

WATER AUTHORITY, SOCIAL SERVICES, AND PARKS COMMITTEE

Council of the County of Maui

MINUTES

February 25, 2025

Online Only via Teams

CONVENE: 9:04 a.m.

PRESENT: VOTING MEMBERS:

Councilmember Shane M. Sinenci, Chair
Councilmember Gabe Johnson, Vice-Chair (Out 9:41 a.m.)
Councilmember Tom Cook, Member
Councilmember Tasha Kama, Member
Councilmember Alice L. Lee, Member (Out 12:29 p.m.)
Councilmember Tamara Paltin, Member
Councilmember Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez, Member
Councilmember Yuki Lei K. Sugimura
Councilmember Nohelani U‘u-Hodgins, Member

STAFF:

Clarissa MacDonald Legislative Analyst
Ellen McKinley, Legislative Analyst
Megan Moniz, Legislative Attorney
Criselda Paranada, Committee Secretary
Lei Dinneen, Council Services Assistant Clerk
Ryan Martins, Council Ambassador

Residency Area Office

Zhantell Lindo, Council Aide, Molokai Residency Area Office
Roxanne Morita, Council Aide, Lāna`i Residency Area Office
Mavis Oliveira-Medeiros, Council Aide, East Maui Residency Area Office
Jade Rojas-Letisi, Council Aide, Makawao-Ha'ikū-Pā'ia Residency Area Office

ADMIN.:

Charleen “Naomi” Crozier, Homeless Coordinator, Office of the Mayor
(WASSP-1(2))
Noah Jackson, Executive Assistant II, Department of Management (WASSP-1(2))
Lori Tshako, Director, Department of Human Concerns (WASSP-1(2))
Yukari Murakami, Deputy Corporation Counsel, Department of the Corporation
Counsel (All)

OTHERS:

Jonathan Likeke Scheuer, Chair, ‘Āha Wai O Maui Hikina (WASSP-5(1))
Cherie-Noelle, Ka‘anana, Water Programs Specialist, Department of Hawaiian
Home Lands (WASSP-5(1))
Sasha Brown, Homeless Services Program Specialist, City of Santa Rosa,
Sonoma County, California (WASSP-1(2))
Josette Sullins, Island Health (WASSP-1(2))
Zhantell Lindo (WASSP-1(2))

Testifiers

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Mike Moran, Kihei Community Association (All)
Francis Quitazol, ‘Aha Wai O Maui Hikina (WASSP-5(1))
Jasee Law (All)
Lawrence Asing (WASSP-5(1))
Lisa Darcy, Founder, Share Your Mana (WASSP-1(2))
Mary Ann Pahukoa (WASSP-5(1))
Zhantell Lindo (All)
Maya Marquez (WASSP-1(2))
Jason Medina (All)
James Copeland (WASSP-1(2))
Carlotta Welsh (WASSP-1(2))
Faith Chase (Resolution 25-50 & WASSP-1(2))
Testifier (WASSP-1(2))
Moke Bergau (WASSP-1(2))
Gina Young, Director, East Maui Water Authority (WASSP-5(1))
Trinette Furtado (All)
Kainoa MacDonald, Association of Hawaiians for Homestead Lands, (WASSP-5(1));
Program Administrator, Living Way Church Maui (WASSP-1(2))
Kasie Bullock (WASSP-1(2))
Kapu Purdy (WASSP-1(2))
Mo‘i Kawaakoa (WASSP-1(2))
Lori Jay (WASSP-1(2))
Terese Masters (WASSP-1(2))
Nara Boone, Maui Housing Hui (WASSP-1(2))
Jamie Kamiki Carter (WASSP-1(2))
Tina Louise Marcellino (WASSP-1(2))
Stacey Alapai (WASSP-1(2))
Jessica Lau (WASSP-1(2))

(40+) additional attendees

PRESS: Akakū: Maui Community Television, Inc.

CHAIR SINENCI: . . .(gavel). . . Hey, aloha kakahiaka kākou and susadey. And welcome to the WASSP Committee meeting of Tuesday, February 25th, 2025. It is 9:04 a.m. I'm Shane Sinenci, your Committee Chair. Welcome. And thank you, Members, for taking the time to attend this special meeting. A reminder for members of the public to please silence your cell phones or any noise-making devices. Members, in accordance of the Sunshine Law, if you're not in the Council Chamber, please identify by name who, if anyone, is in the room, vehicle, or workspace with you today. And minors do not need to be identified. Also, please see the last page of the agenda for information on meeting connectivity. Joining us this morning we have Committee Vice-Chair Gabe Johnson. Aloha and susadey.

VICE-CHAIR JOHNSON: Aloha, Chair, Councilmembers. Susadey to...to everyone. There's no testifiers at the Lāna‘i District Office. I will have to jump off this meeting to go down

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and give a presentation to the Planning Commission. So, just to let you know, I'll kind of be in and out of the meeting. My apologies. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay. Thank you for that. Also joining us today in the Chambers is Councilmember Tom Cook. Aloha and susadey.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Aloha. Susadey. And there's no testifiers in the Kihei office.

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay. Mahalo for that. Also in the Chambers we have Pro Tem Tasha Kama. Aloha kakahiaka.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Aloha kakahiaka, Chair, and susadey. Looking forward to a wonderful meeting today. Thank you.

CHAIR SINENCI: Thank you for being here. Also in the Chambers we have Council Chair Alice Lee. Aloha and susadey.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Aloha, Chair, and susadey all the way from Cambodia.

CHAIR SINENCI: Thank you. Also in the Chambers we have Councilmember Tamara Paltin. Aloha kakahiaka. Susadey.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: What's up, Chair Sinenci. Aloha kakahiaka and susadey kākou.

CHAIR SINENCI: Thank you. Joining us online, I presume from Molokai, we have Councilmember Keani Rawlins-Fernandez. Aloha kakahiaka.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: [*Speaking in Hawaiian*] Aloha kakahiaka. Mai Molokai nui Ahina. I'm at my private residence alone and there are currently no testifiers at the Molokai District office. Mahalo, Chair.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mahalo for joining us. Also joining us online is Councilmember Yuki Lei Sugimura from the Northeast...the North. Aloha and good morning.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Yeah, I'm in mommy heaven, so I'm in Chicago calling you from my...my son's home. And looking forward to a productive meeting.

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay. Glad you could join us. And also joining us in the Chambers is Councilmember Nohelani U'u-Hodgins. Aloha and susadey.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Aloha, Chair. Susadey.

CHAIR SINENCI: Thank you everyone for joining us. From the Department of Human Concerns we have Director Lori Tsuhako. She'll join us later. Also, from the Mayor's Office we have Homeless Coordinator Naomi Crozier. Aloha and good morning. Thanks for being here. From Corporation Counsel we have Ms. Yukari Murakami. Aloha and good morning. And, Members, our Committee Staff that's helping us to conduct this

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meeting...we have Ms. Criselda Paranada, aloha; Ms. Clarissa MacDonald; Ms. Ellen McKinley; Ms. Megan Moniz; Ms. Lei Dinneen; and Ms. Jean Pokipala (*phonetic*). Welcome everyone. Okay. Members, on today's agenda we have two items, Resolution 25-50, Approving The Appointment Of Jonathan Likeke Scheuer To The East Maui Regional Community Board; and a Pilot Project Using County Parking Lots For Human Habitation Update. So, we have testifiers? Okay. Well, let's begin with test...public testimony. Oral testimony via phone or video conference will be accepted. In accordance with the Sunshine Law testimony can occur at the beginning of the meeting but cannot be limited to the start of the meeting. The Chair will receive oral testimony for agenda items at the beginning of the meeting and as the item is called up on the agenda. Testifiers wanting to provide video or audio testimony should sign up in the Chamber, join the online meeting via the Teams link, or call into the phone number noted on today's agenda. For...for individuals wishing to testify via Teams, please raise your hand by clicking on the raise-your-hand button. And for those calling in, please follow the prompts via phone, star five to raise and lower your hand and star six to mute and unmute. Staff will add names to the testifier list in the order testifiers sign up or raise their hands. And for those on Teams, Staff will lower your hand once your name is added. Staff will then enable your microphone and video and call the name you're logged in under...that you're logged in under or the last four digits of your phone number when it's your time to testify. Written testimony is encouraged and can be submit...submitted via the eComment link at maucounty.us/agendas. Oral testimony is limited to three minutes per item and will be accepted at the beginning of the meeting and prior to the Committee's deliberation on each item on the agenda. If you're still testifying beyond that time, I will kindly ask you to complete your testimony. We ask that you state your full name and organization. But if you prefer to testify anonymously, Staff will identify and refer you as testifier and assign you a number. Please also indicate agenda item or items you're testifying on. Once you're done testifying or if you do not, excuse me, wish to testify, you can view the meeting on *Akakū* Channel 53, Facebook Live, or maucounty.us/agendas. Again, thank you for your cooperation in advance. The Chair will be maintaining decorum at all times during the meeting. And Committee Members, I will now proceed with oral testimony. Staff, can you please call the first testifier?

. . . BEGIN PUBLIC TESTIMONY AT BEGINNING OF MEETING. . .

MS. MCKINLEY: Chair, the first testifier is Lisa Darcy, to be followed by the caller with the last four digits 0555.

CHAIR SINENCI: Good morning, Ms. Darcy.

MS. DARCY: . . .(*Inaudible*). . . --

CHAIR SINENCI: You...you want to do after the second item? Can she testify before the second item? Okay. We'll put you on the list. Thanks for being here. Ms. McKinley.

MS. MCKINLEY: Chair, the next testifier is the person calling in with the last four digits 0555, to be followed by Mike Moran.

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MS. SULLINS: Aloha. It's Josette with Island Health and I was testifying with the Safe Parking Program.

CHAIR SINENCI: Aloha, Ms. Sullivan [sic].

MS. SULLINS: Aloha. How are you, Councilmember Sinenci? Am I testifying now or on the second half?

CHAIR SINENCI: You can...you can testify now.

MS. SULLINS: Okay. I'm just testifying that we have Island Health in Kihei and we are also working with the YMCA that's opening in Lahaina. And we're looking forward to the parking lot. We think that this is a fantastic opportunity for our ohana to find overnight shelter. And so I'm just here if anyone has any questions for me.

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay. Thank you, Ms. Sullivan [sic]. Members? We have a question for you from Members Yuki Lei Sugimura.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you. This is great news. The YMCA in...in...by Keopuolani Park used to open up their parking space for those that needed it, and I think also let them use the facilities to have a shower. What was...is that the kind of plan that you're also establishing for West Maui?

MS. SULLINS: For now, Councilmember, what...what we are...we're part of a huge provider network there at the YMCA. There's not a lot of parking space there. Some of the things that they are doing is adding showers and there's also offer...adding different like meditation grounds and things along those lines. What's nice is it's around affordable housing currently. So, we will be offering services for behavioral health and all the services there at the YMCA are at no charge. I can't hear you; you're on mute.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Chair, if you don't mind, could I ask for the contact information from the testifier?

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay. Will do.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you.

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay. Any other questions for Ms. Sullivan [sic]? We have a question for you from Member Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: If she's available, can we have her as a resource when the item comes up?

CHAIR SINENCI: Any objections to having Ms. Sullivan [sic] as a resource for the second item, Members?

COUNCILMEMBERS: No objections.

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CHAIR SINENCI: Okay.

MS. SULLINS: Mahalo.

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay. Ms. McKinley, can you please call the next testifier?

MS. MCKINLEY: Chair, the next testifier is Mike Moran, to be followed by Francis Quitazol.

CHAIR SINENCI: Aloha, Mr. Moran.

MR. MORAN: Good morning.

CHAIR SINENCI: Morning.

MR. MORAN: Aloha, Chair Sinenci and Committee Members. Mike Moran for the Kihei Community Association. I'd like to speak on both items this morning. On the first one I guess the logical question is what the heck does a South Maui organization have to do with item number one? Well, it...it has to do with the individual, Doctor...Dr. Scheuer. KCA has had a...an award that we have instituted about 15 years ago that's called the Kihei Community Association Wiliwili Warrior Award. And it's...briefly, it's the Wiliwili Award...Warrior Award recognizes individuals whose community service goes beyond the ordinary and embraces the embodiment of KCA's mission E Mālama Pono dedicated to protecting, sustaining, and enhancing our 'āina and ohana. And this...it's not an annual award. It's some years we don't have anybody; other years we have multiple award winners. But one thing that has been pretty consistent, since our first one, they're almost always people in South Maui. Once in a while it's someone that's in Maui County but beyond our district. But before this, it's never been anybody who was...was off island. And this award was given to Dr. Scheuer a couple of years ago for all the help that he has given our community, as he does in other communities, starting with his years on the state Land Use Commission. The yeoman's work he did on the...what we call the mega mall, which is revealing its head again. And also with the...the pedestrian access to our new high school, which was required by the LUC and was never done. So, that was just a few of the things that he participated in. So, we just want to express our strong support for Dr. Scheuer and just to show some of the many things he's done way beyond...on this one particular journey that he's going for this morning. So, that wraps up that...that testimony, Chair. Shall I continue or...or pause?

CHAIR SINENCI: Hold on, Mr. Moran. Any questions for the first item? Okay. Go ahead and...to your second item.

MR. MORAN: Thank you, Chair. Second item, several years ago this issue came up about the...the city parking place and it seemed like a reasonable thing for that. As we all know, too often, homeless people have one concept that...whatever their own concept is and we know it's a wide-ranging group of people. And when we saw that...we saw a few examples of that tragic situation. Here we have a family; both parents working, they have school-aged children going to school, everything about a normal family except

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somehow they became houseless, and they're living in a vehicle. And the challenges that presents to all them. The...the...the keiki going to school, oh, where you live? A kid is not going to want to say, I live in a car with my parents. So, it embarrasses them and they...puts them in a difficult position. Oh. And the whole situation is precarious because there's no safe place for...for the family to park the vehicle. They're either getting harrassed by the police telling them that you...you can't legally park here. Or you're...they're in fear of bad guys holding them up, attacking them, whatever. So, this seemed like a great idea. And the last we saw the past Mayor seemed to be going to put it in...right next to the police station in Wailuku. And then all at once it just kind of disintegrated and...and went away. So, we're very glad to see this is coming back. We realize you're not taking action on it today. We think it's a great thing to explore again and hopefully we can help that...that one segment...very needy segment of our houseless community. So, thank you for bringing this back this morning. Mahalo.

CHAIR SINENCI: All right. Thank you, Mr. Moran. Members, any questions for Mr. Moran? Seeing none. Okay. Thank you for your testimony this morning.

MR. MORAN: Thank you.

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay. I was just reminded by Staff to ask that if there are no objections to Ms. Sullivan [sic] being a resource for the second item under 18(A) of the Rules of the Council?

COUNCILMEMBERS: No objections.

MS. MCKINLEY: Chair, could we please have her first name for the record?

CHAIR SINENCI: Ms. Sullivan [sic], can you state your full name for the record? She might have dropped off for now. We'll get it --

MS. C. MACDONALD: She just maybe have to unmute herself.

CHAIR SINENCI: Oh.

MS. C. MACDONALD: That should be star five on the phone.

CHAIR SINENCI: Oh, she's on the phone.

MS. C. MACDONALD: Oh, unless she just dropped. Can wait for her to come back and ask again.

CHAIR SINENCI: There she is.

MS. C. MACDONALD: I see her. She just unmuted herself.

MS. SULLINS: Oh, fantastic.

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CHAIR SINENCI: Okay.

MS. SULLINS: My name is Josette --

CHAIR SINENCI: Josette.

MS. SULLINS: -- Sullins. And it's S-U-L-L-I-N-S.

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay. Thanks, Josette.

MR. SULLINS: Sorry, I couldn't get my phone to work.

CHAIR SINENCI: No worries. And then I also see Mr. Noah Jackson, he's also joining us from the...from the Mayor's Office for our second item. Ms. McKinley, you want to go ahead and call the next testifier?

MS. MCKINLEY: Chair, currently, the last person signed up to testify is Francis Quitazol.

CHAIR SINENCI: Aloha, Mr. Quitazol.

MS. MCKINLEY: Chair, he's unmuted on our end.

MR. QUITAZOL: Sorry, I just, yeah, unmuted and I guess I got control of the mic. Sorry about that. Aloha, Chair Sinenci and Members. Thank you guys for allowing the opportunity to testify for Item one, Resolution 25-50. I was appointed by the...the East Maui Water Authority to present the letter that we...we presented to you guys and it...it'll be submitted to you guys today. Unfortunately, I was supposed to be there in-person but...so, I'm going to read remotely and...because I had a schedule conflict. On behalf of the East Maui Water...the 'Aha Wai O Maui Hikina we strongly urge your support for the reappointment of Dr. Jonathan Likelike [sic] Scheuer as the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands Representative to this Board. Since our inception, Dr. Scheuer has excelled in his role as board chair, demonstrating exemplary performance and unwavering dedication to the voters of Maui County. Despite residing on the Island of O'ahu, he consistently prioritizes his responsibilities by being physically present at all meetings. He skillfully sets aside personal feelings to guarantee a fair and balanced perspective, guiding this board in fulfilling our essential duties as outlined by the Maui County Charter. His ability to unite us and foster teamwork is a testament to his leadership skills. Dr. Scheuer's extensive knowledge of Hawai'i's history, particularly concerning water law and stewardship of our precious water resources, has been indispensable in establishing the 'Aha Wai O Maui Hikina and the East Maui Water Authority. One of our board members aptly referred to him as a reflection of a little light in the sky that serves as a guide to be followed. In traditional times, such an individual would be...would have been revered as an ali'i, a guiding light, that ensures the community not only survives, but thrives. In conclusion, we firmly believe that reappointing Dr. Scheuer to this board is essential to ensuring that watersheds in the Ko'olau and the natural water resources of East Maui are preserved, protected, and sustained for current residents of Maui and future generations. We expect your unwavering support for his

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appointment. Mahalo, the 'Aha Wai O Maui Hikina, East Maui Regional Community Board members. Thank you.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mahalo, Mr. Quitazol. And you'll be sending that letter in to the Committee? Oh, you already --

MR. QUITAZOL: Yes.

