui and Molokai. So, anything that Julie Bicoy, who is over there for us, wants to do anything in particular that is just only specifically to Molokai, those are her funds only. So, if she brings, and we’ve done this where we brought in just media that only comes to Molokai. We bring in travel agents that’s just only for Molokai. So, it’s not that they only get the exposure of just the 200,000, they get everything that we do. But that amount is set aside just for them for their own specific wish list.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, mahalo. Member Sugimura?

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Yeah, thank you. Thank you very much for being here, Ms. Duong. I wondered if you could speak to, I think last year we provisoed \$300,000 from MVB for Ambassadors of Aloha. And I wonder if you could talk about that program.

MS. DUONG: Yes. Thank you for the question. It’s been...what we typically, we’ll always bring a Hawaiian entertainer or halau with us on the road. This year we emphasized it even more so by bringing more and doing more education in terms of the different types of activities, Hawaiian games, Hawaiian language. We’ve also taken that 300,000 and shared it with each of our town parties so that they now can enhance their entertainment at their town parties. And that’s really been an overall...a plus for them to be able to do that.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you. One last question then, on the videos, are you interested in continuing on with that as an education medium for the...for managing growth...managing visitor, is what I was wondering.

MS. DUONG: Yes, thank you. So, yes, absolutely. That video was just only completed at the end of last year in December. So, it’s still a very recently new video to be utilized. We will...right now it’s being used as a post. There is the astute renting that will be used as a pre-arrival video. But yes absolutely, that will be a piece of...one piece of our education.

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COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: And you would like to continue it?

MS. DUONG: Absolutely, yes.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you, thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Sugimura. Okay, seeing no other questions, mahalo, Ms. Duong, for your testimony --

MS. DUONG: Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: --this morning. Ms. Matthews?

MS. MATTHEWS: Madam Chair, our next testifier signed up to testify is Kathy Louis, testifying on behalf of Hale Mahaolu, to be followed by Britney Bautista.

MS. LOUIS: Aloha kakahiaka, Chair --

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aloha kakahiaka.

MS. LOUIS: --Councilmembers. I'm Kathy Louis. I'm the Personal Care Program Director at Hale Mahaolu. And we humbly ask for your continued support of funding the Hale Mahaolu Adult Personal Care Program from July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020. This program has been serving Maui County's frail elderly, and chronically ill, and disabled adults, adult residents 18 years and over since 1985. Our in-home personal care program services our clients to help them to maintain a safe...I'm sorry, maintain safely at home and independent in their own residence, and prevent premature or unnecessary institutionalization. Our services include bathing, grooming, hygiene, toileting, ambulation, transfers, maybe medication reminders, meal preparation and other things related to personal care such as housekeeping, laundry, errands, and so forth. The clients we serve on Maui, including Hana, Molokai, and Lanai, are not eligible or they do not meet the criteria for Medicaid services. These clients, however, need personal care services to help them maintain a safe and independent lifestyle. Our clients may be subject to falls, skin breakdowns, self-neglect, and potential long-term care placement without the daily personal care services that they receive from this program. Granting our request for the 103,000 will provide a minimum of 4,680 subsidized hours of personal care services to approximately 20 unduplicated clients. In addition to that, we also provide referrals for about 100 other people in the community to find affordable personal care attendants through our registry of independent contractors. So, on behalf of the Hale Mahaolu and the clients we serve, we sincerely appreciate your support of the personal care program. Mahalo.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo for your testimony, Ms. Louis. Seeing no questions --

MS. LOUIS: Thank you.

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CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: --mahalo nui. Ms. Matthews?

MS. MATTHEWS: Our next testifier signed up is Britney Bautista, testifying on behalf of Best Buddies Hawaii, to be followed by Sarah Man.

MS. BAUTISTA: Hello, my name is Britney Bautista, and I'm a senior at Maui High School. I have been a member of Best Buddies since 2015. Best Buddies has also helped me make many new friends. It was my friends who helped me the most when I was cyberbullied. Best Buddies has also given me many opportunities to grow as a leader. I'm a member of my chapter's officer team. As an officer, I help put on fun activities and post about Best Buddies on social media. I want to be an elementary school teacher or work in the hospitality field, and Best Buddies helps me work on the skills that I will need in a future job. I have also spoken at many large events like the Best Buddies Friendship Jam here on Maui. I feel empowered to spread my message of inclusion to people throughout Maui. Best Buddies shows that people with and without disabilities have more in common than they know. We're all humans. We should embrace each other's differences. We should all be friends together. I hope you will continue funding for Best Buddies. Thank you very much for your time.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo nui for your testimony this morning, Ms. Bautista. Ms. Matthews?

MS. MATTHEWS: Our next testifier is Sarah Man, testifying on behalf of Best Buddies Hawaii, to be followed by Dr. Judy Aikawa.

MS. MAN: Aloha, Council Chair Rawlins-Fernandez, Council Chair King, and fellow Councilmembers. Thank you for your service to Maui County. I am Sarah Man, State Director for Best Buddies Hawaii, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that enhances the lives of persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities by providing opportunities for one-to-one friendships with typical peers, competitive integrated employment, leadership development, and inclusive housing. I'm honored to speak to you on behalf of over 200 middle and high school participants served through our partnership with the County, and the thousands of students directly impacted by our programs. We deliver our inclusion services to students with IDD, such as autism, Down Syndrome, Fragile X, and their typical peers 12 to 22 years old through Best Buddies chapters in eight schools. Six of the eight schools supported by this project are within the Baldwin-Kekaulike-Maui complex area. Research shows that physical and social barriers inhibit interactions between students with disabilities and their typical peers in the classroom or during informational situations such as the cafeteria, library, and after school activities. One physical barrier is a separate classroom for special education students. In Hawaii, most of students with intellectual disabilities spend less than 40 percent of their day in a regular classroom. Our time-tested inclusion programs offer an effective pathway for students with and without disabilities to get to know each other. These increased opportunities have significant short- and long-term impact. Participants with disabilities have increased social inclusion in their school, in community, have increased involvement in leisure activities with friends and demonstrate improved social skills. Additionally, peers

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without disabilities become more aware that people with disabilities are capable, they can hold jobs in the communities, and that they want to be included. Our annual survey also showed that a shift in attitude of these typical peers. You were able to hear firsthand from Britney, one of our buddies, who we trained not only to be a leader at Maui High School, but a leader in the community. Britney is teaching many about friendship, compassion, and inclusion. We're grateful that Maui County recognizes the need to create an inclusive community here on Maui and continues to support funding for Best Buddies. Mahalo nui for your time.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo. Chair King?

VICE-CHAIR KING: Thank you, Chair. Thanks for being here, Ms. Man. And I had a couple questions. One, it's been 25 years since I was on the Board of Education, but I don't ever remember hearing the term IDD.

MS. MAN: Sure.

VICE-CHAIR KING: You know, we used ADD. Is that like an overall --

MS. MAN: Yeah.

VICE-CHAIR KING: --inclusion term?

MS. MAN: Intellectual and developmental disability.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Okay. It sounds like a fairly new term. But I was wondering if you, I mean I love the idea of inclusion. Are you getting good cooperation from the Department of Education?

MS. MAN: We have met with key staff people. They recognize the importance of our program and they support our program. At this time, there is no funding available for us from the DOE, and we do not have a contract with them.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Okay, but they're allowing...they're open to your program?

MS. MAN: Absolutely.

VICE-CHAIR KING: As long as we're funding them?

MS. MAN: Yes.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Okay. Okay, maybe we'll work on that with the State representatives next year.

MS. MAN: Okay.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Thank you.

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MS. MAN: Thank you. Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Chair?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair King.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Chair?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Member Kama?

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you. Ms. Man?

MS. MAN: Oh, I'm sorry. Oh, okay.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Member Kama has a question for you, Ms. Man.

MS. MAN: Oh, I'm sorry. Sorry, sorry, okay. Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: So, I notice in the budget that Best Buddies has been funded consistently for the past I think four years for the same amount. Do you intend on increasing the participants?

MS. MAN: Yes, actually this year is the first year we plan...as I said serve middle school and high schools, and we plan to open elementary schools, and hopefully Maui College. That's our plan because of the increased need for our programs.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: So, my next question to you then is, so if you're going to increase participation, doesn't that usually mean an increase in funding? Or are you going to use the same amount of money to do more?

MS. MAN: Well, there's been a programmatic shift which would allow us to open more programs with the funding that we receive now.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: So, you don't need any more money? Thank you. That's a switch.

MS. MAN: Okay.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: They're being very efficient.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you. Thank you, Chair.

MS. MAN: Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Ms. Man. Ms. Matthews?

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MS. MATTHEWS: Yes, Madam Chair. Next testifier signed up is Judy Aikawa, testifying on behalf of Maui Humane Society, to be followed by Leslie Mullens.

MS. AIKAWA: Aloha, Budget Chair Rawlins.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aloha and good morning. Would you mind bringing the mic to you?

MS. AIKAWA: Sorry. Aloha, Budget Chair Rawlins-Fernandez and Committee Members. My name is Dr. Judy Aikawa, and I'm an emeritus member of the Maui Humane Society Board of Directors. I want to begin by thanking the County for your long-standing support of Maui Humane Society. MHS has provided animal management services to the County of Maui for the past 32 years. We are proud of our partnership with the County and feel that our shared commitment has resulted in profound and positive impacts on the lives of both animals and humans in our community. Also, thank you for this opportunity to testify on behalf of Maui Humane Society, a truly outstanding organization which has the highest save rates of any animal welfare agency in the State of Hawaii. This year we are asking for your consideration on three funding issues. First, we respectfully ask that you approve increased funding for the Animal Management Program as proposed in the Mayor's Fiscal '20 budget. MHS perform services that are mandated by Maui County Animal Management contract. For years these mandated services have not been fully funded by the County, thereby forcing Maui Humane Society to cover the shortfall by using funds from private donations. The Mayor's proposed increase to Animal Management contract would finally decrease that funding gap and bring the County closer to paying for the mandated services it requires. Secondly, MHS continues to perform outstanding 24/7 humane enforcement services. In Fiscal Year '18, humane enforcement officers patrolled over 91,000 miles in order to keep animals and humans safe and in compliance with Maui County laws. We ask the Council to approve the purchase of two new animal control enforcement trucks at a cost of \$120,000 which will be paid for from the Animal Management Revolving Fund. Even though the Mayor's budget proposed one truck, two trucks are desperately needed, and we have verified that is adequate funding in the revolving account to cover the cost of both vehicles. Lastly, we ask you to approve the \$100,000 community spay-neuter grant. Over the last two years, that funding has been a game changer for our community enabling MHS to address animal overpopulation problem on Maui and to provide free spay-neuter surgeries to people previously unable to spay or neuter their pets due to financial constraints. Thank you for your kind attention and for support of the Maui Humane Society.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo for your testimony, Ms. Aikawa. We have a question for you from Chair King.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Just a quick question. Thank you for being an emeritus board member. It means you're for life going to be involved in these issues. And we were on Molokai a couple of days ago. Yeah, it was a couple of days ago. Every day is kind of morphing into each other. But, and we heard some huge concerns about animal control issues over there. They had the animal control officer quit, and now they have, you know,

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they're relying on the Police and there's nobody in that position. And I'm just wondering if you would be willing to...if the Maui Humane Society would be willing to work with the Molokai Humane Society which I know is completely different, but on those issues? At least as a consultant, as a consultancy because I think they need some help. And I know our Committee Chair is concerned about that too.

MS. AIKAWA: I would defer to Jerleen Bryant, you know, to respond to you definitively.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Okay.

MS. AIKAWA: But she already is meeting with and counseling, Kauai Humane Society has visited us. Hawaiian Humane Society has visited us to get advice and input about how best to proceed.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Okay. Okay.

MS. AIKAWA: And I have a feeling she's very generous with --

VICE-CHAIR KING: Well, we need her on Molokai. We need some advice on Molokai.

MS. AIKAWA: --her time and, you know, her incredible knowledge of these kinds of issues. So, she I think will hear about this question. And we'll e-mail you a response later today, okay.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Thank you.

MS. AIKAWA: Okay.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo for that question, Chair King. Yeah, so, the Molokai Humane Society and the Maui Police Department on Molokai, the animal control officer falls under the Police Department on Molokai. And so we just have to visit how that process works.

MS. AIKAWA: We've had a pretty close relationship with them over the years in Molokai to try and help them since we realize, you know, their resources are very limited.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: And we look forward to working with the Maui Humane Society to figure something out. Mahalo for your testimony --

MS. AIKAWA: Sure.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: --this morning. Okay, Ms. Matthews?

MS. MATTHEWS: Yes, our next testifier is Leslie Mullens testifying of the behalf of Maui Humane Society, to be followed by Ronald Schmidt.

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MS. MULLENS: Good morning. Aloha, Budget Chair Rawlins-Fernandez and Committee Members. My name is Leslie Mullens. I serve on the Board of the Directors of the Maui Humane Society. And thank you for your service and support. Today it's my honor to ask you to approve the increase to the Animal Management Program in the Mayor's proposed budget. In my day job, I'm a professional strategist and consultant in organizational effectiveness. I've worked with over 250 nonprofits across Hawaii, and Maui Humane Society is in the top 5 percent of those organizations in terms of leadership, team effectiveness, fiscal planning and management, community impact, and bottom-line results. It's why I serve on Maui Humane Society's board, why I went to the slumber party. And it's why I invest my money in their continued success. They get remarkable results, and I'm certain that my financial contribution is put to good use. Our Humane Society is an exceptional organization with the highest animal save rate in the State. In February, over 98 percent of the dogs that came in the front door were adopted, fostered, or returned safely to their loving homes. Ninety-eight percent, that's almost unheard of in the industry. As part of the work they do to improve Maui's quality of life for animals and humans alike, they perform mandated services as part of the animal management contracts they've had with the County in a successful 30-year partnership. But these mandated services have never been fully funded through the County budget. For many years MHS has had to cover the shortage for the County to be good partners and good neighbors. But also because whether funded or not, these services are mandated in a contract. They must be fulfilled as required in a contract. Required, mandated but not fully funded through the County budget. So, every year MHS has had to find private donors to bridge the significant gap. The good news is with the Mayor's proposed increase to the Animal Management Program budget, this year we will come closer than ever before to having the County cover the full cost of these services. The increase still doesn't fully cover the gap, but we're getting closer and for that we're grateful. This increase is fair. It's good business. It's the right thing to do. And it will make it so that other funding that MHS works so hard to get through private donations and grants each year, can do more for Maui. Spay or neuter more animals. Microchip them so lost animals can be reunited with their families. Add more programs to socialize dogs and make them more adoptable. It's all important work and as such, I respectfully ask this Committee to approve the increase in the Mayor's proposed budget. Lastly, I join others to ask you to approve the purchase of two new animal control enforcement trucks from the Animal Management Revolving Fund. The Mayor has approved one new truck, but we're asking this Committee to approve funding for two. It will cost \$120,000 for both of them. You've seen the old ones on the road. They are old. They need to be replaced. Thank you for your time and consideration.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, seeing no questions, mahalo nui for your testimony, Ms. Mullens.

MS. MULLENS: Thank you as well.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Ms. Matthews?

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MS. MATTHEWS: Our next testifier is Ronald Schmidt, testifying on behalf of Maui Humane Society.

MR. SCHMIDT: Aloha. Thank you for allowing me to testify here today. I'm Ronald Schmidt. I have a PhD in economics. And I'm the CEO of Schmidt Associates, a litigation consulting company that's located here in Kihei. I've been a member of the Maui Humane Society's finance committee for about a little over...almost two years, and have been on the board for the last year. As a member of the finance committee and then the board, I've had an opportunity to observe the inner workings of the Humane Society. I also have had a chance to become quite familiar with financial workings of the organization and observe its management. In my opinion, the Maui Humane Society has undergone a fundamental transformation over the last five years. It's now the most respected humane society in the State, and has worked tirelessly to achieve almost impossible levels of success, as you've heard from the previous people. The County has provided much of the funding for many of these services. But the quality of the care that's been provided has exceeded the cost of that. And so it's had to be made up by grants and other...and private donations. We are very pleased with the increases that the Mayor has proposed in the budget. Although as a new person to the board, one has to ask the questions, we're closing the gap, why don't we close it all the way? Would be kind of...so just throw it out there. If it could go even a little bit higher, we'll be willing to take it. And part of the reason for doing so, I think this issue about Molokai comes up. And I think Judy mentioned that we've had people from Kauai and from Oahu coming over here to try to learn how we're doing things. And I think the potential is there to help a lot with other organizations. And part of that, of course, is to get funding so that we can support these programs. But I think that Jerleen is truly amazing. I had a chance to meet with her a week ago and learn about the organization and the transformation. And you have to remember, those of you who've been for a while, four years ago the Humane Society was not something that you wanted to talk about. Now, it is. Now, it's like a shining star. And so the question is, can we...can they use that success and pass it elsewhere? And I think the answer is yes. So, there is an opportunity for the organization to have a bigger impact in the State. And part of that has to do with funding. So, thank you.

VICE-CHAIR KING: I have a question.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Mr. Schmidt. We have a question for you. Chair King?

VICE-CHAIR KING: Thank you for being here. Thank you for your financial expertise with the animal shelter. So, I wanted to ask you what happens with...are there two trucks you're going to retire if you get the two new trucks? And then what will you do with them?

MR. SCHMIDT: I don't know the answer to that.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Oh, okay.

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MR. SCHMIDT: I think Jerleen could answer that question.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Okay, I thought as a finance person you might know.

MR. SCHMIDT: No.

VICE-CHAIR KING: I was just wondering.

MR. SCHMIDT: No.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Okay. I'll ask her.

MR. SCHMIDT: Yeah.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair King. Seeing no other questions, mahalo nui for your testimony this morning. Ms. Matthews?

MS. MATTHEWS: Yes, our next testifier signed up is Brian Kohne, testifying in behalf of Kuleana Movie LLC, to be followed by Jody Reale.

MR. KOHNE: Aloha, Committee Chair --

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aloha.

MR. KOHNE: --Council Chair, and Councilmembers. I am actually here to speak on behalf of the Maui Visitors Bureau, by extension of Kuleana Movie. As many of you know, we were responsible for creating a motion picture that a number of years ago had success in film festivals. And then last year became the first motion picture, locally originated motion picture, to screen in theaters Statewide in almost a decade. And when all was said and done, we ran seven weeks in 13 theaters in Hawaii and Guam. The motion picture we were also, as many of you know, honored, humbly honored, with a County resolution in these very Chambers. The L.A. Public Works as well honored us for our perpetuation of Hawaiian culture, and Kuleana in particular. But that's as far as we could go. We also held 40 event screenings on the mainland of the motion picture, Kuleana, last year. So, the message is real strong, very important, we believe. And Kuleana the motion picture is also a part of the industry that we are all collectively building here in the State of Hawaii and certainly on the island of Maui. But that's as far as we could go if not for the support of the Maui Visitors Bureau. They came along at a time when we needed to figure out how we could take not just the motion picture further from a commercial standpoint, but how we could extend our message to the rest of the world. I believe Sherry just spoke about a shifting focus in the Visitors Bureau into education and management. And that's what we're doing with this motion picture. We're working to get this movie released worldwide. And with the support of the Maui Visitors Bureau, we've been able to have representation at seven of the large, major marketplaces, film marketplaces including Cannes, the American

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Film marketplace in Los Angeles, Toronto, and other places where our motion picture is being licensed into international territories, most recently into the Middle East. And all that is being set up. Now, this process is very complicated. This process is very costly. And I'm learning on the fly how to do this. So, it's a real great education for me. So, I'd like to extend also that this is part of the Maui Visitors Bureau. It's not only helping us move our motion picture further into the world, and ultimately it will be...serve as a really amazing educational tool in schools. Aloha.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Chair?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: We have a question. Member Kama?

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you, Chair. It's nice to see you again.

MR. KOHNE: You too.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: So, my question...I've always thought in my head --

MR. KOHNE: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: --that the film industry could be another economic engine. I'm not sure how that happens, but my good friend Branscombe says, can, can. So, I try to tell him well, then, how can? So, can you answer the how can question?

MR. KOHNE: Yes. Well, this motion picture is one example of it. It reflects the work of over 500 businesses and islanders from Maui. It was produced entirely on Maui. So, it's already serving as an example. Our organization has another motion picture in the works that's going to shoot this year on Maui. So, that's one thing. For me, I just became the program coordinator of the creative media program at the University of Hawaii-Maui College. So, I'm personally taking responsibility to build from the educational standpoint of film and communications design school. So, I think all of these efforts are connected, education at every level. Our kids...there's statistics right now that the creative media in particular is the fastest-growing career pathway in the State of Hawaii. And the U.S. Bureau of Labor reports that's there's going to be a 6 percent growth between now and 2026. So, our islands are no exception. So, it's a very complicated...how do we grow forward, how do we do better to accommodate Hollywood when they come. That's maybe a question for others. For me, I'm entirely concerned with how do we grow from within. How do we tell story from our islands, from our perspective? How do we create an industry that lives here, that's financed here, that grows forward here, that employs here? And which is why I, rather than going further into the industry at this time, I've elected to work at the college.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: One more, Chair, if I may? I have a nephew who's an actor in Seattle and a niece who's in film production in South Carolina.

MR. KOHNE: Great.

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COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: They want to come home and they want to work.

MR. KOHNE: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: But there's no work here. So, you know, if we can...and I'm getting older too, and I can only do so much. But you can all put some pep in our step and make it happen for our kids so that they can come home. Thank you.

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

VICE-CHAIR KING: Thank you. Yeah, I think that's...I think those are issues for the Film Commissioner, and that's why we fund the Film Commissioner. But did you get support from the Film Commissioner as well?

MR. KOHNE: Yeah, the Film Commissioner and the Film Office was very supportive of us, the County, the State. It...you know, it takes a village. But this last final effort this year as the motion picture, I'll also add, as many of you may know, that the motion picture Kuleana is being released outside of Hawaii under the title, "Maui." So, the support of the Visitors Bureau...

VICE-CHAIR KING: Okay, you answered my question. But the second part of my question --

MR. KOHNE: Yes.

VICE-CHAIR KING: --was what was the level of funding you got from Maui Visitors Bureau?

MR. KOHNE: You know, I'm not at position to discuss from my standpoint. I think that's a question that I, you know, I think you should speak to the Visitors Bureau.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Okay. Well, you told us you got assistance from them so I was just --

MR. KOHNE: Correct.

VICE-CHAIR KING: --wondering what was the assistance?

MR. KOHNE: Financial assistance, yes.

VICE-CHAIR KING: It was financial, but you don't have that figures?

MR. KOHNE: I'm not at liberty to discuss our financial...as a business person I'm not at, in liberty to discuss that openly. But I'd be happy to discuss that...

VICE-CHAIR KING: Yeah, it's public funds so we're just asking what, you know...

MR. KOHNE: Again, I'm not...as a business person, I'm not...in this industry we're not really able to do that.

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VICE-CHAIR KING: Okay, thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair King. Okay, seeing no other questions, mahalo, Mr. Kohne, for your testimony this morning.

MR. KOHNE: Thank you very much. Aloha.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aloha. Ms. Matthews?

MS. MATTHEWS: Yes, Madam Chair, our next testifier signed up to testify is Jody Reale, testifying on behalf of Maui Humane Society, to be followed by Marlynn Tanji.

MS. REALE: Good morning.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Good morning.

MS. REALE: Hi, aloha, Chair Rawlins-Fernandez, and Committee. I'm Jody Reale, and I'm here today as a Maui County voter, taxpayer, and board member at Maui Humane Society. Thank you for listening today and for your scheduling of these sessions. Today, I ask for your support in approving the increase to the Animal Management Program in Mayor Victorino's FY '20 Proposed Budget. MHS is the island's only open-door animal shelter providing an array of animal welfare services to the public. Like most public shelters, MHS sees thousands of animals enter its facility each year. But unlike any other shelter in the State of Hawaii, MHS is now releasing more than 90 percent of those animals to positive outcomes through adoption, transfers, and reclaim efforts, while also making strides toward reducing pet overpopulation through low-cost or free spay-neuter programs. The dramatic progress that MHS continues to make is a result of collaboration and cooperation between shelter leadership, the County, and the community. The process is working. As part of its operations, MHS performs mandated services through its contract with the County. Although MHS has performed these services each year, the County has never fully funded the program, which means that for many years, MHS has covered the financial shortage for the County with operating capital from donors. The increase in the Mayor's proposed budget will significantly close that gap, thus paving the way to reaching new heights and creating and enhancing public services. Lastly, I encourage this Council to approve the purchase of the two new animal control enforcement trucks from the Animal Management Revolving Fund. It's been confirmed that the adequate amount to cover the cost of the two vehicles, \$120,000, is present in the fund. Mayor Victorino has approved the purchase of one new truck, but both vehicles are desperately needed. And so, MHS is asking this Committee to approve funding for both trucks. Again, thank you for listening, for your service, and your stewardship.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Seeing no questions, mahalo nui for your testimony --

MS. REALE: Thanks, everyone. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: --this morning, Ms. Reale. Ms. Matthews?

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MS. MATTHEWS: Our next testifier signed up to testify is Marlynn Tanji, testifying on behalf of Hale Mahaolu Homeownership Housing Counseling Program, to be followed by Danielle Bergan.

MS. TANJI: Good morning, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Good morning.

MS. TANJI: And Councilmembers. My name is Marlynn Tanji. I'm with...the Program Director with Hale Mahaolu's Homeownership and Housing Counseling Program. Hale Mahaolu's Homeownership and Housing Counseling Program would like to thank you for your continued support for our housing counseling program. Hale Mahaolu is a nonprofit, a private nonprofit corporation which develops and owns and manages 15 properties with approximately 1,060 rental units in Maui County, including on the islands of Lanai and Molokai. Hale Mahaolu also consists of supportive services programs such as the Personal Care Program, the Kupuna Care Program, the CHSP, and Meals Programs, and the Homeownership and Housing Counseling Program. Hale Mahaolu's Homeownership and Housing Counseling Program has been a HUD-approved comprehensive housing counseling agency for the State of Hawaii since 1989. The program has provided counseling and educational services in areas such as the first-time homebuyer educational classes, mortgage delinquency, and default counseling, financial literacy, pre-purchase, post-purchase, and rental counseling. For the Maui County grant year 2020, the program is looking to expand its Housing Counseling Program and has asked to increase the grant award to 150,000 to help with adding additional credit classes and starting a homebuyers club which will focus on long-term goals of homeownership. The Homeownership and Housing Counseling Program fully supports the Council's idea of starting an individualized development account, IDA program, to match the savings of potential homebuyers. This will give many Maui County residents the opportunity to become potential homebuyers where currently they are unable to get a mortgage due to low credit scores and a lack of monetary savings to qualify for a down payment. The counselors of the Homebuyers Club will work with the club members over a two-year period with financial classes and counseling. It's planned that the first year the club members will focus on setting financial goals while also improving their credit scores and starting a savings. During the second year, the members will continue to save and with the goal of becoming mortgage-ready. The IDA funds can help with using...to come in as a match to help with their down payment. Hopefully, this process will help...an incentive to help many more non-potential homebuyers to become active potential homeowners. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo for your testimony, Ms. Tanji. We have two questions for you. Chair King --

VICE-CHAIR KING: Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: --and Member Sugimura.

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VICE-CHAIR KING: Thank you, Ms. Tanji. I'm really happy that you're talking about the IDA because I've been hearing about that from Victoria, the REALTORS® Association of Maui. So, are you working them at all?

MS. TANJI: No.

VICE-CHAIR KING: They've been huge advocates for the IDA program.

MS. TANJI: No, I've heard about IDA programs in the past, and the good things that it has helped a lot of potential homebuyers. So, I'm kind of excited to hear that it's coming around again.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Yeah, I've been working with some people to try to get this program kind of integrated. But if you do this, I just want to kind of clarify that the difference between this and our first-time homebuyers is they don't actually have to have a home that they're ready to buy, correct?

MS. TANJI: Correct.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Okay.

MS. TANJI: With this program...with the Homebuyers Club the whole idea is incorporating the IDA as a match. And this is to get potential homebuyers who don't necessarily qualify with down payments right now...

VICE-CHAIR KING: Right. No, no, I know what the program is. I just wanted to clarify that you...that the program that you're talking about is not requiring the...I mean what we're trying to do is train people. But they don't necessarily have to be ready to buy a home. So, it's a preparation.

MS. TANJI: Correct.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Okay. 'Cause I think that's real important because the first-time homebuyers program, in order to get that funding, you have to actually be looking at a home to purchase.

MS. TANJI: Right.

VICE-CHAIR KING: So, your program is more of a...sort of...considered a training program --

MS. TANJI: Yes.

VICE-CHAIR KING: --to get there, and a savings program.

MS. TANJI: Right.

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VICE-CHAIR KING: Okay, I think that's really important, and I appreciate that you're focusing on that. Thanks.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair King. Member Sugimura?

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Yeah, thank you. Glad to hear you speaking about the IDA. And it is a...I think it would be a welcome addition to some of the thought processes in terms of homeownership and supporting our local families.

MS. TANJI: I agree.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: The funding that you have right now in the budget for 150,000, does not include the IDA, correct?

MS. TANJI: Not the fund...the IDA funds itself, no. This is to expand our program so we could hire another counselor to help with all the counseling in the classes.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: So, it was...in 2019 it was 80,000, and 2020 the request is for --

MS. TANJI: Hundred-fifty.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: --150,000.

MS. TANJI: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: And so the IDA would be separate.

MS. TANJI: Right. The funding for the IDA is separate.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: And do you have an idea of what that separate funding would be to be effective?

MS. TANJI: For the IDA, I thought it would be running around, let's see...

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

MS. TANJI: I thought it would possibly run about 1,160,000. That would include the funding for the IDA itself for the homeowners to match. And then about 160,000 to get all the materials and counseling and everything, too.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you. I think I might've read something that you submitted. But I wonder if you could submit to us kind of a general...how the program could work.

MS. TANJI: Okay.

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COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: And if you could, and if you could do it like this week?

MS. TANJI: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: It's up to the Chair, but I think we have decision-making next week, so.

MS. TANJI: Okay, I will do that.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Sugimura. Member Paltin...sorry. Member Kama, and then Chair King.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you, Chair. So, Hale Mahaolu is considering instituting IDA program, so how long do you think it would take you all to institute the program if you're thinking about that?

MS. TANJI: In a sense the program runs about two years. So, initially the first year there would be potential homebuyers that would qualify for an IDA. But for those that are just learning how to start savings, how to clean their credit, it would probably take about two years. It could take longer, but you know, you want to kind of give an incentive that there is a goal, something for them to achieve. So, a two-year program if they saved from their earnings every month could possibly earn up to maybe a 3 percent down payment, combined with the IDA funds.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Are you familiar with Hawaiian Community Assets --

MS. TANJI: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: --who has done IDAs successfully on three-to-one matches?

MS. TANJI: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Okay, so are you all communicating with them to get a good sense of how they're able to get funding outside of their own structure?

MS. TANJI: Right. We're also getting information from Hawaiian Community Assets also.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you.

MS. TANJI: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you, Chair.

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

VICE-CHAIR KING: Thank you, Chair. I just wanted to clarify something because I know we're going into amendment process soon. But the idea of the IDA is you save money,

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and then when you're ready to buy a home, you get those matching funds. So, conceivably, and I talked to REALTORS® Association of Maui, if we reconfigured the parameters of our first-time homebuyers, then those people would be able to access first-time homebuyers funds because they don't need the matching until they're ready to buy the home, correct?

MS. TANJI: Correct.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Okay.

MS. TANJI: But with IDAs what you're doing is you're targeting or focusing on potential homebuyers that don't have savings ability right now.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Right. No, I understand that. But I'm just saying that we don't have to create a separate fund for the matching. We would just redescribe the First-Time Homebuyers Fund, so that when those folks from...they're in the IDA program are ready to buy a home, then the matching funds could be there.

MS. TANJI: Right.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Okay. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair King.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Chair?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Member Paltin --

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: I'm sorry.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: --and then Member Kama.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Just was wondering how guys join your Homebuyers Club?

MS. TANJI: How to join our Homebuyers Club? They can just call our office. We'll be advertising. We'll be starting that...that's something new that we're going to be...we're working on to start.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: So, it's open to anybody to just join?

MS. TANJI: Right.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Right.

MS. TANJI: Anyone who's interested in purchasing a home but wants to get the steps on how to do that, we will be able to provide information and work with them on that.

