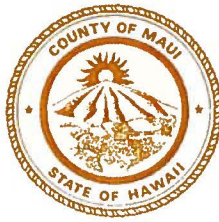


RICHARD T. BISSEN, JR.
Mayor

LORI TSUHAKE
Director

SAUMALU MATA' AFA
Deputy Director



**DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING
& HUMAN CONCERNS**
COUNTY OF MAUI
2200 MAIN STREET, SUITE 546
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793
PHONE: (808) 270-7805

February 22, 2024



2024 FEB 26 AM 11:24
OFFICE OF THE
COUNTY COUNCIL

RECEIVED

Honorable Richard T. Bissen, Jr.
Mayor, County of Maui
200 South High Street
Wailuku, Hawaii 96793

APPROVED FOR TRANSMITTAL

Richard T. Bissen, Jr. 2-26-24

Mayor Date

For Transmittal to:

Honorable Tasha Kama, Chair
Housing and Land Use Committee
Maui County Council
200 South High Street
Wailuku, Hawaii 96793

Dear Chair Kama:

**SUBJECT: UPDATE ON THE HOMEOWNER ASSISTANCE FUND PROGRAM
UNDER THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (HLU-3(12))**

The Department received your correspondence dated February 12, 2024 in which you requested the estimated number of homeowners in the County in mortgage forbearance or delinquency.

Shortly after the February 7, 2024 Housing and Land Use committee meeting, my Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation (HHFDC) colleague made a formal request to the University of Hawaii's Economic Research Organization (UHERO) for the data as requested. Philip Garboden, Ph.D., a UHERO Research Fellow, responded almost immediately and informed us that it would take several weeks for the most up-dated data to be compiled. Unfortunately, a date certain is still not known.

To further gather pertinent information, the Department reached out to Hale Mahaolu and Hawaii Community Assets (HCA) to see if these agencies could provide us with any anecdotal information about households in mortgage forbearance or delinquency. HCA noted that as many as 36 households may be mortgage delinquent. It was noted that agencies such as this also depend upon UHERO for verifiable data, which is not currently available.

Honorable Tasha Kama, Chair

February 23, 2024

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The Department will forward the UHERO information to the Committee as soon as we receive it. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at Ext. 7805.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Lori Tsuhako", with a stylized, cursive script.

LORI TSUHAKE, LSW, ACSW
Director of Housing and Human Concerns