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay. All right. Thank you for that. Any questions for Mr. Quitazol? Seeing none. Thank you for your testimony this morning.

MR. QUITAZOL: Mahalo.

CHAIR SINENCI: Ms. McKinley.

MS. MCKINLEY: Chair, no one else has signed up to testify at the beginning of the meeting. If anyone would like to testify at this time, please raise your hands on...raise your hand with the raise-your-hand function on Teams or approach the podium now.

MR. LAW: Jasee Law.

CHAIR SINENCI: Aloha, Mr. Law.

MR. LAW: Aloha kakahiaka. When you ask if anybody raise their hand if they had a question, a member of the audience that didn't testify, yeah, he raised his hand. And I was...just wanted to help him out and...and let him know that he can ask a question at the podium right now. They don't have to answer you but somebody...Luna Ho'omolu [sic] Sinenci will probably help you out if you wanted to come up. And the reason I come to these meetings because I like to be here personally, like the guy just said. And sometimes we actually get to meet the...the members of the boards and commissions that are appointed. That's it.

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay. Any questions for Mr. Law, Members? Seeing none. Mahalo for your testimony.

MS. MCKINLEY: Chair, no one else has signed up to testify. At this time, if anyone would like to testify at the beginning of the meeting --

MR. ASING: Mahalo nui loa. [*Speaking in Hawaiian*] My name is Lawrence Kahaku (*phonetic*) Asing. I am a resident of Pu'u honua O Nēnē here and I just wanted to just say thank you so much for letting us...I am...really enjoy the hot water and the meals. Whoo, the food stay ono, brah. I just had a question about...is EMI still tapping water off of that? EMI, East Maui Irrigation.

CHAIR SINENCI: And . . .(*inaudible*). . . --

MR. ASING: And also...that's all right. Thank you so much. Mahalo nui.

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CHAIR SINENCI: Okay. Mahalo. Members, any questions for the testifier? Thank you for joining us this morning.

MS. MCKINLEY: If anyone else would like to testify, this is your opportunity, please approach the podium.

CHAIR SINENCI: It looks like Lisa will testify now.

MS. DARCY: Mahalo, Chair. Thank you very much. Good morning everyone. My name is Lisa Darcy. I'm the founder of Share Your Mana and I changed my mind, so I think what I'd like to do today is testify on the Safe Parking, which is the second agenda item today. And I just want to provide a little bit of context and education for this project. If most of you don't know, haven't seen me over the last 20 years in here trying to educate and testify to bring a lot of information about people who are living unhoused. Then I'm going to try and drop it down and I got like, what, two minutes left. So, here's kind of what happened, I work with Kelly King, our Advisory Committee, and we have some of the Advisory Committee members here today, to create a safe parking. As the former Executive Director at Ho'omoana, we created a actual...a campsite which was going to integrate people who are living unhoused. It's been caught up in court litigation for many, many, many, many years. So, Councilmember King and our team put together a project which integrates the language and the needs of individuals who are going through this here on Maui. So, when I saw that there was...the resources that are being used are from off island, I want to...want to caution and educate this...this...this body, again, to say, please, please use the people who have been doing this, who have been going through this, that...that know how to make it successful. And I know how unpopular I am, and I could even go as far as say as highly disliked I am. And I...and I appreciate that and I understand it. I very much understand it. But what we do is we ask the...the difficult questions. And we take the hurt that so many people have had for all...for many, many years, we digest it, and we try and actually put it into a place where we can all work together. You're going to need people like that to do this work. The...the previous testifier said that he's supporting somebody because they skillfully set aside personal feelings. I don't usually even witness that in this group here. And if this team has so much difficulty setting aside some personal things to focus on the issues, you're going to need people like Share Your Mana. Because we are not offended by that, we understand it. It does hurt. We sting. We cry like everyone else. We mourn like everyone else almost every day that things get taken and the harm that happens. And yet we show up every day and hope that this team, who has the capacity to form somewhere safe, do the first of its kind here. We...we depend on you to set your...your difficulties aside. And last Friday we were in this Chamber holding signs. We did not even know this meeting was happening today. We just said, we've got to start showing up and being seen. We have hope. There are days...there are a lot of days I talk people off the ledge. They don't have hope. It happens every day. I understand the ledge. I've been on the ledge. We're fighting for our lives. We need safe sleeping now. This is fundamental to human right. It's a human need. I really, really want to encourage this body, as this project goes forward, to not take it out like it happened in the last go around with the last Administration. And to please not diminish the voices of the people

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that have put in decades of work. It is to make this entire county successful, and stronger, and we are here and dedicated to that. So, please if you don't like me, come dancing with me one night. We'll see, maybe that'll change. If not, just understand we're...we're here to have those difficult conversations. We also have a lot of joy and a lot of fun. So . . . *(timer sounds)*. . . I welcome collaboration. And again, our phone isn't ringing and our email box is not full. And it...there's a lot of unanswered emails that are going to make this project successful and you need to address. And if you ignore them, you're just going to throw more money down the drain and more people's lives are going to be crushed.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mahalo, Ms. Darcy.

MS. DARCY: Time to stop the cycle.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mahalo for your testimony. Members, any questions for Ms. Darcy? Seeing none. Thank you for being here.

MS. DARCY: One day, somebody ask me a question. It gets...you know I come all these times. Nobody asks me anything. Where'd I get my shirt? Come on.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: *(Audio interference)* --

MS. DARCY: Oh, you come and find out.

CHAIR SINENCI: Thank you. Ms. McKinley?

MS. MCKINLEY: Chair, the next testifier is Mary Ann Pahuko...Pahukoa, to be followed by Zhan Dudoit Lindo.

CHAIR SINENCI: Aloha, Ms. Pahukoa.

MS. PAHUKOA: Aloha, Members. I'm here to testify in support of Resolution 25-50 confirming the appointment of Jonathan Likeke Scheuer. His...Dr. Scheuer's expertise and professionalism makes him a priceless leader to our Maui County, to our water resource management, and to policy, and advocacy, not just here on Maui but throughout Hawai'i. Just here to speak on his good character and the way he consistently demonstrates professionalism in his kuleana. The way he conducts meetings with clarity, structure, and respect for his members and...and stakeholders. Whether presiding over, you know, these critical issues with DLNR, he continues to engage in these important and vital meetings. His ability to just, you know, navigate this complex water issues with fairness and integrity is...is truly seen and it's just evident. So, mahalo for your time. Mahalo for supporting him, his...his knowledge of water law, and policy, and community just brings balance and informed decision making to...to the...to the floor. Mahalo for your time.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mahalo, Ms. Pahukoa. Members, any questions for Ms. Pahukoa this morning? Seeing none. Thank you for calling in.

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MS. MCKINLEY: Chair, the next testifier is Zhan Dudoit Lindo, to be followed by Maya Marquez.

CHAIR SINENCI: Aloha, Ms. Lindo. *(pause)* Is she on?

-MS. LINDO: Aloha and mahalo for this opportunity, Chair and Members of the Council. My name is Zhantell Lindo. I am testifying on my own behalf and I am the Chair of the Commission on Healing Solutions for Homelessness but I am not testifying as an official member of that commission today. First off I would like to testify on the support of Likeke Scheuer to the East Maui Water Authority. I don't know him personally but I have had the honor and privilege to be taught by him in certain legal primary classes and leadership classes. I have had the opportunity to witness some of his awesome projects and...and his...just his vast knowledge and heart. And what I can say is that when somebody is a great teacher and they can empower people who know nothing about water and nothing about the issue, but leave that place feeling empowered that we can all rise up together and want to learn more about how to steward this kuleana well, I think that's one wonderful person to have on our team. And so I just would like to be in support of him and also just witnessing some of the recordings of the meetings, and...and things like that, he's...he's a very organized leader. I...I watch him, not just empower people, but have strategies, and so much education, and confidence in what he's doing, and a heart for our people that is just a really great mix. So, I just wanted to support that. The second thing was I want to speak to the pilot project for safe-sleeping parking lots. And I want to commend this Council for always being thorough, even the last Council, in the way that you vet out things. I think, for me, what I would like to do, and I know that Member Sinenci and this Council has been super supportive, is ensure that our commission...the county's commission on homelessness has a very secured and...and a opportunity at the seat to discuss these things prior to any decisions being made. The last time this happened, our Commission wasn't included in any part of it; not for the vendor, not to pick it up...not to give input on it. And I think...I think that's a real disservice to our county and to what you've created so that our people can have a say. Secondly, I also would like to say that as much as I would like us to look at people on our islands and in our county to help run this, it has to be people who can...we can collaborate with, who...who get along, and who...who are people who are very solution-oriented. We all know the problem. What we need is more people who are stating solutions and committed to that kind of passion. And so I...I...I like Lisa. I don't...I think she does a great job in the way she does things, and all that. But I also want to remind us that the fact that...of the reason that the last thing didn't pan out is we just have to make sure the lines are not misconstrued. That if we utilize this commission to help make the decision, or any part of that, then those people cannot also be hired to run the project. That's...you know that's just not how things work. So, I just want to thank you guys for everything that you do. I also want to say that Molokai...our Kaunakakai Baptist Church has implemented a safe sleeping zone in our...on our island for the last year and a half and it works perfectly. And we have some very good opporutnities. They've gotten no money or help from any kind. They just doing it with donations and at some point we will come so that we can expand that. But if you want an example of a grassroots safe sleeping area, I invite you to

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Molokai to check it out, so mahalo.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mahalo, Ms. Lindo. We have a question for you from Member...okay a bunch, Rawlins-Fernandez, Member Paltin, and Pro Tem Kama. Go ahead.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. Aloha, Ms. Lindo, mahalo for your testimony this morning.

MS. LINDO: Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: So, to clarify, are you inviting the Council to a site visit on Molokai?

MS. LINDO: Absolutely.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: All right. Chair Lee, you heard that? Okay. All right. Member Sinenci...or Chair...Chair Sinenci, perhaps it can be a site visit under your Committee.

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay. We'll...Staff, we got that?

MS. LINDO: And...and, Member Rawlins-Fernandez, can I just say that the reason I would...as much as I just like you guys all come to Molokai, I just wanted to kind of give some examples of really grassroots, small, micro solutions that end up combining to be a big solution on our island. And they're being done without any money. Of course, we need some and we could use some but for right now it's just being done. And I think if you could get on eyes on what's happening, we would dispell all the in-the-box thinking and...and look at some real solutions that benefit the...the specific demographical...geographical area.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo for that clarification. Mahalo, Chair.

CHAIR SINENCI: Next we have a question for you from Member Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Ms. Dudoit Lindo. I was wondering if you can clarify at the Kaunakakai Baptist Church do they let them in to use the facilities or do they rent out portable toilets?

MS. LINDO: No, the church saw a need because they were flooding our County parks. And...and then the Parks bathroom during COVID shutdown. So, what the church did was they...the membership dedicated a certain amount of their offering every month to rent a porta-potty, which they open to the community. And then the church also opened up their facility in order for them to sleep in the corridors and...and places where they could away from the elements. But can I just say that the other thing that is happening right now is that the church is finding so much opportunity to love on these people and agencies are now coming to the church during the day to interview them and...and really comfortably approach this, that one of the things that we noticed is there is a disconnect

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that because we give them one safe place for sleep under the HUD guidelines, because they now have a permanent place or temp...semi-permanent place to sleep, they no longer qualify for housing. So, that's what I kind of want you guys to see. Like if somebody is able to sleep at our church and they say that, that we give them a safe place, they no longer qualify in certain areas because they're not technically unsheltered for 90 days or more.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And my second question is what is the capacity of Kaunakakai Baptist Church?

MS. LINDO: So, our total capacity for the buildings is 200. But what we do is we've creatively allowed them to stay out in the yard area that is fenced up so that they can be safe. And so that's pretty limitless. But right now we're seeing...we have about nine of them that are...every night sleep there. There's probably a total of about 30 homeless in our community. We feed, in the same facility, anywhere from 17 to 20 a week. And during storm times, when we open for shelter and open up our chapel, we're able to take all 30 into feed and house during the storms.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you.

CHAIR SINENCI: Next we have a question for you from Pro Tem Kama.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you, Chair. Thank you for being here, Ms. Lindo. What is the...what is the area in which the safe parking area utilizes? Is it on a half an acre, a quarter of an acre, or ---

MS. LINDO: You know, I...I think...I think it's a little under an acre. It's right in the middle of...I mean it's right on the...in the main town of Kaunakakai --

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Uh-huh.

MS. LINDO: -- in between all of our ballparks. So, I think it's right under an acre. But I want to say that all of the people we have right now, we only have one that is in their car that comes back and forth. And the sleep safing...safe hours, we doing...or we have been doing is 9:00 at night to 6:00 in the morning. But we trying to expand to be able to do 6:00 to 6:00. They also have a storage area that we have for their...their stuff.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: So, I have another question. So, you know, the program on Molokai and there's a program in...in Waimānalo that is operated by...by people of faith and none of them use government money. It's all by donations of their members and their community, things like that. So, you know, as we move forward with this, sometimes government gets in the way of itself in terms of trying to help, you know, our community. So, you mentioned earlier that maybe at some point in time, you know, the church may come and ask for county's assistance. Did I hear that right?

MS. LINDO: I think that the church is...if we're going to use us as a template, there's going to be a need to look at how funding can be available to not just us, but other small

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churches and people who can do small things at a time, yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Right. Right. Okay. Okay. I got that. Thank you. Thank you, Chair.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Chair?

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay.

MS. LINDO: Thank you.

CHAIR SINENCI: Chair Lee, go ahead.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Thank you. Good morning, Ms. Lindo. With regard --

MS. LINDO: Good morning.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: -- with regard to the churches, I think you may remember like six years ago I think you came to the...the Kahului Union Church, yeah, remember? And one of the reasons why we had that gathering was Councilmember Tasha Kama called together all these churches to meet at that Kahului Union (*audio interference*) because I had put in the budget half a million dollars for the homeless and, specifically, for churches to help the homeless. And then the reason why Member Kama and I were concerned was not one penny was being spent of that half a million dollars. And one of the reasons why, we were told, is because churches had to get liability insurance. Is that a problem? Do you know?

MS. LINDO: That's going to be a problem for smaller churches. So...so, I just want to...to answer your question, I just need to say this. Had about 200 pastors at that meeting that we went to. And the biggest and then the...the Commission on Healing Solutions also did a TIG to figure out why faith-based communities weren't more active in...in the homeless issue. And what...and we going to offer up some recommendations, but what we realize is that we look at the problem as so massive that we try to give out massive pots of money to one entity to furnish the solution. And what we realize is if you going for the churches and faith-based support, it needs to be an umbrella that can easily distribute funds between small churches, that don't have the capacity to manage large amounts of money, and figure out a way to just give them...they're like the responders, right? And so we need to figure out...or I...our commission, or whoever, how do we get this money to the responders so they can do the work? And what most churches don't have is the administrative or grant capacity to apply for and then manage these grants in a way that won't get them into trouble. And so all that hassle so grants can cover the...the liability, and all that stuff. But all that...all that pre, like, administrative stuff and the post-administrative stuff is super hard. The response going to be easy. It's what can we do to come around them and create that. And then I also want to say that liability...our church was lucky because we were able to furnish our own liability insurance here to include some creative solutions, like it doesn't necessarily have to be to house people. But what we did was buy an event insurance that just so happen to have one event

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single day of the year for 365 days of the year. So, there are creative solutions, if we look for 'em. But a small church with a congregation of 30 people or...or 40 people is not going have that capacity or ability to do it. So, that's where I interested. I think the problem going be impacted...the solution going be impacted so much more if we can figure our ways for the little guys to be able to respond to this in...in the way that best fits their ability.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Thank you. But I have one last question...or comment, actually. You're not going to have any problem getting funding from the county, that's not the challenge. The challenge is all the administrative stuff you just talked about. But luckily we have a commission on homelessness, right, which...of which you chair and of which you can champion. And secondly, we also have a committee that Member Rawlins-Fernandez chairs, I think you know who she is, and she is about to tackle grants management. And maybe in that process can look at finding...or incentivizing umbrella agencies for this purpose. Okay. Thank you.

MS. LINDO: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Thank you, everybody.

MS. LINDO: And...and can I also just add in that to...to...to really look at when the Council allocates money through the budget for things like this, I...I, personally, love Director Tshako, and the staff is awesome, and all that, but when you funnel money through the Department of Human Concerns and it comes under that...that kind of specific, churches and small organizations are required to do a three-year audit. And so some departments don't require that, but you got to be careful where you put the money into the budget for these things because those three-year audits are not going to be affordable, straight off the bat, for smaller organizations who can't comply to that, so just --

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Yeah, but that's --

MS. LINDO: -- a thought.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: -- the reason why you have an umbrella agency, to take care of those responsibilities, the audits and so forth. Okay. Thank you. But as far as Director Tshako, we'll leave her up to you too.

CHAIR SINENCI: Members --

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay. Thank you.

CHAIR SINENCI: -- did -- did you guys want to invite Ms. Lindo to be a resource?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yes, we do.

CHAIR SINENCI: Are you able to stick around for the discussion later?

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MS. LINDO: Actually, Chair, I...I...I would be happy to stick around. I just want to make clear that you did invite the commission to be represented at this meeting.

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay.

MS. LINDO: But we did not, officially, appoint me. So, if I stay on --

CHAIR SINENCI: . . .*(Inaudible)*. . . --

MS. LINDO: -- as a resource it would...basically just on my own experience. So, I don't know if that would help you.

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay. Any objections?

COUNCILMEMBERS: No objections.

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay. No objections. Thank you, Ms. Lindo. Again, under 18(A) of the Rules of the Council, no objections?

COUNCILMEMBERS: No objections.

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay. Thank you. Ms. McKinley?

MS. MCKINLEY: Chair, the next testifier is Maya Marquez, to be followed by Jason Medina.

CHAIR SINENCI: Aloha, Ms. Marquez.

