

**BUDGET, FINANCE, AND ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**
Council of the County of Maui

MINUTES

April 28, 2025

Online Only via Teams

RECONVENE: 11:05 a.m.

PRESENT: Councilmember Yuki Lei K. Sugimura, Chair
Councilmember Tasha Kama, Vice-Chair (left at 11:52 a.m.)
Councilmember Tom Cook, Member
Councilmember Gabe Johnson, Member (left at 11:55 a.m.)
Councilmember Alice L. Lee, Member
Councilmember Tamara Paltin, Member
Councilmember Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez, Member
Councilmember Shane M. Sinenci, Member
Councilmember Nohelani U‘u-Hodgins, Member

STAFF: Kirsten Szabo, Legislative Analyst
Pauline Martins, Senior Committee Secretary
James Krueger, Senior Legislative Analyst
Peter Hanano, Legislative Attorney
Richelle Kawasaki, Deputy Director, Office of Council Services
Yvette Bouthillier, Senior Committee Secretary
Jarret Pascual, Legislative Analyst
Clarissa MacDonald, Legislative Analyst
Ryan Martins, Council Ambassador

Residency Area Office (RAO):

Mavis Oliveira-Medeiros, Council Aide, East Maui Residency Area Office
Roxanne Morita, Council Aide, Lanai Residency Area Office
Zhantell Lindo, Council Aide, Moloka`i Residency Area Office
Bill Snipes, Council Aide, South Maui Residency Area Office
Clyde “Buddy” Almeida, Council Aide, Makawao-Ha‘ikū-Pā‘ia Residency Area Office

ADMIN.: Lesley Milner, Budget Director, Office of the Mayor
Kristina Toshikiyo, Deputy Corporation Counsel, Department of the Corporation Counsel
Kristie Wrigglesworth, Deputy Corporation Counsel, Department of the Corporation Counsel
Marcy Martin, Director, Department of Finance

OTHERS: Jasee Law
Others (6)

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PRESS: *Akakū: Maui Community Television, Inc.*

CHAIR SUGIMURA: . . .*(gavel)*. . . Good morning, everybody. Welcome to the recess meeting. Today is April the 27th [sic]. Wow. And it's 11:05 a.m., and welcome to the Budget, Finance, Economic Development Committee. My name is Yuki Lei Sugimura. I'm the Chair of this Committee. And I'd like to say that this meeting is also being con...conducted in accordance with the Sunshine Law, and as a reminder, if you are not in the Chambers, please identify by name who, if anyone, is in the room, vehicle, workspace with you today, and minors do not need to be identified. Vice Chair Kama, I see you're online.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Yes, I am, Chair, and I want to say good morning --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Good morning.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: -- to everyone and aloha kakahiaka. I am home in my home office, and I am alone, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: And I will be leaving about 11:50 to go to my 12:00 meeting, and I'll be back a little after 1:00 when it's over.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: And I'll be in the Chambers. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Thank you. Next, we have Member...Chair Lee.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Dagotee from the Apache Nation. Good morning, everyone.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Dagotee to you. Member Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Welina mai kākou. Streaming live and direct from Lāhainā Civic Center where there are thousands of people standing up for water for West Maui, asking that the whole 100 percent be managed, but just the 23 percent under Public Trust purview, but all the private wells as well.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Next, we have Member Johnson. Good morning, Member Johnson.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Aloha, Chair. I'm in my car with my dog, and sorry if she barks, but just me and the dog and I'm here and ready to work. Mahalo.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Then Member Rawlins-Fernandez.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aloha kakahiaka, mai Moloka'i Nui a Hina. I'm

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at my private residence alone, and proud of Lāhainā and West Maui for standing up to protect our wai. Mahalo, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Good morning. Member Cook.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Aloha, good morning. There's nobody in the Kihei Regional Office currently to testify, but we do have staff there. I'm looking forward to the meeting today. Thank you very much.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Member U'u-Hodgins.

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

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Aloha. Member Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Aloha, Chair. E ola i ka wai. Here at the Hāna District Office. I'm here with my staff member, Dawn Lono. Yeah. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. From the Office of the Mayor, we have Director Lesley Milner. Thank you very much for all the time she's been giving the Council. Department of Corporation Counsel, we have Kristina Toshikiyo, as well as Kristie Wigglesworth. Committee Staff: Pauline Martin [sic]; Kirsten Szabo, Legislative Analyst; James Krueger, Senior Legislative Analyst; Jarret Pascual, Legislative Analyst; as well as Clarissa MacDonald, Legislative Analyst; Peter Hanano, Legislative Attorney; Deputy Director of Council Services Richelle Kawasaki; Lei Dinneen, Council Services Assistant Clerk. Please see the last page of the agenda for meeting...information on meeting connectivity.