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COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you.

MS. TANJI: You're welcome.

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

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: No questions, Chair. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Kama. Okay, looks like those are all of our Members' questions. And if you could get back to Member Sugimura as quickly as possible --

MS. TANJI: Right.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: --that would be helpful.

MS. TANJI: Okay, thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo for your testimony this morning.

MS. TANJI: Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, Members, it is 10:37. Ms. Matthews, will you please let the Members know how many testifiers we have left?

MS. MATTHEWS: We are on testifier number 16 of 37, and testimony is still open.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Ms. Matthews. Okay, and will you please call the next two testifiers to let them know who they'll be when we return from our break?

MS. MATTHEWS: . . . *(inaudible)* . . .

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yeah, just let them know who they are, and then we're going to take our ten-minute break.

MS. MATTHEWS: Oh, okay. The next testifier signed up is Danielle Bergan, and Richard Yust is following Danielle.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Ms. Matthews. Okay, it's 10:38, time for our morning break. Ten minutes, Members. Please return by 10:48. We'll recess at the call of the Chair. Ten thirty-eight on April 17<sup>th</sup>, the Economic Development and Budget Committee is now in recess. . . . *(gavel)* . . .

**RECESS: 10:38 a.m.**

**RECONVENE: 10:57 a.m.**

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CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: . . .*(gavel)*. . . Will the Economic Development and Budget Committee please return to order. It is 10:57 on April 17<sup>th</sup> and we will continue with public testimony. Ms. Matthews?

MS. MATTHEWS: Yes, Madam Chair, our next testifier is Danielle Bergan, testifying on behalf of Mental Health America of Hawaii, to be followed by Richard Yust.

MS. BERGAN: Good morning, Chair. Good morning --

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Good morning.

MS. BERGAN: --Members of the Budget Committee. I'm Danielle Bergan, Community Coordinator, Mental Health America of Hawaii. We're listed in your Budget under the Mental Health Association of Maui. We've been known on Maui since 1972. Our mission is to promote mental wellness through education advocacy and service. We endeavor to reduce the stigma of mental illness and improve the overall care, treatment, and empowerment of those affected with mental illness, children, adults, elders, and their families. During these past few weeks, I've spoken to many of you, and I know you that you have heard from some of our volunteers and members who work with us through some of the community meetings. And we're glad that you got to hear their voices as well. Our challenges in Maui County continue to be many. There's a lack of psychiatrists that will treat those with low incomes, mostly through the Quest program, lack of psychiatric beds for our youth especially, but as well as adults, and consistently fighting that stigma, right, of getting help for mental health conditions. We also have some still disturbing numbers as far as suicide and suicide prevention. I have listed some statistics in the testimony there that has been just passed out. I can tell you that in Maui County that, and this is also for the State of Hawaii, that suicide was the leading cause of injury death in ages 15 to 29. According to the youth risk behavioral surveys that are done every two years in the schools, okay, for Maui County one in three high school students report feeling depressed. One in six have actually made a suicide plan, and one in ten have attempted suicide. To target these solutions, we have continued to focus on a mental health education and advocacy and support program with many of our trainings. These trainings include our youth suicide and bullying prevention. An evidence-based informal training with two-hour classes into the schools, middle schools and high schools. We also have our youth mental health first-aid instruction. And this is an eight-hour class designed to work with those who come in contact with mental health conditions and raise the awareness of that. We also do our police work with our crisis intervention training, our youth mental health first-aid for recruits, as well as our monthly mental health recall training. With all this in mind, we ask you to allow us to continue supporting us at the same rate that you have these past couple of years. We appreciate all we can do to help Maui County in mitigating our mental health conditions and suicide prevention. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, we have one question for you. Member Sugimura?

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COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: So, thank you. Going to the districts, we heard testifiers who was talking about an organization that provided men to go into the prisons. So, is that you, or is that --

MS. BERGAN: That's actually us.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: --Mental Health Kokua?

MS. BERGAN: That's part...that's mentioned in the testimony that was handed out. That's the Mankind Project. And that's a women's and men's mentoring group that we support under our 501(c)(3). And they go into the prisons on a weekly basis, into the men's and to the women's prison, into the jails. And what they're doing is creating awareness of working with the folks in there to be able to help them take responsibilities for their own actions. And hoping that by the time that they are released, it'll help decrease the recidivism that we're seeing in our prisons today. And we're also working in conjunction with MEO on a program to help them once they've been released from prison too. That's in the works right now.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Sugimura. Seeing no other questions, mahalo, Ms. Bergan, for your testimony this morning.

MS. BERGAN: Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Ms. Matthews?

MS. MATTHEWS: Our next testifier is Richard Yust, testifying on behalf of Maui Food Bank.

MR. YUST: Good morning, Councilmembers.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Good morning.

MR. YUST: My name is Richard Yust. I'm the Executive Director at the Maui Food Bank. I'm here today to respectfully ask for your support. I gotta wear glasses now. I never had to do this before. Ask for support in continuing our line item appropriation grant to the Maui Food Bank for \$400,000 in Fiscal Year Budget 2020. This line item appropriation grant from the County makes a significant difference in our ability to provide hunger relief. The Maui Food Bank is the only nonprofit agency in Maui County that collects, warehouses, and distributes mass quantities of both perishable and non-perishable food to the needy. The Maui Food Bank coordinates service delivery of donated food to the needy, individuals, and families through a network of over 120 agencies and programs that are part of the Food Bank network. We also ship food to Molokai and Lanai agencies each and every month. These efforts provide a charitable safety net that literally thousands of Maui County residents rely on to make it through each month. Many struggle with food and security, and sadly buying food drops as a priority in order to keep up with the rent, electric, gas, insurance, other

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expenses. During an average month, 10,000 people in Maui County access food at various distribution points. For the past several years, the demand for emergency food has continued to increase, most notably with our homeless population, an alarming 25 percent in the number of seniors turning to the Food Bank. We have established an objective of collecting and distributing 2.5 million pounds of food including 500,000 pounds of fresh produce over the next year. The line item appropriation in the amount of 400,000 allows us not only to help thousands of people each month put food on the table, it allows us to continue our efforts at increasing our capacity to make even more of an impact throughout our tri-isle County. Additionally, it also allows us to implement new programs and expand existing programs throughout the County that specifically target collecting and distributing more food and healthier food. We could not accomplish all that we have in the past without the important support given to us through the County. We have aggressive plans to continue our efforts in the coming fiscal years. We have a lot to do. We couldn't do it without you folks like you who share and support our mission of helping the hungry. Included in my submitted testimony, a list of our partnering agencies. And you can see that list is quite substantial. Mahalo and thank you for your support ensuring that no one has to go to bed hungry or wonder where their next meal is coming from. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Mr. Yust. Member Lee?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Hi, Richard.

MR. YUST: Hi, Ms. Lee.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: I wonder if you could just tell us a little bit about your Backpack Buddies program?

MR. YUST: Sure. Yeah, our Backpack Buddies is now, I believe, in our sixth or seventh year. We're currently in 21 schools, serving over 600 kids a week with our Backpack Buddies program. That program provides a backpack for youth who are on the free and reduced lunch program who have signed up, with parents' consent. They get a backpack filled with six meals which include two breakfasts, two lunches, some snacks, and a couple of dinner meals as well, and some beverages as well, a lot of times cereals, milk, those sorts of things. So, it's six meals for the children to take home on Friday so that they have something to eat on the weekend.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: That's terrific. Thank you very much.

MR. YUST: Okay, thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Lee. Chair King?

VICE-CHAIR KING: Thank you. Thanks for being here, and for what you do with the Food Bank.

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MR. YUST: Thank you.

VICE-CHAIR KING: I'm just curious about how you track the demographics. It's a little worrisome that there's 25 percent increase in seniors. And is that because we have an overall increase in seniors in our community who are aging, or how do you track that?

MR. YUST: Part...okay, all of our tracking is done by all of our agencies. Every month they must submit a demographic report of the number of clients, how many families, how many people in the family, the age of the family members, male...gender, ethnicity background as well. We track all of that information in a massive donor base, or database. And so we readily can pull up numbers. And so, what we're seeing is that with our increased, what's called our CSFP, Senior Food Box program, with that has increased the number...we're seeing that number added to our past totals. And so that's another...I think are 518 seniors every month. And that doesn't include our senior mobile pantry which is another over 500 seniors every single month. And that's...we work through...with Hale Mahaolu to do that distribution.

VICE-CHAIR KING: And that's an increase in different people, not just increase in this...people, same people coming more often?

MR. YUST: Yeah, no, what it is, it's an increase in the number of people needing food assistance is what that number is.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Okay.

MR. YUST: And we are in fact, you know, seeing those seniors more and more 'cause I think what's happening is...a lot of those seniors who are on the fixed incomes, they don't have any money left to buy food.

VICE-CHAIR KING: No, it is disturbing because we've seen, you know, if we raise fees in other areas, they do tell us they have to decide whether between, you know, riding the bus or...so, there's a registration form that people have to fill out if they're going to access the Food Bank?

MR. YUST: Yeah, any...

VICE-CHAIR KING: And that's how you keep track?

MR. YUST: Yes, any of the distributions, and you can see the list of all those distributions and agencies that partner with us. They all keep track of all of the distributions.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Oh, okay.

MR. YUST: And again the number of people. So, depending on what item it is, now the Boys and Girls Clubs that we partner with, they typically...those children don't have to sign up because they're already registered. However, the Boys and Girls Clubs do report to us how many kids receive snacks.

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VICE-CHAIR KING: Okay. Thank you very much.

MR. YUST: Thank you.

VICE-CHAIR KING: I think it's really helpful. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair King. Okay, seeing no other questions, mahalo nui for your testimony this morning.

MR. YUST: Okay, thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Ms. Matthews?

MS. MATTHEWS: Madam Chair, our next testifier is Keri Kalilikane, testifying on behalf of Hale Mahaolu Homeownership and Housing Counseling, to be followed by Rudy Balinbin.

MS. KALILIKANE: Aloha.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aloha.

MS. KALILIKANE: My name is Keri Kalilikane, and I'm here to support the Hale Mahaolu Homeownership and Housing Counseling Program. I've been a counselor with this program for about ten years, and during this time I've assisted families in purchasing their first home, helped families remain in their homes when faced with the possibility of foreclosure, and spoken to high school students about the importance of savings and the impact of their credit score as they enter adulthood. But today I would like to speak to you not just as a housing counselor, but as a first-time homebuyer. In just a few weeks, my family is scheduled to move into our new home after living in rental properties for my entire life. It is through my education as a housing counselor that I had been able to organize my finances to be able to purchase a new home. I don't know that if it wasn't for my work through the Homeownership and Housing Counseling Program that I would be in this position today. I look forward to continuing to help families and individuals to prepare themselves for homeownership and being a more educated consumer. Thank you, Councilmembers and the Department of Housing and Human Concerns, for your past support of our program and your role in creating workforce housing so families like mine are able to realize the American dream. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Congratulations on being a first-time homebuyer.

MS. KALILIKANE: Thank you.

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

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MS. KALILIKANE: Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Ms. Matthews?

MS. MATTHEWS: Yes, our next testifier is Rudy Balinbin, testifying on behalf of Hale Mahaolu, to be followed by Tiare Lawrence.

MR. BALINBIN: Good morning, Chair and Councilmembers. My name is Rudy Balinbin with the Hale Mahaolu Homeownership and Housing Counseling. And I'm a Program Specialist and a retired banker. Another area of Hale Mahaolu Homeownership and Housing Counseling is our foreclosure section. As counselors, we are liaison between borrowers and lender to find an alternative to a foreclosure. Our goal is to help borrowers keep their homes. Referrals are from word-of-mouth, the judicial court, and from lenders. In interviewing borrowers, we would know the cause of the foreclosure such as loss of job, reduction in work hours, medical reasons, loss of co-borrowers income. In turn, we would help borrowers complete the loan application package to request for a loan modification. We do most of the discussions with the lender while keeping the borrowers in the loop. Some files would take up to 90 to 120 days for lenders to approve or reject their request. The Federal government's HAMP, making home affordable modification program, ended December 31, 2016. Modifications are still possible. However, lenders are very strict in issuing modifications or other mortgage assistance programs. As you read *The Maui News* daily, there's always foreclosure notices. We ask the Maui County Council for their continued support to provide the necessary services to homeowners and future prospective owners of Maui County. Mahalo.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo nui for your testimony this morning.

MR. BALINBIN: Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Ms. Matthews?

MS. MATTHEWS: Yes, Madam Chair, our next testifier signed up to testify is Tiare Lawrence, testifying on behalf of Mahi Pono, to be followed by Doreen Forsberg.

MS. LAWRENCE: Aloha, Councilmembers.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aloha.

MS. LAWRENCE: My name is Tiare Lawrence. I work as a community relations director for Mahi Pono. I'm here today to respectfully submit testimony in support for the following recycled water project proposals, for the Wailuku-Kahului recycled water pump station as well as the Wailuku-Kahului recycled water force main. We feel converting Maui's wastewater to R-1 will help the County meet our island's needs, and at the same time help us protect our precious surface water resources, and also allow us the ability to recharge our groundwater supply. As we develop our farm plan, we recognize the value of R-1 water for renewable energy and biomass crops. At

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Mahi Pono we want to steward our lands from mauka to makai. Allowing us to access the R-1 water will not only benefit the future of agriculture, but will also avoid the continuation of injecting wastewater into our ocean and allow us to be less dependent on surface water from Na Wai Eha and East Maui. And we appreciate this opportunity to testify in support of the Mayor's wastewater recycled projects. Thank you.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Chair?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Chair King and Member Kama.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Aloha. Thanks for being here, Tiare. I'm just looking at... 'cause I have written from Shan Tsutsui. I didn't know if you submitted any written, but the projects that are on this sheet, are those already in the budget?

MS. LAWRENCE: It's in the proposals that was given by the Mayor...

VICE-CHAIR KING: So it's in the Mayor's proposed budget already?

MS. LAWRENCE: Yeah.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Okay.

MS. LAWRENCE: Yeah.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Because I know there was a press release where he was talking about some projects, and I didn't know if he was trying to add new ones in, or if you were testifying on those. Or you're just testifying what's already... on what's already in the budget?

MS. LAWRENCE: Uh-huh.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Okay. Thank you.

MS. LAWRENCE: Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Member Kama?

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you, Chair. Aloha, Tiare.

MS. LAWRENCE: Aloha.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: So, I have a question. So, in the acquisition of the lands from A&B, why is not Mahi Pono getting water from Well 7?

MS. LAWRENCE: Because we don't have any farming happening right now so they're not pumping the wells right now. Nothing's like in the ground.

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COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: So, when you do actually get something in the ground, you will be pumping?

MS. LAWRENCE: Yeah, that's the intent, is to restart up the pumps and mix that with surface water and use that for irrigation.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Okay, thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Kama. Member Sinenci?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you. Thank you, Tiare, for being here. In light of some of the recent bills at the Legislature, is Mahi Pono planning to change some of their agricultural plans?

MS. LAWRENCE: Not at this time. I think there's other opportunities to secure a lease and, you know, applying for the lease, requesting a revocable permit which they can apply for at the end of the year. And so, there's still other options, perhaps even maybe looking into requesting a stay from the court as well. And so, you know, I'm confident that between Mahi Pono as well as the State that hopefully we can get the State to, you know, work within themselves to change the administration rules and really work out this issue that is affecting a lot of people Statewide.

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

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Sinenci.

MS. LAWRENCE: Mahalo.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, I have one question.

MS. LAWRENCE: Yes.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, so you just mentioned that Mahi Pono would be able to apply for a revocable permit under DLNR, if HB 1326 does not pass the Legislature. So, does that mean that Upcountry water users would not be affected?

MS. LAWRENCE: Upcountry water users are protected with the stay in the court. So, they...yeah, it's...

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo for that clarification.

MS. LAWRENCE: Through the court order.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Right. Mahalo. Ms. Matthews?

MS. MATTHEWS: Madam Chair, our next testifier signed up is Doreen Forsberg, testifying on behalf of Maui Adult Day Care Center, to be followed by Autumn Ness.

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MS. FORSBERG: Good morning, or almost good afternoon. Aloha. My name is Doreen Forsberg, and I work full-time. Oh, I'm going to get teary-eyed here. So I work full-time. I travel extensively for my job, and I'm a caregiver. And without the support of Maui Adult Day Care Center, I could never continue to do what I do and what I love. And that's support a job that I love which is staffing. It gave me the opportunity to do what I love. And it also gave my mom the opportunity to see more than just family. So, I'm here today to support Maui Adult Day Care Center. And to let you know that without their support in the past and what they're currently doing, I could not continue to do what I do 'cause I'm also a current caregiver for my brother, a full-time caregiver. So, we volunteer to give back to Maui Adult Day Care everything that we could possibly do. So, I not only chair an annual event for them, I also sit on their marketing committee. But I don't think that's enough. They continuously need all of our support. And I am here asking for your support, your continued support, and whatever support you guys can give us. You know, and so every time I come out to speak, I carry this binder. So, for the last 16 years that we've worked with Maui Adult Day Care Center, this is my reminder why we do it all the time. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo for your testimony. Seeing no questions, mahalo nui for your testimony. Ms. Matthews?

MS. MATTHEWS: Madam Chair, our next testifier signed up to testify is Autumn Ness, to be followed by Joyce Kawakami. Last call for Autumn Ness. Our next testifier is Joyce Kawakami, on behalf of Feed My Sheep, to be followed by Patricia Loughran. Oh, actually Joyce Kawakami will be followed by Autumn Ness.

MS. KAWAKAMI: Good morning, Budget Chair --

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Good morning.

MS. KAWAKAMI: --Committee Members. I'm from a generation when this is what a tablet looked like. So, that's what I brought forward. So, I'm Joyce Kawakami as you were just told. And I'm here to represent Feed My Sheep. I am the full-time volunteer founder, Board Secretary, and janitor, and have been for 19 years. Will be 20 years this year. Thank you so much for the support we've had since Fiscal Year 2016. We've been on a line item budget item since then. And that has helped us to reach our goal to eliminate hunger and malnutrition for Maui's unfortunate. We are the largest direct distribution of food to the poor on Maui. We are a mobile program. We go north, south, east, and west weekly in Lahaina, Wailuku, Kahului, Kihei, and monthly we go to Hana. We have served in the last year a little over one-half million meals. That's the equivalent of because we give people the equivalent of a week's worth when we go. We've had 26,000 duplicated and 32,000 unduplicated people that we have served. We make healthy food accessible island-wide. We do an annual survey which is a random survey for our clients, totally anonymous, totally confidential. And we ask them questions about their diet, one being are you getting enough food. Another one being is your health improved because of the food, because we give 'em a balanced diet which is what you folks help us do. We couldn't do that

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without you. Ninety percent of them have said ever since they've been coming to Feed My Sheep, their health has improved. And 50 percent of those will tell us if their doctors agree with them that their blood pressure, different health issues have improved since they've started receiving healthy food. We have overwhelming community support with over 20 churches supporting us, 250 to 300 volunteers, all with four right now--we usually have five--but four staff members. Our baseyard/warehouse/office space is generously donated, rent-free, by A&B and now Mahi Pono, who's here, has become one of our landlords for a farm we're planning in the near future. We have our...all of our trucks have been donated. Most of the food is donated. Seventy percent of our donations is in-kind food and resources. Ten percent comes from grants which you folks participate in, and 1 percent is through our fundraising. Only 5 percent of our funds is for administration. The rest is to go to programs. And the CDC has also said that diet does affect how people...directly affects how they look, feel, act, and think. So, it's important that we get healthy food to those who cannot afford it on this island. And that's what we work really hard to do. Thank you. Wow, how did I do that?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Perfect timing.

MS. KAWAKAMI: It must be the tablet.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, seeing no questions, mahalo nui for your testimony.

MS. KAWAKAMI: Thank you.

MS. MATTHEWS: Madam Chair, our next testifier signed up to testify is Autumn Ness, to be followed by Patricia Loughran.

MS. NESS: Aloha, Committee. Thank you for, Chair, for giving me a second shot.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aloha.

MS. NESS: I missed my call. I'm talking about Maui Visitors Bureau funding today. And I have to say that I'm really happy that we're finally talking about managing tourism instead of straight marketing. I listened to MVB's testimony today. And what they're saying all sounds great, but there's a huge disconnect between what's said here and the reality of the situation. And the reality of the situation is they're still functioning largely as a marketing firm with a very small sliver of education on the side to the tune of 2 or 3, \$400,000 out of 4 million. And that's not enough. The good news is that this body has the power to change that by attaching specific requirements to the money they're given, or by giving that funding to an entity that wants to actively manage the industry. Under Member Cochran, I tried for two years to work with the MVB to get them to pivot their focus from marketing to management. We were getting calls from the community, honestly, to defund them altogether. But we thought that if we kept their funding and use their institution for education, they could be a part of the solution now, and if and when our tourism numbers tank in the future, then they could pivot back to marketing. I had conversations all around the community and

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everybody, tourism companies, conservation groups, and housing advocates, we agreed on ways to manage visitor impacts in Maui. Things like requiring a certification course for CORA permits holders, things like getting better education to our visitors about sunscreen, illegal short-term rentals, how to find out if your Airbnb is legal or not. We tried to bring these ideas to MVB but no avail. In 2018 Budget hearings, the Council created an item in this body requiring MVB and the Council to examine impacts of our visitor industry and come up with way to mitigate those impacts. Member Cochran scheduled this topic in her IEM Committee in time to have conversation before the last Budget Session. And I did months of research to prepare for it. And MVB refused to attend the Committee hearings. Even when given a list of dates for months in advance, they refused to attend. They avoided phone calls and conversations. Their response was, we're already working on it. Please come to our Global Tourism Summit and see what our answers are. So, I did, I went. And the summit was appalling. It was sponsored in part by Airbnb, and the short-term rental panel was a 30-minute infomercial for short-term rentals and their importance in our visitor industry. There was no impact mentioned about their impacts on our housing crisis, or our neighborhoods. It was sponsored also by Coral Isles, a Colorado sunscreen company. And all the participants got little samples in their bags that said reef safe, which they were not. So, again, I'm grateful that we're having this conversation, but the MVB needs to do more. What they're saying they're doing is not trickling down to our actual visitors. And that's a problem. On Page 14 of the handout I gave you, it says that HTA has been better at tourism promotion than minding the store. And I think that goes for MVB as well. Our...my experience with them shows me they need accountability. And if we want to manage tourism, this body I think can attach better provisos to their funding instead of writing a blank check, with benchmarks and accountability attached. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Ms. Ness. We have a question for you. Member Paltin?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. I just was wondering if you had seen their latest tourism strategic plan?

MS. NESS: I did. I read it front to back, all two or three booklets of it. And in the beginning, I was really excited about it because it does a really great job of explaining a lot of the problems that our community sees and that our environment is having, and cultural, and everything. And then it just stops there. It's a lot like, if you don't mind if I correlate it to our housing problem. We all know what the problems are, and we all know how people are struggling. But when it comes to action, the only action I see are like videos. But videos are not going to do anything. There's no real actionable steps to solve these. There's a lot of meetings and task forces and stakeholder discussions. But when I canvassed the 40-plus tour operators in Kihei, Lahaina, and Wailea for this research, nobody knew anything about that. People are still calling Kahoolawe by the wrong name. And people are still, you know what I mean, people are still giving out the wrong sunscreen at the kayak companies. So, the strategic plan is great, but it's not doing anything, you know. Thank you.

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COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Paltin.

MS. NESS: Thanks, guys.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, I have a quick question.

MS. NESS: Oh, sure.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: So, in the material that you submitted as part of your testimony, related to Member Paltin's question, in the MVB's strategic plan does it include some of the, I guess, the recommendations of what you submitted in your testimony?

MS. NESS: No, the strategic plan came out around the same time. I can't remember. I think it was right before we started doing this research. And the reason I started doing like the door-to-door like the actual talking to the tour company research is because what was in the strategic plan was very vague. And I wanted to see like what does this actually mean, you know, all these stakeholders. So, yeah, no, the question [sic] is no. And whenever we brought those ideas to MVB, their answer was, we're doing them already, you know. Yeah, I can give you an example, if you have time. But if not, it's okay.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. I think...

MS. NESS: Okay, thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo, Ms. Ness. Ms. Matthews?

MS. MATTHEWS: Madam Chair, our next testifier signed up to testify is Patricia Loughran, testifying on behalf of Mediation Services of Maui, to be followed by Bevanne Bowers.

MS. LOUGHRAN: Good morning, Chair --

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Good morning.

MS. LOUGHRAN: --and Budget Committee.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: May I ask you...

MS. LOUGHRAN: My name is Trish Loughran. I'm here to address...

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Ms. Loughran? Would you mind please speaking into the mic?

MS. LOUGHRAN: I'm sorry.

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CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Thank you.

MS. LOUGHRAN: My name is Trish Loughran. I'm here to address funding for the Maui Mediation Service. I'm a recent graduate of the basic mediation training and the domestic mediation training. Both courses were so informative that I now have a clear understanding of how the process of mediation works. There is such a need in the Maui community to have alternatives to the courts and lawyers. That is where the mediation steps in. They help both parties resolve conflict and find solutions that all can agree on. Mediators are a neutral third-party who does not advise or make decisions. We are here to help guide the process. I am so impressed with the Maui Mediation Service that I am currently working on my apprenticeship to become a mediator. I'm also a newly-elected board member. I am throwing my heart and soul into this program because it works. Please continue to fund Maui Mediation Services. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, seeing no questions, mahalo nui for your oral testimony and your written testimony.

MS. LOUGHRAN: Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Ms. Matthews?

MS. MATTHEWS: Madam Chair, our next testifier signed up to testify is Bevanne Bowers, testifying on behalf Mediation Services of Maui, Incorporated, to be followed by Mark Wilson.

MS. BOWERS: Good morning, Committee Chair. Good morning, Council Chair. Good morning Members of the Council. My name is Bevanne Bowers, and I am the Executive Director of Mediation Services of Maui, doing business as Maui Mediation Services. I first want to thank you for the financial support you've given us in the past for our mediation and conflict resolution services and education program, and ask for your continued support. Maui Mediation Services was established back in 1982 as the Neighborhood Justice Center, a small organization founded to help residents address their community disagreements. Today, we handle on average close to 500 cases a year with all mediations facilitated by our pool of volunteers. Now, they've undergone intensive training as well as an apprentice period. We provide mediations for all of Maui County, including Hana, Lahaina, Lanai, Molokai. Our mediations take place at the courthouses in Hana, Lahaina, Molokai, and Wailuku, but also at our offices in the Cameron Center. Last year, our agency diverted or dismissed 290 cases from courts here in the Second Circuit of the Judiciary. Now cases aren't just referred by the courts, but also attorneys and social service agencies, and previous participants. Two of the statistics that I'm most proud of are that consistently at least 90 percent of participants report satisfaction with the mediation process, and consistently at least 90 percent report that they would recommend mediation to others with problems. Our most requested case types involve parents needing help with custody disagreements, followed by landlord-tenant conflicts, and consumer merchant

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or creditor disputes. It's our position that just about any conflict can be mediated as long as the disputants are willing to participate in this confidential process. But it's not just the participants who benefit from our services. According to a recent social return on investment survey conducted by the Community Services Analysis, LLC, for every \$1 spent on Maui Mediation Services during the year, our community receives \$7.15 of immediate and long-term financial benefits. Now, these benefits include, but are not limited to, savings in court and legal fees, community health cost, and law enforcement cost. A significant part of our mission involves teaching dispute resolution skills for those of all ages. And we have a newly revamped youth program that works with students in both public and private schools, elementary and high school. And we've collaborated with other community youth organizations. These days conflicts seem to be running rampant, and we're seeing a great demand in workplace mediations, as well as training for supervisors and managers who deal with employee disputes. These are areas where we plan to expand in order to better serve Maui County. Again, I thank you for your previous support.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Good timing. You still got that radio voice, Ms. Bowers.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Yeah, I know.

MS. BOWERS: Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Members? Chair King, question?

VICE-CHAIR KING: Thank you. Thank you, Chair. Thanks for being here --

MS. BOWERS: Thank you.

VICE-CHAIR KING: --Bevanne. I was going to say I'm sure you can slip right back into radio if you needed to because you have a great voice. I was just going to ask you if you were doing...if Maui Mediation had done any mediating for the County in any of our cases that were brought against County of Maui?

MS. BOWERS: Not against the County of Maui. We have worked with some County departments internally, but we would love the opportunity to expand and to assist the County government.

VICE-CHAIR KING: You're not precluded from doing that for any reason are you?

MS. BOWERS: No, we are not.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Okay, great, thank you.

MS. BOWERS: Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair King. Okay, I have a quick question.

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MS. BOWERS: Yes.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Would the results from the social return on investments survey be something that you could share with us?

MS. BOWERS: Most definitely.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yeah. Oh, great.

MS. BOWERS: It would be my pleasure.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, that's all. Mahalo for your testimony.

MS. BOWERS: Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Ms. Matthews?

MS. MATTHEWS: Yes, Madam Chair, our next testifier signed up to testify is Mark Wilson, testifying on behalf of Maui Humane Society, to be followed by Scott Hopkins.

MR. WILSON: Good morning, Budget Chair Rawlins-Fernandez and Committee Members. My name is Mark Wilson, and I'm the Director of Humane Enforcement for Maui Humane Society. And I have been for just under five years. I'm here today to ask for support in approving the increase in the Animal Management Program in the Mayor's Fiscal Year '20 Budget...or proposal budget. I have an extensive law enforcement background and worked around many agencies and organizations. And under Jerleen Bryant's leadership and vision, Maui Humane Society has become an exceptional organization with the highest animal save ratio in the State. This was even acknowledged in writing by the Hawaii State Senate last month. In addition to approving the increase, I'm asking for the purchase of two new animal control vehicles at approximate cost of 120,000 total to be funded by the Animal Management Revolving Fund. We have verified that there are adequate funds in the account for this purchase. The Mayor has approved one new truck. But we're asking for an additional truck for a total of two. They'll replace two of our older, worn out, high-mileage trucks which is actually costing Maui County money in repairs just to keep them on the road. In closing, I want to thank the Council for all the support that we've received this year and every year since I've been the Director.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Mr. Wilson. We have a question from Chair King.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Thank you. Thank you for being here, Mark. So I'm going to ask you that same question. Do you know what you do with the vehicles that you're going to be disposing of?

MR. WILSON: The vehicles, including whatever gets purchased, actually belong to the County of Maui.

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VICE-CHAIR KING: Right.

MR. WILSON: So, we'll go through the process of returning them back to the baseyard with...they have a new manager there, Paul Barany, I think. So, it's a whole big paperwork thing to get them out of Maui Humane Society's possession back into the County. And I don't know what they do with it. I thought he told me that they auction them off.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Yeah, they auction off vehicles as low as \$10. So, I was just wondering what...

MR. WILSON: Yeah, that's too much money.

VICE-CHAIR KING: I guess it's...

MR. WILSON: Sorry.

VICE-CHAIR KING: I was going to say we can donate it to the folks that are complaining about the chickens 'cause I'm trying to convince them to start a volunteer group to pick up the chickens. Thank you.

MR. WILSON: Sure.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair King. Seeing no other questions, mahalo for your testimony this morning --

MR. WILSON: Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: --Mr. Wilson. Ms. Matthews?

MS. MATTHEWS: Madam Chair, our next testifier signed up to testify is Scott Hopkins, to be followed by Cesar Gaxiola.

MR. HOPKINS: Good morning, Budget Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aloha.