MS. MARQUEZ: Good morning, Councilmembers. I'm a little short. Okay. Enough is enough, we've been meeting and talking about homelessness for how long now? Years. And where are we? The streets are still full of people and people are still dying. Why are we still sitting here having this conversations with no solutions. Every day people are dying on our streets. People who have names, families, and stories. And what do we do? We meet, we talk, we waste more time. When will we stop pretending that discussing problems endlessly is actually solving anything? When will we stop talking and...about studies and numbers and start talking about real solutions? When will we start caring about the lives of the people suffering right in front of us? I stood here in October with a board of names. People I knew, people who died because we, as a community, didn't do enough. I was going to bring that same board today but now it's even worse. The list of those we've lost has grown longer and not because of a natural disaster, but because of the continued failure of this system to offer even the most basic support. So, I ask you, when will you care? Will it take a loved one of yours dying on the street for you to finally take this seriously? Will it take someone you know losing their life for you to act? When will we stop ignoring the cries for help not only for those on the streets but from those of us who are trying to help them? When will you listen? I'm beyond frustrated. I don't want to keep hearing about new plans and studies when they don't lead to anything real. People are dying right now and what do we have to show for it?

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Nothing. More meetings, more talking, more nothing. I came here today to tell you that we need a safe parking program yesterday. We need a place for people to park, to rest, to have a chance at survival today. How much longer are we going to wait? How many more lives have to be lost before you finally take action? I could come here with statistics, names, and pictures of the people we've lost but we have enough data, enough words. What we need now is action. People continue to die. And while we discuss, they suffer. Please stop talking and start acting. Thank you.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mahalo, Ms. Marquez. Members, any questions for Ms. Marquez? Seeing none. Thank you for being here.

MS. MCKINLEY: Chair, the next testifier is Jason Medina, to be followed by Tina Marcellino.

CHAIR SINENCI: Aloha, Miss...Mr. Medina.

MR. MEDINA: Aloha, Chair. Aloha everybody. Council, good to see you again. I'm happy to be back. I'm just...I wanted to speak on Resolution 25-50 and as well...is it...agenda 1(2) [sic]. 25-50, I stand behind getting Jonathan Likeke Scheuer into his position in March. He has a lot of ike on wai. It's...it's very important and someone with that much knowledge should definitely be appointed. That's all I have to say about that. As far as the Pilot Project Using County Parking Lots For Human Habitation [sic], yes, I agree with Ms., what was her name, Lindo, I believe. She said a lot of things that I agree with and I'm going to look into the Molokai sleeping zone. And also Maya as well, my partner Maya she is a very strong advocate for all of our houseless and vulnerable, as well as myself, and she's reaching a limit. It's...it's also time. I think it's time...and we should leave this in certain people's hands that are local. Like I could recommend Mō'i Kawaakoa who's doing lots of work on Holomua and who is also at Puano...Pu'uhonua O Nēnē when it started. And I believe very much in her leadership. And even though it needs a little refinement, I...I stand behind her as a...as a good leader because she leads from a very...it...it's informed, as far as Hawaiian culture is concerned. And I think that's where some of the failings...or shortcomings in Pu'uhonua O Nēnē popped up because it was not Hawaiian-informed, it was not culturally as relevant. Leadership, it's very important. I remember standing here talking about leadership before. And proper leadership is...is probably the most important part. It's...we'd love to partner with anybody who comes from the states but they have to have the same kind of ike. I believe they need the knowledge to even talk to the people that are here and see what's going on. And I also want to make a quick note of...I read the...the packet, briefly, and it mentioned that there are some companies that are...you know they...they're getting money for...basically, I think I need to have a meeting with Lori Tshako, that's about all. But they're getting funding for doing things that we, actually, are on the streets doing; being a part of MRR, doing the water project. I'd like to see what's holding up the people actually getting the water and not for-profit companies. Like Project Vision, actually, saying in their bio...the paperwork I read that we do the water. They do not do the water. And I do the water. I'm with the people and the people know us. And the people are out here and I'm looking at them. So, give the people...the...the people that have boots on the ground, please give them a chance to gather it together and have proper leadership, it's...it's really important. Speaking from a human place, we can

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definitely attract more flies with...with honey than vinegar. And I think that's all about I have to say. Thank you for your time.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mahalo, Mr. Medina. Members, any questions for Jason? Seeing none. Thank you for being here. Huh? Oh.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Chair?

CHAIR SINENCI: Jason, we had a question for you from Member Sugimura. Sorry.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Yeah, thank you. Thank you very much, Jason, for your testimony. I am curious about your statement that...that Project Vision does not do water and that you do it. What do you mean by that?

MR. MEDINA: There's a water project that we started. I was in these Chambers years ago, say about three and a half years ago, with a video saying, we need to do this water project. And we touched some individuals. And at the time I was working for Project Vision but they said they have received \$200,000 for doing water and street medicine. They have a truck, the truck that I used to use. It is now a dump truck, basically. Glorified dump truck on site for Pu'uhonua O Nēnē. It does not go out with an IBC tote. It does not give water to the people of Maui. I've been keeping the same schedule for the past three and a half to four years delivering water. And that's why the communities, if we go out to Wahikuli, Olowalu, Kapuali (*phonetic*), aka Cut Mountain. We can go South side, we can go to La Perouse, and North Shore, Holomua. All of the people they can attest to my presence being there consistently giving them water. I've been called wai angel and all kinds of funny stuff. Oh, you guys are a power couple. Maya and I have done the water for the past three and half, four years. No matter what we're...what nonprofit we're a part of, we'll continue. Hope that answers the question. Sorry.

CHAIR SINENCI: Member (*audio interference*) --

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Yeah, you answered the question. So...so, what nonprofit are you with now?

MR. MEDINA: I think as of yesterday...250 people lost their jobs, so I might be jobless as of today. But yesterday was I with MRR, Maui Rapid Response. And it has an umbrella, Maui Grassroots Collective. And so, yeah, I continue doing the work. And we end up getting a truck and we have an IBC tote; it's in the parking lot right now. And we're going to do some water stuff today.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: So, Maui Rapid Response and not Project Vision.

MR. MEDINA: Not Project Vision, but Maui Rapid Response, yes.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Okay. So, I guess that's the question for the Department on the grant, is what you're questioning, for Project Vision. Thank you.

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MR. MEDINA: Yeah. Okay.

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay.

MR. MEDINA: Welcome.

CHAIR SINENCI: Thank you, Jason.

MR. MEDINA: Thank you.

CHAIR SINENCI: Oh, we had another question for you. Member Paltin.

MR. MEDINA: Yes, Councilmember Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you Mr. Medina --

CHAIR SINENCI: Medina.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: -- for your testimony. I was wondering, have you ever submitted anything in writing based on what you are saying to the County, whether it's Corporation Counsel, or Human Concerns, or the County Council?

MR. MEDINA: Personally, no, but I have been part of groups that have. I'm...I think you have to clarify; like in writing a petition, or asking for funds, or --

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Like an email. I mean, I don't know the details but it kind of sounds like fraud if one entity is getting money but not doing the work and another entity is doing the work. So, I mean, if the agencies within the County of Maui, if it's been brought to their attention with it...with writing...in writing.

MR. MEDINA: Okay. Then I will continue. I think we've had some meetings that were set up. But I haven't had meetings with Ms. Tsuhako who I know is in like...has some control of the funds. And I've been meaning to have a meeting with, also, Chair...Member Sinenci because he wrote part of the original grant that got us to get to the water in the first place. So, I...I will definitely get on that right now. I...I thought that part of the nonprofit I was part of, we were edging and making calls but I'll...I'll make a formal request.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And...and to your knowledge...like you're doing this work and Project Vision is not doing any water delivery?

MR. MEDINA: This is correct. I see --

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay.

MR. MEDINA: -- yeah, I see the trucks and I know the places. And I ask around, who was out there, have you seen anybody this week, have they come to help you. And we have

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pretty good relationship with lots of people that are outside.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you. Chair, you think it would be possible to write a transmittal to follow up on that and, you know, the legality aspect of who's getting the money and who's doing the work? In writing.

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay. Staff, you got that? Yeah, we can do that.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you.

MR. MEDINA: Much appreciated.

CHAIR SINENCI: Member Pro Tem, I --

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: I have a question.

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay. Sorry.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Did you have something, Chair? Did you --

CHAIR SINENCI: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: What?

CHAIR SINENCI: Sorry, Members, I been urged that your questions must be clarifying. If not I...I'm going to have to keep asking them to be a resource under 18(A) of --

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Oh.

CHAIR SINENCI: -- the Rules of the Council. So, keep your --

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Okay. Well, you tell me if my question is not clarifying.

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay. Yeah. Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: So, you mentioned that you were doing the water delivery.

MR. MEDINA: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: And you've been doing it for the past three or four years. So, where do you get your water from? And do you have to pay for it?

MR. MEDINA: Now, we have a different process. We were very...we were very fortunate to have another foundation who owns an AWG, an atmospheric water generator, speak with us because they saw us doing the work. And the...they're called Noah's Arc Foundation, just to put them out there. And, yeah, produces 300 gallons a day and we're able to park it somewhere...park this contraption somewhere. But that's where we get our

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water from. And currently it runs off of diesel but we are working on solarizing it so that it can --

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Okay.

MR. MEDINA: -- be the first of its kind on Maui.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: So, you don't have to pay for the water yourself...yourself.

MR. MEDINA: Just in terms of diesel, so no.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: For the gas...for the...to put in the truck.

MR. MEDINA: I do out of pocket, but Noah's Arc Foundation, we have an agreement, they're going to help me with diesel for a while, so...

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Okay. Okay. Well, thank you. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SINENCI: Thank you, Pro Tem Kama. Okay.

MS. MCKINLEY: Chair, the next testifier is Tina Marcellino, to be followed by James Copeland.

CHAIR SINENCI: How many more testifiers?

MS. MCKINLEY: Chair, including...there's four right now --

CHAIR SINENCI: Four more.

MS. MCKINLEY: -- at the beginning of the meeting.

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay. Okay. Can you repeat their name?

MS. MCKINLEY: Tina Marcellino in the Chamber.

CHAIR SINENCI: Ms. Marcellino? Okay. We can come back to her.

MS. MCKINLEY: Chair, the next testifier is James Copeland, also in the Chamber.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mr. Copeland. And then who else after Mr. Copeland?

MS. MCKINLEY: Carlotta Welsh.

CHAIR SINENCI: And then Mr. Welch [sic]...or Ms. Welch [sic], and then --

MS. MCKINLEY: And then on Teams, Director of Communications.

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay.

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MR. COPELAND: Hello, my name is James Copeland.

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay. You can go ahead and speak...oh.

MR. COPELAND: My name is James Copeland. If you go down the highway, let's say you going to go to Pā'ia, you make that right turn, there didn't used to be anything there. It was just weeds and...and...and what have you. There was nothing there. I've been there for a year here at the tent and I grew that myself. I planted all those plants by seed. So, now, nothing. There's nothing. All that's been...took it away. All that work I put into that. I've got maybe...and my own money, alone, \$5,000 for the soil, you know, and...and...and products to grow food that we were eating there. Okay. We don't have that no more. We don't have...we can't grow plants there anymore which is kind of strange. So, now all we do is live on a bunch of rocks which is...how would you like to have that? Would you guys like to just live on rocks. There's no plant life there now. It's been cut up. They just cut everything up. There's no plant life there anymore. So, how would you like to live at your house with no plants, or a lawn, or...or...or...or your roses, what have you? You...there's no water. Now, there's no water for us to drink. We got to get drinking water sent there to us. So, I think the water thing there is pretty much...if you can't eat and you can't drink, well then you can't live, pretty much how it goes these days. That's why I'm here. I'm kind of mad because they...after I worked my butt off for a year making that happen, making that place look somewhat...I mean, I'm talking flowers, I'm talking eatable substances that you can eat. I made it happen there for that. Now, they just cut it out, you know we just got cut off. That whole place to be cut off. So, we don't have no plants anymore. We don't have hardly...we got a place for water. We got to buy water to...to...to...and...and tanks to bring in there for us to drink and to shower with. We can't take a shower, you know. There's pretty much 60 people there that can't take a shower. How would you like to wake up in the morning and not be able to take a shower? Or get home from work because we all work there. Okay. And not be able to take a shower, you know. It's...it's....it's pretty hard. I mean, it would be pretty frustrating on you wouldn't...wouldn't you think folks. That...that...that's why I'm here. I...I got...I got...I got mad because you're taking away our...the...the...the resource that we . . .(timer sounds). . . how do live. So --

CHAIR SINENCI: Thank you, Mr. Copeland.

MR. COPELAND: -- that's why I'm here too.

CHAIR SINENCI: Thank you for being here.

MR. COPELAND: Thank you.

CHAIR SINENCI: Thank you for your testimony. Members, any questions for Mr. Copeland? Seeing none. Thank you.

MS. MCKINLEY: Chair, the next testifier is Carlotta Welsh, to be followed by Director of Communications.

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CHAIR SINENCI: Aloha, Ms. Welsh.

MS. WELSH: Well, I live at Pu O Ne...O Nēnē...Pu'ūho O Nēnē [sic] and I had a hard time with life before I began to stay there. I...I couldn't live in a place because they had taken away my SSI...my Social Security. They had taken that away because I wouldn't see one doctor. I just got tired of seeing all the doctors because I'm bipolar. So, I had a hard time. I finally found this place to live and now I feel good, my heart is warm. I have food every day. I take a shower. We're...we're supposed to get little houses, we've been waiting on that. I really hope that they come off with this. I'm sure by then they'll have to probably put water lines in. But the place has done me a world of good. I had no place to sleep. I was sleeping in the woods and it was a very dangerous place I was staying. I was living in Kehikinui [sic] and it's bad out there. It's hard for one to survive out there alone. Anyways, I hope that you take care of this parking problem and God bless you all. Have a wonderful day.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mahalo, Ms. Welsh, for your testimony. Members, any questions? Seeing none. Thank you for being here. Staff, do we need to take a quick break? I don't see anybody online. Okay. You guys want to take your morning break? Okay. Okay. Members, the WASSP Committee meeting is in --

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Till what time . . .(inaudible). . . --

CHAIR SINENCI: -- recess to 10:20. . . (gavel). . .

RECESS: 10:10 a.m.

RECONVENE: 10:22 a.m.

CHAIR SINENCI: . . .(gavel). . . Will the WASSP Committee meeting of Tuesday, February 25th, 2025 please come back to order. And we'll continue in the lineup for testimony.

MS. MCKINLEY: Chair, the next testifier is Director of Communications, to be followed by Faith Chase.

CHAIR SINENCI: Director of Communications.

MS. MCKINLEY: Chair, I think they dropped off the call. The next testifier is Faith Chase, to be followed by the caller with the last four digits 5012.

CHAIR SINENCI: Aloha, Ms. Chase.

MS. CHASE: Aloha, Chair. Aloha, Committee Members. So, do I go in order one by one because I'm going to testify on both?

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CHAIR SINENCI: Yes, please.

MS. CHASE: Okay. So, I really do appreciate Jonathan Scheuer's...I can't see the...the gallery. I'm not sure if he's in the gallery today in person. I really appreciate his professionalism, his diplomacy, the clarity, his research, his knowledge. My goodness, he wrote a book on water, right. He knows that I have certain issues in his private consultation that bring me a little bit of concern. It is relative to the East Maui watershed because we have a experiment with (*audio interference*) project going on. And there's a lot of questions and there's open litigation about it. So, I just need to get on public record, I have not heard anybody else bring that topic to this Council in the past two years. I need to keep doing that, because we need help. So, that's my testimony for Jonathan Scheuer. All other things aside, he's absolutely excellent. My next topic, the Safe Park...Safe Sleeping Parking Lot, we know that outside consultation for agencies, what have you, haven't been successful in cultural sensitivity, cultural sensibility, cultural applications. And so I am very worrisome, not knowing anything about this. I'm actually happy that it's back on the agenda but you have Share Your Mana organization individ...Advisory Councilmembers in the gallery. I missed their testimony but I can't say enough that they are the experts. They're the boots on the ground. They're the experienced individuals. There's absolutely no way you could go forward without asking for their input, their critique, their analyzing of this approach. And so I've met individually...spoken individually with Chair Johnson...with Councilmember Johnson and with yourself, Chair, about this matter. And so I think sometimes when it comes to funding, it's really sad. We see that in our hometown, Councilmember Sinenci, that you have so many nonprofits going after the same bucket of money. And sometimes it's just...it's a really unfortunate hustle that leaves others behind. Share Your Mana is completely voluntary. They've never received any funding, definitely tried to get some grants in the past and was unsuccessful just because the bandwidth isn't there...the capacity needs to be increased. And that reason, I can testify to that. I volunteer every (*audio interference*) and that's because it's always doing damage control. And so I'm going to end quickly with not using any kind of angry voice, I am not angry. And I was invited to this...to this County Council Committee hearing because I'm a taxpaying citizen, right, and you all work for me. And I just have to say that Councilmember Sugimura, this is your last term. Are you going to leave this term having done nothing for the houselessness issue? I mean, that would just be such a shame because I know that it's something that can be done. You guys can come together collectively and do something, and there's no excuses. One of the last suggestions I made at the last time I testified was you all sit in a room and you don't leave until there's a solution. Whether it be a two-day retreat at a fancy Maui Arts & Cultural Center, or Cameron Center [*sic*], or what have you; you do something and you...you produce something. You have action steps after. I could not be more serious. And again, I'm not being angry. I'm being serious. Thank you.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mahalo, Ms. Chase. Members, any questions for Ms. Chase? Seeing none. Ms. McKinley? Thank you.

MS. MCKINLEY: Chair, the next testifier is the person logged in on the phone on last four digits 5012.

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CHAIR SINENCI: 5012? If you can go ahead and unmute? This is the last testifier.

TESTIFIER: Yeah, hello.

CHAIR SINENCI: Yes, go ahead. We can hear you.

TESTIFIER: Oh, yeah. I'm on the record here. Yeah, hey, Shawn [sic] --

CHAIR SINENCI: Shane.