ITEM 1: PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2026 BUDGET FOR THE COUNTY OF MAUI

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Let's continue to discuss this one item on the agenda, which is BFED-1, Proposed Fiscal Year '26 Budget for the County of Maui. And Members, as a reminder, oral testimony is closed on April 25th, but written testimony is always welcome and will be accepted. Opening remarks for you is that this meeting is to discuss if there are any corrections that may be needed to the budget, then take action on the budget bills. Staff, are there any corrections needed? Can you give a status?

MR. KRUEGER: Thank you, Chair. So...so, just for the status, so...so we are distributing an updated Exhibit 1, you...you know, the most...yeah, the most updated version. We're still making, you know, adjustments and corrections and, you know...you know, reviewing it and rereviewing it to make sure we're accurately capturing what the...you know, the Committee has done during budget session. So, you know, please take a look at it as well and...and if you notice anything that...that, you know, maybe we're not capturing the way it should be, please notify us and...and we can take a look and see if adjustments are necessary.

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CHAIR SUGIMURA: Excuse me. So, was somebody going to distribute to the Members that are here?

MR. KRUEGER: Yes. Yes, we...we should be distributing the...oh.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, you're making copies of it?

MR. KRUEGER: Oh, once...once copies are complete. Apologies.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, okay.

MR. KRUEGER: But...Chair, but we did email it out to the Members already.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh.

MR. KRUEGER: So...but we'll distribute the physical copies once they're ready.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: What number on Granicus?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: 236.

MR. KRUEGER: It...it might take some time for it to update on Granicus, but my understanding is that it was emailed as well so...so it might be quicker to check your email. As far as status goes, we...we are balancing. The Council has produced...the...the Committee has produced a balanced budget. Just some corrections or, you know, adjustments that we wanted to discuss with the Committee. I think the first thing we just wanted to raise and...and confirm with the Committee is yesterday, when the Committee did its split of its...of the balance it had in the General Fund, I...I'm not sure if the Committee also discussed how much would need to go into the Open Space Fund. So, we just wanted to confirm for the Committee that, you know, we'll be putting the required amount necessary into the Open Space Fund, that's about \$192,610, you know, to make it consistent with the Charter requirement for 1 percent of real property tax --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Real property --

MR. KRUEGER: -- revenue. And then the remaining balance, as the Committee discussed yesterday, would be split between the Emergency Fund transfer and the Post Employment Benefits. So, right now, the number we're calculating for that is \$1,800,090 to each. The other thing that we just wanted to confirm for the Committee is that as we calculate fringe, we're using percentages so there is an...an extent of rounding that occurs there. So, we may need to adjust for the rounding, and so we'll be doing that just to make sure that the budget remains in balance. One technical thing I guess we wanted to talk with the Committee is one of the capital improvement projects

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included in the...in...in the budget is the Moloka'i Police Station project --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Um-hum.

MR. KRUEGER: -- but Staff just needed some clarification on what project description to use for the Appendix C. There is one from 2024, but we're not sure if we should just use that same one or if there's another kind of description that we should use for that project.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, Moloka'i Police Station.

MR. KRUEGER: Moloka'i Police Station.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: I think it was from Member Rawlins-Fernandez. So, Member Rawlins-Fernandez, do you have a comment on that?

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: I don't have the 2024 description memorized, so I'll look that up and then I'll let you know if that works. Mahalo.

MR. KRUEGER: Okay. Thank you. There is one other item that we can discuss in the meantime, and...and I'll also pull up the 2024 description on my end. But the...the last item actually pertains to Bill 54. So, at yesterday's meeting, the Committee deferred action on Bill 54, and so our...kind of our understanding is that the...the Committee may wish to consider just referring that...including in its recommendation for the CR, referring that bill to the GREAT Committee.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

MR. KRUEGER: So, if that is the body's desire, then I think a motion to do that, you know, may be appropriate.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. I think yesterday --

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Oh.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: -- in your discussion, Member U'u-Hodgins agreed for...to...yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: I heard a voice. Yes?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay. When you talk about bill numbers, at least give a --

MR. KRUEGER: Oh.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: -- description.

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COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Can --

MR. KRUEGER: Apo --

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Can you guys talk a little louder?

MR. KRUEGER: Oh, sorry. Sorry. So, yes. Right now, we're discussing Bill 54. That's the...that's Councilmember Paltin's proposal relating to the community workforce agreements. So, our understanding is the Committee may wish to consider recommending referral of that bill to the GREAT Committee, and if it wishes to do that, maybe a motion to accomplish that would be appropriate. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Member Kama.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Chair?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yes?

