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COUNTY COUNCIL
COUNTY OF MAUI
200 S. HIGH STREET
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793
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April 1, 2026

Mr. Josiah Nishita, Managing Director
Department of Management
County of Maui
Wailuku, Hawaii 96793

Dear Mr. Nishita:

SUBJECT: **PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2027 BUDGET FOR THE
COUNTY OF MAUI** (BFED-1) (MD-02)

May I please request you be prepared to answer the following questions at the Council's Budget, Finance, and Economic Development Committee meeting of **April 8, 2026***. This will enable the Committee to comprehensively review the FY 2027 Budget.

May I further request that you transmit your response to bfed.committee@mauicounty.us by 4:30 p.m. on **April 7, 2026**. **Date is subject to change without notice.*

Overall

1. Relating to Strategies: (Page 488, Program Budget) (TC)
 - a. Explain how the Department measures its success on the following strategies:
 - Monitoring and evaluating the overall effectiveness and efficiency of the departments.
 - Promoting and enabling communication and collaboration between departments.
 - b. What corrective measures are taken when the Department is unsuccessful in employing the above strategies?

2. The Department intends to expand its Planning and Development office in FY 2027. Will this office take the place of the proposed Land Management Task Force? How will this office's responsibilities differ from "Planning & Development" under the Office of Recovery Program? Or if the roles are similar, will this office replace that program? (Page 489, Program Budget) (TP)
3. The Managing Director ensures that all non-legislative County entities comply with the Maui County Charter, Maui County Code, and State and Federal laws. What is the status of County departments establishing Administrative Rules under Code Chapter 1.16? (Page 492, Program Budget) (TP)
4. Relating to Management Program, Services Provided: (Pages 492 to 494, Program Budget)
 - a. What does "development packaging" mean? (TP)
 - b. For Department Certification of Internal Controls: (YLS)
 - i. Has your Department encountered any issues with other departments reviewing, validating, and ensuring the adequacy and effectiveness of their internal controls? Please explain.
 - ii. Does the Department of Finance's Internal Control Officer have a role in the certification process? Please explain.
 - c. The Department is responsible for creating and implementing a comprehensive security policy that addresses requirements and procedures for County facilities access and related security matters. The policy was finalized on May 30, 2024. Please provide an update and explain how the policy addresses security and safety measures for County facilities. Were employees given the opportunity to provide input or share concerns regarding their safety? (NUH)

- d. For Vehicle Use Policy Administration:
 - i. The County's Motor Vehicle Usage Policy was implemented in 2012. Has the Policy been reviewed or updated since? If yes, when? (YLS)
 - ii. Has your Department performed a physical inventory of County vehicles cross-referenced with the Department of Finance's Motor Vehicle and Licensing Division? If not, does the Department anticipate a physical inventory being done in FY 2027? Please explain. (YLS)
 - iii. How does the Department's fleet management system ensure County vehicles are used in accordance with the Policy, especially at night and on weekends? Can the system track where vehicles are and if they are complying with traffic laws? What are the consequences of County staff violating the Policy? Does the public need to report unauthorized usage? (TP)
5. Relating to Management Program, Land Stewardship and Development: (Page 494, Program Budget)
 - a. Which positions will the Administrator of Land Stewardship and Development oversee? (GJ) (NUH)
 - b. What role, if any, does the Land Stewardship and Development team have in managing properties acquired with the Open Space, Natural Resources, Cultural Resources, and Scenic Views Preservation Fund? If the team has a role, how will this work coordinate with the Conservation Planning Committee? For example, will the team work with the CPC on the Greenprint under Code Section 2.82.050, or land management plans under Code Subsection 2.82.060(B)? (NUH)
 - c. Does the Department plan to incorporate land management and acquisition-related positions from the Department of Finance into this team? Please explain. (YLS)
 - d. Provide a list of all County properties, owned and leased. (YLS)

- e. Provide a separate list of County properties not assigned to a department for a specific use that the Department will begin to steward. How will the Department engage with the community to align its stewardship with community needs? (GJ)
 - f. Provide a breakdown of the Department's planned expenditures to implement the stewardship of unassigned lands, including expenditures relating to community engagement. (GJ)
6. Relating to the Management Program, Goal #3: (Page 496, Program Budget)
- a. Is the Administration prioritizing long-term upgrades to roads and water systems damaged in the recent Kona Low storms over projects that stress those types of infrastructure? Please explain. (SS)
 - b. In FY 2026, the Department included a success measurement relating to developing a streamlined system to monitor all CIP projects. Why is this success measurement not listed for FY 2027? (Page 496, Program Budget) (TP)
7. Relating to the Management Program, Goal #4, item 2, what happens to temporary art installations on County property after they are decommissioned? (Page 496, Program Budget) (GJ)
8. Relating to the Management Program, Goal #5: (Page 496, Program Budget) (TP)
- a. For item 1, the Department previously had a success measurement for the number of square feet of renovations completed. Why is this success measurement not listed in FY 2027?
 - b. In FY 2026, the Department included a second objective relating to finalizing office space plans for the County's main campus in Wailuku. Why is this objective not listed in FY 2027? Are the plans complete? Please explain.