TESTIFIER: Dude, you just gave your...your...your poker face away with that last question on the last session when --

CHAIR SINENCI: What's your --

TESTIFIER: -- Paltin mentioned the word fraud about the...the...the...the monies going to the nonprofits where they should be taking the liability [sic] for the homeless for us. That's why the County can't, and won't, and are advised not to have this program under their umbrella because it's a huge liability. Yes, it is.

CHAIR SINENCI: . . .*(Inaudible)*. . . --

TESTIFIER: Smart lawyers now days --

CHAIR SINENCI: Who? Can you go ahead and...what's your name?

TESTIFIER: Shawn [sic], is that your name?

CHAIR SINENCI: What's...what's your name?

TESTIFIER: Shane.

CHAIR SINENCI: No, no, what's your --

TESTIFIER: Shawn [sic].

CHAIR SINENCI: -- your name for the record?

TESTIFIER: Don *(phonetic)* from Ha'ikū.

CHAIR SINENCI: Don from Ha'ikū.

TESTIFIER: Keep it anonymous here.

CHAIR SINENCI: Oh, okay.

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TESTIFIER: But...yeah, this parking lot thing, you...I think you guys are just trying to justify the monies that came in '22 to support that program. Is that correct?

CHAIR SINENCI: We're getting an update from the Administration today, Don.

TESTIFIER: Oh, I know. But who...who called you when you put your hand on the phone in that last session when Paltin mentioned the word fraud and then you got real nervous. You...you...you...you're not that good of a poker player, just saying. You gave your --

CHAIR SINENCI: Can we...okay. Don --

TESTIFIER: -- your hand away.

CHAIR SINENCI: Thank you.

TESTIFIER: And so who --

CHAIR SINENCI: Thanks for your testimony.

TESTIFIER: -- who called you?

CHAIR SINENCI: Who you --

TESTIFIER: Okay.

CHAIR SINENCI: All right. Thank you.

TESTIFIER: *(audio interference)*

CHAIR SINENCI: Next, please.

MS. MCKINLEY: Chair, there's currently no one else to testify at the beginning of the meeting.

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay. Can you...go ahead and make a last...last call. Now, everybody like testify.

MS. MCKINLEY: If anyone would like to testify, please approach the podium now.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mo'i, you...you guys don't want to --

MS. MCKINLEY: Or raise your hand on Teams.

CHAIR SINENCI: -- testify for the second item?

MS. KAWAAKOA: Yeah *(audio interference)* --

CHAIR SINENCI: You like...you like wait? Can you guys wait for the second item?

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UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: . . .*(Inaudible)*. . . --

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay. Thank you.

MS. MCKINLEY: Chair, seeing no one else indicating a desire to testify right now.

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay. So, we can close...Members, without objection, I'll close testimony for the first...at the beginning of the meeting.

COUNCILMEMBERS: No objections.

. . . END PUBLIC TESTIMONY AT BEGINNING OF MEETING . . .

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay. Thank you. Thank you, Mo'i, for...for waiting for the next one. Thank you. Okay. Okay. Members, moving on. We have...oh. We'll take you guys after the first item. Thank you. Members, let's proceed to our first agenda item. Sorry, we have two items today. So, we want to get to that second item. We have two more presentations after this one, yeah.

**RESOLUTION 25-50, APPROVING THE APPOINTMENT OF JONATHAN
LIKEKE SCHEUER TO THE EAST MAUI REGIONAL COMMUNITY BOARD**
(WASSP-5(1))

CHAIR SINENCI: Resolution 25-50, Approving The Appointment Of Jonathan Likeke Scheuer To The East Maui Regional Community Board. Members, Resolution 25-50's purpose is to approve Jonathan Likeke Scheuer's appointment to the East Maui Regional Community Board as the Hawaiian Homes Commission's representative for a term expiring on March 31st, 2030. In accordance with Section 8-19.2(1) for the Revised Charter of the County of Maui (1983), as amended, and Section 2.60.040, Maui County Code. Members, attached to Resolution 25-50, there's a letter from the Chairman of the Hawaiian Homes Commission appointing Dr. Scheuer as its designated representative. Members, we have Dr. Jonathan Likeke Scheuer available for any questions. And Dr. Scheuer, for your information, was born and raised in Hawai'i, works on environmental and Native Hawaiian issues,. He is currently Chair and Hawaiian Homes Commission representative to the 'Aha Wai O Maui Hikina. We also have Ms. Cherie-Noelle Ka'anana, welcome, a Native Hawaiian born and raised on O'ahu who serves as the Water Program Specialist at the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands to explain the selection process. Since joining the Department in 2023 her work has centered on the implementation and oversight of the Hawaiian Homes Commission's Water Policy Plan. Her prior work examined the complex impacts of cultural diaspora demonstrating her commitment to supporting indigenous communities. This experience aligns with her passion of fulfilling Prince Jonah Kūhiō Kalaniana'ole's mission throughout the Pae 'Āina. So, with that we'll ask for some opening remarks from Dr. Scheuer, please.

MR. SCHEUER: Aloha mai kākou. Chair Sinenci, Members of the County Council, and this Committee, and members of the public. Mahalo nui for having me here. It's a long day

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and you have critical items before you, so I'll make my remarks very brief. I'm humbled to even be here...and to have the opportunity to have already served for a time in this role and the opportunity again with the unanimous support of the Hawaiian Homes Commission to serve a second term. As you all very well know, when 64 percent of the voters of Maui County called for the creation of the East Maui Water Authority and its Governing Board, which we now refer to as the 'Aha Wai O Maui Hikina, the mandate in the Charter was clear that we are to acquire water delivery systems and the water licenses for East Maui. But to...the due diligence on how to do that and how that relationship will evolve between the County, the various communities on Maui that depend on this water, where the water is from, and the existing operators and users of this system were not mapped out. So, it's been our Board of 11, really dedicated and talented individuals, who've been trying to work that out. The three things that we focused on in the last couple of years, one is just the basic setting up of a new County department, hiring staff, trying to, you know, do the basics of organizing our operations. Secondly, and unexpectedly, we spent a decent amount of the final quarter of last year when the Department of Land and Natural Resources, and actually through its Chair, proposed issuing a long-term water license to the current operator for 30 years which would have foreclosed what this County and the voters asked us to do. So, we spent a lot of energy and focus letting people know about that and organizing to make sure that at least the opportunity for us to secure the future that the voters asked us for could be explored; and so we were successful on that. And then going out of that effort, we've been participating in preliminary discussions led by Mayor Bissen that are among the county...the current operators to see whether or not there can be a cooperative and collaborative approach to the Board of Land and Natural Resources. I can't say a lot about what's been going on other than they've been in good faith and productive. And so we're grateful to Mahi Pono and their participation as well as to the Mayor's leadership on that matter. That's what's occupied us so far. We have a lot to do. I don't know exactly where we will be in 2030; exactly how this relationship is going to work out; and what's going to make the most cultural, ecological, hydrological sense. But I do know that I'm honored to sit with this group of leaders, primarily, who come from Maui Hikina. And I know their commitment to find a solution that will serve all of Maui's people. And to be asked by them to have been their chair has been exquisite, and overwhelming, and humbling. So, thank you very much for having me here today and I look forward to any questions.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mahalo, Dr. Scheuer. Before you ask him any questions, we'll have Ms. Ka'anana...and she has a quick presentation for the Members.

MS. KA'ANANA: Good morning, Chair Sinenci and Members of the Committee. For the record, Cherie Ka'anana, Water Programs Specialist for Resolution 25-50, Approving The Appointment Of Jonathan Likeke Scheuer To The East Maui Regional Community Board. I'll be going over the context of the Hawaiian Homes Commission seat on this Water Authority. And then I'll be explaining the selection process that we used. Okay. In the November 2022 election, the East Maui Regional Community Board was established by a Maui County Charter amendment that called for the creation of Water Authorities. This Water Authority includes a designated seat for one member who is a representative of the Hawaiian Homes Commission. The addition of this representative

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to County Water Boards and the Water Commission has been a repeated request of beneficiaries and the Hawaiian Homes Commission being the subject of numerous legislative proposals at both state and county levels. This appointment signifies a landmark achievement marking the first action, in the history, since the passage of the Hawaiian Homes Commission that any State or County Water Board has formally included Commission representation. Okay. The 1920 Hawaiian Homes Commission Act set aside 200,000 acres of land to establish a permanent home land to protect and improve the lives of Native Hawaiians. This connection between DHHL and the Water Authority is crucial for collaboration and alignment with DHHL's mission and values as outlined in the Act. Our collaboration also furthers three of the four priority goals in the Hawaiian Home Commission's Water Policy Plan, as shown here. DHHL also has additional interest related to the AMI system. This includes our water reservation request of 11.5 million gallons a day for Keokea, Waiohuli, and Pulehunui, which is shown here in the purple, from 2020 that has not yet been fully granted by the Commission on Water Resource Management. Furthermore, our beneficiaries may exercise constitutionally protected traditional and customary practices related to the water that the State seeks to lease. Historically, the AMI system has dewatered streams relied upon by Maui Hikina community including DHHL lands at Ke'anae and Wailua Nui. Lastly, but not least, DHHL holds a constitutional right to 30 percent of the revenue generated by water leases. Shifting to the selection process and procedure. This procedure was created to provide a workflow and criteria for when there is an upcoming vacancy for this designated seat. As a part of the steps taken to create the selection process, DHHL held a beneficiary consultation to discuss the proposed process and to collect beneficiary feedback. In order to accommodate for all beneficiaries who may reside in Maui County, including beneficiaries on Lāna'i or Molokai, the Department conducted a virtual beneficiary consultation via Zoom. Approximately 3,063 postcards were mailed to all lessees and applicants residing in Maui County to announce this meeting. And the postcard is shown here. Email notification was also sent to approximately 50 million county homestead community leaders. We also created a web page to disseminate information and provide easy access to communication pieces, including a weblink to the meeting and related submittals. A comment period of 30 days followed this consultation and utilizing the comments that we received, staff ensured beneficiaries desired qualities of a representative were also incorporated into the criteria of a potential nominee which are shown here. The procedure for the selection of the Hawaiian Homes Commission representative to the East Maui Regional Community Board was unanimously approved at the December 2024 Hawaiian Homes Commission. The general outline is shown here. To quickly go over it, first, beneficiaries received notice of vacancy through our DHHL website and homestead leaders are notified via email. At the December Hawaiian Homes Commission meeting we also announced the upcoming vacancy during the presentation of our submittal. Secondly, interested applicants complete an application form that is available on our website prior to the posted deadline. This past deadline was January 13th, 2025. Thirdly, staff...DHHL staff internally review the applications and selects the potential representative utilizing guidelines that were decided upon in beneficiary consultation, which I just showed you. And finally, the potential representative is recommended to the Hawaiian Homes Commission via submittal by DHHL staff. The commission then approves the nominee to represent DHHL and the Hawaiian Homes Commission. At

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our January commission, Dr. Scheuer was unanimously approved. So, the next slide . . . *(inaudible)*. . . okay. So, these are the steps that we have taken using the selection process, thus far, that I just went over in the previous slide. Kala mai. We are currently on step six. And then thank you for your time. I'm also available for any questions.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mahalo, Ms. Ka'anana. Okay Members, moving on. And just as a reminder, we also received lots of testimony in our eComments. So, if you guys want to just access the eComments, you can see all of that testimony. So, let's begin with our first round of questioning of Mr. Likeke Scheuer. Oh. More testimony? Okay. We'll open...is there anyone else wanting to provide testimony for this item?

. . . BEGIN PUBLIC TESTIMONY FOR RESOLUTION 25-50 . . .

MS. MCKINLEY: Chair, we have three people signed up currently. The first is Moke Bergau, to be followed by Gina Young.

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay. Mr. Bergau. *(pause)*

MR. BERGAU: Aloha kakahiaka, Chair, Councilmembers. Mahalo for your time in...in being here and addressing this. It's a critical appointment for our lifestyle and our life in...in Maui and also Hawai'i nei. Water is a very crucial subject and it must be taken seriously, much more so than how it has been operating for the past 100 years. And at this moment, Dr. Scheuer has shown his...his ability in transferring his necessity to others who does not really understand it but only look...look at water as a transactional thing; it goes beyond that. And I do recommend that this board take seriously consideration in appointment of Dr. Scheuer. Mahalo.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mahalo, Mr. Bergau. Members, any questions for Mr. Ber...Bergau this morning? Seeing none. Thank you for your testimony. Ms. McKinley?

MS. MCKINLEY: Chair, the next testifier is Gina Young, to be followed by Trinette Furtado.

MS. YOUNG: Aloha, Chair Sinenci.

CHAIR SINENCI: Good morning.

MS. YOUNG: Good morning, and Members. Thank you for taking up this item today. I submitted a letter in support, so I'll keep it quick. I first want to point out that Dr. Scheuer's broad support is demonstrated by the testimony. We're up to 32 submissions so far, and they just keep coming in. And this is because of his long record as an advocate for DHHL and their mission to protect and improve the lives of Native Hawaiians. In my role as director, I've had the pleasure of working with him. I meet weekly with him and Vice-Chair Nakanelua, typically, for an hour. And for me it's like having free top-notch consultant, very useful. I've also watched Dr. Scheuer as board chair and I was...I'm really impressed by his ability to work with all of the Members and through complex emotional issues. He's an excellent chair. In running the board, you can really see his experience and we're very lucky to have him. So, in conclusion, I just

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want to say, his role as the Hawaiian Homes Commission and DHHL board member is truly beneficial. It's a blessing for the county. I ask that you recognize his work on behalf of DHHL and their unanimous recommendation for him and support the resolution before you. Thank you.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mahalo, Ms. Young. Members, any questions for Ms. Young? Seeing none. Thank you.

MS. MCKINLEY: Chair, the next testifier is Trinette Furtado, to be followed by Kai MacDonald.

CHAIR SINENCI: Aloha, Ms. Furtado.

MS. FURTADO: Aloha mai. Kala mai if I leave sand because I've just come from conducting a funeral and ash scattering ceremony to be here today because there are two very important things that I want to speak on, so mahalo. First off, my name is Trinette Furtado. I live in Ha'iku, currently, and I'm speaking on my behalf, first, on Resolution on 25-50. Dr. Scheuer I have known in many different aspects. On the state level, his advocacy, as you've heard from the director of the East Maui Water Board [sic] with DHHL and in complex issues, has proved critical when we've come to an us versus them which very easily in situations that concern 'aina and wai readily come to those points. It...in his...he has finesse. And I don't say that in that, you know, he knows how to slide under stuff, but finesse in recognizing that...that there are different perspectives, and different roles that people have, and they are coming with different information that perhaps we weren't able to...or they weren't able to collaborate or to...to discuss. And Dr. Scheuer has shown time and time again, not only a fairness across the board, but picking out these key...these key issues to speak more on, that will impact us in the future. And so I absolutely support his nomination to this board. It is vital that in these beginning stages we have folks that not only are knowledgeable but that have had the experience of discussing these issues on the state level and into...you know getting into federal conversations as well when we look at the kind of Administration we have in the federal level, it grows more important that we look to taking care of ourselves. That's how we're going to get through all of this. The second item that I want to...the second item that I want to talk about is the pilot project --

MS. MCKINLEY: Excuse me, we're...we...we're just taking testimony on...on the Resolution right now.

MS. FURTADO: Oh, just that right now. Okay.

MS. MCKINLEY: You can wait for the next time --

MS. FURTADO: Okay. . . .(inaudible). . . --

MS. MCKINLEY: -- to be called . Thank you.

CHAIR SINENCI: We'll call you back up --

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MS. FURTADO: All right.

CHAIR SINENCI: -- Trinette.

MS. FURTADO: Thanks. Yay, Dr. Scheuer.

CHAIR SINENCI: Thank you for your testimony. Members, any questions for Trinette? Seeing none. Thank you for your testimony. Ms. McKinley?

MS. MCKINLEY: Chair, the next and currently last person signed up to testify is Kai MacDonald.

CHAIR SINENCI: Aloha, Ms. MacDonald.

MS. K. MACDONALD: Aloha mai kākou. E kala mai. I'm just a little bit under the weather today so I just wanted to provide support for Resolution 25-50 and approving the appointment of Jonathan Likeke Scheuer to the East Maui Regional Community Board. I represent two organizations within the beneficiary community. It's...one, is the Association of Hawaiians for Homestead Lands, the AHHL which was founded in 2008. It's a national homestead...beneficiary homestead association registered under the 43 CFR for the U.S. Department of Interior. This nine-member Board has fought, both directly and indirectly, for the rights of beneficiaries. And so it's...it's been a long time coming, Jonathan. We are...we represent the voices of many beneficiaries who could not be here today. However, we just want to thank and support this Maui County Council who continues to see beneficiaries and the work that's necessary to be done for the benefit of those on...sitting 29,000 on the Hawaiian Homes wait list. And so we appreciate the collective work that has been done and we look forward to a lot more future opportunities by which beneficiaries can be taken...can have opportunities to take advantage of. So, we appreciate and we are in support of Jonathan Likeke Scheuer for the East Maui Regional Community Board. Mahalo nui.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mahalo, Ms. MacDonald, for your testimony this morning. Members, any question for Ms. MacDonald? Seeing none. Thank you for your testimony.

MS. MCKINLEY: Chair, there's no one else to...signed up to testify on this item. Would you like to do a last call?

CHAIR SINENCI: Yes, please.

MS. MCKINLEY: Chair, I do see someone in the gallery, looks like they're approaching.

CHAIR SINENCI: For the first item? Yeah. Okay. You can do a countdown.

MS. MCKINLEY: If anyone wants to testify, please make yourself known right now. I do see someone approaching the testifier podium.

CHAIR SINENCI: For the first item?

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UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: *(Audio interference)* --

CHAIR SINENCI: Go to the...I think they want to testify for the second item, yeah.

MS. MCKINLEY: Okay. If anyone else wants to sign up to testify on the Resolution please make yourself known right now. Doing a last call; three, two, one. Chair, seeing no one.

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay. Members, any objections to closing testimony for the first item? And you have ability to testify for the second item afterwards.

COUNCILMEMBERS: No objections.

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay. Thank you. Mahalo, Members.