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: So, if this is the appropriate time, I'd like to be able to make the motion to send Bill 54 to Committee.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Motion made by --

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Second.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Motion made by Member Kama, and second by Chair Lee. Any discussion?

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: No.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: So, Member Paltin, you...can you hear what we just did? Because it's relative to your bill. She cannot hear? Oh.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Can you hear? Can you hear, Member Paltin?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I can hear a little bit better now. Sorry, it's really loud over here.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: So, I just made a motion to send Bill 54 to the GREAT Committee.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: GREAT Committee.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: And then Chair Lee seconded it, and so I think we're in discussion. I didn't have any discussion.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

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COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. Yeah, I'm okay with that because the...the financial aspect of it can go forward, and --

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Yep.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: -- we can also request an RFLS prior to it being taken up so that the lawyers tell us what...what is legal and what is not.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Right.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Right. And we all heard Ms. Toshikiyo asking us to do that also, so this is in...in line with Corp. Counsel. If no other discussion, Members --

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Yeah. I just was hoping that we could get it to the lawyers sooner than later in terms of not having to wait until GREAT takes it up so that, you know, they're prepared, and they're not rushed.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Thank you. All...all right, Members. All in favor, raise your sand...hand and say "aye."

COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: I can't see everybody. Is there nine Members here?

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yes.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah? There is, yeah? Okay. Motion carries. Oh, there's Member Johnson. Nine "ayes." Motion carries.

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

NOES: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: None.

EXC.: None.

MOTION CARRIED.

ACTION: Recommending REFERRAL of Bill 54 (2025) to GREAT.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. It will be referred. Thank you. Anything else --

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Chair?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: -- you need?

MR. KRUEGER: Member Rawlins-Fernandez.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Member Rawlins-Fernandez.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. For the Moloka‘i Police Station, it'll be planning, design, permitting, and construction of the Moloka‘i District Police Facility.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. You have that? Okay. You don't need a motion for it, right?

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: That's my motion.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: . . . *(inaudible)* . . . a correction. Oh.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh, you don't need a motion?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: I think that Staff is saying they don't need a motion for that. Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh, great.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you --

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay.

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CHAIR SUGIMURA: -- for looking it up. Anything else?

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: You're welcome.

MR. KRUEGER: Chair, that's...as...that...I believe that's...that's it for us.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Thank you. So, is there any other...

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Correction?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Is --

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Are we doing corrections now, Chair?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Budget is in balance, yeah? Corrections. So, at this time, I would like to recommend...I think I'm hearing that there might be some amendments coming up, and when do you want this to be taken up? Shall we bring each bill up individually?

MR. KRUEGER: Chair, I...I...I believe, yeah, at...at this point, the...the last thing before the Committee would be to make its recommendation to the Council. So, maybe at this time, it might be the most appropriate if there are any last-minute adjustments that need to be occur, for...for those to be --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

MR. KRUEGER: -- considered now.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Before we do passage on first reading? Okay. Member Kama. I heard you talking about --

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Yep. Yes. So, I wanted...I want to move to remove \$10,000 from the Maui Taiko and set aside that \$10,000 for cultural and environmental programs. I just wanted...not changing the money, anything, but just deleting Maui Taiko and inserting...leaving the \$10,000 there for cultural and environmental programs.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Was that your...

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: That's my motion, Chair.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Second.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Was your...was that your district --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah, it's her --

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COUNCILMEMBER LEE: -- priority?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: It's for her district priority.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Yes. Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Yeah.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: All right. Oh. So, motion made by Member Kama, second by Member Cook. Any discussions? Pretty...pretty much her pot, so any...okay.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Right.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: All in favor, say "aye."

COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: I have a question.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, wait. You have a question? No, after...no, after the vote.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. All right. I don't see Member Johnson. Is he here?

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: I heard Member Johnson.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: I heard him.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh, there he is.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, there he is.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: I heard him.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Aye.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Nine "ayes." Motion carries.

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

NOES: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: None.

EXC.: None.

MOTION CARRIED.

ACTION: APPROVED.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Chair Lee, you have a question?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Well, at some point, you're going to tell us today if we have any excess funds as a result of, you know, estimating the real property tax revenues. And so, if that's the case, how much would that...how much is that amount and would the body consider restoring 40,000 each to each Councilmember's account?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. I guess that's a question for James...Mem...Mr. Krueger. Do we have any excess funds from the real property tax?