MR. HOPKINS: Good morning, Councilmembers. My name is Scott Hopkins. I serve as the Operations Director for Feed My Sheep. It's been my honor to be a part of this organization for 11 years, and for that entire time one of our primary focuses has been that people in need, need healthy food. They need nutritious food that's going to help them deal with the challenges that they're facing. And so, to offer healthy food, we built a lot of partnerships with the community. And Maui has a ton to offer, fruit from private homes, produce from local farms, unsold products from stores and restaurants. But through this gleaning process, there is oftentimes where items are harder to get such as protein items, would be a good example. And so, in Fiscal Year 2016, Feed My Sheep began partnering with Maui County through a grant

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which reviews to ensure that balanced nutritious food is available every time someone comes for help. Now, in the last year, the results have been that we have provided the equivalent of half-a-million meals to 3,200 Maui residents. And along with this grant, we have chosen to track the success because it is a grant for making sure that there's healthy food for people. We have tracked, as Joyce mentioned, through a health survey. And I personally have heard dozens of stories every year about someone saying, I feel better. I have a better outlook on life. My doctor says I'm better off. And so, obviously from that standpoint, I feel like we're seeing a lot of success. I guess from a personal standpoint, I'd like to share a small testimony of a gentleman who signed up just a couple weeks ago. He was a proud veteran, a hard worker. He was in a sales job, but he was also living out of his car 'cause that was his only choice. And he then found out that he was sick. He needed surgery. And he wasn't going to be able to keep his job. And then he waited as long as possible until he ran out of food, and he was looking for help. He finally came to us hungry and anxious. And we were able to offer him canned goods. We were able to offer him an abundance of fresh produce. And because we're a volunteer-based organization, we had volunteers with experience in some of the troubles he was facing including healthcare. And we were able to listen to him, and encourage him, and walk him through the next step. And now he's come to us two weeks in a row. We've seen already an improvement in his attitude. And we're looking forward to hearing about his successful surgery. And this is just one of those things where I want to share that to say I feel like what the County has helped us do has been very successful. And I want to thank you for your help and make sure that the food that we offer is reliably available and nutritiously balanced for the people who need it. Thank you for your time and support.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo for your testimony. We have a question from Chair King.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Yeah, thank you. Thanks for being here and for your enthusiasm for your work. So, I just wanted to find out from you, are you coordinating with the Food Banks? So, are you serving different geographic areas or demographics?

MR. HOPKINS: Well, we...they have some programs that are geographically...no, demographically different. But basically, we're in some similar communities as them. We only coordinate with them on donations from Costco.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Oh, okay. So, are you serving the same people? Or do you register them separately?

MR. HOPKINS: We do have a separate registration system.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Okay. All right, thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair King. Okay, seeing no other questions, mahalo, Mr. Hopkins, for your testimony.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: I have a question, Chair.

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CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh, I'm sorry. Member Sinenci?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Just a quick question, Mr. Hopkins. Are you guys doing anything this weekend?

MR. HOPKINS: Yes, we are.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Sinenci. Member Lee?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Just wanted to be sure that you're going through all of the testifiers before we break again.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: That is my intention.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay, thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Ms. Matthews, do you have the total that we have left?

MS. MATTHEWS: Yes, Madam Chair. We're on testifier number 29 of 38.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo. Okay, Mr. Gaxiola?

MR. GAXIOLA: Buenos dias.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Buenos dias.

MR. GAXIOLA: Council Chair, Vice-Chair, and Councilmembers. My name is Cesar Gaxiola. I'm the Executive Director for the J. Walter Cameron Center. And I'm here to ask for your support for the County line item of \$169,000. This is to provide some updates and maintenance items to the facilities. As you know, we house 17 nonprofit resident agencies. And with the news and the weather and everything else, you know, every year we must do some capital improvement projects, and repairs and maintenance, and things of that nature. And so anyway, I'm here to ask for your support, and of course I want to take this opportunity to say thank you to the County and to the County Council for your previous support. So, thank you very much.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: We have a question for you from Member Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Mr. Gaxiola. Do you guys receive any additional funding for your operations beside the County?

MR. GAXIOLA: Yes, yes, we do. In previous years we had received from the State, and also Hawaii Community Foundation, Atherton Foundation, Strong Foundation, Bank of Hawaii, First Hawaiian Bank, and numerous others, private and also donors. You

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know, we're very lucky the Maui community is always supporting us. We have a lot of donations that come in unannounced, you know. And it's just amazing.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you.

MR. GAXIOLA: Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Sinenci. Seeing no other questions...

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Chair?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh, I'm sorry. Member Kama?

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Sorry, we sit on such opposite ends sometimes. Don't worry. So good morning, Cesar --

MR. GAXIOLA: Good morning.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: --and thank you for being here. So, you know, over the years Cameron Center has always been the hub for all of our nonprofits. I mean...and when we talk about Cameron Center, everybody seems to know it. And yet at the same time, I feel sometimes that you all are just kind of like bursting at your seams 'cause your programs come and some of them, the nonprofits over there, they become large and they expand and they gotta leave 'cause you're can't accommodate them. And so, do you have future plans to expand?

MR. GAXIOLA: We're currently working on a strategic plan. And, yes, actually last month ARC of Maui bought a building in Market Street. And so, that allows more space. But then we do have a waiting list with 14...currently we have 14 nonprofit agencies that want to come into the Center and join us. But so, we are looking at...we do have an empty lot next to us. So, the board is looking into and see what will be next.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you. Thank you, Chair.

MR. GAXIOLA: Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Kama. Okay? Okay, this time no other questions.

MR. GAXIOLA: Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Mr. Gaxiola, for your testimony. Ms. Matthews?

MS. MATTHEWS: Madam Chair, our next testifier is Kelly Pearson, testifying on behalf of Boys and Girls Clubs of Maui, to be followed by Michele Navarro Ishiki.

MS. PEARSON: Aloha.

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CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Good morning.

MS. PEARSON: Good morning, Budget Chair, Chair King, Councilmembers. My name is Kelly Pearson, and I have the honor of serving as the CEO for this wonderful organization, the Boys and Girls Clubs of Maui. This is my 22<sup>nd</sup> year I get to stand in front of our Councilmembers to thank you for all that you do, and to ask that you continue to support our organization, and the great work that my staff do for our Maui's youth. During the past weeks you have provided an opportunity for our youth to speak. I guess you've heard youth, parents, staff, from our teens, Amanda in Makawao, Madison in Lahaina, ten-year-old Makana in Haiku, and our Kihei Project Director, Kapono Naeole. They will always remember when they had to speak in front of you to thank you and to tell you what their favorite part of the club is for them. Tonight, you'll get to hear our kids from Central and Paukukalo. The County of Maui is our number one partner providing about 40 percent of our \$2.7 million budget. So, thank you. Our Board members and staff raise the other 60 percent through government grants, foundation funding, special events, and individual and corporate giving. With your funding, we are able to operate seven, soon-to-be eight, sites on Maui. We're able to serve 2,000-plus registered youth members and another 5,000 through outreach and community events. During the past weeks you got to hear a few stories. But in reality, we have thousands of different stories every single day at the clubs. The stories of those members who get help with homework so they can good grades. The youth who are still trying to hone in on their social skills, members who live in foster care, and if it wasn't for the club, they would be separated from their siblings. Members who are still trying to learn what respect is and what good manners are. And when they come to the club, please and thank you are important words. The members who have experienced bullying, but when they come to the club, no one picks on them. The members who learn how to shoot a basketball, make spam musubi, sew a lei. The stories are endless. Besides supporting our operational funding, I'm asking you for your support for the construction of our Paukukalo clubhouse. This current year with both County and State funding, we are able to be in the planning and design phase. We hope to begin construction in 2020. And the hope is to complete the project in late 2021. This has been a project we have been working on for a very long time. While we appreciate the use of the Paukukalo Community Center, our programs have definitely outgrown the facility. So, we've capped our membership. One of the unique features of the Paukukalo clubhouse and one that explains our high membership is that it caters to the students who attend Hawaiian Immersion. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Ms. Pearson. We have a question from Member Kama.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Yes, thank you. So, Kelly, you know the club is going to be built right there on the property?

MS. PEARSON: Correct.

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COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: And so, is that...what kind of a lease is that?

MS. PEARSON: So, we currently have a 35-year lease with DHHL for that structure, that basketball structure. I've had conversations with the Department on getting a longer lease.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Yeah.

MS. PEARSON: Because I'm talking to some private funders. And if they're going to give money, they want to see longer leases than that. And the Department has been very supportive. Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: So, has the community association submitted testimony to support the long-term lease?

MS. PEARSON: No yet.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Okay.

MS. PEARSON: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Okay.

MS. PEARSON: But it's something we're working on.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: When you're ready, let me know.

MS. PEARSON: Okay, thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you. Bye.

MS. PEARSON: Bye.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Kama. Okay, I have a quick question.

MS. PEARSON: Sure.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Is your Paukukalo clubhouse the only site that provides study hall ma ka `olelo Hawaii?

MS. PEARSON: Yes, in the Hawaiian language, yes. And that's because we're lucky we have staff. That was the other 30 second of my speech. Was that we're lucky we have staff who have actually graduated through the program, and who are now my club director. And you'll see her tonight, Ipolani Pu, is a graduate of Hawaiian Immersion.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo. Member Paltin?

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COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Just wondering what the ages are for the Paukukalo one? And do you need to be a resident of Paukukalo to join that club?

MS. PEARSON: So, the age for Paukukalo and our Kahekili, I just wanted to bring that out, is 6 through 17, 18 if they're still in school. The rest of our four clubhouses start at 9, because those were the original. But we...when we put a club in Paukukalo and Kahekili, we learned that the dynamics...the demographics there was a little younger. So, we're serving them. Your second question, no, you don't have to be a resident of Paukukalo.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And you have summer program?

MS. PEARSON: Yes, we're open...I don't know if you call it summer, just all year. We're open 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. in the summer, and whenever school is not in.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Oh, maybe I can bring my kids.

MS. PEARSON: For sure.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay, cool, thanks.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Paltin. Member Sinenci?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Kelly. You mentioned the site right down the road here at the skate park.

MS. PEARSON: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Is that your headquarters? What is that building used for? Is that another club house?

MS. PEARSON: It is. So, on Kanaloa right across of the stadium. It's our Central club house. It's where the admin offices are located.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Okay.

MS. PEARSON: 'Cause I love all my clubs, I want to say it's the main one, but it is where the admin offices are. Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you.

MS. PEARSON: Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Chair?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Sinenci. Member Kama?

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COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: So, Kelly, is the clubhouse going to be one-story or two?

MS. PEARSON: One.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: One.

MS. PEARSON: So, when I took over...can I explain real quick? Yeah. When I took over as CEO in 2014, so we had this project going on was like...and I started I was like, we gotta build this. And then, I was like how much is it? They were like \$8 million. I was like, what? And so, and that was because it was a two-story. And at this point, all we need is a clubhouse for the kids. We're up to 300-something. We capped the membership. Normally, about 600 join that club. So, if we can just even get one floor in, first phase, and keep the second floor open, that's all we're asking for.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Kama. Okay, seeing no other questions, mahalo nui for your testimony.

MS. PEARSON: Mahalo.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Ms. Matthews?

MS. MATTHEWS: Madam Chair, our next testifier signed up is Michele Navarro Ishiki, testifying on behalf of Aloha House Residential Treatment Program, to be followed by Claudine San Nicolas.

MS. NAVARRO ISHIKI: Aloha and good morning --

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aloha.

MS. NAVARRO ISHIKI: --Committee Chair and Members. Kind of nervous. If you hear something, it's my stomach 'cause I hungry. My name is Michele Navarro Ishiki, and I am the Program Director at Aloha House Residential Substance Abuse Treatment Center. I'm here to support continued funding for the Maui Arts and Cultural Center. Part of our mission at Aloha House is to promote recovery and healthy lifestyles to individuals and families. The MACC's Music in the Community exposes our clients to the arts that they may have never been afforded if not for the generosity from the MACC. This type of exposure directly aligns with our mission of promoting healthy lifestyles for the population that we serve. Music and the arts are therapeutic. It helps connect individuals to themselves. It helps them express in a way they would not have been able to. It's priceless. The MACC has brought in to visit our program artists such as Willie K, Henry Kaponu, and Jake Shimabukuro. Jake visited our program on March 16<sup>th</sup>, and I watched in awe as he shared his gift and passion for music with our clients. Some were in tears. One of the clients shared with me that she realized how disconnected from life she had been because of her substance abuse issues. How her love of music was rekindled by having Jake share his story and his

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gift of music. He had a story to share as to why he came to our agency. It's powerful, humbling, and profound. One of those where you had to have been there moments to hear her share her story and to watch the tears in our clients' eyes. Healing through the arts happens because of the MACC's Music in the Community. The collaboration with the MACC and our program in bringing in artists to our program, I cannot fully express with words. I support continued funding for the MACC for all the good they do in our community that advances the health and well-being for all through the arts. Mahalo.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Seeing no questions, mahalo for your testimony, Ms. Navarro Ishiki. Ms. Matthews?

MS. MATTHEWS: Madam Chair, our next testifier signed up to testify is Claudine San Nicolas testifying on behalf of Hale Kau Kau, St. Theresa Church, to be followed by Joylynn Paman.

MS. SAN NICOLAS: Good morning, Council Chair, Budget Chair, and --

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Good morning.

MS. SAN NICOLAS: --Councilmembers. My name is Claudine San Nicolas. I'm the Program Director at Hale Kau Kau, and I, too, am nervous. I've been at the job for about 16 months, but Hale Kau Kau has been around for 27½ years. Ten thousand one hundred and thirty consecutive days of feeding the homeless, the hungry, anyone who comes to the window at Hale Kau Kau at St. Theresa Church. We've served something like 1.5 million meals in that time. As you know, we partner with the County in delivering meals to the frail, sick, disabled, elderly of South Maui, anywhere from Maalaea to Wailea. And we get those referrals from doctors, priests or ministers, the County's Office on Aging, and nonprofits. We have a widow who has been with us since August 2009, and our newest client was just last Friday who became disabled and is not able to, because she can't work, now can't afford a dinner. So, the people we serve are really at a range of different conditions. And so, the Reverend Monsignor Terence Watanabe is our Executive Director, and he has submitted written testimony for you. We e-mailed it on Monday. I think it gives you a perspective of where we're at. The County grant with the Grants Management Division at the Department of Housing and Human Concerns represents really just a little bit of our cost, somewhere around 10 to 20 percent of what it costs us. The rest of our budget we raise through donors and the community. So, we're very grateful for your support, and we thank you in advance for helping the homeless, the hungry, the frail, the sick, the disabled, the elderly of our community. Thank you so much.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, seeing...oh, I'm sorry. We have a question --

VICE-CHAIR KING: Small question.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: --from Chair King.

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VICE-CHAIR KING: Thank you, Chair. Thanks for being here, Claudine. I'm a little tickled that you're nervous. You spent so many years working for *The Maui News*. But what was your...I haven't seen your actual line item in the Human Services section. But is it under Hale Kau Kau, or is it under St. Theresa's, or --

MS. SAN NICOLAS: No, it's actually under --

VICE-CHAIR KING: --are you under a different...

MS. SAN NICOLAS: --our 501(c) comes under the Roman Catholic Church in the State of Hawaii.

VICE-CHAIR KING: So, it's listed as the Roman Catholic Church?

MS. SAN NICOLAS: Yes, the State of Hawaii.

VICE-CHAIR KING: And do you know how much it is?

MS. SAN NICOLAS: That's the grantor. Yeah, it's \$100,000.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Okay.

MS. SAN NICOLAS: And of which, actually in '19 which we're going to be getting very shortly in terms of by the end of the fiscal year, it's 110. The County's Office on Aging kicked in \$10,000.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Oh, nice.

MS. SAN NICOLAS: So, we could get a new double oven that's been with us for about a decade. So, just like a car, a oven can only last you so long when you're doing an average of 150 to 200 meals a day.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Right.

MS. SAN NICOLAS: Right.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Okay.

MS. SAN NICOLAS: So, yeah, so it's actually 110 altogether that we're getting out of County funding. But that's really because of a double oven.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Okay. Well, thanks for joining that organization --

MS. SAN NICOLAS: Yeah.

VICE-CHAIR KING: --and bringing all your enthusiasm there.

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MS. SAN NICOLAS: Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair King. Seeing no other...oh, Member Sinenci?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Real quick, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: What is the favorite dish on the menu?

MS. SAN NICOLAS: Oh, Robert, our cook would get upset with me. I think it really varies, you know. No, I'm afraid to say. But we really actually have a variety from, you know, the chili to the Marriott that gives us kalua pork, you know. So, it really varies. But what's important, and I hear Feed My Sheep here, say is that it's a hot, nutritious meal. You get a protein, a starch, veggies, fruit, roll, salad, every day. So, I think that's what's important. But that protein, it really varies on what we can afford that day. Yeah, thank you for asking that.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Sinenci. Members, I'm going to disallow any further questions about food until after our lunch break. Mahalo nui for your testimony, Ms. San Nicolas. Ms. Matthews?

MS. MATTHEWS: Yes, Madam Chair, our next testifier signed up to testify is Joylynn Paman, followed by...is this person here? No? Okay. Our next testifier is Ms. Pellegrino, testifying on behalf of Hui Na Wai Eha. Mr. Pellegrino?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: He left.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: He's coming.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay.

MS. MATTHEWS: I'll call him again. The next person signed up to testify is Tom Blackburn-Rodriguez, testifying on behalf of Go Maui, Incorporated, to be followed by Paul Janes-Brown.

MR. BLACKBURN-RODRIGUEZ: Good afternoon --

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Good afternoon.

MR. BLACKBURN-RODRIGUEZ: --Chair and Members of the Committee. This is a little bit like batting cleanup. We'll finish this up, and all go to lunch. All right, thank you. My name is Tom Blackburn-Rodriguez, and I'm testifying on behalf of Go Maui, Inc. I'm a registered agent to testify before the Council on behalf of Go Maui. For more information, please go to gomauinc.org. I'm testifying in support of the Mayor's budget proposal to increase the Affordable Housing Fund by 1 percent, from 2 percent of real property taxes to 3 percent. This amounts to an additional 3.37 million over

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the 2 percent amount, bringing the total potential appropriation to a set aside of 10.1 million for the Affordable Housing Fund. According to the REALTORS® Association of Maui, the median price of a home on Maui is now \$735,000. That's up 7.7 percent compared to the first quarter of 2018. It's not getting any better. The affordable housing index is now at 64, down seven points from 2018. This means that the medium household income represents only 64 percent of what is necessary to qualify for a median priced home under prevailing interest rates. Sixty-four percent. In conclusion, Go Maui like this and previous Councils understands the crisis in housing for Maui's working people and their families. Go Maui respectfully asks the Committee to support the Affordable Housing Fund increase. According to news reports, as a nation, not only on Maui, we may be maxed out when it comes to building affordable housing. We hope this is not true. Safe, clean, affordable shelter is at its heart a human right. Please continue to work to do all you can to make this human right a reality on Maui. Aloha. Thank you very much, and Happy Easter, everyone. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo. We have a question from Chair King.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Yeah, thanks for being here, Tom. So, we have actually had some discussion about raising the Affordable Housing Fund up to 4 percent. I just wanted to get your thoughts on that, if you would support that.

MR. BLACKBURN-RODRIGUEZ: I think it's a good conversation. I think it's necessary to look at that increase only because of the scope of the problem. As you may recall, and other Members of the Council, at the time that Mr. Molina was here, introduced the bill that eventually became and went on to the Charter to become the 2 percent. There have been discussions at that time of 1 percent. And the conversation came back, well, wait a minute. That's not enough. We need 2 percent. So, I think the voters have subsequently, on several occasions, reaffirmed that Charter amendment. And it may be time to have a conversation about increasing that amount, which you do have as you know within your powers as --

VICE-CHAIR KING: Right.

MR. BLACKBURN-RODRIGUEZ: --the budgeting --

VICE-CHAIR KING: Right.

MR. BLACKBURN-RODRIGUEZ: --authority. Thank you for the question.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Percentage is a minimum, so. And also, I know we've had this conversation before, but in terms of the County actually taking the lead on some housing projects, and just your thoughts on that.

MR. BLACKBURN-RODRIGUEZ: Well, I could not testify on behalf of Go Maui regarding that because there hasn't been a board discussion on it. I think that it has been around for a long time ever since Mayor Cravalho. And it may be necessary to talk about how

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to jump start...the reason for government to get involved in housing programs is when the private market is not able to take care of the need. So, if that's determined, there may be a role for the government to play. But again, I'm not authorized yet to endorse --

VICE-CHAIR KING: Okay.

MR. BLACKBURN-RODRIGUEZ: --that position.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Yeah, I think it might be a good discussion if I could just kind of prompt you go back to your board because what we're looking at as the biggest need is the, you know, up to 80 percent AMI. So, that's the part we haven't been able to address, I think, quickly enough.

MR. BLACKBURN-RODRIGUEZ: Well, I know your concern and thank you very much.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair King. I just wanted to make a quick clarification in case... 'cause it sounds like there is a little bit of confusion. The Charter requirement is a minimum, and so to increase it wouldn't require a Charter amendment.

MR. BLACKBURN-RODRIGUEZ: I would encourage you to --

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Is that clear?

MR. BLACKBURN-RODRIGUEZ: --explore that option.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay.

MR. BLACKBURN-RODRIGUEZ: Thank you very much for that clarification.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Member Molina?

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Thank you, Madam Chair. Good morning, Tom, and thanks for being here.

MR. BLACKBURN-RODRIGUEZ: Good morning.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Just on the need for affordable housing, do you see that...we increase our inventory in whatever way we have to go about doing this, do you see this also as an economic stimulus? Because I guess once you put families into a home, they've attained home ownership. Does that stimulate the economy in terms of needs for additional goods and services?

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MR. BLACKBURN-RODRIGUEZ: Well, Member Molina, speaking as a personal, married homeowner, I can tell you that it's an economic benefit. There's furniture, there's cleaning, there's yard work, there's landscaping, there's home repairs, there's burst pipes. No, it's definitely an economic benefit. Once you get into a home, it's not the first thing you do. And that's what people have to be educated to. They need to set aside money for those repairs and what-have-you. But, yes, and in addition to the increase from property taxes. So, it is a win for the County economically, not only just building strong and strengthening our families.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Thank you. Thank you, Madam Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Molina. Okay, seeing no other questions, mahalo for your testimony this afternoon.

MR. BLACKBURN-RODRIGUEZ: Mahalo. Aloha.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aloha. Ms. Matthews?

MS. MATTHEWS: Yes, Madam Chair, our next testifier is Paul Janes-Brown, testifying on behalf of King Kekaulike Foundation for Performing Arts.

MR. JANES-BROWN: Aloha awakea --

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aloha awakea.

MR. JANES-BROWN: --Madam Chair, Madam Chair of the Council, Members of the Committee. I'd like to ask, if I may, how many of the Members of the Council have been in the new King Kekaulike Performing Arts Center? One...two...please, okay...only...okay. Well then, I guess I have to describe it then. So, it is a \$35 million facility. It is the best theater in the State of Hawaii. It is located in the Pukalani campus of the King Kekaulike High School. It is...what's the difference between a theater and an auditorium? It is not a high school auditorium. It's the size. Usually auditoriums hold the entire student body, whereas this space is only 419 seats. Slope of the floor, auditoriums usually have a gentle rake that allows for visibility. But not what theaters require, which is step seating to facilitate viewing everything on the stage. There is not a bad seat in this house. It has state-of-the-art facilities for sound and lighting. The goals and objectives of this request of \$160,000 that the Mayor has recommended in the Office of Economic Development Management budget is to make this extraordinary facility available to the wider community. The objectives are to hire management and technical staff with the expertise and experience to not only operate the facility, but also to train students to staff the facility for the wider community, and to provide them with hands-on professional level on-the-job experience which will make them exceptionally attractive candidates for higher education and/or gainful employment in the field upon graduation from high school. Another objective is to provide for maintenance funds to address the settling of concrete dust since the building was completed, and the normal equipment and facility interior and exterior maintenance. We hope that you'll have the opportunity to experience this facility. We

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have a large number of community groups that have already expressed an interest in programming this facility. And we're hoping that we're able to make it available. According to the Americans for Arts economic impact of the not-for-profit arts and cultural industry calculator, this project will generate between 1.7 to \$2 million in total expenditure, which will generate 37 full-time jobs and provide approximately \$880,000 in household income, and result in \$52,000 in local government revenue and \$58,000 in State government revenue. I respectfully request the Members of the Council to support this request, and I hope that you will. Look at that, I finished before.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Good job. Okay, seeing no questions, mahalo nui for your testimony.

MR. JANES-BROWN: Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Ms. Matthews?

MS. MATTHEWS: Madam Chair, our next testifier signed up to testify is Suzanne Antounian, testifying on behalf of Maui Adult Day Care Centers, to be followed by Shay Chan Hodges.

MS. ANTOUNIAN: Good morning, Madam Chair and County Councilmembers. I want to thank you for your continued support, and thank the Mayor, County Council, and Department of Housing and Human Concerns for our line item for year 2020 in the amount we requested, \$358,440. Ninety-thousand of that is for Hale Hulu Mamo in Hana. Also we all want to congratulate Yuki for being appointed to serve on the County of Maui's Council on Aging. Wow, we're so happy to have you, part of our team. My name is Suzanne Antounian, and I'm the Executive Director from Adult Day Care Centers with five locations throughout Maui County. I'm so honored to be representing our aging community today. We are currently serving over 800 frail elderly, kupuna, as well as physically or mentally-challenged individuals, age 18 and over. Maui Adult Day Care just celebrated our 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary. We continue to be the most cost-effective long-term care program on Maui, with day care rates from \$58 to \$67 per day. We also accept Quest insurance, which is a good thing. We provide a safe, loving environment that embraces the needs of our aging population. And we provide caregiver support to families as well as quarterly workshops at our five locations, and also workshops on Molokai and Lanai. We're very proud of also our Hale Hulu Mamo Center in Hana who serves as a drop-in center for our Hana kupuna. We served over 450 seniors in the last year in Hana. Our center is the hub in Hana and provides a referral source and also distributes food for the Maui Food Bank. And we also distribute for Hospice Maui, hospital beds, walkers, wheelchairs. Hale Hulu Mamo offers caregivers a safe haven to drop off their loved ones if they need to go to town. We also offer laundry facilities, use of computer and Internet, massage, acupuncture, haircuts, and we even wash cars. Hale Hulu Mamo also offers movies in the park, Christmas Fun Fair, and Hana Stroll in the Park, which are all family-centered activities. Even with our costs increasing, we have not asked the County Council or the Mayor for an increase in our line item for over four years. We

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want to thank Roy Katsuda, Grant Chun, and the Hale Mahaolu team for their partnership as well as the Nisei Center for their partnership. And we are grateful to the Kaunoha Senior Center at the Hale Mahaolu kitchens for their meal service, MEO for their transportation. So, thank you for realizing how important Maui Adult Day Care Centers is. That's for Maui Adult Day Care, and if I could just take real quick, I don't know if I have any time left. Nope, maybe not. I've also been asked to give a quick...

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: I'm sorry. We ran out of time.

MS. ANTOUNIAN: Okay, that's fine.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay.

MS. ANTOUNIAN: I will make sure you get that.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Members...Member Sinenci?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Yeah. Thank you, Suzanne, for being here.

MS. ANTOUNIAN: Hi.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Yes, you mentioned some other partnerships that Maui Day Care has?

MS. ANTOUNIAN: Correct.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: You want to...

MS. ANTOUNIAN: Partnerships. We have a \$1 lease with Hale Mahaolu, and also the Nisei Center. But we do pay a maintenance fee, which is similar to rent, but a dollar. So, for our landlords, we have partnerships with them, also with the Kansha Preschool. We work with MEO Transportation, Kaunoha Senior Center, and Hale Mahaolu Personal Care, so...oh, the college. So, we have fingers in a little bit of everything.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you for being here.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, seeing no other questions, mahalo nui for your testimony.

MS. ANTOUNIAN: Thank you very much and Happy Easter.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Happy Easter. Ms. Matthews?

MS. MATTHEWS: Madam Chair, our next testifier signed up to testify is Shay Chan Hodges, to be followed by Joylynn Paman, if they're here. Or Hoku Pellegrino, if he's here.

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MS. CHAN HODGES: Aloha. Here we go. Aloha.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aloha.

MS. CHAN HODGES: As you guys know, I think, I am testifying on the Maui ESG Investment project. My name is Shay Chan Hodges. And I know that you folks have heard a lot of different testimony and from different people. And it is a very complex project, and so I wanted to clarify some things about it. And you should have received in the last hour or so, or maybe an hour-and-a-half or so, a matrix that is two pages that went to the EDB Committee, and it went to you folks individually. I'm sure you haven't had a chance to look at it yet. But I'm just letting you know that we have it here. And what we realized is that there was some confusion in terms of how the project is laid out. And, of course, because the project is about enforceable standards and holding investment incorporations accountable, and since we are asking you guys to invest in this project, we wanted to make sure that you knew what kinds of outputs, outcomes, and how those would be measured so that we can be held accountable because that's what the whole purpose of this is. And we heard an earlier testifier talk about that whole concept. And I know that I see you guys looking really carefully at the budget overall and trying to determine how best to use your funds. So, I thought it was...we thought it was really important to make sure you had this laid out. So, just to clarify too, and because we're talking to people every day, we've kind of refined things. But we have three parts to the project, the education and relationship building in the first six months, the ahupuaa values investment summit which is going to be held in January. I know Kari Nunokawa said November. And as we were just looking at the scheduling and realizing the holidays, et cetera, and also as far as who's going to be in attendance, we definitely want Brian Schatz and Mazie Hirono and other legislators to be able to come, and there's a recess in January. And we're also talking about, you know, when we're talking about the investors coming from the mainland. So, that is something that we wanted to clarify. And I know also Councilmember Kama asked specifically about who will be part of the education process. And so, when you look at the...when you have time to look at the matrix, you'll see in the outputs specifically who at a very minimum that we will be reaching to and educating. In the first six months at the summit, you'll see a brief explanation of how the--oops, sorry--the conference will be done. And then the very important part is the outcomes. How many jobs that we are going to be creating, how many investments, and how much money we'd like to see coming back into the community as a result of this. So, I really hope that you'll have the time to look over the matrix. And we will definitely be available to answer any questions about it, if you have them. Mahalo.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, Members?

VICE-CHAIR KING: I just was going to ask if we...

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Chair King?

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VICE-CHAIR KING: I didn't see the form that Chan Hodges was talking about. So, I just wondered if that got...if that is forthcoming?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Ms. Matthews?

MS. MATTHEWS: Chair King, it was e-mailed to the EDB Committee about an hour ago.

MS. CHAN HODGES: Yeah, we just did it.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Oh okay.

MS. CHAN HODGES: Yeah.

MS. MATTHEWS: So...

VICE-CHAIR KING: I didn't know if it was something she brought with her. So, we'll get it later.

MS. CHAN HODGES: Oh, yeah, sorry. I asked...

VICE-CHAIR KING: That's okay. We'll get it later.

MS. CHAN HODGES: Okay, great. Alright, thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Ms. Chan Hodges, for your testimony today. Ms. Matthews?

MS. MATTHEWS: Final call for Joylynn Paman. Hoku Pellegrino?

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

MS. MATTHEWS: Coming tonight, okay. Amy Halas, testifying on EDB-1. Followed by Kehau Filimoeatu.

MS. HALAS: Hi. So nice to see everyone here today. Thank you for this opportunity. I just wanted to add my two cents. I am hoping that the budget will include money for the County Archaeologist as proposed by Councilmember Sinenci. I'm a little late today because I was at the Maui-Lanai Island Burial Council. And we heard firsthand the consequences of having no oversight over our wahi pana, over our cultural landscape, and about the imperilment to the iwi kupuna, the wahi kapu. As you all know, I'm seeing Gomes trucks going 24/7. There's a lot of action going on. And as you probably know, Dr. Matthew Barker Farris resigned from the State Historic Preservation Division in September. Currently, there's no on-island archaeologist at the Maui State Historic Preservation Division. I know that Councilmember Sinenci's Committee met, and Dr. Lebo who is actually in Kapolei. She is the State Historic Preservation Division Archaeology Branch Chief, and I know she flew here, and she testified on the issue. The concern is that State Historic Preservation Division is sorely

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underfunded and understaffed, and with no State Archaeologist overseeing Maui County. So, we're talking about Kahoolawe and Lanai and Molokai and Maui. It seems that there is room for all kinds of imperilment. This morning we had the representatives of the Hilton project at the former Maui Lu site, and there's been a lot of activity there. And it wasn't until December that Hilton took it upon themselves to get somebody to do archaeological monitoring. But from my understanding, there's only one archaeological monitor, and it's a huge parcel. And right now when you drive down South Kihei Road, you're going to see a lot of sand. And it's very sad because SHPD, the Archaeology Branch, is dead, the Maui SHPD Office. It's dead. So, basically, we have the Culture and History Branch trying to pick up the pieces. But they're not certified archaeologists. I just want to mention another area is the latest Frampton and Ward project on the Kamehameha Avenue extension, right across from the Maui Lani Na Hoku subdivision where you'll see a large burial preserve. And we see the grading and the grubbing going on into this once sand mined area. And there's some still intact, some pu'u one. And this is right next to Pomaikai School. We still have the activity semi on hold, just a temporary injunction at the Maui Lani Phase 6 Towne Parkways. Yes, we need affordable housing. But at the cost of the iwi kupuna, is it worth it? Mahalo.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Ms. Halas. Member Sinenci?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you. Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Amy, for being here. I just wanted to comment. Yes, we...and thank you for supporting the archaeologist. Our staff is in the process of finding where to place the archaeologist, and I think we've met with some of the current...with Noelani them. So, we're in the process of getting the position. So, mahalo for your support.