9. Relating to Information Technology Services Program, Services Provided:
 - a. Provide the timeline for implementation of the new website. Is this project being done by County personnel or an outside vendor? What is the cost? (YLS)
 - b. What does “real time content specific updates transitioning to each department” refer to? Please explain with examples. (Page 504, Program Budget) (TP)
10. Relating to the Information Technology Services Program, Goal #2, item 1, the Department trained 30 percent of stakeholders on cybersecurity risks in FY 2025. What is the Department’s plan to meet the FY 2027 Estimate of 100 percent of stakeholders being trained annually? (Page 505, Program Budget) (YLS)
11. Should the Office of Recovery Population Served and Services Provided sections be revised in light of the recent Kona Low storms and the Office’s expanded role in leading recovery efforts? If yes, please explain how the sections will be revised. (Pages 511 and 512, Program Budget) (TP)
12. Relating to the Office of Recovery Program, Goal #4, item 1, the Department estimates that 70 percent of the approximately \$1.6 billion in CDBG-DR funds will be committed to projects in FY 2027. Have any funds been committed in FY 2026? Please explain. (Page 515, Program Budget) (NUH)
13. Is the Department involved with developing supplemental agreements to the master agreements to establish incentives for hiring and retaining employees? Please explain. (GJ)
14. Please confirm the amount of Carryover/Savings derived from unspent Information Technology Services Program funds in FYs 2024 and 2025. How does the program intend to lower the amount of Carryover/Savings to under \$1 million in FY 2027 and future FYs? (TP)
15. Has the Department consulted with Bowers + Kubota Consulting, Inc. on the West Maui Road and Public Infrastructure Master Plan since the plan has been completed? Please explain. (NUH)

16. Which recommendations from the County of Maui Fraud Risk Assessment report does the Administration plan to adopt? Where in the Department's budget is the development of these plans and processes accounted for? (KB)
17. As of December 31, 2025, the Department had only spent 27 percent of its FY 2026 appropriation. Does the Department expect to spend the entire amount between now and the end of FY 2026? (TP)
18. Provide an organizational chart for each of the Department's programs. Include all existing and proposed positions. Further, provide a chart for the positions funded by CDBG-DR funds. (YLS)

Salaries and Wages (Category "A")

1. Relating to P-00828 Chief Security Officer, why is this position needed? What is the position's responsibilities in relation to the screening machine? (Page 14-3, Budget Details) (TP) (NUH)
2. The Department is requesting 5.0 E/P to support the newly created Office of the Mayor's Grants Division Program. The Administration is planning to transfer these E/Ps to the Department in FY 2028. (Pages 14-3 and 14-4, Budget Details)
 - a. Why do these positions need to be created in the Department? (YLS)
 - b. Why create a Grants Division Program in the Office of the Mayor? What would be the impact when the program is transferred to the Department? Does the Department have the capacity for the program? Is the Department the appropriate location for it? (TC) (YLS) (NUH)
 - c. When will policies and procedures be created that will address centralized oversight, coordination, and compliance support for all of the County's grant activities? (NUH)
 - d. Will the Department's Grant Coordinators administer and provide support to all departments administering County grants? Please explain. (NUH)

- e. Because of the current lack of grant oversight across all County departments, including grant execution, financial reporting, and reimbursements, should all grants be handled through one central division or department? If yes, does the Administration intend to pursue creating a central grants division or department? Please explain. (YLS) (NUH)
3. Relating to P-29238 Chief of Planning and Development, has this position been posted for recruitment? Has it been filled? (Page 14-4, Budget Details) (TP)
4. Relating to P-34687 Civil Engineer III, the Department reported that this position was being reallocated in the Budget Implementation Report as of December 31, 2025, but FY 2027 includes a request to fund the position for a full year. Why is this request being made? Is the Department transferring the position between the Management Program and the Office of Recovery Program? Has the position been filled? (Page 14-5, Budget Details) (TP)
5. Relating to Regular Wages, Index Code 9040511A: (Page 498, Program Budget)
 - a. What is “WIRP” and how does it justify salary adjustments? (KB)
 - b. Why does WIRP affect the pay for some positions but not others? If based on position classes or salary ranges, please explain which position classes or salary ranges are affected. (KB)
 - c. Provide a copy of Executive Order 2025-02 and explain how it provides the authority for salary increases. (KB) (TC)
 - d. What parameters or guidelines are used to determine the positions affected by Executive Order 2025-02? (KB)
 - e. Why is the Department reorganizing by transferring positions from the Office of Recovery Program to the Management Program? (KB)