MR. KRUEGER: So, Chair, our...our understanding is that after...based on the Committee's RPT proposal and after making the necessary adjustment for the Open Space Fund, there is about \$3.6 million left. And...and right now, Comm...Staff's understanding is that would be split between the Post Employment Benefits and the transfer to the Emergency Fund. So, that...that...that would be the number, 3.6 million.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: No, that's if we've decided to do that. But at this point in time, you're saying there's a \$3.6 million excess.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Excess. Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: So, when can I make my motion?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, you can make your motion now. And then how does that affect our final decision on the Emergency and the OPEB? We just decrease it if we do it?

MR. KRUEGER: Yes, Chair. May...maybe that could just be part of the motion, would just be to decrease the...the split between Emergency Fund and OPEB accordingly.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

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COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay. So, I move to add 40,000 to each Councilmember's individual accounts.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Mr. Johnson?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: I need a --

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Oops, yes.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: -- second.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Second.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, okay. So, Chair Lee made the motion, and Member Johnson made the second.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Yeah. I think that, you know, with all the work we've been doing, it's not that easy to find people to work in the office. I'm...I'm having difficulty replacing Curt. I...I...every place you go, there's help wanted, help wanted, help wanted. So, this is a tough market, and we need to be competitive, and we need...in order to get quality people, we need to pay them appropriately. So, that's the reason why I'm asking for 40,000 for each Member.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Any discussion? I...oh, Member Paltin first, and then Member Rawlins-Fernandez.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I...I don't support this. No matter how many people you hire, you still need to do your own homework and...and come to...to work ready and understanding what's going on. You know, we...we cut a significant amount out of the supplemental agreements. If you think it's hard to hire people from what you're paying, imagine the folks at SR-09C. That might not mean a lot to you folks, but it's like \$40,000 annually for a full-time...and this is just a slap in the face to all those hard-working civil servants that go through a huge process just to get a below-living wage job, like way below. Like I said last time, we didn't give ourselves raises. This is us giving ourselves raises. You can say it comes from your office account all you want, but the reality and the optics is you're increasing your own pots, and I'm not supportive of it. When I went through and I did the cuts, I prioritized needs over wants. And I didn't take away all the wants, I...I reduced a lot of them. And so, I'm not supportive of this. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Member Rawlins-Fernandez, I think I saw.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yeah. Mahalo, Chair. I won't be supporting the motion, Chair. I think everyone...you know, we had the discussion yesterday, Sunday, that everyone would sacrifice a little, and the...I...I don't...I don't think it's...it's fair for

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us to also not make sacrifices. And we did increase RPT, so, you know, that...that was something that we discussed not doing, and then...for all the reasons Member Paltin just stated, like it's...you know, we...we need to be making sacrifices too, and I'm supportive of, you know, increasing, you know, our office budget the amount we did yesterday and not back...not restore it to the original proposal that we took up I think it was on Friday, because that's what this basically would do. Actually, it would increase it by 5,000 because we reduced it yesterday. So, the original proposal was 70,000 on Friday, and then we reduced it to 35,000 I believe yesterday, and then...Sunday, and then today, the proposal is to increase it by 40,000, which would bring it up to 75,000. So, it's actually more than what we had all agreed to on Friday. So, I'll be voting against the motion. Mahalo, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, I...I just want to say that I think what happened in all of this discussion, that our A, B, and C accounts are merged into one, so there's an ability to use like B or C accounts. I mean, we don't really have C because B and C are together, but there's that ability to use that and not using whatever you were planning for C. So, that...I...I think...I think there's money there, but it depends on how you...you know, how you manage your...your office budgets, is what we're talking about. Any other comments, Members?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Yeah, I...I have.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah. Go ahead.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: You know, when I speak to my motion, I don't need people criticizing me and double...you know, double guessing what my motives are, yeah? I mean, if you want to say why you're for or against the motion, let's keep it professional --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: -- and cordial. And if you can't, you're in the wrong business. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Okay. Anybody else have any comments regarding this? So, this...this motion then would be to...what is it, 360,000, right, is what you were asking for, Chair Lee? 360...

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Roll call.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Roll call. Okay.

MS. MACDONALD: Chair, proceeding...oh, apologies. Chair, proceeding with the roll-call vote.
Council Chair Lee.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Aye.

MS. MACDONALD: Councilmember Paltin.

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COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: A'ole.

MS. MACDONALD: Councilmember Johnson.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Yes.

MS. MACDONALD: Councilmember Rawlins-Fernandez.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: No.

MS. MACDONALD: Councilmember Cook.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Yes.

MS. MACDONALD: Councilmember U'u-Hodgins.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: No.

MS. MACDONALD: Councilmember Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: No.

MS. MACDONALD: Committee Vice Chair Kama.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: No.