. . . END PUBLIC TESTIMONY FOR RESOLUTION 25-50 . . .

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay. Members, I'd like to open the floor for questions and comments. Each Member will have three minutes for their first round for Dr. Scheuer. And then if we need additional rounds you may...you may ask him more questions. And just by a show of hands...let's go with show of hands. Member Paltin, followed by Member Cook, and then Pro Tem Kama.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. In...in light of the serious second item, I would just like to move to approve Dr. Scheuer and just be so grateful that we can get him for another term. Grateful to all the --

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Second. . . *(laughing)* . .

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: -- East Maui Water Authority members that show up and ready to vote.

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay. You want to...for...oh, I'll...I'll call Member Cook for discussion. How's that?

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Okay. Thanks.

CHAIR SINENCI: Or did you want to speak --

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Well, I...I...I'd like us to have a brief discussion. I'm...I am supportive but I would like to have a brief discussion. And it's kind of like not the discussion on the vote but a conversation about the role and the status.

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay. Thank you.

MS. C. MACDONALD: Oh. Chair, if there's going to be discussion, sorry, could we withdraw

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the motion then?

CHAIR SINENCI: Oh, can we just --

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Point of order. The...the...the Chair did not recognize our motion or second --

MS. C. MACDONALD: Oh.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: -- so it doesn't need to be withdrawn.

CHAIR SINENCI: Yeah.

MS. C. MACDONALD: Sorry, about that.

CHAIR SINENCI: So, it's been...thank you. It's been moved by Member Paltin and seconded by --

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Now...now, we have to withdraw it.

CHAIR SINENCI: Oh, now we have to withdraw...oh, because we had discussion?

MS. C. MACDONALD: No.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: You didn't recognize it, Chair.

MS. C. MACDONALD: Sorry, Chair, I thought you had recognized it. And then you hadn't recognized it, and then you recognized it. So --

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay.

MS. C. MACDONALD: -- now we're going to have to withdraw the motion.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: We can...we can have two rounds of discussion on the motion. You don't want to do that?

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Oh.

CHAIR SINENCI: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay.

CHAIR SINENCI: So, if you can withdraw, we'll can have discussion.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I'm just saying we have --

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COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Or we can table it.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: -- an hour for the next thing and there's --

CHAIR SINENCI: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: -- choke testimony but okay I'll withdraw.

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay. So --

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Chair?

CHAIR SINENCI: Yes, go --

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Chair?

CHAIR SINENCI: -- ahead, Member Paltin. I mean, excuse me, Member Rawlins-Fernandez.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Can we, perhaps, table the motion?

CHAIR SINENCI: We can do that, Chair [*sic*]?

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Set it aside. You're the Chair.

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay. All right. We'll table the motion and open it up for discussion. Mr. Cook.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Thank you. Congratulations on being nominated again and basic...I am very supportive. I would like to know, briefly, what is the status of sort of the water supply from your perspective now? Because you've been very engaged in this and that's my question.

MR. SCHEUER: What...the status of the existing --

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: What...what I mean is we have...we've been experiencing drought. We've been experiencing the issues with, you know, trying to identify the groundwater resources. And I recognize it's your expertise and your long-term experience in it, and so brief synopsis.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Chair, point of inquiry. Sorry, I thought you stopped. Chair?

CHAIR SINENCI: Oh, Member Rawlins-Fernandez.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Sorry, Member Cook, real quick. Do...do you...we only have a little bit more time for the second item. And so my...my question to you,

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Chair, was do you plan to...to take up this item for us to go in depth? Like Member Cook is asking about some of the questions that is not directly related to the confirmation of Dr. Scheuer's nomination but more about the system and the Department. And, you know, so...so perhaps we can...we'll have more in-depth conversation at a later time.

CHAIR SINENCI: I'll leave it --

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Because whether...whether there's water or not has nothing...has no bearing on Dr. Scheuer's confirmation. Mahalo, Chair.

CHAIR SINENCI: Thank you, Member Rawlins-Fernandez. I leave it to the doc...the good, doctor, to respond.

MR. SCHEUER: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Members. Thank you, Member Cook, for the thoughtful question and I would be more than happy to recommend people who could give a fuller explanation of things to this Council because things are critical. In the short term, people who measure streamflow around Hawai'i have been seeing record lows in...among...in streams like measured for over a century. They're seeing lower flows than before. So, we're in an immediate drought period. There's been a little bit of relief but not fully. In the long-term period, looking towards the middle and the end of the century, projections are mixed on how things go but definitely the leeward sides of our islands are expected, fairly uniformly, to be much drier which will mean much more significant demands from the west sides of the islands. So, to tie it back in to the importance of this board's work, it's to try and set this county up for continued sort of life and success for the next century, keeping in mind those short and long-term trends in rainfall.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Thank you, Chair. And thank you for your answer. And it was...that question was relevant because we're interviewing you and to vote for your...again, I'm just saying thank you for your answer. And thank you, Chair, that was relevant.

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay. Mahalo, Member Cook. Did I see Pro Tem Kama's hand? Or Chair Lee.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Oh. Okay.

CHAIR SINENCI: Go ahead, Chair Lee.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Thank you. All right. Dr. Scheuer, so I would imagine you've had a number of meetings with your...with the board. And you've probably discussed...or have you looked into capacity in terms of what the county needs, what the taro farmers need, what...what every entity needs. So, have you looked at that and...and have...does the board have a good handle on that?

MR. SCHEUER: Thank you for the question, Chair Lee. I believe we've had 18 meetings. My

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count might be off by a couple. We started off meeting twice a month, then we went to once a month meetings. We have some sense from the water commission proceedings, Board of Land and Natural Resources meetings, as well as our own work on what short and long-term needs are for each of those groups that you mentioned.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay. I...I still...oh, all right. So, would you say...okay. What...how many gallons a day would the taro farmers need?

MR. SCHEUER: So, the amount allocated for lo'i kalo can't easily be separated for the amount needed for stream restoration. That figure varies by season, how much is left in the stream, so it sets a minimum amount. I don't have the total amount that...off the top of my head that's left in watershed. The current calculations that the...so, the...in 2018 parties to a long-running dispute and litigation before the Commission on Water Resources [sic] Management entered into a settlement decision that set a certain amount for restoration to the streams and a certain amount that would be available for diversion. That was based on data published in 2005 that was collected in previous years. That data estimated that there was approximately 85 million gallons a day available for off stream uses. However, since that data was collected we've experienced significant drying. So, the question that is very significant, which the Water Commission as the body that will set streamflow standards needs to determine, is how much water is actually available for off stream use. The only thing I can say with certainty is it's probably significantly less than the 85 million gallons a day that was --

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay.

MR. SCHEUER: -- estimated in 2018.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay. Thank you. I know that the county needs about seven millions gallons a day but for some reason we have, now, five million gallons a day. But one of the difficulties I have with your nomination is the fact that when we voted on you the first time, I recall you saying that three years would have been enough for . . . (timer sounds). . . you. And the voters of the county really thought they were voting on staggered terms. So, I...I...if you...you want to let him answer the question now or later is fine with me.

MR. SCHEUER: Respectfully, Chair, I just...I don't necessarily recall the statement that you're referring to. My willingness to be here to serve another term is at the request of a number of community members, the direct request from the Commission on Water --

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: . . . (inaudible). . . --

MR. SCHEUER: -- or the Hawaiian Homes Commission and --

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: No, but we have five, three, and two years, yeah. So, this will be eight years then for you.

MR. SCHEUER: That would be correct.

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COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Yeah. Thank you.

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay. Next we...thank you, Chair Lee. Next we have Member U'u-Hodgins.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Thank you, Chair. I actually don't have a question for Dr. Scheuer. But thank you so much for being here. I do have a question for Corp. Counsel. In my Committee and in last week Friday's Council meeting, we went back and forth about the INB and its processes. So, I would like it stated on the floor so we are not in any issue, how this came to be on our end. Did he have to go through the INB before he comes through here? And how will the rest of the board's nominations work moving forward?

MS. MURAKAMI: Okay. So, I do have to check the Charter exactly for the language for the other...other members. Some of them are Mayor nomination without Council approval, some of them --

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Yeah, four.

MS. MURAKAMI: -- are Council direct.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: And seven.

MS. MURAKAMI: But those ones will be INB will submit names to either the Council or the...the Mayor. However, as far as Dr. Scheuer is concerned it's because the...it is the DHHL nomination. So, INB will not be involved in providing a name outside of our County Government, so that's why we're in...INB is not involved in this . . . *(inaudible)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Okay. So, moving forward, the rest of the ten seats will have to go through the INB but not this one.

MS. MURAKAMI: Correct.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Okay. That's what I wanted on the --

MR. SCHEUER: It's not the Mayor's . . . *(inaudible)*. . . --

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Oh, wait, he looks like he has something else to say.

MS. MURAKAMI: Oh, sorry, not the Mayor appointments, sorry, . . . *(inaudible)*. . . --

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Not the Mayor appointments.

MS. MURAKAMI: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: It doesn't go...Mayor's appointments doesn't go through the INB?

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MS. MURAKAMI: No, it goes to INB but it doesn't come to this body.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Yes, yes, yes.

MS. MURAKAMI: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: The four of them. And then the seven will go through the INB and then come to us.

MS. MURAKAMI: Correct.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Just not this particular DHHL seat.

MS. MURAKAMI: Correct.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Thank you for that. Thank you, Chair, that's all I have.

CHAIR SINENCI: Good question, Member U'u-Hodgins. Any Members online with any questions? Okay. All right. Member Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: How's attendance been with this East Maui Water Authority?

MR. SCHEUER: We have all of our members in good standing. A couple members have experienced individual or family reasons for inability to attend...for a meeting, which is tomorrow. I believe every member has notified if they're in...unable to attend.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Every member is unable to attend tomorrow?

MR. SCHEUER: Sorry.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Oh.

MR. SCHEUER: They...they've informed us of their ability to attend or not attend.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay.

MR. SCHEUER: Sorry for my unclear answer. I apologize.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you.

CHAIR SINENCI: Any other questions, Members? Pro Tem Kama.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Real simple, what is your quorum?

MR. SCHEUER: Quorum is...and I'm...Ms. Murakami also sits as our advisor. I believe our...so, we have 11 members, 2 of which are ex officio, the direct...director...three of

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which are ex officio; Director of Department of Water Supply, Finance, and the East Maui Councilmember. Quorum, I believe, is 6 of the 11. But we've had usually well over quorum.

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay. Any other questions, Members? Member Sugimura, go ahead.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Yeah, thank you. So, Dr. Scheuer, in Upcoun...or Upcountry we have a water situation that, hopefully, will happen soon. What is your relationship with working with the Department of Water Supply in terms of finding new water source? Or how do you interact with that?

MR. SCHEUER: Thank you, Member Sugimura. Director Stufflebean sits as a member of the board. I believe he actually has perfect attendance at our meetings and has been a very supportive participant. He does inform us when they are exploring alternate sources to the East Maui Irrigation System and Surface Water Treatment for Upcountry Maui but that really falls within his kuleana, so we don't tend to discuss it so much as a board. We focus on how we are trying to secure long-term access to East Maui water for the surface water treated portion of Upcountry's demands. Is that responsive to your question?

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: So, you will not be any hinderance or...or try to...or how do you...I guess question is how do you fit in? Or does it not matter then, from your answer?

MR. SCHEUER: So, it...it's important to us. And actually in the...one of the things we've done over the course of our year and a half of working has been to develop a model, a mission statement, vision, and principles, and some other statements. And one of the key principles is that the board, as a body, wishes to support water independence of other regions, including Upcountry Maui. So, we are very supportive of those alternate sources coming into play and we'll do whatever we can within our legal authorities under the Charter to support that. But it is primarily the work of the Department of Water Supply and not us.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you.

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay. Any other questions from the Members? You guys ready for the vote? Okay. The Chair would entertain a motion to recommend adoption of Resolution 25-50 including --

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Chair?

CHAIR SINENCI: Oh. We already had the tabled vote. So, we will recall the tabled motion.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Motion.

CHAIR SINENCI: Yeah. So, at this time we'll recall the tabled motion. It's been moved by Member Paltin, and seconded by Member Rawlins-Fernandez. Discussion, Members.

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Do we need a roll --

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Roll call.

CHAIR SINENCI: -- call? Okay. No discussion. Roll call. Oh. Oh.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Chair?

CHAIR SINENCI: We have one discussion from Pro Tem Kama, and then Member Rawlins-Fernandez.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Okay. So, I just wanted to comment in how impressed I was that the amount of support for Dr. Scheuer in terms of the Department itself, the Commission, homesteaders. I mean...and...and...and the Homestead Associations there's the beneficiaries who already live on the land, and then you have the people who represent the people on the waiting list. So, I'm really impressed that they all...that the Department actually went and actually garnered, you know, the information to get from their people what the people's recommendations were. So, you know, knowing that I just am in total support of Dr. Scheuer's nomination.

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay. Mahalo, Pro Tem Kama. Member Rawlins-Fernandez, followed by Member Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. I speak in strong support of the motion on the floor and echo some of the sentiments and comments that Member Kama just expressed. As you heard by his colleagues on the...on the 'Aha that, you know, they're really grateful for his continued...for his service...his past service and his willingness to continue to serve on the board. He is a skilled meeting facilitator who possess a lot of qualities that I aspire to exhibit myself as a meeting chair and human being; grace, empathy, patience, and as our earlier testifier mentioned, finesse which I interpreted as artfulness. There's a way to handle meeting interactions that can deescalate the energy when meeting...when emotions are...are running high in the meeting and I've seen Dr. Scheuer do this time and again. And it's always very impressive to me. He's also very skilled at navigating bureaucracy, especially at the State DLNR. And he's...he's not just an advocate for wai and for our homesteaders, but he has a deep knowledge of institutional history of water management and understanding of 'ike Hawai'i, 'ike kūpuna concerning wai; so strong support. Mahalo, Chair. And mahalo, Dr. Scheuer, for your willingness to continue to serve. So much gratitude for you. Mahalo, Chair.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mahalo, Member Rawlins-Fernandez. Next we have Member Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. I'm stoked on your willingness to continue. Spoke about this with my husband, one of the 29,000 on the waitlist, and he fully supports you as well as our 'ohana. Mahalo.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mahalo, Member Paltin. Member Cook.

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COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Thank you, Chair. I'm supportive, and I'm hopeful, and we've had conversations about working towards collaboration with all of the different entities. And I'm hopeful and have confidence that you'll continue on that vein. Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Yeah, me too.

CHAIR SINENCI: Member U'u-Hodgins.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Thank you. Thank you, Chair. Thank you so much for your willingness to serve. I look forward to continuing the discussions. And I appreciate your willingness to find balance because I know that's not always easy. And thank you for being here and we'll talk story soon.

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay. Chair Lee.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Thank you. Dr. Scheuer, I'm sorry but I'm not going to support you. However, I think you know that I do appreciate your outstanding qualities. One of the...the two things I have a concern about is the fact that you don't live on Maui, that's one. Maybe if you did I would change my vote. And then the other one is I...I believe that the voters thought that we would adhere to the staggered terms, which we're not. Okay. Thank you.

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay. Mahalo, Chair Lee. And I, too, just would want to voice my support for Dr. Scheuer. And thank you for all your kōkua, your expertise, and your help on the . . .*(inaudible)*. . . Mahalo. Staff? Oh, Member Sugimura, go ahead.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Yeah. So, with...as I...as I said, with all the things going on with the county but also...I mean, with Maui Island, but also...especially my district which is very impacted by what happens with the East Maui water...EMI, Mahi Pono, Alexander Baldwin *[sic]*, and that whole discussion...this is so volatile. And this relationship, I think, is critical and I...I really would like to have somebody who played in the streams, grew up with it as lot of my members in my community did. So, I'm going to be voting no and hopefully we can find somebody who actually grew up here with, you know, great skills to add to this discussion. Thank you.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mahalo, Member Sugimura. Any second? Oh, Member Rawlins-Fernandez.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. I was looking after Member U'u-Hodgins had asked her question about the INB's involvement. And I...so, I looked in the Charter under the Section Chapter 19, Section 8-19.2, Regional Community Boards. One member who is a representative of a Hawaiian Homes Commission and is recommended by the Department of Hawaiian Home Land. And so in this section it doesn't have a requirement for the INB. So, I was looking for the INB but I was also looking for the question about terms. And so same section, so it says 2 of the 11 members initially appointed, 3 are appointed for a term of 5 years, 3 are appointed to a term of 4, 3 will serve for 3, and 2 will server for 2 years. Board vacancy appointment

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are conducted at the same time. It...it doesn't have a prohibition on...it doesn't say that after that the term ends that you aren't allowed...you're, you know, prohibited from serving a subsequent term in this section that I...that I read. But I'm going to keep looking, also for the INB part. And then if I find anything that I can share when we get to full Council...I'm sure Corp. Counsel will also, like, be able to cite that section too. And then that way everyone can feel satisfied...fully satisfied with the response regarding the selection and then confirmation process. Mahalo, Chair.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mahalo, Member Rawlins-Fernandez. Okay. Call for the vote. Staff?

MS. C. MACDONALD: Yes, Chair. Proceeding with roll call. Councilmember Cook.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Aye.

MS. C. MACDONALD: Councilmember Rawlins-Fernandez.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aye.

MS. C. MACDONALD: Councilmember Sugimura.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: No.

MS. C. MACDONALD: Councilmember Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Aye. No reservations.

MS. C. MACDONALD: Councilmember U'u-Hodgins.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Aye.

MS. C. MACDONALD: Council Chair Lee.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: No.

MS. C. MACDONALD: Councilmember Kama.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Yes.

MS. C. MACDONALD: Vice-Chair Johnson.

CHAIR SINENCI: Excuse.

MS. C. MACDONALD: And Chair Sinenci.

CHAIR SINENCI: Aye.

MS. C. MACDONALD: Chair, that's six "ayes"; two "noes", one excused, Councilmember

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Johnson. Motion passes.

VOTE: AYES: Chair Sinenci, and Councilmembers Cook, Kama, Paltin, Rawlins-Fernandez, and U‘u-Hodgins.