- f. Relating to P-34368 Executive Director for the Board of Ethics Program: (Page 14-30, Budget Details) (TC)
 - i. Why does WIRP and Executive Order 2025-02 authorize a salary increase for this position?
 - ii. Would increasing the salary for this position require approval from the Council by resolution?
 - iii. Would the proposed increase align or conflict with Charter Section 10-2 and Code Section 2.56.080? Please explain.
6. Relating to P-00632 Chief of Operations and P-00634 Research Analyst, have position descriptions been created? If so, please provide copies. (Page 14-23, Budget Details) (TP)
7. Relating to Overtime, Index Code 904051A, the actual expenses for FY 2024 was \$466, and for FY 2025, \$18,080. Based on the historical data, why is the requested amount for FY 2027 \$75,000? (Page 14-25, Budget Details) (YLS)
8. Relating to Salary adjustments, Index Codes 904011A, 904015A, and 904051A, please explain why the Department is requesting to reinstate the Council's cuts from FY 2026. (Pages 14-6, 14-18, and 14-25, Budget Details) (TC)

Operations and Equipment (Category "B")

1. Relating to Professional Services, Index Code 904074B, please provide a copy of the Comprehensive Classification and Compensation study. (Page 499, Program Budget) (TC) (GJ) (TP)
2. Relating to Professional Services, Index Code 904007B: (Page 499, Program Budget)
 - a. The expansion request covers funding for three different purposes. Please provide a breakdown of how much funding will go towards each purpose. (TP)

- b. Provide more information about the screening machine, two security personnel to operate the machine, and related operations. What will the machine be screening for, where will it be located, and what is the timeline for its implementation? Should other County facilities, like the County Service Center, have similar security measures? (GJ) (TP) (YLS) (NUH)
3. Relating to Contractual Service, Index Code 904011B: (Page 499, Program Budget)
 - a. Did the Department consider public-private partnerships to pay for the charging infrastructure for the County's electric vehicle fleet? Are grants being sought to cover these costs? (KB)
 - b. In light of the recent flooding the occurred across the County, has the Department implemented policy and conducted training on the potential hazards of submerged EV batteries? Please explain. (TP)
 - c. What does "improve and expand charging infrastructure" entail? (TP)
4. Relating to Professional Services, Index Code 904011B: (Page 14-7, Budget Details)
 - a. What is the status of the comprehensive review of existing personnel administrative rules and regulations? What work was completed during the first year and is that work complete? What work will be conducted during the second year and why is a second year needed? (TC) (GJ) (TP) (YLS) (NUH)
 - b. What is the scope of the comprehensive review project? (YLS)
 - c. Who is the contractor conducting the comprehensive review project? (TC)
 - d. Why is the comprehensive review project with the Department of Management and not the Department of Personnel Services? (TC)

- e. What are the State and Federal Legislation contracts and how do they support the County? (NUH)
- f. The FY 2026 Budget included funds for the Puunene Base Yard Master Plan. What is the status of the plan? Was property purchased as part of the plan and where is it located? (TP)
5. Relating to Computer Software, Index Code 904011B, please describe the State legislation tracking software the Department intends to purchase a license for. Will the license provide software access across the County, including the Legislative Branch, or is access limited to your Department? (Page 500, Program Budget) (KB) (TP)
6. Relating to Contractual Service, 904038B, what is planned to better address the problems that persist in Wailuku Town, including vandalism, squatting, and damaged trash cans? Will the Department promote the Wailuku Arts District with an Executive Director to help manage these issues and contracts? Please explain. (Page 14-8, Budget Details) (ALL)
7. Relating to Professional Services, Index Code 904072B, how was the funding for a Request for Proposals for a third-party Project Labor Administrator, related to Bill 54 (2025), used in FY 2026, and what was the outcome of the procured services? (Page 14-9, Budget Details) (TC)
8. Relating to County grant subsidy, Index Code 904090B, is Maui Green & Beautiful and the Reshade Maui Program a part of the Urban Forest Management Plan that lost funding under the current federal administration? (Page 500, Program Budget) (TP)
9. Relating to Other Equipment, Index Code 904007C, what types of radios and how many radios does the Department intend to purchase? (Page 500, Program Budget) (TP)
10. Relating to Professional Services, Index Code 904015B, what is dark fiber and how will it be used? (Page 14-19, Budget Details) (TP)
11. Relating to Moving Expenses, Index Code 904015B, when does the Department anticipate the move to the Hawaiian Tel building will occur? (Page 14-19, Budget Details) (TP)