MS. HALAS: Yeah, maikai loa.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Yeah.

MS. HALAS: Mahalo.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, seeing no other questions, mahalo nui for your testimony today.

MS. HALAS: Aloha.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Ms. Matthews?

MS. MATTHEWS: Madam Chair, our last testifier signed up to testify is Kehau Filimoeatu --

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Filimoeatu.

MS. MATTHEWS: --testifying on EDB-1.

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MS. FILIMOEAU: Aloha, challengers of the Council. Do or die. Mahalo for being here, and mahalo for accepting my late inclusion. I'm sorry that I'm going to be your 40<sup>th</sup> here. And I know you've been here all morning. I'm here to testify on behalf of your housing projects, your housing, affordable housing items that you have on your agenda, and that is always included in your budget. We all know that housing is a crisis situation. Not only here on Maui, but in the entire State as well as the rest of the nation. And we all know that a lot of our constituents, and your constituents, our ohana are in dire need of shelter. And we all know that housing not only means a beautiful house and a beautiful landscaped place. But it also means a little hovel, for a lot of our people, it's a little tent. And for some of ours, it's under the moon. So, I have here that you are going to be introducing IDAs, and I'm sorry to say that you've so far heard from Hale Mahaolu. Just to introduce myself, I actually is co-founder of your Hawaiian Community Assets Program. And Jeff, I think, Gilbreath, you might all have his handout. And that is what you really should be looking at. We come as the only HUDs...one of two HUD-certified housing, home ownership counselors in the entire State. The other one is Hale Mahaolu. I also come with you with a lot of national as well international connections with the native NCRC, which is your native...I'm sorry your National Credit Resources Coalition. We come with your rural development access as well as subsidize. And we do a lot of outreach for...in homeownership as well as financial literacy workshops. I know that Keani is very familiar with that. Our first focus was on our Native Hawaiians, but we have now, because of the Federal designation, have been able to offer that to anyone and everyone who would like to come and partake. Okay, so I'm pulling on kupuna status. You know, how slow we go. So, three minutes going be slower. But other than that, I'm open to questions. And I'm sorry that I'm kinda like in a rush 'cause it's just wanting to let you know that there is a presence. And we are in the process as we speak. And when Jeff was here the last time in trying to secure an office space. And that we come with our own rural list designation and collaboration as well. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo. Members...Member Kama, and then Chair King.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you, Chair. So, can you tell us how many IDAs Hawaiian Community Assets have done?

MS. FILIMOEAU: You know, I can't, you know, garans ball barans, give you the actual figure. But it is in...I would say Statewide, 1,000 at least. And what it is is as a nonprofit designator, you are able to go out and garner matching funds. We have a two to one now that's guaranteed for the low and moderate income. It's income criteria'd as well. And then for Hawaiians, we get one more dollar 'cause we go to the Hawaiian pocket. You know, we ask for that. And all that is is getting those resources to get directly down to our, well, you can 'em clients, but it's our community. We become, as a nonprofit, that vehicle that takes one dollar from here and passes it right over the other way. For administrative costs, we actually then go out and get CDBGs if we can. We get support from some of our other membership entities, as well as the community.

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COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: One more question. Does HCA charge your customers, your clients for the classes?

MS. FILIMOEATU: Well, because we're nonprofit and because we're more mission-driven than money, there's no fee for service, per se. And what has happened is we do now have a lending arm. And what we do is if there's anything like, you know, everybody has to pay for a credit report. It's not coming to us, but it goes to the credit agencies. And a lot of times if they do the lending through us, then a lot of those charges that would go to anybody is taken on as a grant. We have noticed, too, that when a lot of the openings are coming out for projects, and in this case, I'm talking about like Department of Hawaiian Home Lands, et cetera, a lot of our families are not really ma`a to escrow so they don't know what that is. And a lot of times in order to get an award or accept an award, you have to set up an escrow account. And many times it's about \$1,000. But, you know, Hawaiians if you don't know you going get 'em or not, and they tell you before you going get 'em, you gotta put \$1,000 down. I mean it's quite a shock if you're not aware of that. And that's one of the things that we saw happening. And what we did was, we were offering them half and the other half...if they come up with half, we come up with the other half. And if they get it and they do the funding through us, then it's a grant.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Kama. Chair King, and then Member Sugimura.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Thank you, Chair. Thanks for being here, Kehau. I was...I know you're always concerned about affordable housing and you're giving input into it. And so, because there's a project that's on the...at the State level to be funded by HHFDC, I just want your...I was told you were going to send me a testimony about it. So, I just want to get your input on the Keawe Street apartments and whether you support that project --

MS. FILIMOEATU: Yes.

VICE-CHAIR KING: --with the funding that's coming with it.

MS. FILIMOEATU: I'm sorry. And I was supposed to call you back and let you know. But just last week we went with Doug Bigley as well as \_\_\_\_\_ with Ikaika Ohana. They're doing that on "ceded" lands which is just above Hawaiian Home Lands in Leialii on the west side. They have gotten a 30, coming from the State as well as the Feds, \$30 million towards that rental project. So, when given all the different stats that I don't have with me, but he came forward. And what we did was do the outreach to the community. And, of course, a lot of the people there are already homeland...Hawaiian Home Land residents or lessees. They were there. They were quite, I think a little bit confused, was adamant about thinking that ceded lands was considered Hawaiian Home Lands, therefore not able to be built on or used by non-Hawaiians. And so, it was clear that HFDC [sic], being the State agency that now has that opportunity to

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award the RFPs to whoever and whomever, I think Ikaika had gotten that coming out. But what they wanted to do is do the outreach. And I think a lot of times in anything you do on the County level with especially our, you know, our bruddahs and sistahs, aunty, uncles, one of the first things you do is try to outreach to them so they understand what's happening. 'Cause a lot of times when you get second or third hand, you know, then it gets put in a little bit of a different space. But they realize that the accessibility, though it was not going to be only 50 percent you gotta be Hawaiian, it was really going to be open to all peoples of the west side of the world of Hawaii and of Maui. But trying to get the developer to come out with the oh, come here, makaala, was what that was all about. So, that the people there, the people here who know of their ohana or someone who needs affordable housing, gets a first look at it, and know that it's accessible. Certainly, by someone walking in the door, or getting off the plane, but you over here now know that you can go tell your son who's looking for an affordable anything, this is coming up.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Okay. So was there...are you supporting the project?

MS. FILIMOEATU: There was some pushback. But at the end of the day, they realized that it could be a help to their present community as well as to their extended family, whether you be Hawaiian or not. And then on the west side, there were other people that were certainly looking towards that.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Okay, thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, mahalo, Chair King. Member Sugimura? And Member Paltin? Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: I just wanted to ask if the...going back to the IDA, is that only for, and what you're talking about, is for only for Hawaiians?

MS. FILIMOEATU: No. Okay, IDA is an individual development account. That's what IDA. Not Ida, like my sister's name. But, you know, IDA. And what it says is this is an individual account that you can set up for an individual need. So, we may have IDAs that are for housing. You may have IDAs that is for education. And you maybe have IDAs for some other thing you want to set up. Like some of the...you have macro loans, you know, that you going set up IDAs for the bruddahs who like buy one car. And you save so much and what it is you try to match funds or savings. That is one of the ways that we enticed our younger people where we do our opio and keiki outreach for financial literacy to help them to understand what is saving. And, you know, see when you tell the baby, you know, for every dollar, you put I going put one dollar. And we started like, you know, 50 cents. And what we did in Papakolea was start one of these landscape businesses for the teen boys in the, you know, that they would go pick up either the cans or, you know, rake the yards for the kupuna. And they would usually...the kupuna would give them the cans for go turn 'em in, right, and the bottles for recycle. And so what they did is, then they said, oh, but they need one more wheelbarrow, stuff like that. So, these started from the little things that the kupuna was giving, we started an IDA so that eventually what ended up, not only did

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they get the wheelbarrow, but they got one secondhand Ford Ranger for put the stuff inside and go. But it's little things like that that entices, not entices, but incapacitates...capacitizes your community to understanding what's savings is. And sometimes we really tell 'em, you know. Saving is how you spend. So, how you spend is how you save, which when you figure out, you no can spend, so you gotta save, right. But it's bringing it down to the ideology and the mindset of your person not necessarily in need, but really know how. And that's one of the things that we found out in trying to do. We have a culturally-based financial literacy book that we have...we first started. And we have the opio, keiki, as well as the kupuna different what-you-call-it, and it's Congressionally whatever-you-call-that, so we got 'em on, you know, on the rolls. But we found out that when a family is...well, what we found out was, you know, way before local people and Hawaiians as well as Filipinos were considered very unbankable 'cause we never go into the banks, right. And what it is, is giving the people the tools to make them ma`a so that they no shame and go in. I mean you would be good if you have a lot of community development financial institutions. And a lot of your, like, your credit unions are member-based so you own that bank kind of. You know what I mean? As opposed to the First Hawaiians and the Bank of Americas, and all of those other people. But I think by doing that, then you capacitize your community to be able to be more sustainable.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Yes, thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Sugimura. Member Paltin?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Aloha, Kehau.

MS. FILIMOEATU: Hi, Tamara.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you for coming. Thank you for what you do. You know, I also went to a presentation about the Keawe project with the HFDC [sic] in my community. And, you know, I think the presentation that I went to there wasn't confusion. People were very clear, and they were very clear that this was not a good project for our community.

MS. FILIMOEATU: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I'm wondering, what is your definition of ceded lands?

MS. FILIMOEATU: Okay, when we became a State, and Tasha will tell you this better, there was a compact that made us cede over lands to the US of A that they were already using a lot, like all of your harbors, all of your schools, your hospitals, et cetera. There's five--what-you-call-it --

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Public land purposes.

MS. FILIMOEATU: --reasons for the ceded lands. And there's housing, education--Tash, you gotta help me--housing, education...

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

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Perhaps we can take this conversation after lunch?

MS. FILIMOEATU: Oh, okay.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: If you want to try to sum it up and...

MS. FILIMOEATU: Yeah, we can do that. But also, Tamara, we're going to pull another meeting together May 9 back over there to get a greater sense of the community there because if they don't...okay.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Have you visited the site --

MS. FILIMOEATU: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: --that they're proposing?

MS. FILIMOEATU: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And you're familiar with the traffic flow in that area?

MS. FILIMOEATU: Right. So, they were talking about all of that too, and they will be. Now, 'cause a lot of the people were asking about sewer, infrastructure. Well, whatever goes up there is going to go through the same sewer system that Leialii is on right now.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: It was my understanding that they need to build their own sewage treatment plant.

MS. FILIMOEATU: Well, they were going to have to add on to whatever is already there in Honokowai, yeah. The one that is DHHL driven. See, DHHL built the one that is there, now by the, up and over stuff over there, and they need to increase it. Not only just for the Keawe Street, but it's going to be for every place else that's coming up.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: It was my understanding that they needed to build their own facility.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Member Paltin, can we take this during lunch? If you don't mind talking?

MS. FILIMOEATU: Okay, yeah, thank you. We can do that, Tamara.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Okay. I'm sorry, Member Paltin. We just, we have a hefty schedule that we have to get through. Okay, any further questions to clarify our testifier's testimony? Okay, seeing none, mahalo nui for your testimony, Ms. Filimoeatu.

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MS. FILIMOEATU: Thank you for the time. And mahalo, you guys. I mean this is really about malama and taking care of all of us.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo ia oe. Okay, Members, before we break for lunch, so we have Environmental Management, Housing...oh, I'm sorry. We never close public testimony. Ms. Matthews, will you please call our next testifier?

MS. MATTHEWS: Madam Chair, we have no other testifiers signed up in the Chamber --

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay.

MS. MATTHEWS: --or at our District Offices.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, mahalo. Okay, Members, if there are no objections --

COUNCILMEMBERS: No objections.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: --I will now close public testimony. Public testimony is now closed.

**. . .END OF PUBLIC TESTIMONY. . .**

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: And the public will be welcomed to continue testimony six o'clock tonight at the public hearing. Okay, where am I? Here, okay, so we're going to continue with our department operations budget review. And we have Environmental Management, Housing and Human Concerns, the Prosecuting Attorney and OED. I...yes, I would like to see if the Members would be open to taking it out of this order and reviewing Housing and Human Concerns and OED first, and then Environmental Management and Prosecuting Attorney. And the rationale for that is most of the testimony that we received today falls under those two departments. And so I'd really like to make sure that we get those two reviewed today while all the testimony is still fresh in our minds. Chair King?

VICE-CHAIR KING: I was actually just going to say the same thing is that --

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh, okay.

VICE-CHAIR KING: --you know, we just heard a lot of the grant, from the grant programs for those two. So, if we can...we only have three hours about, so if we can get through those two since we have to break for dinner, and then the six o'clock hearing.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yeah. So, we'll...I was going to ask if Members would be willing to return at 1:30. But now that it's 12:42, I don't think that would be fair to ask you to return at 1:30. And so two o'clock?

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UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Two o'clock is good.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Is two o'clock fair? Okay, so we'll say two o'clock and then we will be breaking at 5:00. And if we're able to review all four in the three hours, then we won't need to return after the public hearing. But I'll check your temperature at 5:00 before we break to see how everyone's doing. And maybe...Chair King?

VICE-CHAIR KING: Well, yeah, it's difficult to set a time certain after the public hearing because we just don't know how long it's going to go.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yeah.

VICE-CHAIR KING: So, it's better just to let....

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yeah, it's averaging, like 9:30, and we stayed 'til 10:45 last night.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Yeah.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: It's not my preference.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Yeah, no, but I mean --

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: But we need to...

VICE-CHAIR KING: --when you recess you usually have to set a time so that they know. You know, it's just hard to say if it only take...if we only have an hour of public testimony, then we have to wait around 'til 9:30. So that's what's difficult about trying to schedule that.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, so recessing to the call of the Chair is not an option. Staff?

VICE-CHAIR KING: In the evening? I think we're talking about later on in the evening.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yeah, at 5:00.

VICE-CHAIR KING: But, yeah, we can talk about that later when we get back into session.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay.

VICE-CHAIR KING: So, we don't have to set...we don't have to decide right now. Right now let's just decide to come back at 2:00.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Member Kama?

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COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Yes, I had some questions for the Water Department that I was supposed to give to them yesterday. So, do I just give it to you, and then give it to them? Or do I just give it to them? The questions for the Water Department that I was supposed to get to him.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: We won't have time to process the questions --

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Okay.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: --via OCS.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Okay.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: So, you can send it directly to the Director.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Yes.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Because...

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Timing.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: He...yeah, he took...well, he took notes, and so if you can help to clarify his notes that he took on the questions that he committed to clarifying or following up with us --

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Okay.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: --then I think your help would be appreciated.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, so I'll have to check with the departments. But I wanted to check with you all first to see if you would be open to taking Housing and Human Concerns first, and then OED second. And any objections? Okay, so I'll check with the Departments first. But if you could just be prepared to take Environmental Management first as it was planned. Ms. Matthews?

MS. MATTHEWS: . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh, they confirmed?

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

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yeah, but I...it was conditional, because I didn't check with the departments first. I need to check with the departments before I can commit to that order. I just wanted to make sure that it was something that this body would want.

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

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: It's your call, Madam Chair, whatever.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: No matter who first.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, all right. Mahalo, Members. Okay, it is 12:45. Oh, we just got confirmation. Okay, so we're going to take Housing and Human Concerns first, and then OED, Office of Economic Development, and then Environmental Management, and Prosecuting Attorney's Office. Okay, all right, we'll...we're now going to take our lunch recess. Please return at 2:00 p.m. It's 12:46 on April 17<sup>th</sup>. The Economic Development and Budget Committee is now in recess. . . .*(gavel)*. . .

**RECESS: 12:45 p.m.**

**RECONVENE: 2:10 p.m.**

**ITEM 1: PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2020 BUDGET FOR THE COUNTY  
OF MAUI (CC 19-61)**

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: . . .*(gavel)*. . . Will the Economic Development and Budget Committee please return to order. It is 2:10 on April 17<sup>th</sup>. We closed public testimony before we went to break, and we are now in deliberations. Today, we'll continue our deliberations on department operations beginning with Housing and Human Concerns. Mahalo to the Director and Deputy Director for agreeing to come a little earlier. I will start by reading the questions transmitted to the departments via written correspondence that we did not receive responses for just like I did yesterday. Then we will begin the question and answer rounds. Every member will have seven minutes to ask their questions. So, please prioritize the most important ones, those that are imperative to your decision making for this budget. Please also ask any questions regarding to the proposals from your priorities and concerns that we discussed last week. And just as a reminder, we will not be talking about CIPs, only operations. You will have time to cover all CIP questions with the departments on Monday, the 22<sup>nd</sup>. After the seven-minute question round, I will ask the Members if you have any proposed amendments within the program, and we'll be collecting those and not discussing. If you have an adjustment to make you will point out which object description you are referencing such as one, salary and wages; two, operations; three, Countywide expenditures; four, equipment; five, equivalent personnel summary E/Ps, and propose your amendment. We'll follow the same...no...okay. Questions related to policy or future legislation you're considering introducing can be worked on after budget. Right now your question should be budget-related only. And thank you

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so much for all your hard work and diligence last night. I'm confident that we can accomplish our goals for today now that we have solidified our process, and has been a really good flow. And as I said, tonight we'll have our public hearing at 6:00, and may continue our agenda after the hearing concludes depending on where we're at, okay.

**OPERATIONS  
DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND HUMAN CONCERNS**

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: So, I'll get started with the departmental questions that we didn't receive questions [sic] for, for Housing. Okay, Director, you ready?

MS. TSUHAKO: Good afternoon, Madam Chair. Deputy Director Munsell and I are ready to go.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Awesome. Mahalo, Director Tsuhako.

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

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yes. Okay, what amount of funding has the County appropriated to Habitat for Humanity in the past, by project? What is the current balance of their revolving fund? And that is a question from Member Hokama.

MS. TSUHAKO: Thank you, Madam Chair. Yeah, it's referenced as HC-7 from the questions from April 9, 2019. All right, so between Fiscal Year 2010 and Fiscal Year 2018, Habitat for Humanity Maui has received funding for the Kahawai Apartments in the total amount of 4,915,757; Harbor Lights Project, 400,000; Kahoma Residential, 1,983,113; and the total amount of funding is 7,298,870. And that figure is a combination of funding from the Affordable Housing Fund as well as from Federal HOME Funds from HUD. The Kahawai Apartments and Harbor Lights projects have been completed. And Habitat currently has a balance of \$271,699 in Affordable Housing Funds, and \$240,608 in HOME funds remaining in their grants for the Kahoma Residential Project.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Director. Okay, and then for Members' reference, these questions will be from HC-7 and then HC-8. And we will be receiving this...oh, we did receive it this morning. Okay. So, I'm assuming Members didn't get an opportunity to review it since we just received it this morning and we were in our meeting. Okay, what is the capacity of the Department to complete the proposed projects listed under Appendix II, Special Purposes Revenues - Schedule of Revolving/Special Funds for Fiscal Year 2020, M. Affordable Housing Fund? Is it better for the Department to appropriate project funds by proviso under the Fund? And this was from Chair King.

MS. TSUHAKO: Thank you very much, Madam Chair. The Department has overseen and monitored the Affordable Housing Fund as required by Code since the fund's inception. Housing Specialist Jessica Crouse is charged with the program's oversight

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and implementation. The Department is very confident in our ability to manage the grants to the proposed projects listed in Appendix II. And we do not feel the need for approval by proviso. We feel that the current process has been effectively managed. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo. Okay, next question is from Member Kama and Member Paltin. How many families can be supported by the County's Affordable Rental Housing Program with the proposed \$1 million grant? What is the approximate amount granted per family, and how is this amount determined? Why is this being outsourced to nonprofits?

MS. TSUHAKO: Thank you, Madam Chair. The written response that the Department has provided to you, which you have not received yet, it goes into much more detail. I'm going to, for the sake of our time today, going to capsulize that by just focusing on the answers to the questions raised. So, the current funding for the County's Affordable Housing Rental Program has historically assisted as many as 402 families with an average subsidy per family of \$1,685 in 2017. In Fiscal Year 2018, 322 families or clients were assisted with an average subsidy per family of \$2,039. And as of March of this year, an additional 234 families have been assisted with an average subsidy per family of \$2,369. The eligibility requirements for the County's Affordable Rental Housing Program are very broad so that more people can be helped with this fund. It's...much of it is determined on a case-by-case basis by the four agencies that administer these funds for the County. Those four agencies are Women Helping Women, MEO, Family Life Center, and Ka Hale A Ke Ola. So, there's a variety of assistance that can be provided depending on the particular circumstance and need of the person who comes to the agencies. For example, rental deposits, first month's rent, emergency rental assistance on a diminishing basis, and emergency utilities can all be provided to families in need under this fund. The flexibility of the eligibility is we think a positive aspect and allows us to assist more people and in more different ways. There is a cap on different types of assistance. For example, \$800 is the maximum for utility payments. And there's a \$7,000 cap on rental assistance. Clients need to demonstrate need, show limited assets, and demonstrate the ability to be sustaining after the assistance is pau. So, we're really talking about helping people when they need it most. And ensuring that they're going to be able to take care of those housing needs, or those utility needs going forward. The reason that the Department has chosen to contract with these four nonprofits is because, in general, the Department is not a direct service provider. So, we're not dealing every day with people who demonstrate these needs. We think that those four agencies have a better relationship with people who have need, and they're better able to do effective and accurate assessments of the need, and able to more quickly deliver the assistance in a way that makes sense and meets the efficiency factor. So, in other words, you know, like if...if I had to do this on my own and the County had to cut a check to somebody to pay their arrears, they would be evicted by the time we got around to doing that. So, by granting it to nonprofits, we're addressing efficiency and need. Thank you, Madam Chair.

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CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo. Next question is from Member Hokama. What is the capacity for Department...for the Department to acquire additional Section 8 vouchers?

MS. TSUHAKO: Thank you, Madam Chair. The Section 8 housing voucher program is currently allotted 1,464 vouchers. In 2017, we attempted to negotiate an additional 100 vouchers that were not being used by other agencies across the State. We made inquiry again this year, but were unsuccessful on both times. In 2017, we successfully obtained 15 Veteran Affairs supportive housing vouchers. And in 2018, we were awarded an additional ten. So, in 2017, the Department laid off several of our staff due to administrative budget constraints. So, currently the Mayor's budget proposal has actually further constrained us by removing General Fund support for the administration of Section 8 Program, and shifting an additional \$302,272 to the cost for Fringe Benefits for those grant-funded employees who actually administer Section 8 programs. You know, I know that this has been a historic concern of the County where we get grant funds, and we hire employees using grant funds. But in this case, the grant funding has always been supplemented by a little bit of General Funds to help us offset the cost of personnel. And this year in the proposal, that General Fund has been switched over to totally taking the Fringe cost out of the actual Section 8 Program. I'm very concerned about that because it will limit our ability to stretch and have more vouchers if they become available to us. And it actually puts in question our ability to manage if we have to lay off additional staffing because so much of the administrative money we're getting from the Feds is being used to pay for that Fringe Benefit cost. It'll put, already, more strain on a staff group that's already been reduced. And the thing that I think most of us would want to avoid is we want to avoid losing vouchers, and having people not have housing because of our County's lack of capacity. So, I would ask for a consideration of the \$302,272 being removed from the grant revenue and actually paid by General Fund. Thank you, Madam Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Director. Okay, regarding the 500,000 appropriation to the Boys and Girls Club, Paukukalo, Budget Details, Page 8-41, Index Code 914217B, Sub-object Code 6317...oh, shoots. Please elaborate on your response dated April 8, 2019 in HC-4. Is this a one-time appropriation? And this question was from Member Molina.

MS. TSUHAKO: Thank you, Madam Chair. The responses to those questions from HC-8 were generated to the Council, I think, this morning. But the responses that the Department provided were vetted through the agency, Boys and Girls Club of Maui. And Ms. Pearson is in the audience today. The response that the agency provided to the Department was that there may be an occasion when the agency seeks additional funding from the County.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, mahalo, Director. Last two questions, and both are by...from Member Molina. And both are regarding the 500,000 for the Boys and Girls Club. What is the projected total cost of the Boys and Girls of Maui Paukukalo Clubhouse?

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MS. TSUHAKO: Thank you, Madam Chair. The total cost is projected to be \$3,250,000 for construction, planning, and design. Oh, excuse me. The total cost, 3,250,000.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, and please provide...

MS. TSUHAKO: For construction. Sorry. For construction.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: For construction. Okay, for just construction?

MS. TSUHAKO: That's correct.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, mahalo. Okay, please provide a detailed description of the proposed facility.

MS. TSUHAKO: Madam Chair, may I ask your indulgence? Would you object to having Ms. Pearson describe that since it's her project?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Madam Chair...thank you for responding. Not real necessary, I mean, for me. Just so we can keep things moving, I can get that information from Ms. Pearson at a later point. But the only reason I ask these questions, is not that...I mean I'm in total support of this. But it's just that it came with an appropriation but no specific details, 'cause, you know, half-a-million dollars is half-a-million dollars so --

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Right.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: --it's our charge, as the Council, as the body to know --

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Absolutely.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: --what they're giving monies for. So, that's all it was. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yes. Mahalo, Member Molina. And I believe Ms. Pearson also described it a little as far as it being one-story and not two-stories as it had maybe initially been talked about, yeah. Okay. Okay, so those were all the questions from our written correspondence that we hadn't received a response to before today. So, I'll now go to Members' questions, and we'll put the seven minutes.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Chair?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Chair King?

VICE-CHAIR KING: Yeah, I have a couple questions that I don't think ever made it on to your list. And they were on my memo dated April 17<sup>th</sup>. But one was can you clarify the

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increase, the Care Transition Program and the Congregate Meals Program because there was like a...

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, I think those are on HC-9.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Okay.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: And that was from the April 11, 2019 meeting?

VICE-CHAIR KING: Well, the date on this is April...oh, hold for meeting April 17. Okay.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, so it's not...if the...

VICE-CHAIR KING: I just had my staff had marked it that it didn't get on your list.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: If the homeless...yeah, this is one of your questions and one from Member Hokama. If the Homeless Program were appropriated an additional 1 million, how would the additional funding be...

VICE-CHAIR KING: Oh, no, that one made it on the list. But the one before it that says, can you clarify the Care Transition Program? Did that make it on your list? I didn't see that anywhere.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: I didn't see it. Okay. Okay. Okay, miss...Director Tsuhako, can you clarify the increase for the Aging and Disability Resource Center expansion?

MS. TSUHAKO: Would you please provide a reference for me, please, Madam Chair?

VICE-CHAIR KING: Page 333 in the Budget Program book. It's a program made that made kind of a leap from 2018 to 2019, and it has been going up every year.

MS. TSUHAKO: Office on Aging.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Aging and Disability Resource Center. It's called expansion, so I'm just asking what the expansion is.

MS. TSUHAKO: Yeah, thank you, Council Chair King. I believe that the...well, the Aging and Disability Resource Center expansion is likely anticipated funding from the State. And that's probably based on what the Maui County Office on Aging has made a request to the State for funding. And I believe the last time I was notified, all of the funding mechanisms for the Office on Aging's request at the Legislature are still alive. So, I believe that the extra 50,000 reflects probably a increased request from the State for the funding.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Okay, mahalo.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Thank you.

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CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Second question, can you clarify the Care Transition Program and the Congregate Meals Program?

MS. TSUHAKO: Both of these programs are administered by the Office on Aging. The Care Transition Program is a program that offers case management to elders who may not have access to immediate services from agencies in their community. And so, they are able to seek services that they need from a family member and receive case management from the Office on Aging case manager in order to get their needs met. Let's say if they live in a remote area where Hale Mahaolu, for example, where you heard from Kathy this morning, they may not be able to service every area of the island. Families can identify somebody within their network of people who might be able to do that function for them. So, these services allow those...allow flexibility to provide that service to the elder who needs it.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, mahalo, Director. Okay, if the Homeless Program were appropriated an additional \$1 million, how would the additional funding be used to address homelessness in Maui County? And it's from Chair King.

MS. TSUHAKO: Thank you very much, Madam Chair. The Homeless Division of our Department doesn't do any direct services. I assumed when I wrote the response to this that that we're referencing the HHC Homeless Program Index Code 914903B. Currently, that allocation provides case management, homeless outreach, shelter operations, and legal services to the homeless. So, if this fund were increased by \$1 million, we would likely seek additional services to address homelessness. Here I want to plant a seed though. I really want to develop a more robust, multidisciplinary team approach to homeless outreach. Much like on Oahu where they did run a pilot program where a psychiatrist actually goes out to do homeless outreach. He's able to provide immediate medical attention to people who need it. I'm thinking that we can work over the next few months to develop a program that could borrow from those successful program on Oahu, and try to replicate it with the resources we have here and include a substance abuse counselor to do in-the-field substance abuse assessments. And if somebody is willing to go into treatment, have access to treatment so that people aren't lingering in unsheltered conditions. The other idea, Council Chair King, is that the Department used to have a contract with an agency to physically take the trash that's picked up after encampments are cleaned up and dump it and dispose of it appropriately. But that agency is no longer available to us 'cause they're focusing on other things. So, we could use some of that funding to procure for another service to do that. Currently, Department of Public Works is helping with that when they have manpower and equipment available.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Okay, thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, mahalo. Okay, the next question is from Member Hokama. Recent reports show homeless numbers on the neighbor islands,

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with the exception of Kauai, decreasing. How is the point-in-time count determined by the State?

MS. TSUHAKO: Thank you, Madam Chair. The point-in-time count is actually a snapshot count of the number of homeless individuals and family on one day of the year. It's a process that's required by HUD in order for our community to receive Federal homeless funds. It's not driven by the State of Hawaii. It's required by HUD to be conducted every other year. But in our State, at least for the past 12 years, we've done the count annually. So, our data has been pretty consistent over the past 12 years. So, there's two counts that actually occur. One is the count for people who are sheltered homeless, so living in homeless shelters. And the second is probably the one that you're more familiar with, which is a count of unsheltered homeless people. So, our contractors who do homeless outreach, our contractors who do sheltered homelessness and volunteers go out into the community, and we survey people who are living unsheltered. And we take, with their permission, we collect data. That data is submitted into our statewide database. It's cleaned, meaning we unduplicate the count so that we're not counting the same person multiple times. And then the information is analyzed and presented in the report that was released about a week-and-a-half ago.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Director. Okay, I think those were all the questions. And we'll now move to Members' questions. Okay. Okay, let's see. So, there's been a request to try to start from the middle two instead of just the ends.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I didn't request that.

VICE-CHAIR KING: You're not in the middle.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: So, she did it then.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, so I'm going to try to write this down so I don't forget. Okay, so we'll start with Chair King and then go left, and then Member Paltin, and then go right.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Your right.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh, yeah, mine. My left, and then my right.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Okay.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: We'll try that. Okay, ready, Chair King? Go ahead.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Okay, thank you, Chair. So, I have a specific question. It's on Page 333. And I was looking for when we had someone come and testify about the Hale Kau Kau funding. I couldn't find it listed under Hale Kau Kau. And then they said they were...they thought it was listed under Roman Catholic Church. But I didn't find that. But there is this Home-Delivered Meals Program on Page 333 which says 90,000. It

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went from 55,700 last year to 90,000 this year. And I know that they do do some delivery but most of it is onsite. So can you tell me where their funding is in the program?

MS. TSUHAKO: Thank you for your question, Council Chair King. In Fiscal Year 2020, we're proposing to fund Hale Kau Kau at \$100,000 with 95,000 appropriated from the Food, Shelter, and Safety allocation, and \$5,000 from the Grants to the Frail and Elderly.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Oh, okay, so it's not actually listed in here under...yeah, okay. I'm just a little concerned about when we do things like that 'cause we want to make sure that we're funding the agencies that are coming before us that we know are doing the work. So, will that breakdown be given to us before we get to like decision-making? Just so we know that it's not going to be changed.