MS. MACDONALD: Committee Chair Sugimura.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: No. Okay. Oh, motion.

MS. MACDONALD: Chair, that is three "ayes," six "noes." Motion fails.

VOTE:	AYES:	Councilmembers Cook, Johnson, and Lee.
	NOES:	Chair Sugimura, Vice-Chair Kama, and Councilmembers Paltin, Rawlins-Fernandez, Sinenci, and U'u-Hodgins.
	ABSTAIN:	None.
	ABSENT:	None.
	EXC.:	None.

MOTION FAILED.

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CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Okay. Thank you. Any other...any other amendments, discussion?
Okay. Member U'u-Hodgins.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: I was on my phone when we took the vote for Bill 49, so --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: And I understand there were some issue afterwards, so I just wanted clarity on the...on the ultimate...the end goal, the end game of it all. So, what did we actually vote on? Because I was on my phone and it's kind of in and out.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: So, if OCS Staff could just tell me specifically what it was, because I think it was originally, Member Cook made 15-plus...well, 10-plus step.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: No, 10.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: And then Member Johnson and he discussed maybe 15-plus step, and then in the next motion, I thought it was for attorneys, and then I guess it was 20-plus step. So, can somebody clarify if the step was already included in the '26 proposed budget, or if this is an additional step plus 20 percent, which would have basically made it the exact same thing as what we were discussing?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, we...okay. You...Cissy (*phonetic*), you want...oh. Deputy Director, you want to speak to it?

MS. KAWASAKI: Thank you, Chair. In this proposal...in the proposal, there was an increase that was proposed originally by OCS.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Um-hum.

MS. KAWASAKI: In the end, we came in with a revised proposal for a 30 percent across the board --

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Um-hum. Um-hum.

MS. KAWASAKI: -- and my understanding of the motion that was made in Committee was for a 5-percent step and 20 percent across the board. So, it is below what management proposed.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Okay. The step was the step that was included in the '26 budget to begin with?

MS. KAWASAKI: Our understanding was that the requested step was a 5 percent step. In the regular steps that we had, there is some variation. So, there are 4 percent and odd

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numbers within there so they are not all 5 percent --

COUNCILMEMBER U‘U-HODGINS: Um-hum.

MS. KAWASAKI: -- but our understanding was that the request was for a 5-percent step, and then 20 percent. The proposal by management was...and we're...I'm only speaking about the non-attorney positions.

COUNCILMEMBER U‘U-HODGINS: Yes.

MS. KAWASAKI: That...the non-attorney position across the board we requested was 30 percent. So, the math comes out a little bit different. You don't just apply 25 percent across the board.

COUNCILMEMBER U‘U-HODGINS: Um-hum.

MS. KAWASAKI: We would do the 5-percent step for each category...I mean each position, and then a 20 percent across the board.

COUNCILMEMBER U‘U-HODGINS: Okay. 20 percent across the board plus the 5 percent. So, it's basically 5 percent less than what was originally proposed in Bill 25 ish [sic]?

MS. KAWASAKI: Sort of. The math doesn't quite come out that way, but in broad strokes.

COUNCILMEMBER U‘U-HODGINS: Okay. And then some of the language in Bill 49 allows the Director to just move people up and down steps.

MS. KAWASAKI: That is correct.

COUNCILMEMBER U‘U-HODGINS: So, technically, you guys could just move somebody a step, and then we would be right back to where we were at the 30 percent?

MS. KAWASAKI: Technically, yes. The Director does have the authority to move people between steps. So, I haven't looked at it in that fashion. I think it would look a little bit differently if he were to just make a step adjustment that was out of line with the rest of what the office is. I'd have to look at the math.

COUNCILMEMBER U‘U-HODGINS: Okay.

MS. KAWASAKI: I'm not quite sure what that would turn out to be.

COUNCILMEMBER U‘U-HODGINS: Why...and I guess I wouldn't necessarily ask you, I could ask the maker of the motion, but why did we include a step if you don't need to ask us our permission to do it?

MS. KAWASAKI: That was the discretion of the Membership.

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COUNCILMEMBER U‘U-HODGINS: Okay. Okay. It was a lot of moving parts at that moment. I would have probably preferred it at what Member Cook suggested, but we are where we are now, and I just wanted some clarification on that.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: So, just based upon the questions and...when this was going on, I too didn't realize that we went back up to 20 when Member Cook started at 10, Member Johnson took it to 15, and I thought we agreed on that, and then in this discussion, we're now back up to 20. But Member U‘u-Hodgins, do you want to propose an amendment to the bill?