12. Relating to Computer Software, Index Code 904015B: (Page 14-20, Budget Details)
 - a. Please provide a breakdown of how the requested \$12,699,400 will be used, including the cost for each software that will be purchased. How will each software support the County? (YLS) (NUH)
 - b. For each software that will be purchased, what funding source will be used? For example, will the replacement software for Liquor Permits and Enforcement be purchased using Liquor Control funds? (YLS)
 - c. What is the timeline for implementing and training staff to use each software? (NUH)
13. Relating to Computer Equipment, Index Code 904015C, is it necessary for the computers and software to be purchased in FY 2027 or can they be purchased in FY 2028? Please explain. (Page 509, Program Budget) (SS)
14. Relating to Furniture/Fixtures, Index Code 904015C, who makes up the IT Customer Operations Team? Please explain. (Page 510, Program Budget) (TP)
15. In the FY 2025 Budget, the Office of Recovery Program had \$100,000 for a contract with a Maui-based architectural firm to design and register building plans for each of the six sizes of accessory dwelling units listed under Code Chapter 19.35. Was the contract executed and the plans completed? If so, where can residents access those plans? (TP)
16. Relating to Contractual Service, Index Code 904051B, what are the deliverables related to the Economic Recovery Commission Program? (Page 516, Program Budget) (TP)
17. Relating to Professional Services, Index Code 904051B: (Page 14-26, Budget Details)

- a. Please provide an itemized list of the requested \$36,547,967 and the cost per item. If any of the items received funds in FYs 2025 and 2026, provide the amount budgeted and actual amount expended in separate columns by FY. (TP) (YLS)
 - b. Can any of these items be paid for with other non-County funds? (YLS)
18. Relating to Rentals, Index Code 904051B, are flood victims eligible to receive the donated goods the County is storing? (Page 14-27, Budget Details) (TP)
19. Relating to Miscellaneous Other Costs, Index Code 904055B, what was the total cost to transport debris from the Temporary Debris Storage site to the Permanent Disposal Site? How much of the cost was the County responsible for? (Page 14-27, Budget Details) (TP)
20. Relating to County grant subsidy, Index Code 904075B: (Page 518, Program Budget)
 - a. What is the status of the Lahaina Courthouse and Prison rebuild project? (GJ)
 - b. Can the rebuild project be phased over multiple FYs? (GJ)
 - c. Is the Lahaina Restoration Foundation seeking funding from other sources for the rebuild project? Please explain. (GJ)
 - d. Can the rebuild project be considered a County Capital Improvement Project and use bond funds? Please explain. (TP)
 - e. Can the Council's West Maui Residency Area Office use ADA-accessible office space in the Old Lahaina Courthouse with parking? Please explain. (TP)

Budget Bill

1. Should Council for Native Hawaiian Advancement be instead referred to as "Hawaiian Council"? (Page 13) (KB)

Mr. Josiah Nishita
April 1, 2026
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Appendix A, Part I

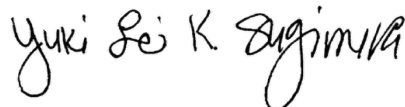
1. Has the Department of Homeland Security CCTV Project been completed? Did the cameras assist the County in its response to the recent Kona Low storms? Please explain. (Page 502, Program Budget) (TP)

May I also request that you restate each question followed by your corresponding response. Include any attachments or exhibits. Please ensure your response is clear and legible by using a minimum 12-point font throughout so Committee members and the public can easily read the document once it is posted.

To ensure efficient processing, please duplicate the coding in the subject line above for easy reference.

Thank you for your attention to this request. Should you have any questions, please contact me or the Committee staff (Kirsten Szabo at ext. 7662, James Krueger at ext. 7761, Jarret Pascual at ext. 7141, Clarissa MacDonald at ext. 7135, or Pauline Martins at ext. 8039).

Sincerely,



YUKI LEI K. SUGIMURA, Chair
Budget, Finance, and Economic
Development Committee

bfed:2027bgt:260330amd01:jgk

cc: Mayor Richard T. Bissen, Jr.
Budget Director

BFED Committee

From: BFED Committee
Sent: Wednesday, April 1, 2026 6:59 PM
To: 'Josiah K. Nishita'
Cc: 'Michelle Santos'; 'Zeke Kalua'; 'Lesley Milner'; 'tiare.p.horner@co.maui.hi.us'; 'kristina.cabbat@co.maui.hi.us'; 'Shirley Blackburn'; 'Janina Agapay'; 'Erin Wade'; 'Cynthia Sasada'; 'Didi Hamai'
Subject: PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2027 BUDGET FOR THE COUNTY OF MAUI (BFED-1) (MD-2)
Attachments: 260330amd01 (MD-02).pdf