MS. TSUHAKO: The Department will be happy to send you a memo to reflect that.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Okay. Okay, that would be good, Chair. And then my other question is not so specific, but just on what we talked about again with some testifiers today on the Affordable Housing Fund. If we were to increase it to 4 percent of the tax, would you be able...is that realistic for you to be able to expend? And the other part of that question is, I know you're working on a plan of action, and in that plan are there any plans...are there any movements towards getting more involved in developments, the County getting more involved where we might identify pieces of land, put out an RFP and directly, you know, cause the development, and then focus on the lower end...the lower incomes? So, kind of two-part question. Because I'm happy to go along with the increase, but I, you know, I'd like to know that it's going to be used in this fiscal year.

MS. TSUHAKO: Thank you for your question, Council Chair. Affordable housing projects can always benefit from having the support of the County through that fund. I think, you know, to tie it in to our plans to develop that strategic plan, the strategic plan will provide a basis for why we're doing certain functions, or why we're doing certain actions at the Department. So, as I told you a few weeks ago at the confirmation, it's looking at the data set that we have, and plotting out and being able to articulate to you, and to the Mayor, and to the community that we're going to take these steps based on this data. One of the things that I think will result from that plan is a more focused use of that Affordable Housing Fund to address the areas, meaning the area median income levels that need more housing. So, I'm not...I cannot say today that the County will jump into the development process even with additional funding. But I do know at the end of this process when we put together and articulate that plan, we should be able to explain whether it's 2 percent of the real property tax or four, how we're going to better use that fund to target the income gap groups that we need to do with a bigger picture in mind.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Okay, so I think you characterized that as a plan of action. And one of the things that has come up, and I think I heard Councilmember Kama talk about it, is putting some money into...for someone to develop a plan of action. I was happy to hear you say that you were going to do that. And so I don't know...so, would it be

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helpful to have additional funding to hire consultants? The original funding of 250,000 that the Council put into our budget to hire a consultant to build a plan did not get used that way. So, we still kind of don't have a plan. We got another study, and there was some good things that were said in the study. But we still don't have that plan of action. I don't know if that's what your plan is going to be, or if it would be helpful for us to put some money in. And we're happy to give it directly to you, and not put it under the Council if it could be used...if you need it for that to actually...you know, that's what we're all kind of been looking for for the last couple of years. And FACE has been lobbying for and the Sierra Club is just where's the plan of action to get, you know, X number houses built a year.

MS. TSUHAKO: Thank you very much for that consideration. You know, I spoke the other day with Stan Franco, and Stan asked me some questions like, you know, have you considered building with bamboo or different types of products to reduce the cost. And I said, actually, you know, I haven't thought of that. And I don't know that that'll be part of a strategic plan. I think that that's something...the strategic plan that we're working on right now is really intended to identify the priorities of what we need to do next and why we need to do them. And I think what you're talking about is a more comprehensive look at other items, like maybe building materials to reduce cost, or working with the labor unions to reduce cost.

VICE-CHAIR KING: No, that's not really what I'm talking about.

MS. TSUHAKO: No? Okay.

VICE-CHAIR KING: I'm talking about, you know, identify the land, here's where we're going to build this many houses, here's another piece of County land, we're going to build this...we can do this over here. Or we can identify, you know, an empty Lowe's and put, you know, so many units in there. Some kind of plan of action that's going to result in what we need right now which is, you know what, 800,000 units a year, something like that. So, that's what...I think that's what everyone's been chomping at the bit to have. And, you know, I think many of us would be happy to put that in the Budget to try to create that if you can utilize that fund and would work with somebody to do that.

MS. TSUHAKO: So, I think one of the areas that we don't have the capacity to do is to look at...

VICE-CHAIR KING: That's my seven minutes.

MS. TSUHAKO: Oh, sorry.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Just one more minute.

MS. TSUHAKO: Is to look at the issues like financing and the possibility of the County jumping in to become co-developers and things like that, and putting that sort of a cross section and a matrix together for us. And so I think we may not need it right

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this minute, but eventually we'll get to the point where we could use somebody to help us put all these disparate pieces of data that we have together in a plan that does exactly what you're asking.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Okay. So, this year? Because we have to...we're not making an appropriation for this minute. But, you know, it's next year so...

MS. TSUHAKO: Fiscal Year 2020, yes, Chairman.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Yeah. Okay.

MS. TSUHAKO: Thank you.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Great. Thank you, appreciate it.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair King. Ready, Member Lee?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Thank you, Madam Chair. Hello, Ms. Tsuhako and Deputy Director. Okay, I am a little concerned that the County reduced the Section 8 Program by...did you say \$302,000? Or was it another number? Or \$200,000 in Fringe Benefits? Was it 200?

MS. TSUHAKO: It's 322,272, I believe.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Three hundred and...what did you say?

MS. TSUHAKO: Three oh two, two seventy-two.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Two seventy-two. Okay, I'm not sure that the Members know that...this is off her testimony. Okay, when she talked about there are 1,464 vouchers in the Section 8 Program, I don't think the Members know that that this represents, at an average of three people per household, this represents approximately 4,392 people in Maui County that your Department helps for rental assistance. And that 1,464, those vouchers translate into \$23 million per year, correct? Yeah, so I am...I'm wondering why the County, knowing that that program generates \$23 million is concerned about \$302,272 for Fringe Benefits. That, to me, doesn't make any sense. And when I was the Director, as far as I know, we couldn't use Federal money for the Fringe Benefits. So, anyway, maybe things have changed. But that's one of the things that...one of the reasons why we use County funds for Fringe Benefits back then. So, I just wanted to make that point because I don't think people realize how much money that little division generates in terms of \$23 million. And I'm sorry that you lost your positions because if you're trying to get more vouchers like we continually did, we chased them all over the islands, and you know, if you do get your 100 more vouchers, you're going to need more people, yeah, without any question. So, let's see, and then you answered the question on who were the nonprofits. Okay, I got that one. One thing I was always concerned about, Lori, is that some of the nonprofits in Maui County rely too much on the County, you know, for money. Some cannot help, 'cause

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they don't have resources, but some can. You see that person in the audience, yeah, I gave them a talk. Them, and other nonprofits years ago, and I talked to their board of directors. And I told them exactly this, you folks going to have to start diversifying your revenue base because one day the County may not be there for you for economic reasons or whatever reason. You cannot just rely on the County. And they followed my advice. And that's why today they rely on the County only 40 percent. Now, I'm hoping that you are going to do something similar so that these nonprofits don't come back year after year after year without trying other means to generate revenue, without doing some fundraising on their own. Do you agree with that philosophy?

MS. TSUHAKO: Thank you for your question, Councilmember Lee. I agree wholeheartedly with you. In the first...in my first tenure as Director, we experienced that recession that we all know about. And one of the outcomes of that recession was that the Department had a real obligation to prioritize the services that we funded to nonprofits because we didn't have the money to give. And it was at that time that I first began speaking to the nonprofits and reminding them that they cannot depend on the County for funding, and that they needed to do more to become self-sustaining and not rely on the County for funding. Since that time, of course our economy has rebounded, the County has continued to be very generous to nonprofits, which is a good thing because they contribute to our social network and our safety net for us. What we've been doing is we've been integrating additional self-sufficiency concepts within our grant agreements. So, we are asking agencies to show us their total budget by source so that we can identify what their other sources of funding are. And we're asking them in their narratives to explain to us what they've done to increase their self-sufficiency in terms of the funding. So, and that's going to be...that's going to continue to be a focus of our Department so long as I sit in this chair. I can assure you of that.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Terrific, terrific. And if you could come up with some...an incentive program of some kind whereby maybe the goal is to reduce funding by 50 percent by a certain year, you know. And then you give them some kind of a bonus, you know, for being able to achieve that. I think that that's something that the bigger, especially the bigger nonprofits, would be able to do. And in my last 30 seconds I just wanted to say I hope you do what the Council Chair was talking about is consider co-sponsoring or co-developing affordable housing projects. We have some great developers out there who are adept at getting a lot of funding. You know, we've met with some lately. And it's amazing how this guy in Lahaina talks about a \$56 million project that he's getting \$44 million in grants and tax credits for it. So, that's the kind of developers we're looking for because they're focused on the 60 and below of median income. So, you know, hopefully you can more of those people. And thank you.

MS. TSUHAKO: Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Lee. Member Molina?

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Thank you very much, Madam Chair. And, Madam Directors, thank you for my seven minutes. Just basically, and Members want to take a look at

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Page 287, Code 6317, regarding Affordable Rental Housing Program. Budget Chair Rawlins-Fernandez has proposed a \$2 million increase in the Rental Assistance Fund, and I think I mentioned at some point during this session, a million dollar increase. Can you tell us, at least from your standpoint, what do you think is an appropriate amount? And my understanding is that the current funding exists, it helps between 300 to 400 needy families. Your thoughts on the proposed increases that we could be looking at for the Rental Assistance Fund.

MS. TSUHAKO: Thank you for your question, Councilmember. As I noted earlier, we've served as many as 400 people a year with the current level of funding. I cannot sit here and say that I can guarantee we'll spend a million dollars additional dollars very well. And the reason I say that is because I know that our community is receiving funding through HUD, through the Emergency Solutions Grant, through a State program called the State Homeless Emergency Grant Program, through Housing Placement Program from the State. And because of that additional funding, I think...and because of the lack of very accessible housing for the people who need it, I'm afraid that we're going to lapse funding either at the County level or through those other programs that are coming in. And if I was being really shortsighted, and I just wanted to celebrate more money, I'd say, yeah, just give it to me. But I really am very thoughtful about that because I don't want any money to lapse, either County funds, or funds from the Feds, or from the State. And I think that we could reasonably use 300 to 400,000. I cannot say that I could guarantee that we wouldn't lapse funding in one...from one source or another if we had a million dollars because those families who are coming to us for assistance with the Rental Housing Program, sometimes need to identify housing to move into. And with the current status of our availability, they may not be able to do that. And so funding lapses, right. They make a second choice. They go move in with in-laws or something like that. So, I don't want to seem like I'm ungrateful, but I also am a really frugal administrator. I don't want money just to have money.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Well, that's a good thing. I mean, you know, it's a more realistic approach. I mean some of us here feel that maybe we need more, provide that maybe we can help. But maybe because of those variables you mentioned, that you know, some people they change their minds. Maybe they move in with family and they don't need the rental assistance. And you may have people that decide to try and purchase a home. So, it's good to make us aware of those variables. So, and you know, as we approach that time where we're going to have to balance the Budget, we're going to have to make some major adjustments. So 1 million, 2 million, that may have to be adjusted at some standpoint. But I appreciate you being a very frugal Director, you're trying your best to use the money very efficiently. And sometimes, you know, having a lot of money is not always the answer. But thank you for those comments. Next question relates to Pages 8 through 10 on the Budget Details, again Page 287, Budget proposal. The \$180,000 appropriation for that study regarding the parcel assessment study that should be completed by Planning and Housing, Public Works, and other appropriate departments. In our earlier discussions, it was mentioned that, you know, it should be...we should look at an alternative in terms of having Planning and Public Works participate with you in this study. What's your

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thoughts on that? Because the rationale for this that I, you know, I was one that was hoping to increase the appropriation, was to look at private properties as well as County-owned properties. Can you share your thoughts with us? And do you believe that this type of study or assessment should include the private properties as well?

MS. TSUHAKO: Thank you for the question, Councilmember. I'm going to defer to Deputy Director Munsell.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Okay.

MS. MUNSELL: Thank you for the question. I'm Linda Munsell, the Deputy Director for Housing and Human Concerns. The money that's been appropriated with specific...to some very specific properties, one of the things that we have found is that without some kind of professional services, or some kind of budget available to us, it's extremely difficult for us to move quickly on a piece of property, or on a project when we have the opportunity, or when it arises. What we had proposed were three properties that we actually had control of. So these weren't private properties. And I'm not sure that we necessarily want to invest County money in a specific property in this way, although we might partner with a specific property through things like changes in zoning or some other assistance in that way. The money that was appropriated would allow us to actually do the initial assessments of these properties and get them rolling, and that was what the intention was. Eventually, we would then RFP these projects and have a partner, kind of as Chair King has described, where we would actually be the landowners. And then they would build the property...project for us. Our contribution would be the land. But the idea behind this appropriation would be to allow us to get that kick down the road, start that process.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Okay, I appreciate the response. I guess my rationale for it is just to me, we need to expand our horizons. I mean look beyond because there may be some opportunities elsewhere which is why if there's room to expand the studies, it may cost a little bit more, but look at some other sites because, you know, we gotta take the bull by the horns. And I don't want to just limit ourselves to certain properties. But anyway, that's just my thoughts. Thank you, Madam Chair. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Molina. Okay, and I'm sorry I meant to mention before...after Member Lee finished, the Section 8 grant is on Page 290. You're welcome. Okay, Member Sinenci, ready?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you, Chair. Just a question for the Chair. Are we just going through the entire Housing and Human Concerns? Or we're taking...

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Operations.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Yeah.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yeah.

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COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Oh, just the Operations.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Operations.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Okay, I just have some general questions for the Directors about some of the changes from last year's Budget to this year's proposed budgets. So on Page 276 under Services, the Department summary, there's a 30.9 percent increase from last year's Budget to the 2020 proposed Budget. And if you could kind of expound on that.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Page 276.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Two seventy-six.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Under Expenditures, Operations, Special Revenue Funds.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Services.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Services, Special Revenue Funds, Director.

MS. TSUHAKO: Thank you very much for your question, Councilmember Sinenci. I need to check the details, if you...hang on one second, please.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Do you want to ask another question while they're looking?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Sure. On Page 281, under Administration Program, Expenditure Summary, Services, the 292.9 percent increase for Operations, Services.

MS. TSUHAKO: So, thank you very much for that question, Councilmember. I believe that increase that shows in Services reflects an increase in the amount that we plan to allocate to Hale Mahaolu for the Homeowners Counseling Program that you heard about earlier this morning.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Yes, yes, I did. Okay, thank you.

MS. TSUHAKO: And if I may, I will provide the Committee with a more detailed breakdown of the other costs that you asked about earlier.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Okay, thank you, Director. And then on Page 287, under Housing Program, item 914457B-6132, Professional Services, additional funding for three new existing parcel studies at 60,000 each. And I just...my question was if there was particular sites for those three parcels?

MS. MUNSELL: Originally in the budget, we did identify three specific parcels. And they were presented at one point I think during the last term. But there's a parcel out by the Wailea Fire Station. There's a parcel --

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COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Correct.

MS. MUNSELL: --near the Kihei Fire...Police Station. And then there's the \_\_\_\_ project, or a parcel that we...that the State owns that is leased to us. Now, those were specifically identified because they were asked to be specifically identified. If the Council wanted to give us more leeway as to not study these particular ones if we found better parcels that we could use the money for, we would appreciate that actually, the flexibility.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Okay, thank you, Ms. Munsell. And on the next page, Page 288, for Housing Program, Hale Mahaolu for Homeowners and Housing Counseling Program which assists Maui County residents, counseling, education, and homebuyer classes for first-time homebuyers. Is that...the question is, is that service offered in East Maui anywhere or just in Central Maui?

MS. TSUHAKE: Thank you for the question, Councilmember. I don't know in particular...you're talking about Hana, whether it's offered there. I know that they've done classes in other areas like in West Maui. But I don't know for certain that they've offered it in Hana. But I can certainly follow up with Hale Mahaolu and ask that in particular. I'm sure if they had a core group of people, they could probably provide that service out there.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Okay, great. Thank you. And my last question is on 292, under Housing Program. At the bottom of the page, Other Costs under Operations, the 42.7 percent increase from 2019 Budget to the proposed 2020 Budget, if there was a breakdown of the \$2,561,253.

MS. MUNSELL: Thank you for that question. I believe that that is an anticipated increase in the Affordable Housing Fund.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Okay. Thank you. Thank you, Chair. That was just some general questions. Mahalo.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Sinenci. Okay, Member Paltin, you ready?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Sure thing. Thank you. So, I'm not a housing expert, and I want to try help you guys help us. But I was wondering if you guys are okay, Page 295 of the Mayor's proposed Budget, if we...the expansion budget request, is it okay to delete that 9,500 at the very bottom, the overtime additional funding to reflect the actual cost? I think you said that you got your positions filled so you probably don't need the overtime or was I mistaken there?

MS. MUNSELL: What...the overtime is always associated with position turnover. And there's no way to avoid that. So, if we're talking about, for instance, right now the Section 8 Program, I think that we're anticipating a retirement coming up at the end of June. And so it's...we're going to need to have the overtime in there. It would be the same in

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Administration, or any other position, if we were to have the...have a turnover in a position.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I just was basing that off of the response to HC-5, 6c where it says, this item relates to Kaunoa Senior Services. Please remove expansion request of 9,500. So, now you don't want us to remove the expansion request of 9,500?

MS. TSUHAKO: Thank you for that clarification, Councilmember. So, that is correct. So, our Senior Services Division, Kaunoa had included that in the Budget because of some historical vacancies and the need for other staff members to do overtime to make up for the vacancies. But as Ms. Griffith has indicated, better recruitment and effective training of the new recruits has helped their operations, and makes it seem less likely that we'll need to capitalize on that. So, the request to remove that is accurate. Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you. And then I'm not 100 percent clear on your answer to HC-7, number 4. The closest that I can figure is it relates to Page 289, Interfund Cost Reclassification, but that amount is 352,272. Is that not the number that we're looking at for the 302,272?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Is that regarding the Section 8 vouchers?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yes.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: On Page 290?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: It's regarding the shifting of Fringe costs for the Section 8 Program.

MS. MUNSELL: It is. So, what we had proposed in our original budget was that the Section 8 Program as part of their administrative would pay \$250,000 of the Fringe. And that the County would assist us with the remaining, about \$300,000 of the funds.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: So, I don't understand the discrepancy of the \$50,000 where you guys said shifted 302,272, and then the number in the proposed narrative is 352,000. Which one is the correct amount?

MS. MUNSELL: They are both correct. We had actually last year in our budget we had paid \$200,000 of the Fringe. And we had proposed in this Budget that we would pay an additional 50,000. And what had happened was then that they added it. We're not asking you to pay the entire 350. We're asking that the Section 8 administrative fees pay 50 additional thousand dollars. And that out of the General Fund, we're only asking for 300,000.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay, so you want to bring the Interfund Cost Reclassification to 250,000 for 2020 proposed, and then you want to move the 302,000 to...can you tell me what page?

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MS. MUNSELL: Of the detail?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Of the proposed narrative.

MS. YOSHIMURA: Chair?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Director?

MS. YOSHIMURA: So, if the Fringe are not going to be paid for out of the grant...

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Revolving.

MS. YOSHIMURA: The grant funds.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Grant funds?

MS. YOSHIMURA: Yeah, for Section 8. Then the Countywide Costs under Department of Finance would have to be increased to accommodate for the Fringe costs for those employees. So, it'd be under...

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Oh, so it would be in Finance.

MS. YOSHIMURA: It would be under Countywide Costs under the Department of Finance.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And then there was a priority item by Councilmember Kama to allocate \$20 million towards affordable housing. And I think kind of the point of contention was 80 percent and below AMI, or just like 140 maybe. And I had thought that you had said that, you know, 80 percent and above can pencil out. And 80 percent and below, it's going to take government assistance to get those ones. Can you quickly clarify if that's correct what I understood your intention?

MS. TSUHAKO: Thank you for the question. In general, that is accurate. We think that projects that are built to those who are at 80 percent of AMI below will need to be subsidized more heavily. And those for 81 percent and higher all the way up to the 140 have the ability to be penciled out and would not need as much of a subsidy, if at all.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Director and Deputy Director.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Paltin. Member Sugimura?

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you. I want to thank you both for being here. I want to also acknowledge the departments 'cause for this last hour, every so many minutes we've gotten new responses from the different departments. So, thank you very much, Michele. Every time I think I got my things filed, there's something else that comes. But, so good job. The first thing I wanted to address is, I want to talk

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about...we heard a lot from the Humane Society. So, if you look at Page 296 in the Program Budget, and in detail, our Detail Budget, our detail booklet on Page 8-86. And I think I'm going to speak from the detail, which is on 8-86, the very back of the Housing and Human Concerns section. It talks about Animal Management Revolving and there is, as the testifiers mentioned, one Humane Society...one Humane enforcement vehicle for \$60,000. And I think they're asking for two. And I will tell you that when I went on my site visit, I mean they're...they, like all of our County vehicles, really use the vehicles very well, and they also maintain it. But I would like to support their effort, and I'd like your comment, Director, on what your thoughts may be about getting two vehicles versus just one.

MS. TSUHAKO: Thank you, Councilmember. Can I just have one second to confer with Ms. Yoshimura?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Stop the clock. Just kidding.

MS. YOSHIMURA: Chair?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Ms. Yoshimura?

MS. YOSHIMURA: So, under the Animal Management Revolving Fund, I know the vehicles are \$60,000 each.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: It's a lot.

MS. YOSHIMURA: Yeah, and so the estimated balance as of June 30, 2019 is 51,031. And their anticipated revenue for 2020 is \$74,000. So, hopefully by the end of Fiscal Year 2020 which is June 30 of 2020, there should be an anticipated \$125,000. So, could the fund afford two vehicles? Maybe, if it's at \$60,000 each. But it won't be 'til the end of the fiscal year, right, because of the way the revenues are estimated and received. So, at the end of the fiscal year we anticipate \$125,000. So, we know, you know, we put one vehicle 'cause for sure you could get one vehicle. Two would take you all the way to the end of the fiscal year before you could actually procure for another one.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: So, I wonder if, Director, if you want to hear from the Humane Society on what their thought may be on that. I don't understand how this revolving fund would work. I mean, what if they don't collect enough, then they can only get one? Then they'll be in the same position as now. But what if...and could they use those remaining funds for other things? Or is it once it's earmarked for the two vehicles and we end up to be...you know, don't collect all, then can they use that for some other things? I see Mr. Ueoka is ready to speak.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mr. Ueoka?

MR. UEOKA: Thank you, Chair. The estimated revenues need to match estimated expenditures. So, you wouldn't be able to go past...you can't spend more than you

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anticipate getting in. And they wouldn't be able to contract until the actual amount is available to them.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Okay, would we be able then to say two vehicles, and one now just because we know when the revenues are going to come in. And once they get the total to pay for the second, then they can purchase a second at the end of this next fiscal year, Mr. Ueoka?

MR. UEOKA: You could put that in just...

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Is that a gamble?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mr. Ueoka?

MR. UEOKA: You could put that in. It's just --

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: We don't want to be illegal.

MR. UEOKA: --they would not be able to encumber the funds until the funds are actually there. And certified by the Director of Finance, I would assume. Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Ms. Yoshimura, you're the one with wisdom about this finance. What do you recommend?

MS. YOSHIMURA: Chair? You could put the proviso up to two vehicles.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Okay.

MS. YOSHIMURA: And you could, you know, buy one. And if the funds are available, then you could buy the second one.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Okay.

MS. YOSHIMURA: So, that's another option. Or you could put it under the...I guess under the General Fund.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Okay. So, I like this idea of using, you know, this revolving fund if I could. I know they're very productive, and, you know, they do a lot of good work. Can we ask the Humane Society? Or can we just...or should we just do this?

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

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Just do it?

MS. TSUHAKO: Well, I think, Member Sugimura, they want two vehicles. But I think they're constrained by just the balance that's remaining in the fund. So, certainly, because we know they need...they want two vehicles, when the fund has the money available,

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they could purchase that if it's authorized. But I mean they have to understand also the limitation that the money has to be there before they can procure for that.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Do they have to come before the Council again or it would just be...

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mr. Ueoka?

MR. UEOKA: Thank you, Chair. They could come in for a Budget amendment later on too if the funds are available at a later date.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Okay, I rather do this now. Thank you. I will propose this, Chair, once it's time to do that. And I used up my whole seven minutes.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: No, you still have a minute.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Thirty seconds.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: I have 30 seconds? Okay. So, I want to just support Member Kama to talk about the IDA. My staff did this whole presentation on IDA, but I know that's her passion. So, I will leave it for you to do that. I really wanted to help the Humane Society. I want to get this done, Members. Thank you very much. Please support this thought. And I would really like to also...I appreciate what you said about the Rental Assistance Program. I just called Ka Hale A Ke Ola about a homeless person that I'm trying to help. And I appreciate your honesty 'cause we all want to help a lot of people, and maybe it's not always possible in a fiscal year to do. So, I appreciate that. Habitat for Humanity...okay, you ask the question.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Sugimura. Good job getting all those questions in before the buzzer. Okay, Member Kama, you ready?

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Yes, I'm ready. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, all yours.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: And because I'm such a good neighbor, I will bring that up. So, I want to thank you, Chair, for the...this process that you're putting us all through. That we had to tell you our top five priorities, our top five concerns, and now we're here today. We have seven minutes to get it expressed on this Council to the Department. So, thank you so much. So, this is my priorities, my wish list. And I'm hoping that you're going to be able to incorporate into your strategic plan. I really would like a mobile hygiene unit in Central Maui, similar to what they have in South Maui. I would also like to be able to have a study done in the development of a Maui housing authority. I think that I've said this over and over that I don't want the Department to have to be constrained with so much other stuff that housing should be a separate entity onto its own. And so, I want...and I'll put some money in the budget for that too to do a study on that. Also, I would like to be able to put some

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money towards doing an IDA for a nonprofit, not necessarily Hale Mahaolu, but a nonprofit who has already done this, has had success in this. And I want to put some money into that and hoping that's in your program, your strategic plan also. Also, I'd also like to talk about capacity building. I realize that, you know, in here we have 22 positions in HUD, and we have I think five in administration. So we have five people in the County who are going to do this entire Housing Program. And that's my point in doing the study for a Maui housing authority. But also that is what my wish list is to you. And I would hope that you'd be able to include this all in your strategic plan. And so, Director, your response. Thank you.

MS. TSUHAKO: That was a mouthful.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: We got three-and-a-half minutes, that's why.

MS. TSUHAKO: Thank you. I think what I'll commit to you, Member Kama, is that I'll come talk to you because I don't quite understand what you mean when you say a housing authority, okay.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Okay, good.

MS. TSUHAKO: So, I need clarity on that.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you.

MS. TSUHAKO: And I will make an appointment and come see you to talk about that.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: I'd like that.

MS. TSUHAKO: I think the idea...the concept of doing IDAs is a really good one. And we heard today from Kehau, and we also heard from Hale Mahaolu. And I think that if we were provided with the resource and the direction that an IDA program was a priority for the County, we could certainly procure for that.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Okay, it's another priority of mine.

MS. TSUHAKO: Because it would have to be done through a procurement process.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Yes.

MS. TSUHAKO: And I think that many people would probably benefit from that opportunity to save and to learn. So, there's no opposition to that from the Department. I think in terms of the mobile hygiene unit, Cup of Cold Water, or no, Maui Rescue Mission does that. I don't know for certain if they do it here in Central, if they only go out in south, yeah. And maybe we can work with them. They're not a...Maui Rescue Mission doesn't currently receive any funding from the County. But, you know, they are also members of the Homeless Alliance which the County also belongs to. So, we could probably initiate conversations with them to see what the likelihood is of having their

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service made available to Central Maui. And I will commit to doing that follow-up with them. I think your observation about the Housing Division's capacity is accurate. You have a small number of people managing a tremendous amount of money through programs. The Section 8 Program is huge. And you also have a Housing Administrator who doesn't have a Deputy Housing Administrator right now because she's sitting next to me. So, vacancies I think put additional strain on the work. There's a lot of procedural and processes that need to be done when housing developers come to us and say, hey, here's my project, and I want to get a 201H, or I want to, you know, pursue a 2.97. So, there's that kind of a review and administrative oversight that's needed. I think as we move further into the plan, and if we actually do end up following through on Chairman King's suggestion and Member Lee's encouragement for the County to engage as a co-developer in housing, there may be a time when maybe next budget year when the Department will come to you and ask for positions so that we can manage that additional piece of the work that needs to be done. So, we thank you for that forethought.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: I was hoping that we could do that this year in terms of putting the position in because waiting another year would probably take too long. But I'm patient. But I'm a very happy Councilmember today. Thank you.

MS. TSUHAKO: Member Kama, we have a vacant position right now. I think it's a Housing Development Coordinator. It's a development coordinator. We're actually interviewing for that position I think on May the 2<sup>nd</sup>. So, this is the second time that that position has been interviewed for. We're hoping that we have a better outcome this time. We...the thing that I want to make clear in the Budget is that we have requested permission to recruit above the minimum Step C salary. So, I don't know if that change in the salary is requested in the Budget Details. Shucks.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: I didn't see it.

MS. TSUHAKO: And the...and...sorry, sorry for using your time.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

MS. TSUHAKO: But we're trying to fill that position and some of what we expect that person, that position to be able to do is to lead the charge when it comes to having those conversations, and meeting, and trying to facilitate the process of the development.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Okay, so as not to waste time, Chair, I'm okay with meeting with the Director at a later time to be able to further the discussion. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Kama. Okay, my turn. Okay, I didn't forget anybody, did I? Everyone...we got everybody? Okay, ready, go. Okay, Director, I had the same question as Member Sinenci, so will you please get back to us regarding the Operations Services on Page 281, the 292.9 percent increase, which translates to \$90,000 for Service. We tried to track that down in the Budget Details and the Budget summary. And the Budget summary never have one for that program.

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Okay, and then for Page 286 on General Fund under Other Cost, there's a increase of 780.4 percent which is \$237,640 for Other Costs. Would you please explain that increase?

MS. TSUHAKO: Oh, okay. So, thank you, Madam Chair. It looks like the cost of...well, \$60,000 for the analysis of impediment study, which is \$50,000, and an additional \$30,000 for tree and lot maintenance. And the \$180,000 for the study of those existing parcels account for that increase.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, mahalo. Okay, on Page 290 under Komohana Hale Apartments Program. What will the proposed 215,000 cover for this grant recipient?

MS. MUNSELL: The...if you look at your Budget Details, it's actually outlined what all the expenditures are for that. The \$215,000 is the anticipated rent and other income for that project. And then that money will be used to support the project itself. None of this money is coming out of the General Fund. It's self-supporting. So, if you've got other...I can answer other questions if you have them.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, on Page 331 under Human Concerns, Grant Revenue Fund, Salaries and Wages, Other Premium Pay, will you please explain the 1,300.8 increase in Premium Pay, which is an increase of \$39,518?

MS. TSUHAKO: Thank you very much, Madam Chair. That change amount reflects what we anticipate to be the result of a new bargaining agreement.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, mahalo. Okay, and then on page...no, I'm going go off of Member Kama's and Member Sugimura's questions regarding the IDAs. Did they...was the question answered about where and how much, Hale Mahaolu gave us some figures but it was like 1,060,000, 1 million for the matching funds, 60,000 for administrative costs.

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

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, but so the number, how much would the...would an IDA program cost, and where would that go under your programs?

MS. TSUHAKO: I don't have Hale Mahaolu's e-mail. I solicited a response from them a few weeks ago. And I think their response was it might be \$1,060,000. So, a million for the actual savings match, and 60,000 for staffing or administration.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Right.

MS. TSUHAKO: I think that if we were to have a grant to administer for the IDA, most likely should be placed within the Housing Program Budget.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. As its own line item?

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MS. TSUHAKE: I'm sorry?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: As its own line item?

MS. TSUHAKE: Correct.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Okay, and then regarding...okay, Member Molina mentioned it. Oh shoot, what page is it on? Member Molina, what page was that on again?

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Are you talking about the affordable --

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yeah. Oh, got it.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: --rental? Two eighty-seven.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Two eighty-seven. Page 287, we talked about providing more funding toward those programs. And you said that what we had talked about is too much, maybe 300,000 for the capacity of the existing entities. Are there other entities that would be interested in managing the Housing Assistance Program to help extend the reach?

MS. TSUHAKE: Thank you for your question, Budget Chair. I'm not...the answer is I'm not sure.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay.

MS. TSUHAKE: Well, we've had a working relationship with the four grantees. And one of the benefits that we as a community receive from that partnership is that they meet every month with Housing staff as well as Grants Management staff to coordinate that assistance to ensure that we're not duplicating assistance to the same people, and that the funding is used to its highest good possible. So, if there's another grantee who could possibly help achieve the larger goals and who's willing to participate in that process, then I would say we're, you know, we would welcome that. But it has to be contingent upon their willingness to come to those monthly meetings and to participate in that established process in order for us to ensure there's accountability and consistency across the grantees. So, with that contingency, then, you know, that would be great.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Director. Member Lee?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Following up on her question, do you have a nonprofit on the island of Molokai that provides assistance to the homeless?

