

Council Chair
Alice L. Lee

Vice-Chair
Yuki Lei K. Sugimura

Councilmembers
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Tom Cook
Gabe Johnson
Tamara Paltin
Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez
Shane M. Sinenci
Nohelani U'u-Hodgins



Director of Council Services
David M. Raatz, Jr., Esq.

Deputy Director of Council Services
Richelle K. Kawasaki, Esq.

COUNTY COUNCIL

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

February 2, 2026

Ms. Carlotta Amerino, Director
Office of Information Practices
State of Hawai'i
No. 1 Capitol District Building
250 South Hotel Street, Suite 107
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Via Email: oip@hawaii.gov

Dear Ms. Amerino:

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR THE OFFICE OF INFORMATION PRACTICES' CONCURRENCE FOR A LIMITED MEETING (ADEPT-1(11))

The Maui County Council's Agriculture, Diversification, Environment, and Public Transportation Committee anticipates posting an agenda for a limited meeting and site inspection on Kaho'olawe on February 12, 2026, provided OIP concurrence is obtained. The agenda will be posted on February 6, 2026.

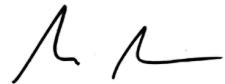
May I please request that you review and concur with the attached.

May I further request you transmit your response to adept.committee@mauicounty.us by **February 4, 2026**. To ensure efficient processing, please include the Committee item number, ADEPT-1(11), in the subject line.

Ms. Carlotta Amerino
February 2, 2026
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Should you have any questions, please contact me or the Committee staff (Ellen McKinley at 808-270-7661, or Criselda Paranada at 808-270-7668).

Sincerely,



GABE JOHNSON, Chair
Agriculture, Diversification,
Environment, and Public
Transportation Committee

adept:ltr:001(11)aoip01:ebm

Attachment

REQUEST FOR THE OFFICE OF INFORMATION PRACTICES' CONCURRENCE FOR A LIMITED MEETING

BOARD INFORMATION:**DATE:**

Name of Board:	Board Contact Person:
Date of Proposed Limited Meeting:	Phone: Email:
Location of Proposed Limited Meeting:	Board Attorney:
	Phone: Email:

1. Type of Limited Meeting: Location is dangerous to health or safety of the public; or
 Public attendance is impracticable

2. Board Determined By Two-Thirds Vote After Sufficient Public Deliberation at a Prior Regular Meeting:

Limited meeting is necessary, **and** the location poses a danger to the health or safety of the attending public; or
 On-site inspection is necessary, **and** public attendance is impracticable

The Board based its determination on the following: (*attach the relevant portion of the minutes or cite to the relevant time stamps of recorded minutes*)

3. Notice of the Limited Meeting under HRS § 92-7 (attach agenda):
check one

was filed on date:
 will be filed by date:

4. Required Video Recording of the Meeting: *check one*

Will be made Board requests a waiver of the video requirement because:

OFFICE USE OF OIP ONLY**CONCURRENCE**

The Director of the Office of Information Practices concurs with the request for a Limited Meeting and:

does not waive the video recording requirement
 waives the video recording requirement, with the following conditions:

If concurrence is granted above, the Board must:

1. Provide notice of the Limited Meeting in accordance with HRS § 92-7;
2. Refrain from making any decisions during the Limited Meeting;
3. Comply with all minute and record keeping requirements in HRS § 92-9; and
4. Video record the Limited Meeting and make that recording available at the next regular meeting, unless this requirement is fully waived above.

Carlotta Amerino
Director

Date

Exhibit 1

Basis 1: Limited meeting is necessary and dangerous to the health or safety of the attending public

The meeting is necessary because:

- Kaho'olawe is an often-overlooked part of Maui County that all Councilmembers have a kuleana to understand and protect.
- The limited meeting presents a unique opportunity for Councilmembers to visit Kaho'olawe, which has important historical, environmental, and cultural significance to Maui County and is an instrumental site in reviving the Nāulu Cloud Bridge.
- Visiting the site in person will provide Councilmembers with a greater understanding of the restoration work being performed and the scope, value and necessity of additional work needed to revive the Nāulu Cloud Bridge and ultimately the much-needed rain it will help create.
- It takes visiting a place in person to develop pilina (relationship, connection) with that 'āina.

The location is considered dangerous to the health or safety of the attending public because:

- Boat transportation to the island may sometimes require swimming to shore.
- Unexploded ordnance are present on the island, presenting the potential for public injury and county liability.
- The island's environment is harsh, with little protection from the elements, and the island's facilities are basic and limited.
- Emergency services are not readily available if members of the public become injured, and public attendance requires an overnight stay.
- The Committee also has no way to evaluate public participants' physical fitness to participate in the excursion and cannot monitor all public participants' movements to ensure their safety.