COUNCILMEMBER U‘U-HODGINS: In all honestly, Chair, I really don't feel like getting into it again. I'm kind of bummed that it happened the way it happened because that means we spent our last few days fighting with each other, and I don't want to do that. I don't want to spend the last few moments of this budget...and it was a struggle bus that we were all on for all month...fighting with my coworkers. And that's basically what this bill did --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Um-hum.

COUNCILMEMBER U‘U-HODGINS: -- was made us fight with each other, and I didn't really appreciate the way it went down, not only amongst the Members, because hurtful words were said back and forth --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Um-hum.

COUNCILMEMBER U‘U-HODGINS: -- and I think we don't need to have discussions like that. Like Chair Lee said, you can be civil.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Um-hum.

COUNCILMEMBER U‘U-HODGINS: You can get your point across and you can be civil. But only meeting with one or two Members before this hits the floor wasn't the way I think maybe that should have gone down, and it created unnecessary tension. Just like how we meet with OCS Staff before we...they submit the budget, we discussed an increase, and I was happy to support it. I'm always supportive of our Staff as long as it's relatively reasonable. But when this hit the floor, this did catch me off guard, and I did have like a 15-minute meeting with Director. And he's always super...he's always a really nice guy, you know?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Um-hum.

COUNCILMEMBER U‘U-HODGINS: So, nothing against what...nothing against him, but I didn't appreciate the way it all went down. I don't want to fight with my coworkers. And to be honest, say we all voted no against this, we...what's going to happen with OCS Staff? I don't think we'll be treated any differently, but you just never know, and it put us in a situation I think that was completely avoidable. And we cut Mayor's budget, and then we add to ours, and then we cut Mayor's budget, and then we add to ours. We

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cut Mayor's budget, we said we're going cut Mayor's budget, and then we add to ours, which is why I voted no on the last motion we just had. But I just think there's a better way to go about this, and I hope to never do this again on the floor. And I hope that our internal Staff can have conversations with us and so we're not doing this again. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. Appreciate that. Okay. Member Kama.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: About amendments.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Since we're in the mood to make corrections, if I may --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yes.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: -- I would like to move to restore \$140,000 in Budget Category A for the Department of Planning for expansion positions and cut \$250,000 in Budget Category B, for a net reduction in General Fund expenditures of \$110,000, not including any adjustments to fringe benefits.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Need a second, please.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, this is for Department of Planning.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Second for discussion.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Yeah. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Motion made by Member Kama, and second by Chair Lee. Thank you. Okay. Discussion.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Members, my Staff was contacted by the Budget Director on behalf of the Department of Planning to ask me to reconsider the funding cut that we made to expansion positions, taking the funding for those positions to four months of funding rather than the traditional eight months. The planning department offered to cut its Operating Expenses Budget by \$250,000 to more than balance the restoration of wage and salary expenses. It is only for that reason that I ask you to consider this potential restoration. I ask for your support of the motion.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Very good. Chair Lee made the second.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: I...I have a question.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh.

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COUNCILMEMBER LEE: How many more of these do we have?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Member Kama, do you have more?

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: I just have one more for East Maui Water Authority --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: -- restoration.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Let's...let's vote on this.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Wait --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Discussion. Member Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I'm not sure Chair Lee was finished --

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: I'm done.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: -- with her turn, but I...okay. My question is how do we...I mean, is it...I...I don't feel comfortable restoring it without the fringe like...because if...if you're going to hire folks, they got union representation that they got to have, you know? All the things that...when...when they sign the contract, you know, which is like sick leave, vacation, ERS. Like, that's...that's my question for clarification. I'm not sure who is the appropriate entity to answer the question, but...and there's a lot of background noise so I'm not sure. What I heard was restore the expansion position but not restoring the fringe. I think that we should include the fringe. I don't know the calculation, but you can't hire someone and not give them what the contract for all of the bargaining unit employees allots for them.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: So, I think...I think that's probably a Budget Director question because I just took what she asked me to do --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Miss --

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: -- based upon what Planning had asked her to ask me.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Ms. Milner?

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: So, could we get Budget Director, Chair?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: She's here. Okay. She's popped up.

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MS. MILNER: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Councilmember Paltin and Councilmember Kama. Yes, the intent was also to restore fringe. So, if the body only wants to restore 250, I'll just need a moment to calculate about what that would be in salaries plus fringe to get to 250. So, I believe it would be 125,000 . . .(echoing). . . .

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, wait. You're echoing. Say that again.

MS. MILNER: So, 125,000 in salaries plus 117,475 in fringe would be a total of 242,475, which would come under the 250,000 that Planning has offered to cut from their B Budget.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: So...so, that means I would have to amend the motion to delete not including...to include adjustments to fringe, right?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yes.

