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COUNTY COUNCIL
COUNTY OF MAUI
200 S. HIGH STREET
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793
www.MauiCounty.us

July 19, 2017

Mr. Keith Regan, Director
Department of Management
County of Maui
Wailuku, Hawaii 96793

Dear Mr. Regan:

SUBJECT: ONE FARM PLAN (PEA-37)

At its meeting of July 17, 2017, the Policy, Economic Development, and Agriculture Committee discussed the application processes to receive benefits or exemptions for agriculture in the County, including agricultural rates for real property tax, farm plans for farm dwellings, and special water rates. The Committee was fortunate to hear from representatives from the Departments of Finance, Planning, and Water Supply, and the Office of Economic Development, on application criteria and procedures.

The Departments uniformly supported systemic changes that would ease the burden on applicants in applying for these benefits.

May I request the Department of Management coordinate work among these Departments and the Office of Economic Development to simplify and consolidate these application processes?

May I also please request you and the noted agencies consider the following relating to this matter:

1. The attached response dated July 12, 2017, from the Department of Water Supply, suggesting changes for the application for special water rates.
2. Viable ways to reduce application paperwork for farms, including farms encompassing multiple tax map keys (TMKs).
3. Can inspections by the Departments also be coordinated and consolidated so as to reduce overlap and multiple visits? By consolidating inspections, would there be a means of triggering inspections without receipt of complaints or monitoring by neighbors?

Mr. Keith Regan
July 19, 2017
Page 2

4. At the meeting, the Assistant County Real Property Tax Administrator referred to agricultural dedications as another means of achieving financial benefits through agricultural use. Would it be advisable to also link this form to the webpage of agriculture benefits and exemptions until a more comprehensive solution is reached?

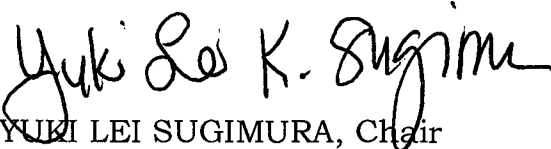
Additionally, please provide the following information:

1. To what extent can the Maui Automated Planning and Permitting System, also known as MAPPS, facilitate the consolidation of the application processes for agriculture benefits and exemptions? Can efficiencies and consolidation be gained prior to the anticipated rollout of MAPPS in August 2018? Please explain.
2. Can the AX system data generated by the Department of Finance be shared with the Departments of Planning and Water Supply to create efficiencies and reduce collection of redundant information? Please explain and describe the system and its usage.

The Committee plans to schedule the item for further discussion in September. May I therefore request a response to the above questions, and an overall update on the application consolidation process **no later than Wednesday, August 16, 2017**. To ensure efficient processing, please include the relevant Committee item number in the subject line of your response.

Should you have any questions, please contact me or the Committee staff (Shelly Espeleta at ext. 7134 or Clarita Balala at ext. 7668).

Sincerely,



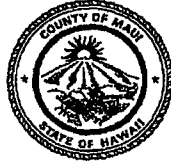
YUKI LEI SUGIMURA, Chair
Policy, Economic Development, and
Agriculture Committee

pea:ltr:037amd01:mcc

Attachment

cc: Mayor Alan M. Arakawa
William Spence, Planning Director
David Taylor, Director of Water Supply
Danilo Agsalog, Director of Finance
Teena Rasmussen, Director, Office of Economic Development

ALAN M. ARAKAWA
Mayor



DAVID TAYLOR, P.E.
Director

GLADYS C. BAISA
Deputy Director

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2017 JUL 12 PM 3:29

DEPARTMENT OF WATER SUPPLY THE MAYOR
COUNTY OF MAUI
200 SOUTH HIGH STREET
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793-2155
www.mauiwater.org


July 12, 2017

Honorable Alan Arakawa
Mayor, County of Maui
200 South High Street
Wailuku, HI 96793

For Transmittal to:

Honorable Yuki Lei Sugimura, Chair
Policy, Economic Development, and
Agriculture Committee
Maui County Council
200 South High Street
Wailuku, HI 96793

APPROVED FOR TRANSMITTAL



Mayor Date

Dear Chair Sugimura:

SUBJECT: ONE FARM PLAN PEA-37

The attached response of July 12, 2017 also appears to be relevant to PEA-37.

Please feel free to call me at 270-7816 if you have any questions.

Very truly yours,

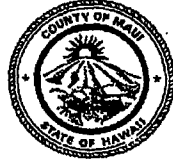


DAVID TAYLOR, P.E.
Director

DT/hhk
Attachment

"By Water All Things Find Life"

ALAN M. ARAKAWA
Mayor



DAVID TAYLOR, P.E.
Director

GLADYS C. BAISA
Deputy Director

DEPARTMENT OF WATER SUPPLY
COUNTY OF MAUI
200 SOUTH HIGH STREET
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July 12, 2017

Honorable Alan Arakawa
Mayor, County of Maui
200 South High Street
Wailuku, HI 96793

For Transmittal to:

Honorable Yuki Lei Sugimura, Chair
Policy, Economic Development, and
Agriculture Committee
Maui County Council
200 South High Street
Wailuku, HI 96793

Dear Chair Sugimura:

SUBJECT: FEDERAL FOOD SAFETY MODERNIZATION ACT (FSMA) (PEA-29)

As requested in your letter of June 7, 2017, we have reviewed the list of requirements under Section 14.10.010, Maui County Code (Code). The Department of Water Supply recommends amending the Code to continue to provide adequate, yet reasonable documentation by changing the following:

1. Revise the requirement for Form G-45 to Form G-49, General Excise/Use Annual Return & Reconciliation.
2. Revise the annual requirement for: consumer's filed Internal Revenue Service Profit or Loss from Farming Schedule F; age of the commercial crop or stock; five-year timeline of projected annual gross income; and a site-plan. This information should be provided with the first application and only as requested by the Department of Water Supply thereafter.

"By Water All Things Find Life"

Honorable Yuki Lei Sugimura
July 12, 2017
Page two

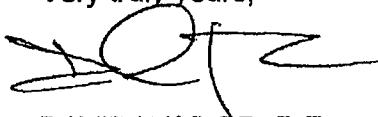
3. Revise Maui County Code Section 14.01.040 to read:

"Agricultural consumer" means a consumer that actively engages in crop production, livestock raising, dairy farming, or aquaculture for commercial production, and whose minimum gross income from such activities is \$5,000.

We believe the foregoing changes will alleviate some of the administrative burden for agricultural consumers while providing reasonable documentation to help us ascertain legitimate agricultural water consumption. We hope you are able to propose these changes.

Please feel free to call me at 270-7816 if you have any questions.

Very truly yours,



DAVID TAYLOR, P.E.
Director

DT/hhk