NOES: Councilmembers Lee and Sugimura.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: None.

EXC.: Vice-Chair Johnson.

MOTION CARRIED.

ACTION: Recommending ADOPTION of Resolution 25-50.

CHAIR SINENCI: Congratulations, Dr. Scheuer. This item will now move to the full Council for consideration. Thank you everybody.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Chair?

CHAIR SINENCI: Member Rawlins-Fernandez.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Point of privilege.

CHAIR SINENCI: Go ahead.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: I...I know we just took the vote but I...I wanted to...I...I just received information from the INB that the INB did confirm Doc...Dr. Scheuer's confirmation.

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay. Thank you for that additional information. Members, if there are no objections, we'll just take a quick two-minute recess and then we'll come back with our second item. Okay. Thank you. 11:20. . . .(gavel). . .

RECESS: 11:18 a.m.

RECONVENE: 11:22 a.m.

CHAIR SINENCI: . . .(gavel). . . Okay. Aloha everyone and welcome back the WASSP Committee meeting of Tuesday, February 25th, 2025. Mahalo for your patience. And it is 11:22. And so we're going to move on to our second item. Mahalo for waiting.

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**PILOT PROJECT USING COUNTY PARKING LOTS FOR HUMAN
HABITATION**
(WASSP-1(2))

CHAIR SINENCI: Members, our second item is WASSP-1(2), the Pilot Project Using County Parking Lots For Human Habitation Update. Members, in 2022 Ordinance 5419 became effective amending Chapter 10.76, Maui County Code, to establish a pilot project allowing houseless people to temporarily use their vehicles for purposes of human habitation on designated Maui County property. The ordinance purpose was to establish a safe sleeping place for people using their cars for shelter. Without this legislation, using vehicles for human habitation between the hours of 6:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. will...while the vehicle is parked on any roadway, street, highway, or other public property is prohibited by Section 2916-112 [sic] of the Hawai'i Revised Statutes. So, this section is on Granicus number 5. Members, on January 29, 2025 we sent a letter to the Mayor's Office asking for an update on this pilot project and the response is number 3 on Granicus. Today we'll be receiving an update from Ms. Naomi Crozier, the Homeless Coordinator, the Office of the Mayor and the Department of Human Concerns, Director Tsuhako. We also invited Ms. Sasha Brown today. And Ms. Brown is a Homeless Services Program Specialist for the City of Santa Rosa in Sonoma County, California where they have launched a Safe Parking Program in early 2022. Ms. Brown will share some information about their program; if you need to ask questions in...in that context, it's impact on their communities, and how it has helped those experiencing houselessness in Santa Rosa. So, with that we'll...we'll have opening comments from the Mayor's Office, Ms. Crozier, and we also have Mr. Jackson...Noah Jackson. Go ahead, Ms. Crozier.

MS. CROZIER: Oh, good morning. Thank you for allowing me to be here to...can you guys hear me? Oh. *(pause)* Good morning. Thank you for allowing me to be here to talk about the safe parking. Mayor...Mayor's team, along with Noah, has been actively scouting for sites on Maui to implement safe parking. So, we're happy to say we're actively looking and we gotten pretty far. So, nothing to report, specifically, because we want to wait for the landowners to get back with us before sharing but we are on it and we're working with them, Santa Rosa, and in Washington also to make it successful.

MR. JACKSON: And I don't have much to add. I'd...I'd hand it over to Director Tsuhaku [sic] as well. I just say I've just been supporting Naomi in the background on identifying locations as well as groups to work with on this project.

CHAIR SINENCI: *(Audio interference)* Member Paltin. *(Audio interference)*, you had a question?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Clarifying question, have you considered TMK 440011060000, 4.02 acres in West Maui zoned A1 that was a executive order to the county from the state for housing?

CHAIR SINENCI: Member...Member Paltin, we'll table that question for now until we finish presentations and testimony, and then we'll go to your question.

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COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay.

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you.

CHAIR SINENCI: But thank you for that. Director Tsuhako. Go ahead.

MS. TSUHAKO: Good morning, Mr. Chair and Members. Lori on behalf of the Department. I think the correspondence that the Committee received from Mayor pretty much outlines the...the history of this project and the Department's efforts to actually implement and design a program that addresses the need. Right now we are working with the Mayor's Office and his staff, as well as some potential vendors, and Corporation Counsel to try and, I think, develop a better proposal for the community. And we're not prepared at this time to give either the Committee or the public any details because those haven't been worked out yet. And we have learned from past practice that it's better to do better planning and get all of the ducks in a row before making announcements and then having to necessarily backtrack and redo things. So, I'm hopeful that we've learned those lessons and that this time we'll do a much more comprehensive job of planning. We'll...I know that my colleagues at the Department and I look forward to hearing more feedback from Ms. Brown and...and the experiences in Santa Rosa. And we hope to also be able to integrate some of those lessons learned as well, so I...I yield. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay. Mahalo, Director. Next, Members, we have Ms. Brown online and she's just got a couple slides to share with you. And she can go ahead and start her presentation. Is she on?

MS. BROWN: I'm here.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mahalo for being with us today.

MS. BROWN: Yeah. Good morning, Chair and Committee Members. I'm Sasha Brown, Program Specialist with City of Santa Rosa, Homeless Services. This morning I'll be presenting information about our city's Safe Parking Program; it's impact on our community and how it's helped people experiencing homelessness in Santa Rosa. Next slide, please. The City's Safe Parking Program opened in March of 2022 in response to the rise in vehicle encampments. The Safe Parking Program provides 52 parking spaces for adults who are experiencing homelessness as a place to safely park their vehicle or RV with access to basic services and wraparound services to help end . . .(inaudible). . . homelessness. Program is operated by Catholic Charities which provides 24/7 staffing and/or security. Next slide, please. Basic services provided by Catholic Charities include showers, bathrooms, laundry services, waste disposal, water, snacks, and one catered meal daily. Our wraparound services include comprehensive, housing-focused case management services to promote participants' self-sufficiency and successful transition to permanent housing, and on site weekly office hours with a behavioral health licensed clinical social worker. Next slide, please. From March of 2022 to

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December of 2024, the first two and a half years of the program, 282 people were served, 25 exited temporary housing and 84 people were permanently housed, which is 30 percent of those that exited the program. Based on community reports and vehicle encampments and our in-field observations of those areas from 2022 to the end of 2024, we reduced the number of occupied vehicles in city limits by 89 percent. We went from an average of 211 to an average of 23. When the program first opened, the waitlist averaged about 50 households. Now, two and half years later after 84 people that were living in their vehicles have now been housed that need has been reduced by 60 percent to an average of 20 households on our waitlist. Safe parking programs are an innovative non-congregate shelter alternative for people experiencing vehicular homelessness but want to maintain their privacy and increase control over their direct living environment. Next slide, please. This concludes my presentation and I'm happy to answer any questions you have.

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay. Mahalo, Ms. Brown, for joining us. We're going to take testimony first, so if you can hang on with us for questions from the Members. Okay. At this time is there any...anyone wishing to testify?

. . . BEGIN PUBLIC TESTIMONY FOR WASSP-1(2) . . .

MS. MCKINLEY: Yes, Chair, the first testifier is Jeff Gishkin, to be followed by Kasie Bullock.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mr. Fishkin [sic].

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: *(Audio interference)* --

CHAIR SINENCI: Oh.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: *(Audio interference)* --

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay. Thank you . . .*(inaudible)*. . . Next testifier.

MS. MCKINLEY: Chair, the next testifier is Kasie Bullock, to be followed by Kapu Purdy.

CHAIR SINENCI: Ms. Pollack [sic]. *(pause)*

MS. BULLOCK: Hello everybody. The last time I gave testimony to the county was regarding the negligence of adherence to the law provided by a recipient of county funding for providing services to Maui homeless operated by an O'ahu organization, Project Vision. The lack of progress to be made, in terms of lawfulness afterwards along with the amended Hawai'i Bill 2037 [sic] where no provision or rule pertaining to the health or sanitation shall apply to a temporary homeless shelter from July 1st, 2018 to July 1st, 2028, which has been grossly taken advantage of. It proves to me that the county colludes with its preferred grant or funding recipients. This is problematic considering the political actions have already directly affected hundreds of the Maui homeless and there is intention to reach more. The county's preferred partner, Project Vision, has stolen medical power of attorney from its homeless recipients seeking shelter claiming

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them as their medical patients, along with granting themselves legal access to commit insurance fraud by using a photocopy of signatures to process insurance claims for the period of lifetime. That's a lot to ask for a place to sleep. I, personally, was threatened with the police coming for me in one hour if I did not sign the papers granting them such permissions, by one of their contracted nurses. For the county to do sweeps on homeless is like herding cattle towards the county's preferred partners which pose a great threat to the homeless communities. If someone feels safe enough to go to sleep somewhere, let them sleep. And then finally, I just want to remind you all here today that by conducting policies here on Maui, that you are committing multiple war crimes, not only from being a political official representing the plunder of the Kingdom of Hawai'i by the United States, but for inhumane treatment, destruction of property, and the devastation towards the people of the homeless population, let alone the likelihood of psychological torture which is felt by those impacted. Homelessness would not be a problem if you did not control the land by force. All this land yet you put us in one parking lot or one gravel pit. Give land. The Hawaiian Islands do not need continental solutions as the Hawaiian culture has all the solutions necessary. Thank you.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mahalo, Ms. Pollack [sic]. Members, any questions for the testifier? Okay. Seeing none.

MS. MCKINLEY: Chair, the next testifier is Kapu Purdy, to be followed by Mō'i Kawakakoa [sic].

CHAIR SINENCI: Aloha, Mr. Purdy.

MR. PURDY: Aloha, Chair. And aloha, Councilmembers. Thank you for your time in listening to our testimonies. I...I like to touch on the same issue that Kasie was kind of speaking of, but also touch on the parking...using the parking lots for safe haven for people who have vehicles. Because I think that is a solution in some...in some manner but at the same time there's a lot of problems still with people that have temporary housing or emergency temporary sheltering because of the wildfires of Maui. I am a victim of that wildfires of...of Maui...Lahaina. So, I've been at the project that Kasie is talking about. And we've been up in air with how things are going and what our future is going to be because there's...there's been a changing of the guard, so to speak, on the Project Vision and whoever else is taking over from Project Vision. And we had this deadline of...we was supposed to be out this March. I think you guys, maybe, read this in the paper about Tent City, Project Vision shutting down which we were up in air and really unsettling. It...it was unsettling to us because it is a place that I call home now. And I was actually ambivalent about getting into that project in the first place because I...I thought of it as like a low-security prison, fenced-in tents, and all that stuff. But in actuality I had no place else to go and that was, basically, the only place I could go. And I'm grateful...I'm actually grateful for having that place and I just want you guys to know that there's a lot of people that they appreciate everything that is offered to us and we are appreciative of people that help and work for us. At the same time there's some, you know, problems that go on that can be corrected. And I...I guess because of this change over maybe it will be corrected. But I stand strong with the proposal of having a parking area . . . (timer sounds) . . . for people with vehicles. And I just wanted to know

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if you guys have the guidelines, and you know regulations, and stuff all set because, you know with that comes with people bringing junk cars and then making it look like a bunch of mess; so we don't want that. And other than that, that's my testimony for my stay at Tent City...known as Tent City also known as Pu'uuhonua O Nēnē.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mahalo.

MR. PURDY: Aloha. Thank you guys.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mahalo, Mr. Purdy, for your testimony. Any questions for Mr. Purdy? And then we'll...we'll go ahead and ask the Department some of your questions. Thank you.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: . . .*(Inaudible)*. . . --

CHAIR SINENCI: Oh, sorry. I didn't see Yuki. Member Sugimura has --

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Yeah, thank you.

CHAIR SINENCI: -- a question for you.

MR. PURDY: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: So, actually, this is for you. The couple of testifiers are talking about State Department of Human Services projects that's not ours. And so I wonder if you had planned to have...or I don't know if they're part of your resources so that we would get clarification of all this testimony we're hearing.

CHAIR SINENCI: Oh, okay. Will do. We can have that dis...during discussion. Thank you.

MR. PURDY: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Oh, okay. So, they're not a resource now for us. Thank you.

CHAIR SINENCI: Yeah.

MR. PURDY: Yeah. Thank you.

CHAIR SINENCI: All right. Thank you. Staff?

MS. MCKINLEY: Chair, the next testifier is Mo'i Kawakakoa [*sic*], to be followed by Trinetta Furtado.

CHAIR SINENCI: Aloha, Ms. Kawaakoa. *(pause)*

MS. KAWAAKOA: Aloha mai kākou. So, everybody know who I am. I'm here for item 1, Makoa *(phonetic)*2 . I going go off of this 65-page Homeless Report that was facilitated by the Department of Human Concerns. And I going read the land acknowledgement. We

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acknowledge, with respect, that Hawai'i is the traditional and ancestral home lands of people who are identified as Native Hawaiians today. We acknowledge that the United States Government and citizens of the United States illegally overthrew the Hawaiian monarchy and forced Queen Lili'uokalani to yield the Hawaiian Kingdom to United States government under duress. We acknowledge that the United States Government suppressed the inherent sovereignty of the Native Hawaiian people, stole land from the Native Hawaiian people, and continues to illegally occupy Hawai'i. We recognize, with gratitude, that all people within Maui County are nourished and sustained by the land and water that have been stewarded by Native Hawaiians for millennia, before colonization. We recognize the importance of preserving and protecting Native Hawaiian cultural identity; including spiritual and traditional beliefs, customs, practices, language, and social institutions for future generations, Pu'uuhonua O Nēnē. We reflect on these truths to ground our understanding of the root causes of homelessness in Maui County. We understand systemic inequities that affect Native Hawaiians' generational and lineal descendants, such as colonization, trauma, and environmental change contribute to the state of homelessness in Maui County today but it falls on deaf ears. No action, countless, meaningless meetings every week. We understand that Native Hawaiians are uniquely and disproportionately affected by the issue of homelessness as well as other economic, environmental, health, and social challenges in Maui County. You see 'em every day when you drive the streets, no matter what island you on. We understand. Really...do you really understand? Do you? That to address homelessness in Maui County we must also strive to right and balance our relations with generational and lineal descendants of this 'āina. Okay. I going off of that. So, to my understanding this program came to light, 2022, to help people that were working, newly homeless. . . . (timer sounds). . . Okay. Yesterday we got one email, 250 people lost their jobs to federal cuts. What you guys going do for step up and help because they all going end up homeless? Okay. I may take care of Holomua. I may take care of my people, Pā'ia to Maliko. And I hope I can work with my Councilmember; we had a meeting. It was meaningful. I going come with data. I going come with the statistics. I going come with the budget. Okay. But what we going continue to do here? We going continue just talking like this or actions going fall behind them? And I don't appreciate not getting support from the Administration, and County Council, or Human Concerns because I choose to just do the work. Mahalo.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mahalo, Mo'i. Thank you, Mo'i, for your testimony. Members, any questions for Ms. Kawaakoa?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: *(Audio interference)* --

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay. How many more testifiers?

MS. MCKINLEY: Chair, there are currently four people signed up to testify.

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay. And just as a reminder, Members, we have to stick to the topic, I'm being reminded, which is the safe parking spaces. I...we appreciate your testimonies but if we can keep it succinct to the agenda items so we can stay on topic. Thank you.

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MS. MCKINLEY: Chair, the next testifier is Trinetta Furtado, to be followed by Lori Jay.

CHAIR SINENCI: Aloha, Ms. Furtado.

MS. FURTADO: Aloha mai. I got to state my name or...yeah, I think you all know me. And mahalo, Mō 'i, for starting off with that land acknowledgement because as I read it also, that's great that we acknowledge that we understand but it's nothing without action. It's just words. It's words we throw around to escape culpability, to escape responsibility, and this parking...the safe parking option that you have available before you now, which actually has been since 2022, is something that is action. Right. I'm...I'm hearing from the Mayor's Office that, you know, they still looking. We at 2025 and you still looking for a parking spot. What has...what has happened all of these years since it went into FY '23 budget. We have 53 percent, maybe even more, of our community living under this threshold of ALICE that they've come out with in their report. Right, as Mō 'i had just mentioned, 52 organizations and about 300 folks lost their jobs yesterday. Jobs that help our community. Jobs that help fire survivors. Jobs that help those that need jobs like that, gone now. Those people have rent coming up. Those people have bills coming up. Some of those may not be able to stay in their homes and we don't have adequate shelter. We don't have adequate spaces for these people to go to but we understand, right? We understand, it's tough. We can't just understand. If we understand it's tough then we must do something about it. We must do something about it yesterday. We have the opportunity to do so now. Sitting in office and talking about it does not help. Safe parking is something that would help a lot of...not just newly unsheltered, but those who are chronically unsheltered who weren't able to find housing before all of these disasters. Who have still got obstacles in getting assistance because people have preconceived ideas about them or because the situations that they are in have caused them to change the way they live and the way they think, drastically. No one comes to drug abuse because they like it. When you are in an unsafe situation everything around you is dangerous. So, you medicate or you hang out with those who maybe are going to take care of you, and even in that there's a little bit of issue. Safe parking spaces would allow people to be in their cars, in their spaces where they feel a little bit safe. And they know that nothing's going to happen to them while they're resting, while they're trying to get their lives back together. Because trust me, the work that I have done . . . *(timer sounds)* . . . with a lot of folks, they are trying. They're trying very hard. And so I ask, when you think about this also...and we think about asking those who come from here, right, why does the Council consistently look at folks that are from other islands to come and mālama our folks, our community? We have organizations right here, doing the work right now and yet I see, like Project Vision and Home Away *(phonetic)*, and people who have no connection to our people. O'ahu is different from Maui and you all know this. You know this when you go and they go, oh, what island you from. We need people from here. We have competent, educated, experienced folks and we need to use them. Thank you.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mahalo, Ms. Furtado, for your testimony. Members, any questions for Trinetta? Seeing none. Thank you for your testimony. Next please.

MS. MCKINLEY: Chair, the next testifier is Lori Jay, to be followed by Terese Masters.