MS. TSUHAKE: Thank you, Member Lee. There is no homeless service agency that's identified, per se. I know that MEO gives assistance to people who need it on Molokai. Family Life Center often sends staffing over...staff people over to Molokai to assist

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because Family Life Center may receive funding, let's say for example, from the State for housing placement. And they're...if they have a staff over there, the people on Molokai are eligible to receive that assistance through the visiting staff.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: So, it is possible through an existing agency such as MEO or Family Life Center, one of those, who fly there and provide services from time to time --

MS. TSUHAKO: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: --to handle...no, I'm thinking of Zhantell. So, yeah, 'cause there is a problem, serious problem of homelessness there. And right now the residents are just taking monies out of their own pockets and paying for these kinds of services. So, I think this is something that we need to start over there. Thank you.

MS. TSUHAKO: Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Lee. Okay, Members, we'll now move into the proposing amendments, okay. Okay, we'll start with Chair King and go that way, and then go to Member Paltin, and then go that way.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Okay, I'm going to include a lot of concepts 'cause I think other Members want to propose amendments too. But I wanted to start with on Page 287, the line item for the 175,000 for the studies on the three new existing parcels. I think we need to just change the wording of that to make it more flexible, and just to say, "additional funding for new existing parcel studies." And that way if they find something better or the community comes out and they don't want one of those parcels, or if they can fit four parcels into those studies, I don't think we should restrict them to a certain amount. Maybe you can do two parcels in one study, or something like that. So, that's my first proposal. Just to take up...

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: I'm going to clarify your proposal. Is it just to strike the number "three?"

VICE-CHAIR KING: Just "additional funding for new existing parcel studies." And then --

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay.

VICE-CHAIR KING: --take the "at 60,000 each" out, so they just get...the total amount would 175,000.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: So, your proposal is to strike the "three," and strike --

VICE-CHAIR KING: Right.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: --"at 60,000 each."

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VICE-CHAIR KING: Right.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Thank you.

VICE-CHAIR KING: And I have confidence in Ms. Munsell that she won't take that all and use it for one parcel. And my second amendment is to add, and I think this would go on Page 286 under Services, is to add 250,000 under Professional Services for a consultant to help the Department create a plan of action to attain, and I put this number in here but I don't know if this is overly ambitious, 9,500 units for the under 80 percent AMI demographic by 2025 because that's what I was told that we would need by then. And so that can be wordsmithed if that's boxing you in if that's too ambitious. But it kind of goes hand-in-hand with another amendments that I wanted to support Member Kama's earlier...

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Really quick for clarification on that item on 286. That was a proposal of 200,000 or 250,000?

VICE-CHAIR KING: Two hundred fifty thousand.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, thank you.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Yeah.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: And that was on 286 under Expenditure Summary.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Would be added to under...in Services.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Operations, Services.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Right. So, we add it to what that total amount is, which is 1.219 million. And then this would kind of go hand-in-hand with...I wanted to support Member Kama's idea of adding 20 million to the Affordable Housing Fund. But I would like to see that additional monies designated for the 80 percent AMI and under. And it may end up being that we go with 4 percent, or 20 million. I'm not really married to that number, but I think anything...if we can put those...that money in and show that we're serious about the biggest need on the island, then we can really get...and we get a plan for that, and we can get action happening quicker, then I think we should invest that money there.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: I'm sorry. Will you clarify your proposal?

VICE-CHAIR KING: Pardon?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: What page is that?

VICE-CHAIR KING: I don't have a page number. That was for the Affordable Housing Fund. I'm not sure what page it's on in the Budget Program.

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CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. That was to increase it to 4 percent.

VICE-CHAIR KING: No, I actually was just...I was...it doesn't matter to me if it's 4 percent, or if it's 20 million. I don't know which one is greater, but that was...I just wanted to support Member Kama's original...when we did our priorities and our...

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Member Kama and Member Lee.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Right. And one was increasing it 4 percent, one was increasing to 20 million. But I think whatever we increase it above the 2 percent that's proposed, or that's in there already, it should be designated for 80 percent and under AMI. So, I want to make sure we're working on the greatest need first. And okay, the last one is in the Animal Management, and I wanted to amend it to fully fund...

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: What page?

VICE-CHAIR KING: This is page...okay, it's 340, Page 340. Okay, so the Contractual Services, the request was for \$1,598,468 and the Mayor's Budget is 1,394,000. So the increase I'm proposing would be 204,115 to bring that up...to bring that contract up to being fully funded.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Two zero four --

VICE-CHAIR KING: So this would be...

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: --one one five.

VICE-CHAIR KING: The total amount would be...it's 914101B, Contractual Service.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: The amount that you're raising it by is --

VICE-CHAIR KING: Two hundred four thousand...

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: --204,115.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Right. And that would be fully funding the contract that we have with the Animal Management...with the Humane Society for animal sheltering. And so that they, you know, when they raise extra funds, they can put it towards the other things they do that we don't contract them for. And I do want to support the two trucks, putting the two trucks in this Budget cycle because I'm pretty sure I saw the numbers...when I met with Jerleen Bryant, I saw the numbers. And I'm pretty sure they're going to have the money this next fiscal year. So, you know, just putting those...

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, so that will be in the Budget Details Page 8-86. And that will be...you're proposing to proviso --

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VICE-CHAIR KING: Hundred twenty...

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: --the purchase of up to two vehicles.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Right, from the revolving fund.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay.

VICE-CHAIR KING: So, I'll stop there and let everybody else fill in. I think Yuki Lei and I are pretty aligned on the Animal Management trucks. So, now you can add something else.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Good, I'm ready.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair King.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Can you repeat what she just said 'cause I was looking for it, so.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: All of them? Or just the last one?

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: No, well, no, just regarding the animal...the Humane Society figures.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh, okay. It was the proviso that you folks discussed which is the proviso to purchase up to two vehicles under the Animal --

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Revolving Fund.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: --Revolving Fund.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: The one before that, if you would.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, on page, in your Program Budget, on Page 340, adding to the \$1,394,353 under the Maui Humane Society for Animal Sheltering Program, an addition of \$204,115, so that they will be fully funded for their contract.

VICE-CHAIR KING: And then, Chair, if I may? I'm looking at an e-mail dated March 28, 2019 from Curtis Jamison to Tom Bellerue from the animal...it says...Maui Humane Society, it says, Tom, we were provided the following from Budget Office. Animal Management Revolving Fund, balance 126,366. So, I think that was the figure that I got from Jerleen. And that's why...and she was under impression that there's enough money in there, besides what they think they're going to be bringing in the last quarter of this fiscal year.

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CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Is that part of a testimony, or was that an e-mail to you?

VICE-CHAIR KING: This was an e-mail between the Humane Society and someone at the County of Maui back in March. And this is in line with what she showed me when she came and met with me and showed me that there was money in the revolving fund for this.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair King.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, did you get that, Member Sugimura?

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Yes, thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, perfect. Okay, next we'll go to Member Lee.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Me?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yeah, all you.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay, thank you. Director Tsuhako, on your Self-Sufficiency Programs, have you earmarked the entire amount of 95,000?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: What page, Member Lee?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: It is on 304. You have down Maui Family Support Services and the Maui Farm, Inc. Does that mean they're going to use up all of the 95,000?

MS. TSUHAKO: Excuse me, Madam Chair. Did you say 304?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Page 304, 304, and the program was...will you repeat it?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Self-Sufficiency --

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Self-Sufficiency.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: --Program.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. And it's for 95,000.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Yeah, and then on 307 you have listed under that category Maui Family Support Services and the Maui Farm, Inc. Stipend Program. So, are these using up all...of the 95,000?

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MS. TSUHAKO: I believe they might be, Member Lee. I can...let me check my...yeah, oh, sorry.

MS. YOSHIMURA: Chair?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Ms. Yoshimura?

MS. YOSHIMURA: Councilmember Lee, if you look on HC-3 response dated April 3<sup>rd</sup>, the last two pages of the report will give you the grant disbursements for Fiscal Year 2019, and the Fiscal Year 2020 request. The 2020 request is in the second to the last column. Under the Self-Sufficiency Program, Maui Family Support Services is proposed for 75,000, and the Maui Farm at 20,000.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: So, the answer is it's taken.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay, that's all I needed to know. Okay, then going to Substance Abuse, same thing?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Which page, Member Lee?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: I don't know.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh, okay.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay, it's on 301.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Three oh one. Oh, going the wrong way.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: But it has to be more than that. Is it only 601,567? And tell me that it's all earmarked. Is it all earmarked?

MS. TSUHAKO: It appears that it is, Councilmember.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay, what about the Homeless Program?

MS. TSUHAKO: I believe the Homeless Program --

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Is on 303.

MS. TSUHAKO: --may have a little bit of wiggle room based...

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay, let's wiggle to \$50,000.

MS. TSUHAKO: Okay.

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COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay. And this is going to be earmarked for the Homeless Program on Molokai.

MS. TSUHAKO: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay. Details to follow.

MS. TSUHAKO: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Thank you, since I have no other choices, that's all I have. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Lee. Member Molina?

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Thank you, Madam Chair. I have two proposed amendments having to do with the Affordable Rental Housing Program, Sub-Object Code 6317, Page 8-11 in your Budget Details, and then Page 287 in your Program Budget. My amendment would be to increase the appropriation to \$400,000. I believe I'd initially asked when we were all asked for our priorities was a million. However, upon hearing from Director Tshako and her frugality, which is a good thing, that 400,000 is a more realistic approach. So, I would like to propose that. I believe now for a total appropriation to 1,550,000, and so for...thousand, yeah. Yeah.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: You're adding.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: I'm adding, yes, I'm adding 400,000 to it, yes. I hope my math is correct.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, is that 400,000 to the Affordable Rental Housing Program?

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Yes.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Affordable Rental Housing Program.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, so on that line then, it would increase from 1 million to 1,400,000.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: You know, I'm not sure if it should be 1,550,000, or 1,400,000. Maybe can ask for...

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Is it the total Housing Program, is the 1,150,000 --

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Yes.

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CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: --and then if you add the 400,000 would be 1,500,000 so...

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Okay, yeah, just in, but in short just adding 400,000 to the Rental Housing Program.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, but to which one? There's like the Hale Mahaolu for Homeowners and Housing Counseling Program.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Oh, no, no. This would be for the --

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: For the Rental Housing.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: --Affordable Rental Housing Program, yeah.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, so that'll be a proposed increase from \$1 million to \$1,400,000 --

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Correct.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: --for the Affordable Rental Housing Program on Page 287.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Okay.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Molina.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: All right. And then my second and final proposed amendment relates to that housing study we had talked about. And upon hearing the Department being quite flexible, hopefully, to expand our horizons...well, let me give you guys where it's at, Budget Details 8-10, Page 287 in the Program Budget. Currently, I believe it was listed at 320,000 for the study. I'd like to add an additional \$180,000 to look at additional parcel assessments, other maybe private properties for affordable housing sites and to maybe look at the possibility of establishing partnerships. And, you know, my esteemed colleague from Wailuku, ten years on the County Council, eight years as a Housing Director, hit it on the head in her comments to Ms. Tsuhako that we need to do outreach with developers. And the impetus for this amendment came from a developer, a retired developer, Mr. Scott Shapiro, if any of you recall when this matter came before I believe Member Kama's Committee. So, this is why I don't believe we should just limit ourselves to the three parcels as far as the study goes. Let's look elsewhere as well 'cause we may be able to find some potential hidden gems out there, at least through this study. So, anyway the amendment again is increase appropriation by 320,000 [sic] for a total appropriation to 500,000.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, so that'll coincide with Chair King's proposed amendment.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Yeah, it's along the same line.

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CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yeah, yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: I'm just adding more specific number.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yeah, yeah, it works out.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: But it's sort of in line with Chair King's.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Mine was to take the limitations off.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yeah, to take out the three.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Oh, yeah.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: And to take out 60,000 each. So, that works syner-ginestically [sic].

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Yeah, yeah. Well, that's a nice word. I'm going to borrow that in the future.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Well, she just made that up.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: And that's it for me at this point.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: That's it?

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, mahalo, Member Molina. Member Sinenci?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you, Chair. I do have one amendment and it's on Page 304 at the top of the County Grant Subsidy, under Maui Adult Day Care Center for Senior Citizens. Chair, today we had the Executive Director Suzanne Antounian, and she mentioned about some of the services that Hale Hulu Mamo in Hana provides for our community. So, I wanted to add 300,000 to the proposed Budget. And this would be 30 percent matching funds towards acquisition of a larger center to house some of their growing needs. And I think this was one of my original asks, to provide ADA parking for the Hana Civic Center. And also ADA access for the Hana Ball Park included with this acquisition, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: So, that wouldn't be a CIP?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Would it be CIP?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: I think so.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: So, it wouldn't...I would add it to the CIP, Parks.

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CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: 'Cause this is for the program.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Oh, for the program. Okay, so I'll reserve it to CIP then.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Twenty-second.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Okay, sorry. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, do you have another one?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: That's it.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. We'll save that one for CIP day.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, Member Paltin, you ready?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Ready. Director, you can just stop me if it's not something that you would like to see. Page 295 or Page 8-21 of the Details, I would delete the 9,500, Index Code 914325A-5205, Overtime, additional funding to reflect the actual costs. Two ninety-five of the proposed narrative.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Page 295 under Expansion Budget Requests under Other Premium Pay, Overtime, additional funding to reflect actual costs, and Kaunoa --

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Kaunoa.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: --yes--responded that that can be deleted.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay, Page 289. I don't know if I can do this 'cause it's also with the Countywide expenses in Department of Finance. But I wanted to kind of split the difference on the Interfund Cost Reclassification. Half of the change amount is like 176,136. So, I wanted to decrease it by that amount in this category and increase it by the same amount in the Countywide Costs, Department of Finance, since that's where we're inter funding from. Is that something that's possible to do, like to balance it out?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: We'll ask Member...Ms. Yoshimura what her thoughts are on that.

MS. YOSHIMURA: Chair, Member Paltin, for clarification then, so the Fringe cost for Section 8, you want to split it between Section 8 and the General Fund? Okay, yeah, so that's where you would reduce it here, and add it in Countywide Costs.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, so...

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COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Yes, that's my proposal, amendment.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. So, on Page 289, under...

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Interfund Cost Reclassification.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Interfund...you're going to reduce it by one...

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: One seventy-six. One hundred seventy-six thousand, one hundred and thirty-six dollars. I just split it. And then, you know, my buzzer went off before I was able to do everything. So, I'm just going to shoot for it. In 2018, it looks like the Grant Revenue Fund lost a Housing Program Specialist III. I would like to reinstate that position if it's amenable to the Department. Page 289.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: That's Page 289 under Equivalent Personnel Summary.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Yeah.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Housing Specialist III. In 2017, there was someone in that position, and then it stopped. Director Tsuhako, would you be able to speak to that?

MS. TSUHAKO: Thank you, Madam Chair. Thank you for your advocacy, Councilmember Paltin. That Housing Program Specialist, the position still exists. It's just unfilled.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Oh.

MS. TSUHAKO: So, oh, it's unfunded, yeah, so there's obviously nobody in there. But I think if we get to a point at Section 8 where we can attract additional vouchers, and we need to have more people to manage the vouchers that we get in addition, that we could utilize the position. I think it still exists. It's just unfunded.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: So, premature proposal?

MS. TSUHAKO: For right now, yes.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay, I withdraw that.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I ran out of my minutes, that's why.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, mahalo, Member Paltin.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: But thank you.

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CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Member Sugimura?

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Yeah, thank you. So, you know, what I would really like to do is support Boys and Girls Club. And I have a story, Paukukalo, you know, we heard from testifiers how, because they don't have a home so to speak, that they set up for the day, and they have to collect everything, and you know. So, I want...I just want to say I support this. There's half-a-million dollars in the budget for it. Thank you, Budget Director, the Mayor for putting it in. And I would love to give them some little more so that it'll qualify to be in this discussion. And I wonder if, Director, you can tell me shall we give them a little more? Do you know?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Member Sugimura, will you let the Members know what page?

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Oh, sorry. Oh God, I gotta research. Boys and Girls Club, okay, I guess it's on 303. Is that right? Boys and Girls Club to...oh that's Teens Expo. Well, will you just believe me that it's there? Oh, 309. I was close. There, 309. So, in 2018 when this first came up, we gave them 75,000 to start. And then here they are in 2020, asking us for the...and I really want to support this as it provides a valuable service and those kids are precious when we did the anti-smoking, anti-drinking, and I did projects with them. And Member Paltin's kids want to go there during spring break, right? Or summer. But I really would like to...anyway. Director, do you have any comments on that, or shall I...

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Director?

MS. TSUHAKO: Thank you, Councilmember. The Department is in support of...I mean we understand the need for that clubhouse for Boys and Girls Club. I believe that the proposed Budget Ordinance that was prepared with the Mayor's Budget proposal also puts a proviso on the funds that requires Boys and Girls Club to obtain funding from additional sources. I think...I'm not a real construction person, and I don't really have a sense of where or how quickly those funds could be used, but I'm anticipating that if construction can get started in this upcoming fiscal year that the agency would be able to use the half-a-million dollars, and in time be able receive those funding from other sources. And as Ms. Pearson has indicated in her written response to the Council, if there is a need for additional funding, she will make that request at the time. So, personally I'm comfortable with the request at that level. I don't know if there's a disagreement.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: No, that was my idea.

MS. TSUHAKO: From . . .*(inaudible)*. . . Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: I just would like to, you know, kind of, yeah, cement that and be sure we help the kids, so.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Member Molina?

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COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Yeah, thank you, Madam Chair, just a point of information. We were just handed out today Director Tsuhako's detailed description of the Boys and Girls Club project. So, if Members want to take a look at it. It's dated April 16, if you want to get, you know, with the 500,000 so we all have a full description of it. Thank you. I just wanted to add that.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo. And that was HC-9?

MS. TSUHAKO: I believe it's HC-8.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh, HC-8, okay.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Question three.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Question three. Okay, Member Sugimura, did you have...

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Last one. So, HC-4, the Director was asked if there are any grants requested by the Department that were not included in our Budget. And I think Habitat for Humanity for its Home Accessibility and Critical Repair Program was seeking \$250,000. So, I just wondered about that. If they don't get that, do you have any sense of where...how we can support that program? I think...what I like about Habitat is the self-sufficiency. Not only is it only for...do you give them the funds to...but they ask whoever is planning to occupy the home that they have to do some sweat equity. And I like that.

MS. TSUHAKO: Thank you for your question, Councilmember. I think if I recall this one correctly, the agency's request may have come in late in the process, or perhaps they did not...didn't have an opportunity to speak with you. I mean, with the Budget Director and the Mayor regarding this request, and therefore, weren't included in the Mayor's Budget proposal. I know that they have done good work in terms of the retrofitting of homes, especially for the kupuna who needs ramps and more accessible walkways and things. So, I think that we did, the Department did make the request but it, you know, for whatever reason, it didn't show up in the final proposal.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: So, they didn't make a deadline, is that what you're saying?

MS. TSUHAKO: I think they didn't have an opportunity to speak directly with the Budget Director and the Mayor. And they may not have had information about that program at the time that they were crafting the Mayor's proposal.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: So, in your opinion, is it a program we should support, or did you talk to them regarding this? I'm sure the...the Mayor would have...

MS. TSUHAKO: The discussion with the Department occurred before I was there last fall. So, I personally did not speak with them about this.

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COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: And I guess Ms. Munsell didn't either. Okay, if you would maybe get information from them, if you think it's worthy. And if not, I'll pass.

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

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you, Chair. So, if on Page 286, under Other Cost, I have a proposal. And it says, County grant subsidy appropriation for the establishment and operation of an independent development account program for homeownership. So, I wanted to be able to add \$3 million to the County grant subsidy for a nonprofit organization to provide capacity for up to 100 qualified households to participate in an IDA program. And the proposed County grant shall only be awarded to an organization if their proposed IDA program has a two to one, or greater match, of County funds. And I can give it in writing if it's too much.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: I can do that.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: So, you're proposing to put that on Page 286?

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Under Other Cost.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh, Other Cost. And the amount was how much?

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Three million.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, okay . . .*(inaudible)* . . .

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: And I have another proposal under Operations, Services to...

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: What page?

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Page 286 also.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: And it's to add \$150,000 to Professional Services to fund a study for the formation of the Maui County housing authority with a proviso that the Affordable Housing Committee will review and advise the Housing Program on the scope of work for the study prior to encumbering the funds.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: And I have one more. I don't...didn't know where to put it, though. I was trying to find some place to put my hygiene bus. And I couldn't find some place. I mean in terms of...in the narrative. I was trying to look for some place,

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and I wasn't sure if...where it would go. So, I'm just...just put it out there and wherever it lands, it lands.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Chair King, do you know where the Kihei...

VICE-CHAIR KING: Well, this is under Ka Hale A Ke Ola and it's...the funds were identified. But I think Director Tsuhako was saying that she thought she could get the services in just Central Maui from the other...the one that's the existing...Cup of Cold Water.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Mission Rescue or something.

MS. TSUHAKO: Maui Rescue Mission.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Maui Rescue Mission has a hygiene...

MS. TSUHAKO: They do.

VICE-CHAIR KING: But I think it's...I think the idea would be to...if you're going to try to do something like that is to develop it first, rather than just put the money in there. So, either figure out --

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Yeah.

VICE-CHAIR KING: --the services, who's going to house it, what agency's going to run it.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: That's why I couldn't find a place for it.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Because Ka Hale A Ke Ola got...already receives enough funding to staff the one in South Maui. And then we raise the money as a group to actually help subsidize the funding of it. So, but it took...it's going to take you about a year to get that all together. So, trying to fund it now, the funds, I think, will just sit there for a year. So, you might as well get it developed first, see what we could use with existing services, and then ask for funding. But work with the Director.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Okay, I'm good with that, Chair. And that's all my proposals. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Kama. Okay, and for me, I agree with Member Molina's proposal, and Member Lee's proposal. So, you got mine, so mahalo. So, okay, Members, we've added a lot potentially...we've proposed to add a lot of money to the Budget. So, together we're going to have to figure out how to balance it. And that will come from figuring out what programs or ...*(cell phone noise)*... Oh, sorry. Please silence phones. Yeah, so together we'll figure out how to balance it whether it's going to be coming from decreasing program services in other departments, or you know, discussing real property taxes, rates, and fees, and just trying to figure out how to balance it. So, just keep that in mind as we propose to increase the Budget that

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we're going to have to eventually make the hard decisions on how to balance it. Okay? Okay, so mahalo nui, Department, for assisting us with this review of the Operations.

MS. TSUHAKO: Thank you, Madam Chair and Members. We appreciate your time.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo. So, it's 4:10. We have OED next. We'll take a quick break, ten minutes. And then we'll probably just get through the questions that we didn't receive a response for. And then we'll break at 5:00 for dinner, and then 6:00 is the public hearing. And then we'll, if Members are open to it, I'll recess to 7:30. And at that time if we're still in the public hearing, I'll gavel in and recess to a time more certain after we figure out how many people we have signed up to testify tonight.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Oh, we, yeah, we probably won't know that 'til it gets closer to 6:00.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Right, so I'll recess 'til 7:30. And then I'll gavel in, and then I will recess...gavel out, and recess to a time certain. Ms. Yoshimura?

MS. YOSHIMURA: Chair, at the start of the meeting you had asked about response to ED-4. So the Members should have a copy.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo. ED-4, yeah. Member Molina?

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Yeah, thank you, Madam Chair. Just with regards to the time depending on how the evening public hearing goes. If say we end by, say, nine o'clock with the public hearing, then is it your intention to at least go to the 11 o'clock time you've established?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Okay, just thought I'd ask. Thank you.

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CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Molina. Okay, any other questions before we take our quick ten-minute recess? Okay, seeing none, okay, it's 4:12, April 17<sup>th</sup>. We'll be back by 4:22, and then we'll have the OED Director on with us. Okay, the Economic Development and Budget Committee is now in recess. . . .(gavel). . .

**RECESS: 4:12 p.m.**

**RECONVENE: 4:34 p.m.**

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: . . .(gavel). . . Will the Economic Development and Budget Committee please return to order. It is 4:34 on April 17<sup>th</sup>.

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CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, we're going to continue with our review of the Department's budget. We are on the Office of Economic Development, and we have Director Kay Fukumoto with us. And this morning we received the final written correspondence to our questions, ED-4, and so did Members get an opportunity to read that? Or do you have any objections to allowing Members to review that at another time, on their own time? Any objections?

COUNCILMEMBERS: No objections.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, thank you. Okay. So, we have three questions that didn't make it to the Department, and it's regarding MVB. Regarding the 4 million appropriation to the Maui County Visitors Association, Program Budget, Page 412, it appears that advertising spending has accounted for a significant portion of the Fiscal Year 2018 and Fiscal Year 2019 appropriations. A cost breakdown of advertising spending was provided by Ms. Sherry Duong, Executive Director of the Maui County Visitors Association, in correspondence dated April 4, 2019. So, the three questions are from Member Molina. A, Maui is well-known worldwide as a premier visitor destination. Is there a need to continue marketing Maui at current levels?

MS. FUKUMOTO: Thank you, Budget Chair, for the question, and thank you, Molina, for the question. With respect to marketing Maui, I think, you know, whenever you start something, you're trying to build a brand. And obviously we have done a very good job in doing that over the years. And with any sort of brand, it's needing to continue to be on the forefront of people's minds whenever they're making decisions about their travels. I think one thing we all need to also understand with respect to being a visitor destination is that there is heavy competition throughout the world. And there are many locations that had gone through natural disasters that had been not utilized in recent years just because they're recovering from those natural disasters. But they are coming back. And so the competition is even stiffer with respect to our visitor industry. You know considering that the visitor industry, there's 50 percent of our population that is, you know, employed in the industry, and 75 percent of the total...

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CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Director Fukumoto, we have a limited amount of time.

MS. FUKUMOTO: Okay, I'm sorry.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: And so the question is, is there a need to continue marketing at current levels? Ms. Duong did testify earlier that they're kind of shifting. So, it sounds like at the current level there isn't as much of a need and they're shifting to management currently. So, if you could just answer that question.

MS. FUKUMOTO: Okay. So, I understand that they are shifting their focus; however, they're not going to completely not market, obviously. So, they will be taking a slightly different approach. But I certainly feel that the amount that we're requesting for funding should stay at a level amount in order to maintain the current status.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Director. How much of the advertising spending through the County grant subsidy is leveraged with other funding to maximize coverage?

MS. FUKUMOTO: I don't have the...

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, so...

MS. FUKUMOTO: Yeah.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: It was provided in the testimony.

MS. FUKUMOTO: Right. So...

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: The written testimony.

MS. FUKUMOTO: With respect to leveraging, you know, a lot of the marketing dollars are related to media coverage, also, you know, using social media. With respect to media coverage, whenever you have an event that is televised, they not only will use media to broadcast and show the beauty of the island, but obviously through programming, they're almost matching dollar for dollar what is being aired with respect to media. Obviously, with social media in terms of leveraging, you know, it's very key marketing. Whenever a visitor, say for instance, arrives at this airport, we can target that visitor and show...

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: So, I think...I'm sorry, Director, I think Member Molina wanted to know the actual leverage of --

MS. FUKUMOTO: Oh, leveraged amount.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: --funding, and not conceptually, but actual numbers is what I'm guessing. Member Molina?

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COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Yeah. Yeah, Madam Chair, if Ms. Fukumoto doesn't have that specific information, we can get that from her later. But, yeah, so unfortunately these questions didn't make the cut so she didn't have that opportunity to do some detailed analysis. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, and then the last question is please provide the percentage of appropriation to be used for advertising. And I'm guessing you probably don't have the --

MS. FUKUMOTO: Right.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: --actual number for that either.

MS. FUKUMOTO: Right.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, and I see Ms. Duong in the audience so maybe we can ask her to answer these questions at a later time? Okay. Okay, it's 4:40. I think we can do some of the Members' questions if Members don't have objection. And then at five o'clock we'll recess. Okay, we'll start with Member Paltin, and then we'll go that way. And then Chair King, and then go that way. Okay, ready, Member Paltin?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Shucks, I wasn't ready, but I'll do my best.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, do you want me to...

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Nah.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, all right. You're on.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I can go with the flow.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Born ready.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Yeah. So, one of my questions is, I wasn't completely ready so I don't know the Mayor's exact salary, but it's like \$151,000 to run the whole County and that's a huge job. And I think that's a kind of an appropriate amount to pay somebody to run this County. It's three islands, so much departments and divisions. So, my question is, you know, we're giving a lot of money to nonprofits and it goes into like a general pot. Do we ask how much the executive directors of the nonprofits are making when we are giving them like these big amounts of money? For me, if they're making more than the Mayor, like 200,000 or what, I don't think that we should be supplementing a budget that goes to pay them more than the Mayor. Any thoughts?

MS. FUKUMOTO: Well, when have line item provisos, there was actually a question about that. And one of the letters requested the information with respect to executive salaries. So, we provided all of that information. So, for, you know, for those line item

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provisos we do have that information. So, we can use it in, you know, looking at the grant from a financial perspective.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: You don't have any restrictions if like, say, the executive director makes more than the Mayor, no restrictions of that sort?

MS. FUKUMOTO: Not a restriction so much as, you know, we always look at grants from a financial fiscal, you know, focus, and so, you know, we've seen grants where grants will come in and they literally show income on one side, even if they're getting County funding. And so we will reduce the amount of County funding because they're going to have income from a project. So, we, you know, we take a look at things fiscally.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: There's no way to ensure that the County's revenues...or the County's grant funding doesn't go towards the paying of the executive director of a nonprofit?

MS. FUKUMOTO: Well, when they submit a budget, you know, there's line items. And they have to inform us of what they're...what the reimbursement is that we are paying for. So, we can, you know, we can monitor that amount.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And then in our road show around the islands, plenty folks were asking for funds for various projects where it like, you know, advertises Maui, or it brings people in. And I was wondering, you know, instead of paying so much money to all these magazines and Internet, I think, you know, in FY '19 we spent looks like maybe like over 300,000 on print advertising, 281 on digital, and then there's 233 reserved for more. Like instead of spending it on these like corporations that the money, you know, goes out, why we can't invest in advertising in like, you know, the Film Festival. Or even like Noelani Sugata talked to us in Paia where she had our name Maui broadcast so much with no cost. You know, like the amount of dollars she got in advertising and she didn't have to...we didn't pay her for that. Or she didn't have to put up the money. So, I kind of like, you know, get the advertising out through community-based economic development instead of paying like, say, *Travel + Leisure* magazine, or paying Facebook, or something like that. I mean, I think that it's kind of hard to see the amount of money spent on digital advertising when in like this kind of day and age, folks can do it fairly cheaply. You know or we can give that same amount of money to a local interest that generates the visitor revenue, Maui Film Fest, the Maui Marathon. I think, you know, there were a lot of these, Festivals of Aloha. There's a lot of these organizations that are claiming to do or are doing what the Maui Visitor Bureau is saying they're doing. And it feels like we're double paying, and if I had the choice, I would rather invest the advertising money in a local program like, you know, Festivals of Aloha, or whatever, instead of paying it to these outside companies that just, you know, take our money and then you see the ad in the magazine. Any comment on that?

MS. FUKUMOTO: Yeah, I believe that that type of advertising that you're talking about is actually advertising to bring the visitor here. And the type of advertising perhaps that is done on a local level, is to get the tourist from their respective hotels and locations

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to their event. So, it's a different sort of advertising money and a different reach. You know, obviously we have metrics for that, for the monies that are being used. You know, what is the reach when we spend this amount of money for particular media.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And then, you know, like for us folks in West Maui, it feels like when we want to up the numbers, you guys that aren't in West Maui don't realize what us guys in West Maui are living with. And so, you know, it has reached the tipping point where we don't really want more people. We want to just, you know, maintain where we're at and...

