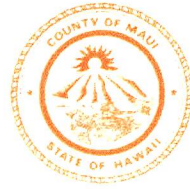


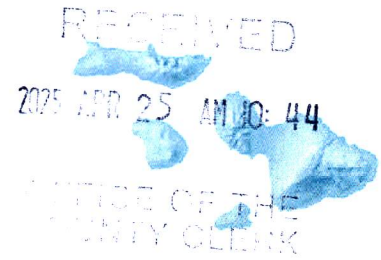
RICHARD T. BISSEN, JR.
Mayor

JOSIAH K. NISHITA
Managing Director

ERIN A. WADE
Deputy Managing Director



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
COUNTY OF MAUI
200 SOUTH HIGH STREET
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793
www.mauicounty.gov



April 25, 2025

Honorable Alice L. Lee, Chair
and Members of the County Council
200 S. Hight Street
Wailuku, HI 96793

Dear Chair Lee and Members:

**SUBJECT: RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING 2025 AS THE YEAR OF OUR
COMMUNITY FORESTS**

2025 was officially proclaimed as the Year of Our Community Forests by Governor Josh Green on January 10, 2025, and me on March 1, 2025. In solidarity with these proclamations, I humbly request that the County Council consider adopting a companion resolution.

A community forest is a collection of trees in the wao kanaka, where we live, learn, and play. Community forests include trees in our neighborhoods, yards, parks, schools, and along our streets. They give us gathering places, shade to cool down, air to breathe, food to eat, wood for carving, leaves for weaving, and flowers for lei. Our forests help grow our communities, and we can help grow our community forests by caring for our trees, planting new trees, and learning from trees.

Starting in 2025, Maui County will begin developing the first Urban Forest Management Plan (UFMP) for Maui to guide the care and growth of the island's urban forests. Led by a diverse team of forestry and engagement specialists, Maui County departments & community groups, the project will build capacity, advance equity and justice, and build partnerships and community involvement around urban forestry. Developing the UFMP will help Maui County understand the current urban forest, establish canopy cover and planting goals, and create a game plan to achieve these goals.

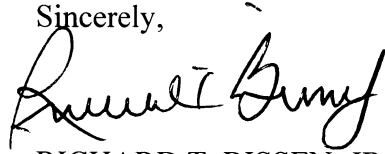
The Year of Our Community Forests encourages all residents to learn about our community forests and engage in events celebrating the benefits and our connection to the trees around us.

Mahalo for your support on this important matter that supports our community forests and benefits residents and visitors of Maui County.

Honorable Alice L. Lee, Chair
and Members of the County Council
April 25, 2025
Page 2

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Jennifer Maydan at Jennifer.Maydan@co.maui.hi.us or by phone at (808) 270-7626.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard T. Bissen, Jr.", written in a cursive style.

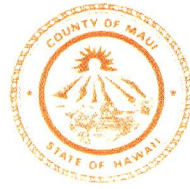
RICHARD T. BISSEN, JR.
Mayor, County of Maui

Attachments

RICHARD T. BISSEN, JR.
Meia

JOSIAH K. NISHITA
Luna Ho‘oponopono

ERIN A. WADE
Hope Luna Ho‘oponopono



Ke‘ena o ka Meia
Kalana o Maui
200 South High Alanui
Wailuku, Maui, Hawai‘i, 96793
www.mauicounty.gov

25 Apelila, 2025

Alice L. Lee
Luna ‘Aha Kalana
200 South High Alanui
Wailuku, HI, 96793

E ka Luna ‘Aha Lee

KUMUMANA‘O: KA ‘ÖLELO HO‘OHOLO E LILO KA 2025 ‘O IA KA MAKAHIKI O KA NAHELE O KE KAIÄULU

Ua kuahaua kūhelu ‘ia ‘o 2025 ka makahiki o ko kākou mau Nahele Kaiāulu e ke Kia‘āina Josh Green i ka 1 Ianuali, 2025, a e a‘u kekahi ho‘i i ka 1 Malaki, 2025. Ma ke kūlike ‘ana me ia mau kuahaua, aia au ke noi ha‘aha‘a aku nei i ka ‘Aha Kalana e no‘ono‘o iho i ka ‘āpono ‘ia o kekahi ‘ōlelo ho‘oholo i kūlike.

‘O ka Nahele Kaiāulu, he pū‘ulu kumulā‘au ia e waiho nei i loko o ka wao kanaka kahi a ka lehulehu e laule‘a ai a e ola ai, e la‘a ho‘i me nā kumulā‘au ma ke kulanakauhale, ka pā hale, ka pāka, ke kula, a ma ka‘e alanui. He mau wahi ia e ‘ohi ai kānaka, e malu ai kānaka, a e hā ai kānaka. Pēlā pū me ka loa‘a o ka mea‘ai e ‘ai ai, ka lā‘au e kālai ai, a me ka lau e haku lei ai. I ulu ke kaiāulu i ka ulu o ka nahele, a i ulu a‘e ho‘i hā ka nahele kaiāulu i ka mālama ‘ia e kānaka, i ke kanu ‘ana i mau kumulū‘au hou, a i ke kilo ‘ana i ke kumulā‘au a a‘o iho.

E ho‘omaka ana i ka 2025 ka ho‘omohala ‘ia o ka Ho‘olālā Mālama Nahele Kaiāulu e ke Kalana o Maui. I mea ia e a‘oa‘o iā kākou ma ka mālama ‘ana o nā nahele kaiāulu o ka mokupuni. E alaka‘i ‘ia ana kēia papahana e nā loea nahele like ‘ole: ‘o nā ‘Oihana Kalana ‘oe, ‘o nā hui o ke kaiāulu ‘oe, a ia mau mea hou aku. Na kēia papahana e paipai i ka ‘auamo kuleana, e holomua i ke kaulike, a e ku‘ikahi nā lima kōkua no ka pono o ko kākou mau nahele kaiāulu. Kau aku ka no‘ono‘o i ka ‘ōlelo no‘eau: “He ali‘i ka ‘āina, he kauwā ke kanaka.” Ma ka ho‘mohala ‘ana a‘e o ka HMNK e ho‘omaopopo ai ke kalana i ke kulana ‘ānō o ka nahele

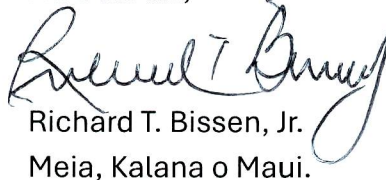
kaiāulu, e kanu ai i mau kumu lālā nui e ho'omalū, e ho'okumu ai i mau pahuhopu no ke kanu 'ana, a e ho'olālā a'e ai e kō ai ua mau pahuhopu nei.

He leo paipai kēia i nā maka'āinana e a'o e pili ana i ka nahele kaiāulu, a e ho'olaule'a i ka waiwai o nā kumulā'au e ho'opuni ana iā kākou.

Mahalo i ko 'oukou kāko'o ma kēia hana waiwai no ka pono o ka nahele kaiāulu nāna nā maka'āinana me nā malihini pū i pōmaika'i.

Inā nō he nīnau, e hō'ike 'olu'olu aku iā Jennifer Maydan ma ka lekauiā
Jennifer.Maydan@co.maui.hi.us a ma ke kelepona pū ma (808)-270-7626.

Na'u iho nō,



Richard T. Bissen, Jr.
Meia, Kalana o Maui.