

**RICHARD T. BISSEN, JR.**  
Mayor

**JOSIAH K. NISHITA**  
Managing Director

**BRADFORD K. VENTURA**  
Fire Chief

**GAVIN L.M. FUJIOKA**  
Deputy Fire Chief



**DEPARTMENT OF FIRE & PUBLIC SAFETY**  
COUNTY OF MAUI  
200 DAIRY ROAD  
KAHULUI, MAUI, HAWAII 96732  
[www.maui-county.gov](http://www.maui-county.gov)

March 18, 2025

The Honorable Richard T. Bissen, Jr.  
Mayor, County of Maui  
200 South High Street  
Wailuku, HI 96793

**APPROVED FOR TRANSMITTAL**

For Transmittal to:

The Honorable Yuki Lei Sugimura, Chair  
Budget, Finance, and Economic Development Committee  
200 South High Street  
Wailuku, HI 96793

Dear Chair Sugimura,

**SUBJECT: BILL 24 (2025), AMENDING THE FISCAL YEAR 2025 BUDGET:  
ESTIMATED REVENUES; DEPARTMENT OF FIRE AND PUBLIC  
SAFETY, FIRE/ RESCUE OPERATIONS PROGRAM (BFED-27)**

The Department of Fire & Public Safety is in receipt of your letter dated March 17, 2025. Please see our responses below in **bold**.

1. Are any of the costs from the July 2024 fires eligible for FEMA reimbursement under the Mayor's prior emergency proclamation? If so, what is the amount of FEMA reimbursement anticipated?

**The department did not qualify for any reimbursement from the Mayor's emergency proclamation. Instead, we coordinated with MEMA to apply for a Fire Management Assistance Grant (FMAG) through FEMA. Unfortunately, the grant was denied as we did not meet the required thresholds and criteria.**

2. An updated on the legal recourse for recovering fire-related costs from Hawaiian Electric Company or other responsible parties.

**The department is in conversation with Hawaiian Electric Company to discuss ways that costs can be shared. We have also forwarded this legal question to Corporation Counsel for a response.**

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Brad Ventura".

**BRADFORD K. VENTURA**  
Fire Chief

 3/19/25  
Acting Mayor Date