MS. FUKUMOTO: So, you would prefer the grant monies not go towards advertising in your district then?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Well, it feels like the return that we're getting on investing in tourists, is a diminishing return in that we don't get, you know, the full percentage of the TAT, all these hotels and short-term rentals they cite the amount of TAT taxes that they spend as a reason not to increase their property tax. But when they say that, it doesn't have a meaningful representation to me because we're not getting the full percentage of the TAT tax which is supposed to offset the impact. So, it feels like a diminishing return, that why are we continuing to invest in this thing when we're getting less and less back of our investment? And it doesn't feel like serious efforts are being made to diversify to the point where we're weaning ourselves off that.

MS. FUKUMOTO: Well, I have a different plan for diversification and that's why we have two different expansion positions. You know, one is a technology specialist, and one is a grant writer. You know, the grant writer hopefully will get monies so that we can diversify the economy in ag and other types of economies, you know. So, coming into this position in January 2<sup>nd</sup>, you know, I did want to look at other ways we could diversify the economy.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Paltin. Member Sugimura?

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Yeah, thank you. So, I want to support in Budget Details your new grant writer, what you just mentioned. And it is on Page 11-14 in Budget Details. And it is for a new position and proposed expansion position relating to grant writing. So, this is a brand-new position. I think we've always had people in Housing and Human Concerns, OED, the Mayor's Office to look at grants that people have written for, and we have to manage the funds as it goes through our system.

MS. FUKUMOTO: Right.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: So, I totally support this. Did you...the Budget Detail has an amount \$50,530. And that I guess would be for their salary base or...correct?

MS. FUKUMOTO: Right, correct.

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COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Does this position also need program money?

MS. FUKUMOTO: I wasn't asking for program money because literally they're just...they're writing.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Okay.

MS. FUKUMOTO: You know, to bring in monies.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Okay. And then the other position on this page on 11-14, is your technology person.

MS. FUKUMOTO: Correct.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: And I guess you can tell us if...last night when we were...this kind of came up through I think Member Hokama mentioned that for . . . *(inaudible)*. . . technology program, there's program money of 50,000. The question was, is that enough? If you're going to develop a new program, I'm not sure what your plans are, maybe you can tell us later.

MS. FUKUMOTO: Right. Well, I wasn't going to be able to I think secure the position right away. You know, it'll probably take a couple of months in order for this person to get into the position. I think the first year is all about partnerships and, you know, getting...networking within the community. The first thing I want to do really is look in the community and figure out what technology initiatives we would like to focus on. And then to try to get matching funds, or to, you know, garner funding for that. So, I think for the first year, 50,000 is sufficient. But I would certainly love more if you feel more, then we can take more.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Depending on what you have planned --

MS. FUKUMOTO: Right.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: --I think if you're going to start something new, maybe you're saying you want to ramp up. But I will tell you how \$50,000 when I worked in OED in 1999, I had \$50,000 for my small-town promotions and economic development. So, to me it looks like something you might want to consider. So, if you could think about it and get back to us. A program that I totally support--and I just lost my page--but it's the Maui Arts and Cultural Center of which Mr. Vento was before us this morning to talk about the three different...well, programs that they're doing --

MS. FUKUMOTO: Right.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: --and community outreach. So, do you have any comments on that?

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MS. FUKUMOTO: Yeah, you know, it's fabulous that he takes a long-term view on this because, you know, you can get 500,000 and then just use it within a year, right. But he's looking at it from a long-term perspective and has a site plan, and has a development mentality of building and getting matching funds, you know. So, whenever we fund him, he gets matching funds through the State. So, you know, I support his program because it's not just our funding.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: He does a fabulous job of outreach. And I got a folder from him, and I had a question like County funding for the overall budget, what is our County funding? And it's 8.2 percent of his total budget. So, fabulous, you know, I think Member Lee's discussion years ago that she had with a nonprofit, she must've talked to Mr. Vento also in that the County is not the only funding around. So, I appreciate that. I totally support what the MACC is doing for...to reach...you heard that Aloha House testifier that was, you know, heartwarming, that they reached, you know, all levels and people that make an impact. And they do not have to do it.

MS. FUKUMOTO: Right.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: They do cultural things, high school things for kids. They do things for halaus, and Kahulu was there as Hokulani Holt-Padilla was there and took care of all of our cultural things. I went to see Hokulani Holt-Padilla when I first started on my path with doing cultural things, and very wise, and I'm grateful for that. The one program that's been coming to us almost every single time we appear in a community has been the Shay and Chan Hodges for the Maui ESG Initiative Conference. I like that idea. I think when they first talked to us, it was going to be in August. Their conference was going to be in August, but I see over time, it's evolving. So, I wonder if we can get from you, what the, you know, what the plan is, I guess, so that we're not hanging out there. There's a \$75,000 request, and they have to provide a one-to-one matching.

MS. FUKUMOTO: Correct, correct.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: So, I wonder if you could get...

MS. FUKUMOTO: Well, they've already, you know, in speaking with them, they've already garnered I would say almost half of the match. So, you know, that is a very unique way to look at the perspective of investing and, you know, attracting monies to us. Obviously, we're looking at pension funds, and mutual funds, and that sort of thing, and making sure that the people making those decisions even if they're in New York and in D.C. making those decisions, that they are....they truly have the people's interests, right, wherever they're investing their money. And we want to be that. We want to be able to give them the input. And so that's what we're trying to do --

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Okay.

MS. FUKUMOTO: --through that program.

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COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: So, if you could give me just more details before we make our decision-making. And I...the Maui County Farm Bureau, their 350,000. I think I asked when you might have come before us before, but included in that is the Upcountry...

MS. FUKUMOTO: The 4-H.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Four-H. And there's other things in it, so it's not only for the Farm Bureau.

MS. FUKUMOTO: Right.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: But if you could give us that breakdown because the 350 is being looked at. I think I heard the Farmers Union, they would like the same. But it's not really same-same. It's a little bit different. They're pass-through...

MS. FUKUMOTO: They're totally different organizations, you know. The Farm Bureau represents not only the farmers, per se. They also represent the Cattlemen's Association, you know, the landscape organizations as well. So, they are sort of the pass-through and trying to, you know, include a lot of organizations within their budgeting.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Okay. One last one, and I will turn it over to my neighbor. Tri-Isle RC&D spoke before us I think two Fridays ago.

MS. FUKUMOTO: Right.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Last week. And they're talking about grant services for 50,000. They're talking about...they're a nonprofit and charge I think 18, 19 percent for financial services, or their admin fee. Now they're asking us for 50,000 for themselves. And this is little bit concerning to me because if you are operating at...as what they have been, then are they telling us now that they're struggling, that they're going to fold? I'm concerned about that in relationship to that request for 50,000. And there's two organizations that are using them as their umbrella fiscal manager. I think they're with Housing and Human Concerns. And I'm just concerned because if they're struggling to survive, then how can they be the umbrella and fiscal manager for these two other organizations. So, I wonder if you could, you know, look into that.

MS. FUKUMOTO: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Along with Housing and Human Concerns. Okay, thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Sugimura. Okay, Members, it's 4:57. Dinner break? Okay, I was going to see if you wanted to take one more. Break?

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COUNCILMEMBER LEE: You mean Tasha's?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Tasha, you want to go? You have two minutes.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Okay, I'm going to take it 'cause it's going to be very short.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: You can have seven, up to seven.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: So...

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yeah? Okay, Members, no objection. Member Kama?

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you. So, you know, as I've been reading through all of the Budget reviews, it has come to me that all the stuff I pick on have to do with the key activity goals and measures. I look at that because that tells me how you measure your success. But when I read it, and I feel like I don't think you're measuring properly your success when you should be looking at this or that. So, it leads me to the question about, and it runs throughout the gamut of this book. So, who wrote this? Because if that's the case, and we're going to rewrite it next time, then I won't pick on any more departments about their key measures or their activities. But that also gives me to think that that tells me that there's not very much success in what you're doing in your programming 'cause it doesn't tell me that. And based upon your measurement of success will tell me if I want to be able to fund you or not. So, that puts me in a dilemma. So, that was my question either to maybe you, if you wrote this, or to our Budget Director. Who wrote this? And will they rewrite it?

MS. YOSHIMURA: Chair? Member Kama, yes, it will be redone for the next budget given the timeframe that, you know, the Administration came in. A lot of these will be rewritten, and a lot of the departments, or most...all of the departments actually, are going through strategic planning. So, we will have better measures, better goals for you next budget.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Okay, I'm going to be very patient and wait for that. This year I think I'm going to be more generous but next year not quite as so. But I did have one question regarding the film industry. I want that to be another economic engine. So, and I'm not sure how that happens and...or how you intend to make that happen in your Department. Can you explain?

MS. FUKUMOTO: Yeah, the Film Commissioner, you know, his role is to handle every film project that comes through Maui, every commercial that's produced here, every movie that wants to be filmed here. And he connects the dots. I mean he literally helps with permitting, any place they need to be at in order to film. He has...his key measures are how much, how many millions of dollars in film projects have come to Maui County. And the other key measure is the almost 400 people that he continues and helps to employ because there is, you know, staff here that have the technical

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expertise in film. And whenever a project comes here, he connects the talent with the project. So, there's two measures actually.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Okay. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Would you mind if I help you with your question?

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Go right ahead.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: I think Member Kama wants to know how to increase and how to build up the industry. What you explained is what we do now. She wants to know how do we improve upon it, okay?

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Yeah.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay.

MS. FUKUMOTO: We're actually working with, and we'll be discussing with Karla Peters. It's unique in that Maui has the most restrictions in terms of filming activity versus the other islands. The other islands whenever there's a pretty small filming activity, they can get online and within a week, not even a week, within 24 hours, they get the permits in order to go shoot somewhere, you know, at say, like a park, for instance. And this is smaller crews. You know, what he's found is that focusing on smaller commercial, you know, type filming projects is easier and there's a lot of those around, you know, that he can continue to keep his...the crew on Maui employed. And so, he's been focusing on that. So, to make it easier for them to come here is a key in having more of them come. You know, we're just trying to change the bureaucracy in that.

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

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Kama. Okay, Members, it's 5:02 and Director Fukumoto will join us after we return after our recess, okay. Okay, so...

VICE-CHAIR KING: Chair?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Chair King, is it okay if we...

VICE-CHAIR KING: Yeah, I prefer if you can recess 'til 8:00 because you know what happens when we think we're going to be back here at 6:00. And if we don't get started right at 6:00, then we won't have at least a full hour-and-a-half if we try to do 7:30. But, you know, there's a slim chance that maybe we'll get done with everybody by 8:00. And if we're not, we'll have a short break. But I mean I'll recess out, if we still have people, I'll recess out at 8:00, or shortly before we could take a break. And then you can come in and recess, or gavel in and gavel out, and then we can continue on after that, so.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay.

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VICE-CHAIR KING: If everybody's okay with that.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: 'Cause when I've chaired the District meetings, Members asked for a break at 7:30.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Right, but I'm just afraid if everybody's not back in their seats at 6:00, we won't get started right at 6:00. So if we get started late, then I want to be able to go 'til at least a full hour-and-a-half.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, all right. So, I'll recess until eight o'clock. And if at that time the public hearing is still going, at least we'll have a better idea of how many testifiers we'll have. And I'll be able to give a more accurate time certain to recess the meeting to. So, it's 5:04 on April 17<sup>th</sup>. We'll recess until eight o'clock, and here in the Chamber on April 17<sup>th</sup> tonight, good? Okay. Okay, if there's no objections, I'll now recess our Economic and Development...Economic Development and Budget Committee meeting. No objections?

COUNCILMEMBERS: No objections.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo. Okay, meeting in recess. . . .(gavel). . .

**RECESS: 5:04 p.m.**

**RECONVENE: 8:02 p.m.**

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: . . .(gavel). . . Will the Economic Development and Budget Committee please return to order. It is 8:02, April 17<sup>th</sup>. We're reconvening the April 17<sup>th</sup> meeting from nine o'clock this morning. We are not finished with our public hearing. So, we are going to recess until 9:45 tonight and in the Chambers. Any objections?

COUNCILMEMBERS: No objections.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Members. Okay, the Economic Development and Budget Committee is now in recess. . . .(gavel). . .

**RECESS: 8:03 p.m.**

**RECONVENE: 9:46 p.m.**

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: . . .(gavel). . . Will the Economic Development and Budget Committee please return to order. It is 9:46 on April 17<sup>th</sup>. This is the April 17<sup>th</sup> agenda from 9:00 a.m. Mahalo, Members, for sticking it out and finishing up. We're going to finish up Office of Economic Development. Mahalo, Director, for returning, Corp. Counsel, and Budget Director. Okay, we left off with questions from Member Kama, and so we'll start with questions from Chair King, and then go to my left, okay.

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VICE-CHAIR KING: Okay.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh, Ms. Matthews, are you ready with the timer?

VICE-CHAIR KING: Did we reconvene? I must have missed the gavel.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yeah.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Okay.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: I was fast, efficient. Okay, you ready, Chair King? All yours.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Almost. I just have to regroup here 'cause all my stuff was kinda jumbled up.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay.

VICE-CHAIR KING: You want to start with Alice because I have to...

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Member Lee?

VICE-CHAIR KING: Somebody just piled all of it back there.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: You ready?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Am I ready?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Always ready for your questions.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Always. No questions.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Lee. Member Molina?

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Okay, I don't have a lot. But I guess...is this the seven-minute --

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: --drill?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yes, yes.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Okay. I guess with the Environmental Protection budget proposal, Page 413, regarding the 1½ million grant. Good evening, Ms. Fukumoto, as well. How much of this 1½ million, percentage-wise, would go towards the invasive

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species eradication? And if you can add any specifics of the types of invasive work. You know, fire ants, besides our friends, the coqui frogs out in Haiku.

MS. FUKUMOTO: This year the fund was 1,416,000, and 895,000 was for Maui Invasive Species which, you know, is the rest of what we don't cover with coqui frogs. Then we do have coral reef health. We do have a Kaehu Management Project, 75,000; Maui Nui Seabird Recovery --

VICE-CHAIR KING: That's 2019.

MS. FUKUMOTO: --coastal dunes restoration.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Okay.

VICE-CHAIR KING: She's talking about 2019.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Yeah, Page 413, Members, in the Program Budget for your information. Okay, yeah...

VICE-CHAIR KING: You're talking about Budget for 2019 right now.

MS. FUKUMOTO: Well, right now it's...yeah, we have 1.4 million and that was what was going through that budget right now.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Right. Okay, so the same thing from...I'm talking about 2019 though, right. Yeah, that's what I wanted originally.

MS. FUKUMOTO: Right.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: But you're comparing what was done in 2019 then.

MS. FUKUMOTO: Right.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Okay. Or 2020 I should say, this upcoming year, right. Okay, and the reason I'm asking is because during several of our district hearings, we've had people ask, besides the coqui frogs, some of the other stuff they wanted addressed with this monies. And one final thing, the Mayor's proposed 2½ million specifically for the coqui frog, do you feel that there's room that we can do more? 'Cause it's been said, people in district are saying if we put more money out there. Has the Administration...would they be open or...I don't know if anybody...I'm not sure what the rationale was, why 2½ million for coqui frogs, and why not more. Are you able to comment on that? Was there any talk about maybe expanding that, besides the 2½ million, maybe go four?

MS. FUKUMOTO: I think we were just looking at the ability for the vendor to actually ramp up. I mean, that's almost close to double what the current amount was. So, you

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know, you're going to be increasing your staff, and I know he had a couple positions that were not filled. So we, you know, we kept it at 2.5.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Two-five, based on his recommendations?

MS. FUKUMOTO: Right.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Okay, and he didn't ask for anything more at that point?

MS. FUKUMOTO: I think we were trying to take into account the fact that we had 1.5 before and, you know, his recommendation was 2.5.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Two-five.

MS. FUKUMOTO: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Okay, thank you. Thank you, Madam Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Molina. Chair King, you ready?

VICE-CHAIR KING: Okay, yes, thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, and then we'll go to Member Sinenci.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Actually it jogged my memory because I did ask in one of my questions was to get a breakdown on the Environmental Protection grants that are a single line item, 1.5 million. And last year, you're right, we had the 1.4, the one that you were quoting was the present one.

MS. FUKUMOTO: Right.

VICE-CHAIR KING: We don't know what's in this one.

MS. FUKUMOTO: Right.

VICE-CHAIR KING: And so I would like to know what you're intending to fund because when we went through the Budget Session last year, we went through this, and we approved this. This was given to us during Budget Session.

MS. FUKUMOTO: Oh, I see.

VICE-CHAIR KING: So, I want to make Maui Nui Marine Resource Council is getting their money to be able to do their water testing in the northwest Maui and north...or South Maui. I'm not sure how much of this is still in there. So, that was what my question was. Can you give us a breakdown of what's intended to be funded under the 1.5 million?

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MS. FUKUMOTO: I could send you a copy of the existing...

VICE-CHAIR KING: I have the existing, but I want to know what's the intention for 2020.

MS. FUKUMOTO: It's a grant application process so...

VICE-CHAIR KING: I understand that, but it was provisoed last year in Budget Session. It's still understood that all these organizations have to apply for it. But we set these names in this. This is a budget proposal. This is from the Budget proposals. So, the budget proposal already had all these listed in it.

MS. FUKUMOTO: Okay. I don't see provisos.

VICE-CHAIR KING: So, it's important because, you know, we need to know what we're funding with that 1.5 million.

MS. FUKUMOTO: Right.

VICE-CHAIR KING: I think that's what, might be what Member Molina was asking for, the current, the 2020 intention for that fund. So, if you can get that to us before decision-making.

MS. YOSHIMURA: Chair?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Ms. Yoshimura?

MS. YOSHIMURA: Yes, we will provide a response in writing.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Okay, 'cause I did ask for it once in writing. I didn't get it so I just wanted to make sure you understand what I'm looking for. Okay, and then I wanted to also comment on the MVB budget because I do have some amendments that I'll go over later, Chair. But I was...I'm looking at the, and I kind of wanted to piggyback on Councilmember Paltin's comments on the advertising, and why we don't have more...why we don't have advertising for some of, you know, to the tourists for some of our, like our local golf course. We're doing advertising for other golf entities and for...we've got \$410,000 going into advertising for the Maui Invitational, and yet we're doing nothing in this budget for the Maui Film Festival, or, you know, our own events that attract tourists. I think the Maui Roadrunner Marathon was one of them that came and testified for us. So, that's one of the things I'd like to see more of in here as well. And just looking at your expenses this year, there's a lot of pretty large sports marketing line items in here between...there's like 700,000, almost \$800,000 for three separate sports events. And it just...it kind of...it's, like she said, it's putting money into other people's pockets, whereas if we fund the things that we're doing here like our own golf course, that's keeping the money here. So, I'm hoping that MVB can get involved in helping to put together golf tournaments there and other events at our golf course. It's a beautiful golf course right on the ocean, and you know, we're subsidizing it to the tune of a couple million dollars a year. So, that's important. But,

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yeah, just if you can speak to the level of advertising because it's...the other issue I had was besides the advertising, there's a 150,000...151,000 that goes into agency fees which is a marketing group. And if the whole mission of MVB is marketing, why are we hiring marketing firms to, you know, revise our marketing plans? So, it's just...what is that actually go into? Those are some of my main concerns for this Budget. But I guess if you have to answer in a letter, maybe you can answer in a letter like what exactly...why do we need a marketing consultant if we're supposed to be a marketing agency?

MS. FUKUMOTO: Right. Yeah, I wasn't sure whether that 151 was related to...we have a vendor that processes the collateral.

VICE-CHAIR KING: No, this is...

MS. FUKUMOTO: Okay.

VICE-CHAIR KING: We looked it up and it said it's a marketing consultant.

MS. FUKUMOTO: Okay.

VICE-CHAIR KING: There's another line item for the collateral.

MS. FUKUMOTO: Okay, okay.

VICE-CHAIR KING: But that was a little concerning to me. And just overall, Chair, I just have a concern that we're funding our Visitors Bureau at such a high level compared to other counties because I've got this, this list here from the Cost of Government meeting where they actually talked about this at their last meeting. Maui funds our Maui Visitors Bureau to the tune of \$4 million. And we have 2.7 million visitors. Oahu, City and County of Honolulu, gives their visitor bureau nothing, and they have 5.7 million visitors. Kauai has 1.3 million visitors, and they get 215,000. And the Big Island gets 325,000 for 1.8 million visitors. So, I have a concern about the level of funding compared to what the other counties are spending. We're spending a huge amount of money at a time when we're supposed to be starting to look at managing tourism, rather than just marketing. And the last...actually I have some other concerns, but I'll put those into amendments. And I did have some concerns, questions about the FAM program, but I'm going to ask...oh, you already asked your questions.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: No, I'm after.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Oh, okay. I'm going to let Mr. Sinenci, since he's Agriculture, ask those questions. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair King. Okay, you ready, Member Sinenci?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Yes. Thank you, Chair.

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CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: All you.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you. So, my first question is on Page 412, regarding the Maui County Visitor Association in the tune of \$4 million. And I don't know if it was mentioned before, how much did the cost to produce each of the one-minute videos? Was that 15,000, did I hear, each?

MS. FUKUMOTO: I'm not sure what the each was. There was a \$200,000 budget, but it included the production of the four videos as well as the distribution of it.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Oh, okay, so just the total budget was 200,000.

MS. FUKUMOTO: Right.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Oh, okay. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: It was \$60,000 for the four 30-second videos.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Sixty-thousand each, Chair?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yeah, yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: And some went to the Maui Nui Marine Resource Council. I think it was 60,000, and the remainder...the remaining money is being used to promote those four 30-second videos.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Okay, thank you. And my second question was, Member Kama talked about the film industry on 418. And that the Film Industry Promotion receives \$116,000. And my question was, is there any education of cultural appropriateness so that the Hawaiian culture is portrayed in a positive light? We've heard some examples of sometimes some of the film crews were, you know, kind of portraying the culture in a negative tone. I think there was something about poi being thrown on a wall or something like that, which was culturally inappropriate. And then we've also heard, you know, just the industry, we do live in paradise, and we want to deter any other types of film industry including, you know, even the adult industry. So, those are types of the things that that's...we're concerned about. And we want to maybe put a proviso that the film industry...if that becomes our next economic driver, or one of 'em, that they stick to some strict standards when portraying Maui to our visitors. And I think that's it, Chair. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Sinenci. Okay, did I get everyone? Okay, I think I got everyone. Okay, my turn. Okay, ready? Go. Okay, Director, since we're on that Page 418, I noticed that the Film Industry Promotion was zeroed out in 2019, in Fiscal Year 2019. Do you know why?

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MS. FUKUMOTO: What happened was in 2019, the budget of...it was actually 125,000. It was within the OED administrative budget, in different, you know, in different categories. So we kind of took the same approach as 2018, and put it back into a separate line item so that it's easier to manage. You know, whenever the expenses came through, we didn't have to separate them.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: And where does that money go?

MS. FUKUMOTO: The 116?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yeah.

MS. FUKUMOTO: It's related to the travel that my Film Commissioner has to make to various film festivals whenever, you know, when he has people come here, he has to host them. You know, he literally takes every film project that comes to Maui, he takes care of every single one of those, you know, with connecting them, the project to people who work in the industry so that they can all be hired. You know, we want our Maui people hired, instead of, you know, as much as possible instead of them bringing over a crew. So, he's...

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Would you be able to provide a breakdown of that?

MS. FUKUMOTO: Of the 116?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yeah.

MS. FUKUMOTO: Okay.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, great, thanks. Okay...

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Chair?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: So, just a follow-up to...you said...

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: I will give you a little bit of my seven minutes, but you gotta make it quick.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Just you mentioned a Film Commissioner.

MS. FUKUMOTO: Right.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: That oversees the productions.

MS. FUKUMOTO: Yes.

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COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Okay, thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: You're welcome. Okay, back to my questions. Okay, on Page 412, please explain why the separate grant for visitor education went to Maui County Visitor Association should be including visitor education in their outreach, marketing, and promotion of our County. So, that was the...

MS. FUKUMOTO: Two-hundred thousand?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: The 200,000 grants and disbursements for visitor education.

MS. FUKUMOTO: The reason why we don't have...

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Why did MVB get it?

MS. FUKUMOTO: Oh, it was actually...people could apply for that and so there were the two...

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: So the RFP was public? Because I understand that people didn't see the RFP.

MS. FUKUMOTO: It was a grant I think.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Ms. Yoshimura?

MS. YOSHIMURA: Chair, I believe it was in the latter half of last year. So, we will check to see what the process was, whether it was an RFP process or not.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: I'd appreciate that. Thank you. Okay. Okay, so both Member Sugimura and I would like to put \$200,000 back into that line item. But we'll figure out how to make it so that goes to our community. Okay. Oh, okay, no, that's not a question. That's going to be a proviso. If any of the Members would like to ask a question while I'm trying to find my question, you're welcome to.

VICE-CHAIR KING: I have a question.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Go ahead, Chair King.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Okay. I know you haven't seen this yet, but I just got back the...this is a question regarding MISC. I just got back the executive summary for the audit on MISC. And it's a little concerning. There's some questions about how the money was spent, and 19 percent was spent on personal leave, and things like that. And it's preliminary so I kind of have some concerns about the level of funding that we're giving to this organization. I don't have a problem with putting money into invasive species, but, you know, I spoke earlier with Member Sinenci about possibly sending

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this to committee before we actually commit the funds to the entity so we can get...because the problem with this audit is it was supposed to come out on the 15<sup>th</sup> of April. They asked for an extension. I told them they could have an extension as long as they gave us an executive summary. So, now we're looking at the executive summary, and it's a little concerning. I didn't...I wasn't quite satisfied with the level of the plan that was presented. So, how...I mean I'm not sure how to do that because I don't want to hold back the money because I think we need to attack the problem. But I'm not sure that I'm comfortable with releasing it to MISC until we have them answer to the audit. And so, you know, do you have...you know, are you comfortable with appropriating the funds, but while putting a proviso that it has to go to Environmental and Agriculture Committee first?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: I'm going to ask my last question, then I'll let her respond to your question --

VICE-CHAIR KING: Okay.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: --after my seven minutes is up. Okay, for the Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Programs, 419, can you explain what that funding goes to?

MS. FUKUMOTO: This year the funding went to the transfer of the EV stations. You know, it was a Hitachi project, and after they left, we needed to stabilize the grid, so to speak. So, that was primarily what was part of this.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay.

MS. FUKUMOTO: You know, moving forward, we're just putting a line item for future projects and we're not --

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Got it.

MS. FUKUMOTO: --you know, we hope there's energy efficiency projects.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yeah. Okay, for the Energy Commissioner, before the Energy Commissioner left, the previous one, he mentioned that it would make more sense for Molokai and Lanai to have their own Energy Commissioner, and Maui have their own because their energy needs are different. Would you please provide any comments on the last 15 seconds?

MS. FUKUMOTO: I would have a difficult time answering that. I mean I'd like to ask my current Energy Commissioner what he would say about that.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo. And then I'll let you respond to Chair King's question about MISC. Ms. Yoshimura?

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MS. YOSHIMURA: Chair, in Fiscal Year '19, the Council did put a proviso on two positions and had the monies put in a Countywide Cost account. And with the proviso, and I'll read you the proviso, it says, provided that funds for the Internal Control Officer position are available in the Department of Finance, Countywide Costs and shall be available for transfer upon completion of the Council's audit of the Department of Finance, review of the final report, and recommendations by the appropriate Council committee. Said transfer shall be completed in accordance with law. So, I don't know if that's something you wanted to consider.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Yeah, if that's a legal avenue, then maybe we should look at doing something like that. This report, it doesn't come out 'til the 30<sup>th</sup>, and we're going to be done. We hope we're done with decision-making --

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: We are.

VICE-CHAIR KING: --but, you know, certainly there's not going to be time to do a full review of it and of the plan for eradication. One of the concerns that we're...that is in this preliminary executive summary is that their performance measures of the coqui grants don't allow for assessments of whether MISC is succeeding or failing. So, they're not measuring...the measures of whether we have more or less frogs or not and they're being measured by how many, you know, treatments they do. So, those are some of the things that we need to look at I think in committee, and find out if that plan needs to be revamped so that we feel like we're making some headway.

MS. FUKUMOTO: Right.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo, Chair King.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Okay, thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Member Lee?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: However, Budget Chair...Budget Director, if we don't put it in the Budget now, we can't revive it later ourselves. We cannot initiate a Budget amendment. So, you know, how would you handle that? I mean I was thinking more along the lines of this needs to be vetted in committee. But we also need to deal with the frogs, so I mean one possible solution would be to proviso this full amount and say something like, one-half may be available, and the second half will not be available until after the committee makes a decision on what the audit plus if further provisos are, you know, warranted. I think something like might be workable as opposed to trying to revive it later on, you know, through a Budget amendment.

VICE-CHAIR KING: I don't think we were talking about reviving it. I think we were talking about the full amount in but putting the proviso that it has to go to committee first before it's released.

MS. YOSHIMURA: So...Chair?

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CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Ms. Yoshimura?

MS. YOSHIMURA: So, in the case with the Finance Department, there was two positions that we had put the E/P into the Department of Finance into the appropriate programs. But the funding, or the salaries for those, were put in a Countywide Cost where the Finance Department couldn't have access to those funds until a budget...so the funds are already appropriated. And then a Budget amendment was just used to move the monies from one appropriation to another.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay, but...

MS. YOSHIMURA: So, the funds were already there.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Yeah, but you just said a Budget amendment is required. I think we're trying to avoid that, yeah.

MR. UEOKA: Chair?

MS. YOSHIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: But also before you get, Corp. Counsel, before you start talking...I hardly talk, let me go, okay. So anyway, the idea is when you're dealing with a grant, the problem with provisoing this thing where nothing can be spent until after, you know, the committee reviews it. The problem with that, that takes a while. That's going to take a while because we're all busy. We're going on vacation after Budget and so forth. Let's face it. Let's be practical about this. And so...and then, too, as you know the whole Budget process is a very long...I mean the application process and the grant process is a very, very long process. Generally speaking, even though the fiscal year begins July 1<sup>st</sup>, people who rely on grants don't get it 'til October. So, it's a very, you know, I don't think it's fair, you know, for us to do that to this organization which may have some problems, but maybe it's all resolvable. I don't know, but that's why I strongly suggest that we consider that a portion might be spent, allowed to be spent, but a portion would be held back until X happens. Thank you.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Chair, don't we have...

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mr. Ueoka?

VICE-CHAIR KING: Don't they have to do an application anyway, though?

MS. FUKUMOTO: Yes.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Yeah, so they....we wouldn't be just giving them the money on the 1<sup>st</sup> of July. They would still have to go through application process.

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MS. FUKUMOTO: Yeah. In the past, they've submitted their applications in October, you know, for the following year. And we may have to change some of what we're doing. We are actually in the process of changing some of our grant application processes right now, wanting the grant applications in sooner. You know, requiring everyone to apply by a certain date instead of having the staggered...everyone applies at whatever time they want to apply. So, you know, we may have to separate MISC and this coqui grant separate because of the timing of this.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Member Sinenci, and then Member Kama, and then Member Sugimura.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Mr. Ueoka wanted to chime in? No? Oh, okay. He did already. It's, well, it's already separated. The Environmental Protection is separated from the Coqui Frog Eradication Project. However, as Chair King was saying, we still need to see the individual list of grantees that is under the Environmental Protection 1.5 million because we did want to add a little bit more money towards helicopter and to another crew for strictly for Miconia. So, if we're...I wanted to amend that. I don't know where I'm amending it to, if I don't see that list. Thank you.

MS. FUKUMOTO: Budget Chair? One of the reasons...MISC used to use a different funding agency before, and they went through the University of Hawaii because the university had helicopter insurance. So, that was a very expensive insurance apparently if they were, you know, if they did not go through the UH. And that was one of the reasons why they did. So, if it's helicopter work, you know, using the university would be one of the examples that we could, you know, use.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Okay.

MS. FUKUMOTO: Or drones, perhaps.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: All right, thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Sinenci. Member Kama, then Member Sugimura.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you, Chair. So, I remember early on when you first came before the Council, you were going to revamp the applications, make it a little easier. And you were talking about first of all doing a letter of interest that the applicants would send you so that you'd be able to know if they would know, you know, if they qualified for whatever. So, when do you anticipate that taking place?

MS. FUKUMOTO: We actually just revamped our handbook, our grants handbook. We're having it checked for legality right now. We're requesting...we're wanting to request grants during the first week I believe of June. And literally we want as many applicants as possible to apply by a certain date. To make it easier, we have a checklist. We never had a checklist, so to speak. I mean it's as simple as that, just to have a checklist in the front of the packet so that all documents come in one time.