MS. MILNER: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Councilmember Kama.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Okay.

MS. MILNER: Yes, I believe the revised --

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Okay.

MS. MILNER: -- motion would be to restore 125,000 to the A Budget plus fringe and reduce the B Budget by 250,000.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Okay.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: I got that.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: All right. So, Director Milner, before you pop off, I can tell that this next motion that Member Paltin will be...I mean, Member Kama will be making is going to bring you back up to get the same kind of information. All right. Members, so you heard the information that was just provided. Yeah? Okay. Any --

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: So --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: -- more discu...okay. Go ahead, Member Kama.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: So, we have a motion on the floor, right, for the 140. So, I want to withdraw that motion if it's okay, right? Withdraw that motion, and then make a new motion to restore 125 plus fringes, right, for the Department and Planning and cut 250 in the Budget Category B, right?

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CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yes.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Lesley?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yes. Okay.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Okay.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: I see Member Rawlins-Fernandez. You have a question?

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. I don't know if you want to recognize the second before you recognize me.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Yeah, it was me.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Oh, thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: It would be me.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, did you have a comment, Chair Lee?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: No, I thought I seconded that motion.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: You did.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Yeah.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: You did. Do you have a comment?

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: No, she with...she withdrew, and then...and then --

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Yeah, so I'm doing the second second.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, okay. Okay. . . .(laughing). . .

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Okay. Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: I have a question.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: So, since...since...since these proposals to restore the funding for the expansion positions for Planning and Department of 'Oiw

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Resources were requested by the Budget Director, why don't we just take up both motions one time instead of separating them?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Well, we've already separated, so let's just proceed on with the...with this motion, and then we'll go to the next one. Member Kama, any more comments?

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: No, we can --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: You're fine?

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: -- take up the Planning one first and go on to --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: The next one?

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: -- the next one.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. All right. Members, ready to vote? All in favor, raise your hand, say "aye."

COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: I don't see Member Johnson. Is it eight "ayes," one excused?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Aye.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, okay. Nine "ayes." Motion carries.

VOTE: AYES: Chair Sugimura, Vice-Chair Kama, and Councilmembers Cook, Johnson, Lee, Paltin, Rawlins-Fernandez, Sinenci, and U'u-Hodgins.

NOES: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: None.

EXC.: None.

MOTION CARRIED.

ACTION: APPROVED.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Member Kama. Thank you. Member Kama next.

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VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Okay. Thank you. Okay. So, I move to restore \$18,376 plus associated fringe in Budget Category A for the East Maui Water Authority for the Water Resources expansion position and cut \$32,050 from the Budget Category B for a net reduction in General Fund expenditures of \$13,674 less than any associated fringe.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: That's my motion.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Member Kama. Is there a second?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Second.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Second, I heard Member Sinenci I think. Yeah. Okay. Member Kama.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Okay. So...yes. Thank you. So, Members, my Staff was contacted by the Budget Director on behalf of the East Maui Water Authority to ask me to reconsider the funding cut that we made to expansion positions, taking the funding for those positions to four months of funding rather than eight traditional months. The East Maui Water Authority offered to cut its Operating Expenses Budget by \$32,050 to balance the restoration of wages and salary expenses. It is only for that reason that I ask you to support the motion, and I respectfully ask for your support. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Does the secondary want to...Member Sinenci. And then I'll call on you, Chair Lee. I think you had your hand up. Member Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Mahalo, Chair. Yeah, I understand that the...the Department is a fairly new department, and so they're just trying to build out the...the department, not fully paying them the full years, but just to get some of the positions in so they can apply for some grants to supplement the operations. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Question then. Did they have somebody to hire lined up? Member Sinenci, from what you just said.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: It sounds like they are if they're asking for...to...to put the money back in.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Any other discussion, Members? Chair Lee, did you have your hand up? You didn't? Okay.

MR. KRUEGER: Chair?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yes.

MR. KRUEGER: Apologies. Could...could we just confirm again the add to salaries that's part of the motion?

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CHAIR SUGIMURA: Member Kama, do you have all the...what...what the Budget Director shared?

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: What are you asking for, James?

MR. KRUEGER: Could I...the...the number being added to the A account.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: 18,376 plus associated fringe in Budget Category A for East Maui.

MR. KRUEGER: Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Director --

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Okay. You're welcome.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Director Milner, you popped up. Did you want to say anything? And you pop...you went back out.

MS. MILNER: Thank you, Chair. No, I just was going to offer the number in case Councilmember Kama no longer had it handy. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: I have it.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Member Paltin.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you. So --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, you...you're frozen. Oh.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: -- I...I think that...

