

April 2, 2019

MEMO TO: EDB-1 File

F R O M: Tasha Kama
Councilmember

SUBJECT: **PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2020 BUDGET FOR THE COUNTY OF MAUI** (EDB-1) (TK) (Q-002)

I am submitting the following questions on the Fiscal Year 2020 Budget:

1. On Page 35, the Budget Proposal recognized that there is a need for 12,500 new housing units, however, on page 284, the Housing Program of Housing and Human Concerns is defining success as providing 1,050 units through 201H approvals and another 360 units by investing County funds. The total projected units are slightly over 11 percent of the projected need. What is the Department's plan to address this shortfall in supply? Department of Housing and Human Concerns.
2. As shown on Page 286, the table titled "Equivalent Personnel Summary by Position Title - General Fund" shows no increase in EP's. Could greater production of housing units be achieved if the Housing Program was given additional EP's? Are there areas of additional expertise needed by the program to deliver the needed housing units? Department of Housing and Human Concerns.
3. Where is the first-time homebuyer's down payment assistance program shown in the budget? Is it part of the "Other Costs" shown in the "Expenditures Summary by Character & Object - Revolving Fund" - if not, what are these "Other Costs." Department of Housing and Human Concerns.
4. It has been suggested by some constituents that Maui County could generate more real property tax revenue from commercial operations (i.e., resorts, hotels, car rental agencies, large retailers) by basing real property tax assessment on the income generated by the property and not the value of the land and improvements (as currently done). Would this approach be supported by current authority under Hawaii State statute? Corporation Counsel.

RECEIVED AT EPB MEETING ON 4-2-19

5. With respect to “income-based” assessment, would such an approach actually generate more revenue for Maui County from real property tax? Finance Department – Real Property Tax.

6. From the Budget Details, it would appear that for the grant funded Section 8 Housing program, the grant funding pays for the fringe benefits associated with the Section 8 staff. [Page 8-55 of the Budget Details, Index 197481, Sub-Object 6275]. Is our reading of the details correct? If the County paid the fringe benefits for Section 8 staff from the General Fund, how many more Section 8 vouchers would be available? Department of Housing and Human Concerns.