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You know, the challenge was always that it was not complete. And you know, just outlining who is eligible, you know, obviously environmental, economic development, cultural. But we are going to eliminate letters of interest.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Okay. So, other question, Chair. So, in my past in dealing with grants, the funder would always hold a workshop.

MS. FUKUMOTO: Right.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: So, are...do you intend to do that, too?

MS. FUKUMOTO: We are, yes. In May, we have several workshops scheduled, Kahului, Molokai, Lanai. And we're also looking at trying to create an online video so that, you know, those who could not come to the workshops would have access to that, the workshop, so to speak, online.

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

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

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Yeah, on this MISC situation. So, as you know this came up during the last term, and discussed, and at that time Adam Radford, the Executive Director, came. He was very open to an audit. And so I'm glad that this happened. In the meantime, now we have this urgent need from the community for this coqui frog eradication. I mean the cry from the community I think is what Member Molina is talking about. The \$4 million is what, you know, the Haiku or the Upcountry people were hoping for. I'm just thinking, I know we have to wait for the audit to come. And I know that Chair, you know, did the right thing by putting that audit through so we can see what the problems are. But in the meantime, we have this growing problem truly, and so I wondered with all of the amazing watershed organizations, I wonder if some of 'em or, you know, might know about how to do this eradication also as they deal with different, you know, challenges that they have in their different...so I wonder if it's a matter of putting out a RFP, and seeing, you know, what we can come up with if there's an urgency. I do not...I do value all the work that MISC has done. And it sounds like they probably have administrative kind of challenges. And I know working with, I think they're RCUH, and having...I always say when two governments try to, you know, do a contract together, there's different kinds of situations come up because they're so good at protecting, you know, their interests and rights that it delays processing of contracts and...I mean I think our...the County does such a good job like going through every single step that we need to do to protect our taxpayers. And I'm sure the State of Hawaii must do that also. So, there's just administrative kinds of challenges. I didn't read the audit...

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: The executive summary that came out this morning.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Yeah, I don't have the executive...yeah, I don't have that. I put it down somewhere. But so, I'll look at it. And I look forward to seeing how we

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can work this through. But in the meantime, we do have a really urgent problem, and that our citizens are hoping that we can, you know, come to some kind of resolution. I do know that one of the speakers said that they would love for us to gather up our friends and help them volunteer and eradicate, you know, frogs in Haiku. So, you know, we can volunteer also. But in the meantime, we need to fix the bigger problem.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Sugimura. Okay. Oh, Mr. Ueoka?

MR. UEOKA: I just was going to say whatever you guys decide to do, we can definitely help you draft the proviso language to accommodate your wishes.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Mr. Ueoka. You're so accommodating. Thank you.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Chair?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Member Lee, and then Chair King.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: In response to Corp. Counsel, I think we're looking for a proviso that doesn't require a Budget amendment 'cause that is my concern. Yeah.

MR. UEOKA: We can figure that out, Chair. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Mr. Ueoka. Chair King?

VICE-CHAIR KING: Yeah, I would agree with that. And I just wanted to end by saying that, you know, I don't want to hold up the money, but I don't think the public was necessarily asking for us to just put money towards the problem. They want the problem fixed. So, that's my concern is that I want to make sure, you know, and we haven't seen the full report yet. So, I don't want to jump to any conclusions, but I also want to be cautious that if we're going to spend this kind of money that we're going to get real results. So, I think just being responsible to the public that...knowing that we do want to...you know, we're willing to invest the money in, but we want to make sure that we're not just throwing money at it. We want to be actually getting real results. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair King. Okay, seeing no other questions or comments, we'll move to the next phase in our process which is proposing our amendments to the Department's, or Office's budget. Okay, so I think I started here and went like that, and then I went like that. So, we'll start with Member Sinenci, and then we'll go all the way down like that. Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Okay, thank you, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Member Sinenci?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: So, yes, so continuing on the MISC item, I did want to add \$400,000 to specifically for MISC Miconia eradication to whichever...I mean once we

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get that breakdown of the, you know, to the specific grantee. And those were from Adam and those were from some of the testimonies from Hana. However, I did want to add the proviso that the MISC audit and I guess the language that Corporate [sic] Counsel would draft up for further oversight to be referred to the...is it going to my Committee? Or just we're keeping it? Oh to my Committee, if we can draft up that language. Or EDB? We'll keep it in EDB Committee. If...whichever works.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, Member Sinenci, what page are you looking at adding the \$400,000 to and what grant?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: That will be 413.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Under, yes, under Environmental Protection.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: And the 400 was for the added crew of 243.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: And that was one of your priorities?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Right, that was one of the...my priorities.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, I thought it was 250. That was under the Watershed. Wasn't that under Water?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Yeah, right. So, what happened with the Watershed was we couldn't make too many changes because they already have a fixed balanced budget, and they get their...it's a grant that they're giving to MISC from fees that they're collecting for water. So, it was hard to include it in in their budget.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: So, I think this is the better route.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. All right, so your proposal is on Page 413 under Grants and Disbursements for Water and Environment Resource Protection and Conservation, line item Environmental Protection, to add 400,000 to the \$1.5 million for a total of 1,900,000.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Right, and specifically for MISC.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: And a proviso for Miconia.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Yes.

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CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, and then there was additional provisos that came from your priority.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: And we're adding...

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: The Piiholo crew, the helicopter.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Correct.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Right.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Yes.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, got it. Okay, next one.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: And including the MISC --

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: --audit and...

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Member Lee, did you need clarification?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Did you say the proviso would say 400,000 for Miconia eradication for MISC? Or did you mean 1.9 for MISC --

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: No, because...

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: --for Miconia eradication.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: 'Cause it's the 1.5 is to different grantees. There's a list.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Oh, okay, all right.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: And, yeah, so it goes specific to MISC.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay, thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Lee. Member Sinenci?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: And then my second amendment would be on Page 414, under the Hawaii Farmers Union United for the four Maui chapters. And we wanted to raise that amount by 140,000 to include 221 for the FAM. And then I think it was 17...

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Did you say 241?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Two hundred twenty-one.

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CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Twenty-one.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: The proviso would go towards FAM.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, so an additional 11,000 to FAM?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Yes, and then the rest would go to the four chapters of the Hawaii Farmers Union, Maui chapters. And then I believe 63 towards their conference.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, so 221 plus 63.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: That would be all included, so it would...it will be raised to a total of 350,000. So, the 140,000 added to the 210,000 would come up to 350,000 total.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: One hundred forty thousand for the conference?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: No, all of that would be itemized within that 350,000 budget.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, walk me through it. Eleven thousand for FAM. You mentioned the conference, how much for the conference?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Two hundred twenty-one for FAM out of the 360.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Three hundred fifty.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: I believe it was 60.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, we're going to start with the 210...210,000 that's already in the Budget.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Correct.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: We're going to add an additional 11,000 for FAM.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: No, we're adding --

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Two hundred...

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: --140,000 --

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Hundred forty thousand.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: --for a total of 350,000. Of that 350,000, 221 would be for FAM.

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CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Sixty-three thousand would be for the conference. And then the balance would go to the...divided up to the four chapters.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Chair?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Chair King?

VICE-CHAIR KING: Yeah, thank you. I wanted to kind of make a suggestion, if I could, on that FAM Program because I agree that the Farmers Union should get 350,000 'cause it's kind of, it kind of balances out with the Farm Bureau. But my original proposal was to put the 221...221,318 of the 350,000 to proviso...

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Chair King, I'm going to stop you real fast.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Do you want me to just to do a separate amendment --

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yes.

VICE-CHAIR KING: --when I get to me?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: I'm going to collect everyone's --

VICE-CHAIR KING: Okay.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: --and then when it comes to your turn, I'll write down yours, okay?

VICE-CHAIR KING: Okay.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Thanks. Member Sinenci?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Okay.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Your next proposal?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Next proposal, to add 25,000 to the UH --

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: CTAHR.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: --CTAHR Program for Maui Agriculture Resource Programs. It's further down, to a total of 100,000.

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CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: And then looking at the Maui County Visitor Association.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: On what page?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: On Page 412.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: So, it looks like there was 200,000 for Molokai Visitors Bureau and 200,000 for Lanai Visitors Bureau. So, and I know Ms. Duong has been working with some of the Hana residents about the Hana Highway and putting some signage and some brochures for tourists on the road. So, if can, I would like to proviso 200 for the Hana Highway drive.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Is that everything?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: For now, yes. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Member Molina?

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Thank you, Madam Chair. And, you know, with regards to Mr. Sinenci's request for the various organizations that get this 1.5 from the Environmental Protection budget, I think it's real imperative that we get that information as soon as possible, and you know, what Chairman King had stated earlier. So, it helps us determine how these monies are being used. Initially, I was going to propose an increase for the coqui frogs, but now upon the discovery of this executive summary, I guess if you will, of the audit, it does bring some concerns. Maybe I'm being a bit premature, but I'm going to hold off on that because one of the things it states here is, it says the performance measures of the coqui frogs do not allow for an assessment of whether MISC is succeeding or failing in containing or eradicating coqui frogs in Maui County. So, the audit is questioning basically MISC as to how they're coming up with the assessment that...as to how they're doing in addressing the coqui frog problem. So, I don't want to call it a red flag, but at the same time I don't want to disrespect MISC because they're doing their best. And the gentleman, Adam, has been very open with us. It just seems I guess maybe to the auditors, they're not seeing tangible results in their eyes, and they're questioning the performance measures. And anyway, this is not the full audit yet. But, Madam Chair, is this the only time we can propose an amendment and increase, or at a later point in the Budget you could...

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: We're going to discuss it.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Yeah.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Right now I'm collecting it.

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COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Yeah, you're just collecting it, yeah. So, I'm just going to...I kind of agree with Chairman King that we need to make sure that we're getting the biggest bang for our buck. And by putting an add-on for something like this might be a bit premature as it relates to the coqui frogs because of the audit which was ordered by the Council. So I'll pass on that for the time being. Thank you, Madam Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo, Member Molina. Member Lee?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: I have no changes.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Lee. Chair King?

VICE-CHAIR KING: Thank you. So, when I looked at the Agriculture on Page 414, I do agree with Member Sinenci that we should put the total of the Farmers Union up to 350,000. And I think I really want to see us start investing more and more in agriculture because I do think that's one of our future for diversified ag. I agree with him on the 100,000 for CTAHR. And here's how I would breakdown the 350,000 for the Farmers Union, is to proviso 266,318 for the FAM Program, and that would include the program on Molokai and Lanai which was an extra 45,000 above the 221. And then, you know, my proposal would just be to proviso that for the FAM program. And then just leave the rest of it open so that the Farmers Union can spend it however they want. If they want to spend it all, all the balance on the conference or if they want to split it up among the four counties, let them decide how they want to do that. I don't think we need to prescribe that. On Page 413...

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: So, what is the total for Hawaii Farmers Union, 343?

VICE-CHAIR KING: Three hundred fifty thousand, yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Three fifty.

VICE-CHAIR KING: So, it equals what the Farm Bureau is getting. And then on Page 413, I wanted to wait until we get the breakdown, but I do want to make sure that we're funding Maui Nui Marine Resource Council for that 169,000 so they can continue to monitor the shoreline pollution in West Maui and South Maui.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: I'm sorry, Chair King. What page was the Maui Nui Marine Resource Council?

VICE-CHAIR KING: It's not in there. Four thirteen, it just has one line item for...it would be part of that 1.5 million --

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh, okay.

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VICE-CHAIR KING: --in the Environmental Protection. But, yeah, I wanted...that's why I want to see the breakdown because we had that in the last Budget and we were able to make sure...

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: And how much was it?

VICE-CHAIR KING: Last year it was the total...

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: And how much did you want to propose this year?

VICE-CHAIR KING: For Maui Nui?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yes.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Last year it was 169, 169,000.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, so the same?

VICE-CHAIR KING: So, yeah, at least that much. But, and the total amount of the fund was 1.416 million last year. Okay, then I wanted to address the...on Page 412, the visitors...and I don't know if you want me to go through this whole thing 'cause I kind of have it typed out on some of the provisos. But what I wanted to see provisoed under, and this would move...this would actually be...move some money out of the other line items into the Visitor Bureau so it would start to make...I mean we're making a lot of additions, we're making zero cuts. So, let's start to cut things out of the other budget and put it into a proviso under the Maui Visitors Bureau. And these are things I think that are appropriate to put under the Visitors Bureau. One is the Lahaina Boat Days, which is a tourist greeting operation; the Maui Roadrunners Marathon...

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: How much is the Lahaina Boat Days?

VICE-CHAIR KING: Lahaina Boat Days is 25,000. That's already in the Budget as a line item elsewhere.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. All right.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Fifty thousand...and I think the Maui Roadrunners was 25,000 so I'm proposing to increase it to 50,000 as a proviso under Maui Visitors Bureau. And that's a Maui marathon that attracts people to Maui. A 100,000 to...and this is just a proviso because it's not in there anywhere else, but 100,000 to market and promote Maui County-owned golf course. I had in here, and I know you were talking about putting towards education here, so I had in here proviso for 100,000 to...for tourist education on the impacts of renting illegal short-term rentals. And this education needs to be...I know they did a video, but this is information that needs to get out before tourists book their places. So, it needs to go...it needs to be part of their program, you know, when they're going to the mainland or when they're sending

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collateral to the mainland. And then I had in here 180,000 proviso to...this is a separate proviso to work with Maui Nui Resource Council for reef protection and reducing the environmental footprint. And then I also have in here, this is not in the Maui Visitors Bureau, but a line item transfer to...or line item in OED for \$100,000 for the Maui Film Festival. And when I talked to the Maui Film Festival, they preferred to have their funding separate because they work with MEDB, and they have pretty good working relationship with MEDB on that already. So...

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, so it's not under MVB.

VICE-CHAIR KING: No, but I would propose to take 100,000 out of MVB to pay for that because this is something I think it should be...I mean these are tourists...these are tourists' opportunities and tourist management opportunities. And then on top of that, I'm proposing a reduction of 1.275 million. And the way I got to that amount was reducing items like the 410,000 spent on the Maui Invitational media, reducing that to 100,000. Domestic market advertising, reducing that by 400,000 to 410,000 because it's 810,000 right now. I don't know what the Sentry Golf Tournament is so I have a question about that. Reduce the public relations trips, the blitzes by 62,000 which is half. Agency fees which I have a question in but that was a 150,000. And I also have a question about the cultural tourism which is 200,000. And I was proposing to reduce it to 100,000. So, I'll just...I'll give this to you, too, so you can see. And then the last concern I have is on the, let's see which page it's on, Page 410. And I have a concern about the King Kekaulike 160,000 for their operations of, you know, funding a person in...this is like a position in this performing arts center. So, I'm not sure if they were proposing...this is on Page 410. It's about the middle of the page. They were...the Mayor put in 160,000 in here for King Kekaulike. And I have two big concerns. One is what are we...if we're funding a person which is what they said they needed, is that going to be a County employee now with benefits, and retirement, and all that? But I also have a concern that if we're going to start funding the high schools and the high school foundations, then we're going to be asked by all the other high schools on the island to do similar type of funding. And I'm not sure that we should be funding a State program. I don't understand why they would build a performing arts center and not give them the operational funds to actually staff it. So, I have concerns about that, you know, at the State DOE because this is part of the high school. So, I would cut that. And...

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: It looks like Director may have some information regarding --

MS. FUKUMOTO: The actual performing...

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: --the King Kekaulike.

MS. FUKUMOTO: I'm sorry. Chair King, the performing arts center was not a DOE project. It was a CIP project so it wasn't funded by the DOE. So, one of the hundred...reasons for the 160,000 was that from an economic development standpoint, you know, here's a several-million-dollar facility that was, you know, put on this campus. But that...

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VICE-CHAIR KING: It was built by the County?

MS. FUKUMOTO: No, no. It was built by the State but it --

VICE-CHAIR KING: Okay.

MS. FUKUMOTO: --was a CIP project. It was not DOE-funded.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Right.

MS. FUKUMOTO: So, it's almost like, you know, a separate project that was...

VICE-CHAIR KING: Right, but the State builds schools. It's a State facility.

MS. FUKUMOTO: I understand, I understand.

VICE-CHAIR KING: And it's on the campus. It's behind their gate. So, it's not open to the general public outside of the hours that they choose to keep it open. I mean it's part of the school campus. So, that's my concern --

MS. FUKUMOTO: Okay.

VICE-CHAIR KING: --because it is part of the high school. You know, if we have enough money to fund high schools, we should start looking at giving every high school the same level of funding for something. And that's what's going to happen. We're going to get those kinds of requests. So, I have that concern. I think that's about it for that program for me. Oh, and then and I think some of the other Members will address some of the other things. Thank you.

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

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thanks, Chair. On Page 16 of the bills, Page 410 of the Narrative, I'd like to propose amending Sister Cities down 10,000 to 5,000.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I second Councilmember Sinenci's CTAHR one, same thing. Page 415 of the Narrative, Page 17 of the Budget bills, the Maui School Garden Network, I'd like to increase that 50 grand to what Ms. Huff requested in Paia.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: What page? Sorry.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Page 415 of the Narrative.

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CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Really quickly, 'cause it's not a line item. It's under...it's like part of the group, yeah. It's like a group grant. Ms. Yoshimura, on Page 414. Oh, where is it?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Yeah, Maui School Garden Network has 25,000 right now, and I'd like to increase that to 50,000.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Add the 50 to 75 total.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Yeah, yeah.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Sorry, my bad.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Oh, no. So, and then on Page 413 under Maui Soil and Water Conservation District, I'm looking at the answers for ED-1. And the grantee, organization annual budget sheet, I'd like to increase by 1.165 million for the Kahana Nui Dam Project sediment removal, dewatering to assist County with repairs.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Is that CIP?

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Reference page, please?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: It's an OED grant to West Maui Soil and Water Conservation District.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Four thirteen under...

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: If you look in ED-1 of the answers or responses, it's one...two...three...five pages from the back. And it's about five pages from the shaded-in line on the bottom. It looks like this. So, I'd like to increase that 1.165 for a total of 1.265 million for the Kahana Nui Dam Project.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And on Page 16 of the bills, Page 412 of the Narrative, I'd like to decrease Maui County Visitors Association funding, \$2 million. And I'd like to proviso the Fourth...the Fridays monies for the entertainment.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: The Friday block parties.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Ambassadors of Aloha.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Yeah, Ambassadors of Aloha.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh, the Hawaiian entertainment that they had the last time.

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COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Yeah. And I'd like to proviso the Festivals of Aloha. And I'd like to proviso...

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Festivals of Aloha was 100,000, yeah?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Yeah. The Maui Marathon.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Is that the Roadrunners?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Yeah.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: For 25,000? Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Yeah. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, mahalo. Member Sugimura?

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: So, can I get clarification on what did you just...so, the Festivals of Aloha, the Ambassadors of Aloha, which was another 300,000, and Maui Marathon for 25. What about that?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: That's provisoed out of their remaining 2 million to the Maui County Visitors Association.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Oh, I see. I see what you're saying.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Did you have a total on all those provisos?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I did not.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: And I can add it up later, but okay, that's fine. Member Sugimura?

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: So, I said earlier and I support that in terms of the grant writer. And my question to you was, do you need any operation money to support that grant writer in the...whatever the works. I look forward to hearing from you on that as well as your technology person 'cause right now I think in the Budget you have 50,000. So, I don't really have any additions. I think I expressed my support for the Maui Arts and Cultural Center, and I think there's three items in the Budget for that. And I'd really like to see...I really want to see this grant writer which is to bring money into Maui County so anyway that we can support that. Not unless if the Director is thinking that that would be just a person and they operate within your office without needing any extra, you know, funding. But let me know so...that's all for now.

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

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COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you, Chair. So, I just want to ask a question because I didn't hear clearly about what Chair King said about the Boat Days on Page 410.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, so for the Boat Days...so Chair King listed some provisos under MVB. Lahaina Boat Days was one of the provisos for 25,000.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Okay, that's the one I wanted to take out 15,000.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: That's...I wanted to hear that.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Lahaina Boat Days, do you remember what page that is?

VICE-CHAIR KING: So, I was basically removing it from the line item and putting it under MVB's budget. So, they would cover it under their budget.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Okay, okay. I see what you're doing. Okay, that's fine. I'm okay with that. So, thank you very much for doing that. So, at this time, so I don't have any amendments. Thank you, everybody, thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Kama. You have a quick question, Member Sugimura?

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Quick stutter. I didn't include something I should have.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh, okay. Go ahead.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: So, for Page 413 on Soil Water Conservation District, to add to what Member --

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: --Paltin did, yeah. I wanted to...they're asking for, through one of the correspondence, they want to increase their personnel. Just because of the number of the changes with agriculture and the different projects that they're being asked to do for us with our permits and different needs, so they wanted their personnel to go up to...from 158, which is what they're in the budget for now, and they wanted to take it up to half-a-million dollars.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Half a...

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Million.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Million.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: So 500.

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CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh, I heard billion, sorry.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Oh, no, no.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: No, you can't have \$500 million.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: I can't have a billion.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. I'm sorry, will you repeat that?

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: So, instead of...well, at 413 --

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: --Soil Water Conservation --

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: --I don't need to read, right?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: No.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: That...they're on for 158 --

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: --158,000. And they would like to take it up to half-a-million dollars to accommodate some of the personnel requests that they're getting and the operations needs that they have. Oh, in addition to the Kahana Nui Dam Project.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Right.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: That's pretty amazing. And I guess I want to say that I heard the request for Sister Cities to go down on Page 410 to \$5,000. I just want to advocate 'cause I did that when I was in OED. And it's much more organized now, but when sister cities come to visit and if you look in our display, we have a whole bunch of 'em. We didn't have that many, but when people would come, it would be my kuleana. And to tell you the truth, I would spend my own money 'cause we never had that much budget. So, I would like to advocate that the Sister Cities of 15,000. We can ask them what they spend the money on, but I think it's really not a lot in comparison to what they get asked to do. And at least now there's a formal organization and there's a, you know, board and they're much more organized than when I worked in OED in 1999 to 2002. And before we cut it, I would like maybe if you could find out what they've done with the money in terms of budgeting.

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CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Director, would you be able to get that information for us? Okay. Okay, and so for Page 413, Soil Water Conservation District, you're proposing to add \$342,000 to the 158,000 for a total of 500,000. And then I'll incorporate everyone's, Member Paltin's proposal. Okay, everybody? Okay, I'll just really quickly go through mine. Okay.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Did we cover any of yours?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Most of them. I don't know if you want me to just say like --

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Chair?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: --this was one of mine. Member Kama?

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: I'm just curious about, you know, all the district funding that each of us have. How do we know if the people who...I mean at least in my district there's some names next to some amount. I remember, Kay, you had given that to me earlier. So, how do they...how do we know if they have come and applied? Or is that going to happen in June?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Director mentioned that she was going to create a better process so that we would better understand and...go ahead, Director.

MS. FUKUMOTO: I did want to do quarterly reports to each Councilmember in terms of the process because obviously even if someone's applied, so even if we made everybody apply by June, you know, say June 7<sup>th</sup>. And we go through the process, there's still sometimes where grantees never go to contract because they never do, you know, get their insurance or whatever the case may be. So, things change along the way. But I did want to do quarterly reports to inform you of, you know, what grants have come through your...come through the different districts.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: So, when would you anticipate the first...you generating the first report to us? In October?

MS. FUKUMOTO: We could do it based on earmarks, which means, you know, here's a grantee. We haven't contracted yet but we think, you know, this is the process. The first quarter, June...July...

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: You can also proviso that money.

MS. FUKUMOTO: Yeah, probably September.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Okay.

MS. FUKUMOTO: Yeah.

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

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CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Kama. Okay.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Question about that one.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Chair King?

VICE-CHAIR KING: Yeah, just real quickly. Do you have any Countywide funds that you're planning on tapping into each of those 140,000?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: The 140,000 for each district.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Yeah, because the report I got on my account was, here's Kihei's portion of, you know, there were like five different things and that was like Kihei's portion. But there weren't portions from all the other districts. So, if you're going to proviso portions upfront, we should know about it, and they should come equally from all the districts that have that, that use that...And I know that wasn't you, so...

MS. FUKUMOTO: Yeah. I think the ones that you're talking about was like the Friday...

VICE-CHAIR KING: No, no.

MS. FUKUMOTO: No?

VICE-CHAIR KING: No, it was like the fruit growers thing and it was supposed to be every district was supposed to pay something. But there were only two of us that had any money left, so two districts ended up paying for the whole thing. And then...

MS. FUKUMOTO: But, well, the workshops were actually being held in those districts so...

VICE-CHAIR KING: But there was no...I mean we didn't know anything about it. And when it says Kihei's share, it says South Maui's share, that's indicating that there's, you know, other areas that have shares. And there were just programs I never even heard of before that they said, you know, this was Kihei's share. And it was that no shares were taken out of all the other accounts. So, if you're going to do that, then please inform us, you know, what the programs are.

MS. FUKUMOTO: Okay.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair King. Okay, I'm going to really quickly go through mine. Okay, so for the...on Page 412, for Maui County Visitors Association, MVB, proviso 400,000 for Molokai Visitors 'cause they do visitor education. Under Grants and Disbursements for Visitor Education, I want to...I propose to add 200,000 back for Fiscal Year 2020.

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

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: What's that? Okay. For 414, for CTAHR, 100,000. For the School Garden Network on 415, sorry, 414, to add the 50,000 for 75,000. And okay, that's all.

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

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yeah. Okay, we pau? Any other questions, comments? Member Lee?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay. What have we done to MVB now? Can you figure it out? Like from 4 million, it went to what?

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

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Or definitely two less.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Well, so there's different proposals. I don't know, do you guys want to discuss this? Everyone has different ideas. It's 10:59.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Is this final?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: No, not at all.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: This is preliminary. I just wondered like we came in tonight with a \$4 million proposal and we're leaving with a \$2 million proposal with a bunch of provisos on that 2 million. So, that the net effect would be MVB would be able to use maybe 1 million or so? You're going like that, yeah. I'm just guessing. I'm just...

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: I haven't like assessed and calculated what everyone proposed.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay, but am I not in the ballpark?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Right.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Right. Because one proposal was to...

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Cut two.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Right. Well, two to cut it down to 2 million.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Yeah, right.

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CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Right.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay, thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Lee. Member Sinenci?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: I mean as far as MVB, you know, one of my concerns was looking at MVB's mission so that it would be...it would include more education and more management of the tourist industry. So, I don't know if we should be addressing the overall mission of it, or just leaving it as be and do all the, bunch of provisos.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Member Sugimura, then Member Molina.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: So, yeah, I mean I look at them as our economic driver, and I would love to hear from Ms. Duong, or, you know, Mrs. Fukumoto, just to find out what is the impact if we do this. We're talking about jobs. We're talking about working families, you know. We're talking about people who we're trying to get into houses and they might lose their jobs, you know.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Well, I think from the report that we received, a lot of the money went to advertising. And so those jobs that, like the luxury magazines, for the print...

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Yeah, so they're marketing, you know, what they do is they market Maui, right, as a visitor destination so that's why they have all the, you know, the things that they do is, you know, to attract visitors to come here to stay in hotels and, you know, buy things, and, you know, help be the economic driver. Rent cars so that we can now do road expansions or different things. There's so many things that we rely on the visitor industry. As we're almost going to find out what all the results are from our State Legislature. And so, I'm just cautioning us that I hear the probably frustration with too many visitors maybe. But I would like us to be sensitive to understand what we're doing, and what the impact is, and how that, you know, ripples through our community. And, but what I really want to talk about is the Maui County Farm Bureau. So, I think last time you came that I had asked for what are the items that are in the Farm Bureau. We put in 35,000 I think for the...so they could be a pass-through for the Upcountry...yeah, they're called the 4-H now, the 4-H event that they do, and other things. So, I wanted to see that so we could do apples for apples as we're trying to, you know, equalize the Hawaii Farmers Union United with the Farm Bureau. But let's look at what the actual dollars are, if you could. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, mahalo, Director. Okay, Member Molina. And, Director, while you're getting that additional information, you know, Ms. Duong did come and testify. And she did agree with shifting from promotion to management. And if we're going to keep it at \$4 million, and lot of that money that some of the questions that you weren't able to answer from the questions via written communication, that a lot of that money was advertising. So, if they're not going to be

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using that money for advertising and instead is going to be doing, you know, management, visitor education, then how will that money be spent? So, if you could ask Ms. Duong to provide that, I think it would help Members feel a little more comfortable about how that money is now being allocated, if you can follow up.

MS. FUKUMOTO: So, the clarification is if we stayed at 4 million how would've that changed? Or are --

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: What would be the plan?

MS. FUKUMOTO: --we talking about...

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yeah, what would be plan for that 4 million.

MS. FUKUMOTO: For the 4 million.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Because the report that we received was a lot of advertising and promotion. And so, now if they're shifting to management, how is that \$4 million going to be spent?

MS. FUKUMOTO: Okay.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay.

MS. FUKUMOTO: So, I just want to...cutting a budget in half is pretty devastating. And I just want to state that I do feel a responsibility especially because this is the biggest economic driver in Maui County that I'm concerned as miss...Councilmember Sugimura is stating. I realize that it's advertising dollars to bring the tourists here. And if we eliminate, you know, half of it, there is going to be a ripple effect.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Right, so I'm asking you if you can follow up with Ms. Duong to send us what would be the effect of shifting it from managing, 'cause they're not going to be promoting anymore, if that's what I understood from her testimony today. That they're not going to be doing the advertising. They're not going to be promoting and trying to get people to come here. They're going to be managing the tourist that we have. So, if she could like provide information on how that 4 million would now be used, and what would be the impact if it was cut to 2 million. Member Molina, and then Member Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Thank you, Madam Chair. As I understand your process here tonight, just what we did now, is just, you're just basically information-gathering from the Members, amendments. We can stay here all night and argue the pros and cons of the MVB grant, but I don't think this is the time for it. It's late. We've been at it 14 hours...so, out of respect for your process and no disrespect to any of the Members who want to argue the point that...and...see, I cannot even remember Ms. Fukumoto's name, OED. I'm really tired, and we need to move...Staff is tired. So, let's...

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CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: And we have a meeting tomorrow morning at 9:00.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Yeah, we have meeting tomorrow. So, let's call it a night. Fourteen hours I think is more than enough time. So, and I want to have a fresh mind when we start the debates, yeah. So, let's put it aside tonight and go home. Everybody get rested and start fresh tomorrow.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: What departments tomorrow, please.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. I'm going to...I told the Members...

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Molina.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: I'll withdraw my comment.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: And Member Sinenci? Okay, you are going to withdraw your comment or question.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: I'll turn off my light, too.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Okay, so for tomorrow we have Police, Public Works, Finance, who will first present the certification, and then we'll have them for their Operations review, then Liquor, Planning, OCS, Department of Environmental Management, Corporation Counsel, Prosecuting Attorney, Transportation, and Emergency Management. And we may have Corporation Counsel on call to be first. Okay, Members, any questions? Member Lee?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Instead of that order, can we find out what the results of the certification are as the first item of business? Or did you make that last?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: The request was to be at 1:30.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Oh, 1:30, okay.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: That's where the extra money is.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: So, we'll find out that information at 1:30 tomorrow.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Chair?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Chair King?

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VICE-CHAIR KING: So, are you going to do that at 1:30 regardless of where we're at in the schedule --

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yes.

VICE-CHAIR KING: --that you just mentioned because if we have another three hours of testimony and then go to lunch, we're going to come back at 1:30 and we're going to actually start our day with that certification?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Right.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Okay. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Thank you. Okay, anyone else? Okay, it is...okay, so good job, Members. Mahalo for pushing through. We're going to follow the same process tomorrow with these departments. Are there any last comments, questions? Okay, it's 11:08 on April 17<sup>th</sup>. The Economic Development and Budget Committee is now adjourned. . .*(gavel)*. . .

**ACTION: DEFER pending further discussion.**

ADJOURN: 11:08 p.m.

APPROVED:



KEAHI N.W. RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ, Chair  
Economic Development and Budget Committee

edb:min:190417:rlk

Transcribed by: Reinetta L. Kutz

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CERTIFICATE

I, Reinette L. Kutz, hereby certify that 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 this 13<sup>th</sup> day of May 2019, in Makawao, Hawaii.

  
Reinette L. Kutz