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CHAIR SINENCI: Aloha, Ms. Jay.

MS. JAY: Aloha, Council people and public. My name is Lori Jay. I'm testifying as a resident of the island. I've been here for 25 years. When I first moved here I was taken in as family by a whole bunch of tour agents up in Lahaina. And I spent the better part of 20 years up there with them. A lot of those people are either dead, or burnt out, or moved off the island. A year after I moved in here, I gained residence in Wailuku in a small neighborhood that I'm not going to name, but I been housing people in my yard; in the back yard, in the side yard, in the front yard, in my spare room, in my living room, for years...for 20 years. So, I mean, most of them are people that work. I had a family of six in my living room, two toddlers...no, two infants, a toddler, and...and, yes, it's this way all over but we're here, right? I'm from the East Coast. I'm a transplant. I'm trying to make a difference. I've seen a lot of these through the years of different things, and different places. And a lot of these people that I've been helping, I bring them along with me and I try to lift them up. I try to help them get a job. I try to help them get water. I try to help them get food. After the fires I was delivering food up to Lahaina, then I started working at Pu'uhonua O Nēnē and I really saw how being able to live in your car...if you had a car that was working and you were able to get a job, because people help you get a job in the community, you could thrive. There's several people that are out of there now. I see them in the community. Okay. I see them at Home Depot. I see them at Lowe's, they're working. It works. I'm ready to put people back in my garage, back on my side yard. I don't know what else to say besides, you know, I resigned from Project Vision, and that was the last time I was here and I was talking against them. And I stand with all of these people here because, really, they haven't been treated fairly. I want them to be helped. We all deserve a safe place to be. Now there's 15 people that have died that I know from there and that's all I got to say. Are there any questions . . .(inaudible). . . --

CHAIR SINENCI: Mahalo, Ms. Jay, for your testimony. Members, any questions for Ms. Jay? Seeing none. Thanks for staying on with us. Appreciate it. Staff?

MS. MCKINLEY: Chair, the next testifier is Terese Masters, to be followed by Nara Boone.

CHAIR SINENCI: Aloha, Ms. Masters. Is she online? Oh, she's online.

MS. MASTERS: Yes, I'm here. Aloha. Thank you so much for bringing this very important subject up. Many of you know me, Terese Masters, from the Ag sector of nonprofits. And I've recently started learning and volunteering with Holomua Outreach as an advisor, as a student, as someone with a lot of empathy for those around her. But I come to you as a resident of Ha'iku, as a system analysis [sic] who graduated from UHMC, who grew up in Hāli'imaile, who graduated from Maui High, who recognize the people, and who have friends on the streets. I can't...I am shaking with anger. So, the County of...our Mayor's Office has no updates, none, and this has been going on from 2022. There's no data to share, not even numbers. I don't need names, just numbers of who you've spoken to, what sites. I can confirm that our outreach has not been spoken to or interviewed. Sorry, going back as a resident. I also want to just say, I

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want...I can see you guys, you can't see me, but I want all your faces up and looking up because I've been watching this testimony. There are people and friends who died on the streets and these testifiers deserve your eyes and full attention. So, please, all Councilmembers pay attention. Act like you care and have some extended empathy of some sort. Okay. So, I'm coming to you as a...as a systems...integrated systems analysis [sic]. And I can tell you...and from the nonprofit sectors, that this...that there are no updates, literally, at all. Oh, my...as a nonprofit we would have been fired. Like we...our reporting is so necessary and so required. And then the...then you...there's...you show up three years later and no numbers? I don't...I...I mean, this is...this is deplorable. You...there...nothing is being done. Nothing. The people are using their own money and resources to take care of the people, and...and getting harrassed, and the homeless are being predated on by our Government, and...and we sit here continuing to talk. Sorry, my hands are shaking so bad right now. As a taxpayer, I'm . . . (timer sounds) . . . the Mayor's boss, I'm the Department's boss, and the Council's boss, and I require some sort of declaration to step up into what you've been given...a resonsibility you've been given or it needs to be given to another agency, boots on the ground, to do something more. We have to do something now. Thank you for your time.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mahalo, Ms. Mathers...Masters for your testimony. Members, any questions for Ms. Masters? Seeing none. Thank you.

MS. MCKINLEY: Chair, the next testifier is Nara Boone, to be followed by Kaleo, Kamiki, Kamahi, and Maka'iwa Carter.

CHAIR SINENCI: Aloha, Ms. Boone. Is she online?

MS. BOONE: Aloha. Yes, I am online. Can you hear me?

CHAIR SINENCI: Yes, we can hear you.

MS. BOONE: All right. Hi, nice to see everyone. Again, I'm Nara Boone. I'm with Maui Housing Hui. And I'm...I am testifying in support of safe parking programs and to say that we need so much more. I...I have the word urgency written in my notes and scratched...like underlined five times. What our community is going through is so much bigger than, you know, what...what can be assisted with one safe parking program. However, our community is suffering to an extent it's never suffered before. And as Terese just said, it is inexcusable. And Trinette said as well, for three years to have gone by and nothing have been done at this point. When this was first brought up...when Kelly King brought it up in 2022, there was celebration that finally something was going to be happening but it's three years later and there's not much to show. We have really big things happening in our community. We have this moratorium on evictions for nonpayment of rent that has come to an end with no true rental assistance available. What was discussed in that past meeting, a couple weeks ago, has very tight regulations to it and the majority of people are not eligible for it. We have the horrible news yesterday that the National Displaced Workers [sic] Grant has been stripped for our people that are working on the front lines, some in our organization, a lot under the Maui Grassroots

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Collective which I am a part of...which Maui Housing Hui is a part of. We have lost many employees' funding for their housing. We have the March 1st deadline coming up for fire survivors to have to start paying some of their rents when we have our Federal Government pulling funding in every direction...from every direction. It is time for us, as a community, for you as Councilmembers, and for the state to pick up the slack that is happening right now. There are just too many people that...that are about to be reacquainted with suffering in a way we haven't seen in at least a little bit. And this...this urgency, I...I can't stress it enough. You know I know that there are other projects that...that are important but housing our people is important . . .(timer sounds). . . whether it's in cars, whether it some other way. I live in Ha'iku. I drive through Ha'iku. I drive through Pā'ia. I see more, and more, and more, and more houseless and where is the assistance for them? And I also want to tag on, yes, there's been lots said about Project Vision. I also do not agree with what I have witnessed with Pu'uhonua O Nēnē. I will say Project Vision has a gem on Maui in Robin Garrison who practices street medicine with incredible compassion and should be recognized as that. While there...there's much that needs to be done, as far as Project Vision is concerned, Robin is absolutely someone that is of our community that is doing the work and is dearly loved because of it. . . .(timer sounds). . . Thank you --

CHAIR SINENCI: Mahalo.

MS. BOONE: -- for your time. I...thank you for your time.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mahalo, Ms. Boone, for your testimony. Staff? Oh, any questions for Ms. Boone? Seeing none. Thank you, Nara.

MS. MCKINLEY: Chair, the next testifier is Kaleo, Kamiki, Kamahi, and Maka'iwa Carter; to be followed by Stacey Alapai.

MS. CARTER: Aloha.

CHAIR SINENCI: Aloha.

MS. CARTER: My name is Jaime Kamiki Carter on...I wear many different hats in our lahui and today I'm coming to you as a child of God, as a daughter, a wife, a mother, and someone who truly loves our community. Our ohana has provided outreach to many unsheltered people throughout the years. It's been about 25 years now that we have done it. More recently, since the pandemic, we have done it on a weekly basis and I'm very proud of our 'ohana. And we do it because we want our...our kūpuna to be proud of us and we want to be able to leave a legacy for our keiki when we...when we leave. And hearing...hearing this, in regards to the safe parking, I...I do agree that we should have it. However, I do hear all of the challenges that everyone is...has stated, which are facts. And it's also, how are we coming to a solution and how can we come to a solution? That is one thing that I'm really not hearing from any of the people who were put in charge to take care of this kuleana. We have shared...people have shared that it's been since 2022, 2023 and there's nothing to show for it. And I agree with Teresa's [sic] statement, that if it was a nonprofit we would have immediately gotten our funding

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pulled or we would be under deep scrutiny. And so my hopes is for each county member and whoever is making the decisions and trying to move forward with this kuleana, to really dig deep within yourself as a human, as a...as another person. When you see someone on the side of the road, what are you truly asking yourself? Oh, no, there's one more of them. Or are you truly asking yourself, what am I doing to make that person find shelter or have shelter available to them. We don't know what everyone else's...what...what everyone else is going through. So, let's take that time to see what we can . . .*(timer sounds)*. . . do to make our lahui a better place. That is what you folks have been voted in office for. And I pray that you folks really dig back deep into your...into your na'au to really question yourself, what are you folks doing to really make a difference. And utilize the resources, like Maui Rapid Response, and the other organizations out there who are already doing the work. Work with them and --

CHAIR SINENCI: Miss --

MS. CARTER: -- not only one organization.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mahalo, Ms. Carter.

MS. CARTER: Open it up.

CHAIR SINENCI: We have a question for you from --

MS. CARTER: Mahalo. Does anybody have any questions?

CHAIR SINENCI: Yes, Member Paltin --

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Tell 'em, mom.

CHAIR SINENCI: -- has a . . .*(inaudible)*. . . --

MS. CARTER: Aloha.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Aloha. Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Ms. Kamiki, for your testimony. I guess, you know, in relation to the agenda item, I just wanted to clarify when...when you said if it was a nonprofit getting this funding it would have been pulled. But, I guess, the funding was allocated in 2022 and the Administration never implemented it. And so...I mean, our role is to fund things and I just wanted to clarify, you wanted us to not fund it again because the Administration isn't doing it or...because we, the Council, aren't the ones able to implement, we fund. And then the Administration implements, which they haven't done, and you said stop funding them. I don't believe we've continued to fund the program annually because it's never been implemented. So, I just was trying to clarify what are . . .*(inaudible)*. . . --

MS. CARTER: Mahalo, Councilmember, for that question and asking for the clarification. No, I am not saying not to fund it. I am say...I had stated that if it was a nonprofit who have not showed any...any progress, we, as a nonprofit, would have gotten our fundings

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pulled. That's what I had meant and I had stated. So, again, it's not to take away...we do want...we do need the funding. We do need the...the resource for the community. However, like, why are we not looking at those who were tasked with this kuleana and really hold them accountable in...and as we're moving forward, ensure that we are doing...that they are doing what they are supposed to be doing. Is that what the County Council is supposed to be doing, holding the monies that you guys give onto other people the...making sure that they're being held accountable and doing what they said they're doing and you're giving them the money? Please help me understand if I'm stating that wrong.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I...I believe that's the point of what this agenda item is today. But the Chair...I'll...I'll defer to the Chair.

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay. Yeah. Thank you, Member Paltin. Yeah, that was what the update was about, Ms. Carter.

MS. CARTER: Yes. And so that's why I'm saying I'm in support of it. However, we do need to hold those who have been tasked with the kuleana, they need to be held accountable and show results. And work with organizations who are already doing the work and working with the population...the unsheltered population.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank --

CHAIR SINENCI: Mahalo, Ms. Carter.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: -- thank you for your clarification.

MS. CARTER: Mahalo.

CHAIR SINENCI: Thank you. And mahalo, Member Paltin.

MS. CARTER: Mahalo.

CHAIR SINENCI: Thank you for your testimony. Any other questions for the testifier? Staff, how many more testifiers? We have one more. . . .*(inaudible)*. . . --

MS. MCKINLEY: Chair, the next and last testifier--oh, sorry.

CHAIR SINENCI: Thank...go ahead. Thank you for waiting. Mahalo, Members, for staying on a little bit. Thanks for your patience.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: *(Audio interference)* --

MS. MCKINLEY: Chair? Chair, there's someone online that's signed up as well.

MS. MARCELLINO: It's kind of my fault because I had cold feet when you called my name and I ran out. I still have cold feet. Anyways I'm glad I sat through all this. I'm going to say

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two things, first of all, I know really nothing about water but I know this is one of the wettest places on Earth. So, I don't know why there's the water problem. And second of all, as far as parking goes, I don't have a car. Can I pitch a tent in a parking spot? And then I might go on to talk about Tent City. Yeah, I mean I been denied financial aid, denied from Department of Human Services for physical and mental. By the way I'm a...I moved to Lahaina in 2006. Yes, we survived the fire. Yes, I'm homeless. I was not homeless in the beginning of my days in Lahaina. I had a job and I paid rent, things kind of went down in my life. I became...I couldn't afford rent, I became homeless. And, yes, I'm very lucky to be...that I survived the fire. And my heart goes out to...and I miss Lahaina so much. Now, I'm stuck over here in Tent City in an industrial...looks like Afghanistan. It's horrible. We hardly have...toilets hardly work, the showers hardly work, the sinks don't work, the food is iffy. And, yeah, I mean I was told to brush my teeth out of...out...out of bottled water because you can't even trust the water. Anyways, the staff members...and I thank you all for having me. This is really hard for me, that's why I can't even look. It's really hard for me. I know everybody tries hard. I know. But then sometimes I think it's...it's hypocrites. I think there's corruption. Where...you know where does the money go? We don't know. You know, every morning I get up...anyways it's...it's hard. I just hope the money gets allocated correctly. I want no corruption and, you know, all this money that's donated...I mean, I know, I hand delivered pounds, and pounds, and pounds of clothes, put it into a container, and nobody has access to those clothes. I don't get it, you know. So, anyways I guess I should be done. Ring the bell.

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay. Thank you. Can you state your name for the record?

MS. MARCELLINO: Yes, Tina Louise --

CHAIR SINENCI: Tina Louise --

MS. MARCELLINO: Tina Louise Marcellino.

CHAIR SINENCI: -- Escallino [sic]. Thank you, Tina, for your testimony.

MS. MARCELLINO: Yeah, this was really hard for me. I'm not a complainer.

CHAIR SINENCI: Thanks for sharing.

MS. MARCELLINO: Yeah, I have a big heart and I...I try to be a team player.

CHAIR SINENCI: Let me...let me check for any questions for you. Members, any questions for Tina? Thank you for joining us and staying on with us.

MS. MARCELLINO: Thank you for hearing me. Thank you.

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay.

MS. MARCELLINO: Oh, wait. I...I did have one more thing to say. When I was declined financial aid...like my...my denial letter said I should be capable of having a job...a

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30-hour-a-week job. How can I have a job when I can't even hang clothes, or take a shower, or have a clean, the...you know how am I going to hold the nice job when I don't have the...the amenities to do that? You know, I mean, it's all gravel. You can't wear --

CHAIR SINENCI: Thank you.

MS. MARCELLINO: -- nice shoes. You can't wear nice clothes. You can't hang your clothes. You can't groom nicely. It's hard to have a job. And so I'm declined financial money. I have nothing and I think that's unfair but --

CHAIR SINENCI: Thank you for sharing.

MS. MARCELLINO: . . .*(Inaudible)*. . . --

CHAIR SINENCI: Staff?

MS. MCKINLEY: Chair, the next testifier is Stacey Alapai, to be followed by Jessica Lau.

MS. ALAPAI: Aloha, Councilmembers. Thank you so much for bringing this up for discussion today because as many have already said, this is long overdue program. We really need to provide spaces for people to simply exist. And this parking program seems like a really easy...easy to implement, common-sense solution for the people who are living in their cars to have a safe place to live. And I see this unfortunate trend in...both in the Administration of criminalizing homelessness. And we...we've heard this all day today, that, you know, people are struggling and we continue to see more people losing their jobs, losing funding, losing access to their housing because of greed. And this...I really hope...I know...I heard that the clarification, that it's not the Council implementing this. And I...I do hope that you continue to fund this program. But I just wanted to offer maybe a different strategy that...instead of allocating this money to the Administration, who has clearly shown that they have no interest in implementing it, to possibly divert that funding to one of these many nonprofits within the Maui Grassroots Collective who are doing this work on the ground. They also, recently, loss their warehouse where they run their services out of. And now they're trying to find a home for their organization to house themselves so that they continue to provide services out of that hub. And it seems like maybe they're...and I haven't spoken with them about this but it just seems like maybe there is a solution to also fund this...these...this hui of nonprofits who are doing such important work for the forgotten members of our society that this Administration continuously tries to criminalize and throw away like they don't exist, and instead use this money to support the people doing the work on the ground and provide a parking lot for people to park in safely. Because if...if the issue with this being...not being implemented in that last two or three years is because of beauracratc hurdles, that is not a good enough excuse, like the people are struggling. And even this parking program is not enough. And if we could just decriminalize the people who are living on the streets in their cars, or finding a place to park, or finding places on the road to just simply live, that would be a big step forward. Because criminalizing them isn't solving the problem, it's just pushing them out of sight so that we don't have to look at it anymore. And the further that we push these people into darkness the...the

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worse that things are going to get, not just for them but for the rest of us. And I just want to remind everyone listening, who maybe doesn't have much empathy for these people, that we are all much closer to losing our jobs, or finding...being in financial crisis and becoming homeless than we are to being able to afford one of these multi-million-dollar homes. Like that is...we are all so close to that. We are one catastrophe away from being homeless ourselves. Everybody, no matter . . .(timer sounds). . .how financially secure you feel. Mahalo for your time.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mahalo, Ms. Alapai, for your testimony. Members, any questions? Seeing none. Thank you for your testimony. Staff?

MS. MCKINLEY: Chair, the next testifier is Jessica Lau, to be followed by Kai MacDonald who's currently the last person signed up.

CHAIR SINENCI: Aloha, Ms. Lau.