Exhibit 1

Basis 2: On-site inspection is necessary and dangerous to the health or safety of the attending public

The onsite inspection is necessary because:

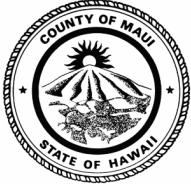
- Kaho'olawe is an often-overlooked part of Maui County that all Councilmembers have a kuleana to understand and protect.
- The limited meeting presents a unique opportunity for Councilmembers to visit Kaho'olawe, which has important historical, environmental, and cultural significance to Maui County and is an instrumental site in reviving the Nāulu Cloud Bridge.
- Visiting the site in person will provide Councilmembers with a greater understanding of the restoration work being performed and the scope, value and necessity of additional work required to revive the Nāulu Cloud Bridge and ultimately the rain it will create.
- It takes visiting a place in person to develop pilina (relationship, connection) with that 'āina.

Public attendance is impracticable because:

- There is the potential for ADA accessibility issues that cannot be accommodated.
- The Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission requires each participant to sign a liability waiver and charges a fee for each participant.
- Boat transportation to the island may sometimes require swimming to shore.
- Unexploded ordnance are present on the island, presenting the potential for public injury and county liability.
- The island's environment is harsh, with little protection from the elements.
- The island's facilities are basic and limited.
- Emergency services are not readily available if members of the public become injured.
- Public attendance would require an overnight stay.

Exhibit 1

- The Committee has no way to evaluate public participants' mental or physical fitness to participate in the excursion.
- The Committee cannot monitor all public participants' movements to ensure their safety.
- The Wi-Fi on Kaho'olawe is weak, and cell service is spotty, making a regular committee meeting impracticable.



LIMITED MEETING NOTICE

COUNCIL OF THE COUNTY OF MAUI

www.MauiCounty.us/ADEPT

Committee Chair
Gabe Johnson

Committee Vice-Chair
Shane M. Sinenci

Voting Members:
K. Kauanoe Batangan
Tom Cook
Alice L. Lee
Tamara Paltin
Nohelani U'u-Hodgins

Non-Voting Members:
Keani N.W.
Rawlins-Fernandez
Yuki Lei K. Sugimura

AGRICULTURE, DIVERSIFICATION, ENVIRONMENT, & PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

Thursday, February 12, 2026

9:30 a.m.

MEETING SITE:

Various restoration areas on the upland slopes of Kaho'olawe.

This is a limited meeting that is not open to the public and will be held in accordance with HRS § 92-3.1(a).

A G E N D A

REVIVING THE NĀULU CLOUD BRIDGE (ADEPT-1(11))

Description: Under Rule 7(B) of the Rules of the Council, the Committee may hold a limited meeting and on-site inspection of Kaho'olawe that is not open to the public under Section 92-3.1(a), Hawai'i Revised Statutes, and discuss reviving the Nāulu Cloud Bridge.

Status: The Committee may hold a limited meeting and site inspection of various restoration areas on the upland slopes of Kaho'olawe under Section 92-3.1(a), Hawai'i Revised Statutes, guided by Michael Nāho'opi'i, Executive Director, Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission. The Committee may discuss reviving the Nāulu Cloud Bridge, including restoration and reforestation plans to encourage rainfall from leeward Haleakalā to Kaho'olawe. The Committee may also discuss other related matters. No oral testimony or legislative action will be taken.

MORE →

CONTACT INFORMATION

Office of Council Services, 200 South High Street, Wailuku, Hawai'i 96793

Tel: (808) 270-7838

COMMITTEE STAFF

Ellen McKinley, Kasie Apo Takayama, Criselda Paranada, and Megan Moniz

BOARD PACKETS

Board Packets, as defined in Section 92-7.5, HRS, will be electronically posted as soon as practicable.

LIMITED MEETING

This meeting location is not open to the public and is being conducted in accordance with Section 92-3.1(a), Hawaii Revised Statutes.

OFFICIAL LOCATIONS AND TESTIMONY

Written testimony will be accepted via eComment. Search for the meeting date on mauicounty.us/agendas, click on the eComment link, then select the agenda item to submit comments on. Alternatively, written testimony will be accepted via email to ADEPT.committee@mauicounty.us or postal service to ADEPT Committee, Maui County Council, 200 South High Street, Wailuku, Hawai'i 96793.

Agenda items are subject to cancellation.

ADEPT Committee

From: ADEPT Committee
Sent: Monday, February 2, 2026 2:27 PM
To: oip@hawaii.gov
Cc: ADEPT Committee
Subject: Request for the Office of Information Practices' Concurrence for a Limited Meeting (ADEPT-1(11))
Attachments: 001(11)aoip01.pdf

Ms. Carlotta Amerino: Please refer to the attached letter from Maui County Council's Agriculture, Diversification, Environment, and Public Transportation Committee Chair Gabe Johnson, dated February 2, 2026.

Please respond by February 4, 2026.