MS. LAU: Aloha, Councilmember. Yeah, you guys all know, my name is Jessica Lau. I'm here to testify on the safe parking. You guys probably wondering why I'm standing here and that's because I still living down at the harbor. Almost just got served by Troy Abue (*phonetic*) 24 hours conviction...eviction. I just like know where I can go so I can still focus on work because that's where I got to go at 2:30. We on split shift. I work at Temptation Tours, for those of you that been asking about me. Yeah, I still hold my job through the COVID-19 from July 5th, 2020 all the way until now. I'm just trying to stay above water and just finding a place where I can sleep that is safe. I'm safe at the harbor because I'm on a three-year protective order from my son's father. It went from a one year to a three year and people at the harbor know me. They know my son's father. They know...I know, in my heart, they not going just drive by and let this idiot do what he got to do to me. At the same time, trying to let my dad go with peace that his daughter going be okay. I'm the youngest. I just like you guys tell me, where can I go? Because I got to go to work. I have my vehicle down there, they all run. I just have one out of the five. They ask me why I got so much vehicles because I trying to use them for collateral when I go try put money down on one land since nobody can find...because...a solution to it. You mean, they put the pallet houses up here, then they move them. Where have you guys moved those pallet houses to? Those are for the people that was homeless or unsheltered. You guys going have a bigger problem than this. My story is just a story of my experience that I...I...I...I experience out here in this four and a half years. I can only imagine those that have been out here 20 years. You guys act like you doing something for us and you guys not because where can we go? Like right now I got to go to work. I not going lose my job for this but I not going lose my property. And you guys going continuously see me. I going continuously testify because all I can speak is the truth of what's been happening. Yeah, I had Section 8. You know that's how the...you know confidentialiy in Maui County it don't even stay within the door because the girl know...the lady know...I mean, knew I had Section 8. But I going tell you what when happen with Section 8. They serve me a Rent To Pay Or Quit [*sic*] to fight for the people. To keep my end of the deal, I paid that Rent To Pay Or Quit [*sic*], 1195. I had to owe nothing. They removed my doors from my home, the daughter-in-law and the son. They take the mail and I have proof...witnesses. A lot of you guys decisions was

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made on my lawsuit that I have against the County of Maui and the Mayor. This has nothing to do with what I seeking the help for, you know what I mean. I seeking the help because I need that help and you guys act like you helping and you not. And it's pissing me the hell of and I not going lose it because it's not going to help nothing that I trying to do today in life. But that's what when happen, you guys thought I wasn't going to pay 'em and I did. My...my correspondence was from me to Family Life Center. I've never spoken to Section 8 by himself, like that, it was always me to Family Life Center. So, your first source...source of...on your list is Family Life Center. How can I trust them if what they did...they couldn't even tell me that Section 8 wanted to talk to me but I turned in all my documents but that was already pass. Lisa (*phonetic*) is my witness when I called for my home inspection that they didn't serve me the Rent To Pay Or Quit [*sic*]. I paid 'em in . . .(*timer sounds*). . . 14 days. I don't care about that timer. You guys need to tell me, before I leave here, where can I go to put my stuff and I going be safe, if there's going to be a bathroom? Because I'm a member of the hale. I can shower, and I can bathe there, and use the restroom there. I want to know where I can go. Where can I go? You guys been waiting too long. This been going too long. I just need to know where I can go because I got to go work and I not going lose my job for anybody.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mahalo, Ms. Lau, for your testimony. Seeing no questions.

MS. MCKINLEY: Chair, the next and final person signed up to testify is Kai MacDonald.

CHAIR SINENCI: Aloha, Ms. MacDonald.

MS. K. MACDONALD: Aloha. Aloha. My name is Kainoa MacDonald, for the record. I'm a program administrated [*sic*] representing Living Way Church Maui. I am in support of the Pilot Project Using County Parking Lots For Human Habitation. What is required for maximizing pilot projects like these are collaborative approaches. There are...have been many numerous agencies speaking on this important issues and they are the boots on the ground serving their community. Pastor Greg Dela Cruz and Living Way [*sic*] just celebrated their 22nd anniversary in service to the community of which it serves. We continued in 2024 with over 90,000 meals cooked and distributed, 7,500 meals on a monthly average from Wailuku to Kahului houseless community, homeless community, Lahaina S-Turns hub, Leiali'i Hawaiian Homes kūpuna. Kūpuna program served well over 40 residents in a transitional housing at the church area serving much of the local community in weekly box food distribution up by 75 percent as of 2023. All the while, little to no funding and volunteer staff was able to sign up for the Federal funding under MEO, under the NDWG which is...as you all know, has been discontinued. This program provided some economic relief for voluteers who continue to be servant leaders in those communities. In 2025 the future of housing, as we know, will continuously be affected leaving families constantly questioning to stay or leave their home. As the Maui fire exasperated the already fragile housing crisis, it is imperative that the community organizations, like us, work together, form alliances to distribute the work done by the many to support the great need. These are ways of providing a map...a map of success to housing, steps that can be taken and addressed of the homeless. Homelessness, houselessness is not one organization solve all, be all. It's an approach...a collaborative

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approach effort. Living Way Church Maui has taken one of these approaches by partnering with Project Vision Hawai'i. Together we are forging ahead to provide short-term respite housing to meet the demand for those in medical need without the high cost of hospital stays. Kupanaha Respite [sic] aims to address the healthcare needs of Maui's unsheltered population. This collaboration will leverage PVH's medical expertise and Living Way Church's transitional housal...housing facilities to provide comprehensive care utilizing Living Way Church Maui's staff to support the growing community. And in summary, this funding is necessary to implement what can our community do to help the situation we're in. At Living Way our collective approach is to bring kuleana, the responsibility; ha'aha'a which is the humility, 'olu'olu . . . (timer sounds). . . which is compassion; kaiaulu (*phonetic*), equity...I'm going to wrap up...and kaiulu (*phonetic*) which is equity to an, otherwise, broken system. Let me remind this body that under the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act of 1921, the State of Hawai'i under statehood has a fiduciary responsibility to provide access to 'āina to live, to ranch, to farm, use mercantile purposes, and water. Mahalo nui to this Maui County Council for continuing to consider Hawaiian Home Commission Act beneficiaries in your decision making. Mahalo.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mahalo, Ms. MacDonald. Members, any questions for Ms. MacDonald? Seeing none. Thank you for your testimony.

MS. MCKINLEY: Chair...excuse me. Chair, there's no one signed up to testify currently. Would you like to do a last call?

CHAIR SINENCI: Yes.

MS. MCKINLEY: If anyone would like to testify at this time --

CHAIR SINENCI: Oh, you already...did he testify already?

MR. LAW: I testified on the first one, Shane.

CHAIR SINENCI: Oh, okay. Go ahead.

MR. LAW: This the second one. Aloha kakahiaka. Aloha kaakou [sic] . Aloha, *Akakū*. Owao (*phonetic*) Jasee Law. Thank you, Luna Ho'omolu [sic] Sinenci, for taking this very sensitive issue in your Kōmike. As Keani says, words matter. The word homeless is 99 percent of the time used as derogatory. And I would like to correct...and I thank the Mayor's Administration for being here in the Chambers. A lot of people are blaming you guys but I know who's...I can't pinpoint them but they're the ones that is administering all this stuff. So, Ms. Crozier, I heard you say the landowners earlier. It's the land occupiers. Nobody owns the land. It's...we're...we're servants on the land. Even though I know some of you all...or most of you all are not trying to be mean when you say it, in the same spirit as Black History Month, just like we don't use the N word, I'd ask you don't use the H word. I would ask you...that you use a different word to describe human beings. I thought we went over this last year. Is...I'll give you two words, nomo (*phonetic*) hale, which I made that one up. It's kind of pidgin. Or domiciless [sic]. The Hawaiian

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word of the day, na ho'opi'i (*phonetic*), accusations. I want to correct the one previous testifier when they accused the Upcounty representative...aloha, Yuki Lei Sugimura, come back safe--doing nothing is sometimes mo bettah than doing the wrong thing on this issue. Speaking of accusing, in our town, Waiakoa in Kula Uka, there are two churches and they're only using the land half of the time at the most. In the American Civil War the church buildings were used as hospitals. Since January 17, 1893 we've been at war with the United States. I want to thank the Baptist Church on Molokai, ho'omaika'i. Standard disclaimer, nine out of ten people that go to church on weekends is good and I reserve the rest of my time for the followers of Queen Lili'uokalani.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mahalo, Mr. Law. Members, any questions for Mr. Law? Seeing none. Thank you. Staff?

MS. MCKINLEY: Chair, no one else has signed up to testify. If anyone would like to testify, please make yourself known now by approaching the podium or raising your hand on Teams. Chair, seeing no one. Here's the last countdown; three, two, one.

CHAIR SINENCI: Members, without objections, we'll close public testimony at this time.

COUNCILMEMBERS: No objections.

CHAIR SINENCI: Thank you. . . .(*Inaudible*). . . close. She can testify only once. Yeah.

. . . END PUBLIC TESTIMONY FOR WASSP-1(2) . . .

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay. So, Members, moving on to discussions. We did have a tabled question about executive orders from the state for possible properties. Who would you like to direct that to? Mr. Jackson?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I guess all of our resources, if anyone could answer it because --

CHAIR SINENCI: Yeah, we have several resources on. We have --

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Yeah.

CHAIR SINENCI: -- Ms. Sullivan [*sic*].

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: There's cars parked there right now and it's a parking lot.

CHAIR SINENCI: This is in Nāpili?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: It's kind of like the Honokōwai area sideways to the breakers abutting the highway. It's a whole parking area that has cars. I don't know how those cars have permission to park there, but you know it's been there since like...I can look up the TMK, but many years before 2022. And I mean do we know all the parking lots the county owns? Like why is it so hard? I just --

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CHAIR SINENCI: Ms. Crozier.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: -- found it.

MS. CROZIER: So, I was actually out there looking at that...that parking lot. I would have to ask Director Tsuhako again why it wasn't available to be used for parking (*echoing*).

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Well, it...it's being used for safe parking because there's all those cars there that aren't getting vandalized, or anything, but it's not part of a program.

MS. CROZIER: Right, I agree. So, that's why I was out there taking pictures and looking at that to be a possible site. But I think the way it's...hopefully Director Tsuhako is still on that she can help me...something about turning into the...off the state going into...the highway going into that parking lot was a problem.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I guess it wasn't a problem for all the cars that are parked there now. But I mean --

MS. CROZIER: I agree.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: -- who determines it's a problem? They're begging for a safe place to park and if it's limited --

MS. CROZIER: Because that was one of them on our inventory.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: -- access then it's safer.

MS. CROZIER: So, I'm...agree with you. So, I'd have to ask Administration on that.

MR. JACKSON: Director Tsuhako, do you want to add...I know we've talked about this property before. Do you want to add a little bit about the history of what's been done there?

MS. TSUHAKO: Thank you. Councilmember Paltin, thank you for your question. The...I...I am familiar with the parcel that you identified earlier. It was granted by executive order to the county for the stated purpose of affordable housing. Years and years ago, during the Tavares Administration there was actually a proposed housing...affordable housing development that was to be built there. As the developer did their due diligence to further move their housing project along, it was determined that there was a problem with not being able to access the Honoapi'ilani Highway from that parking lot because of the...the rate of traffic. And after further...further work with the proposed developer . . . (*timer sounds*). . . it was determined...I'm sorry, may I...may I go on, Mr. Chair?

CHAIR SINENCI: Go ahead.

MS. TSUHAKO: Thank you. After further review with the...with the proposed developer it was determined that the parcel was not appropriate for affordable housing because it was also landlocked and people would have to go through the parking lot of the existing

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condominiums. And, therefore, no affordable housing was pursued on that parcel. And in fact, prior to the fire the Department had engaged in conversations with DLNR and had begun the process of trying to...to return the property to the state because the stated purpose of building affordable housing could not be done there. So, that's the status of that property right now.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: We're...we're not talking about affordable housing. We're just talking about a safe place to park. And then if that's the case, who are all the people that are parking there? And who gave them permission? And how did they access it? It...there...there's access from the lower road. And...and...you know in the State of Hawai'i landlocked parcels are...are granted easement across other properties. So, I mean, Tavares Administration was so long ago and only things got worse since then. You cannot readjust? It's...it's not affordable housing. Cars can be temporary modular homes, you know. And if...if we can't be creative with the lands that we own or have authority over then...then we really are SOL with this Administration.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mahalo, Member Paltin. Members, any other questions for our resources? We also have Ms. Sullivan [sic] as well as we designated --

MS. C. MACDONALD: Ms. Brown is also online.

CHAIR SINENCI: -- Ms. Brown. Ms. Brown, we did have a question for you. How much is your...the cost of your safe parking per year?

MS. BROWN: Yeah. So, originally, when we started our pilot program, it was about 1.3 million. We're projecting a budget of one million for Fiscal Year '25-'26.

CHAIR SINENCI: Per...per year? Okay.

MS. BROWN: Per year. Uh-huh.

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay. Thank you for that. We have a question from Member Kama.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you, Chair. So, thank you for being here...forgot her name. Ms. Santa Rosa --

CHAIR SINENCI: Ms. Brown. Ms. Brown.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: -- I want to call her. Ms. Brown. So...so, what is the population of the County of Santa Rosa?

MS. BROWN: Are you asking about persons experiencing homelessness, specifically?

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: No, I was asking what the population of the City of Santa Rosa is.

MS. BROWN: *(Audio interference)* I don't know, top of my head. I can look it up.

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COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Okay.

MS. BROWN: Looks like it's about 175,000.

CHAIR SINENCI: Like us.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Yeah.

CHAIR SINENCI: It's about us.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: And you're...the people who live in the city, what is their ethnicity composed of?

MS. BROWN: I don't have that information available.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Okay. Okay. Chair, thank you.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mahalo, Member Kama. Member U'u-Hodgins.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Thank you, Chair. I actually have a question for you. So, considering it's 12:34, we do have another Committee in an hour. What's your --

CHAIR SINENCI: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: -- plans? Are you going to defer this and schedule this? Because I would love to talk about it but we --

CHAIR SINENCI: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: -- didn't really have an opportunity to do so.

CHAIR SINENCI: Thank you for bringing it up. Yes, we'll...we'll definitely defer this, if there are no objections or any further questions, and we can have a longer discussion. Member Paltin. Oh.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: No, go ahead.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Sorry, I don't have a objection but can we transmit in writing like who are the people parking there, who gave them permission, why we can't have, you know, people park there if there's...I mean, it doesn't seem fair that some people are taking advantage of the safe parking without a program and others cannot. Like who's managing that land, what has been done since the Tavares Administration? Just following up for the next time we have the meeting.

CHAIR SINENCI: Staff, you got that information? Yeah. Thank you. Pro Tem Kama.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: So...and my question is to you, Chair, if the land was given over

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to the County through an EO and because we're not going to be using it for the stated reason that we're supposed to use it for, could that EO not be amended to do...to use it for something else? So, could we write that over to the State?

CHAIR SINENCI: Staff? Okay. Member Sugimura.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Like by something else, you mean a safe parking program?

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Yeah.

CHAIR SINENCI: Member Sugimura.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Yeah. Thank you. Could you ask the Department of Human Services, which is State, to also come if you...when you take this up again? Because a lot of the testifiers are talking about State and Project Vision. And, you know, that whole discussion is part of the Tent City. And it's not --

CHAIR SINENCI: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: -- the County but there seems to be some misunderstanding --

CHAIR SINENCI: My apologies . . .*(inaudible)*. . . --

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: -- for...for clarification.

CHAIR SINENCI: I tried to keep it at the agenda item but it strayed, on several times, to the...to the State. Thank you for that reminder. Okay. Members, if there are no other questions...again, mahalo to all of our resources. Thank you for everybody who stayed up...or stayed with us all this...all this morning. Thank you to Director Tsuhako, Ms. Crozier, Mr. Jackson, Ms. Brown, and Ms. Sullivan [*sic*], and...for attending this meeting providing the public with more information on this topic. Again, Members, no objections to deferring this item to next time? Thank you for your questions.

COUNCILMEMBERS VOICED NO OBJECTIONS. (excused: GJ and AL).

ACTION: DEFER pending further discussion.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mahalo, Members, and thank you for staying on late listening to everyone's mana'o nui. And with that the WASSP Committee --

MS. MCKINLEY: Oh, Chair.

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CHAIR SINENCI: Oh.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Chair?

CHAIR SINENCI: Go ahead, Member Rawlins-Fernandez.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. I...I just wanted to make a quick correction on the earlier item that we...I said that the INB approved Doc...Dr. Scheuer. I misspoke. Staff contacted me over the...I spoke with Staff over the recess and they said that they missed their deadline. And so that was part...it was just that they were giving us notice that they were aware of it and that they missed their deadline. Mahalo, Chair, for letting me correct the record before we adjourn.

CHAIR SINENCI: And thank you for . . .*(inaudible)*. . . --

MS. LINDO: Chair Sinenci --

CHAIR SINENCI: -- updating us.

MS. LINDO: -- is it possible for me to...to give some thought process for the next time that you guys meet, just from the discussion?

CHAIR SINENCI: She was also...Ms. Lindo was designated a resource too. Go ahead.

MS. LINDO: I just wanted to do two things, one, I think that we get stuck on the county looking for county-owned properties. And one of the easiest venues is to look for partnership with privately owned...and partners like DHHL and other areas where there is less...less of the bureaucracy involved. And I think that should have some prioritization in looking at partnerships like that. And then the second thing would be that when we look...maybe we can ask Director Tsuhako to provide the Council with specific policies and current...like Charter or...or policies that direct and are hindering safe parking zone and these kind of projects so that the Council can look at creating bills and resolutions that will help to be more consistent with what is necessary for the progression in our population of unsheltered. Thank you.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mahalo, Ms. Lindo. And we'll definitely contact the...the Commission on Homelessness and Healing Solutions [*sic*]. Thank you for that. Okay. Members, with that this meeting is now adjourned. It's 12:39. . . .*(gavel)*. . .

ADJOURN: 12:39 p.m.

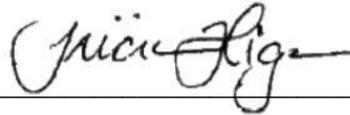
WATER AUTHORITY, SOCIAL SERVICES, AND PARKS COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

February 25, 2025

CERTIFICATION

I, Tricia Higa, hereby certify that pages 1 through 68 of the foregoing represents, to the best of my ability, a true and correct transcript of the proceedings. I further certify that I am not in any way concerned with the cause.

DATED the 9th day of March 2025, in Mililani, Hawaii

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tricia Higa", is written over a horizontal line.

Tricia Higa