CHAIR SUGIMURA: We can't hear you, Member Paltin.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: You're frozen.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Can you hear me?

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: You're frozen on my screen --

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Oh.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: -- Member Paltin.

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COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Chair, you...can you hear me?

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Can you hear me?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Try.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I just want to clarify...

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, your audio is...is going in and out.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Can you hear me?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Choppy.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Oh.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: And you're frozen.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I...

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: This is...this is what you look like.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I guess I can...

CHAIR SUGIMURA: . . .*(laughing)*. . . Chair Lee.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: -- you guys, but...

CHAIR SUGIMURA: You know, we can't...we can't --

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I think I clarified that it was salary plus fringe. Are we doing a lot of these . . .*(inaudible)*. . .? Like, should I go to the Recovery Center and leave the stadium?

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: No. No, that was it.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Clarify.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: That's all I have --

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VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Oh, her hand's raised but I don't know what that means.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Yes. Yes.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Can you hear --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Now...yeah, she's just frozen but we heard you. All right. Any more...any more --

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Chair?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yes, Chair...I mean, yes, Member Kama.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: I need to leave now, and I'll be back at 1:00 at the Chamber.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. All right.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Okay. Bye.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Any more amendments? Any more discussions? Okay. All right. So, no more corrections. So, Members, I will entertain a motion to recommend passage on first reading, incorporating changes voted on in Committee and nonsubstantive revisions of Bill 41, CD1, which is the Budget Bill; Bill 42, CD1 (2025), Capital Program Bill; CD...Bill 43, CD1, Bond Authorization Bill; Bill 44, CD 1, Lapsed Bond Bill; Bill 45, CD1, "A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OF THE COUNTY OF MAUI TO ENTER INTO AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT FOR A LOAN FROM THE STATE OF HAWAII WATER POLLUTION CONTROL REVOLVING FUND FOR VARIOUS WASTEWATER PROJECTS, FISCAL YEAR 2026 BUDGET ORDINANCE;" and Bill 46, CD1, A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OF THE COUNTY OF MAUI TO ENTER INTO AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT FOR A LOAN FROM THE STATE OF HAWAII'S WATER POLLUTION CONTROL REVOLVING FUND FOR VARIOUS WATER SUPPLY PROJECTS, FISCAL YEAR 2026 BUDGET ORDINANCE."

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: So moved.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. I need a second. Member --

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Second.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Tom Cook...Member Cook made the second, and Member U'u-Hodgins made the motion. Anything you would like to speak to on the motion for all these bills?

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COUNCILMEMBER U‘U-HODGINS: Let's get out of here.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: . . .*(laughing)*. . . Yes? You want to...Member...oh. What's happening?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: You need a recess?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: You need a recess? You need a recess?

MR. KRUEGER: No. Okay. Maybe...maybe a brief one-minute recess, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. 11:40...we'll just do 49. . . .*(gavel)*. . .

RECESS: 11:47 a.m.
RECONVENE: 11:51 a.m.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: . . .*(gavel)*. . . Welcome back to...back to the Budget, Finance, Economic Development Committee. Okay. Staff asked for a recess, so please explain.

MR. KRUEGER: Oh, thank you for that, Chair. One, we just wanted to confirm about...about the fuel tax and the weight tax, and...and everything's okay. So, we just...I...I guess we'll just want to inform the Committee really quickly. So, the Committee made some changes to salaries and fringe, so we'll recalculate that and then whatever the balance that we get out of that that's still in the General Fund, we're going to split that and put that into...half into Emergency Fund and half into Post Employment Benefits. So, we'll do that calculation. And then just for the Committee's information, we'll...we'll just restate the motion before the Committee votes. So, our understanding of the motion on the floor is to recommend passage of first reading of the following bills, including the actions that the...the changes that the Committee decided on this past week, as well as any other nonsubstantive revisions for the following bills: Bill 41, CD1 (2025); Bill 42, CD1 (2025); Bill 43, CD1 (2025); Bill 44, CD1 (2025); and Bill 45 (2025); and Bill 46 (2025). And...and if those other bills require revisions, we'll add the appropriate CD1 to those as well.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

MR. KRUEGER: And our understanding is the motion was made by Member Cook, seconded by Member U‘u-Hodgins.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: I think the other way around, Member U‘u-Hodgins and sec...second was from Member Cook.

MR. KRUEGER: Oh, okay. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah, whatever works. . . .*(laughing)*. . . Okay. So, you all heard, right, twice now. All right. Any more discussion? Member...Chair Lee.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Yeah. I want to thank everybody for all their hard work on this, you,

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Chair, everybody. I...I feel humbled by this exercise because I think it ended up where... I think Member Cook and I had the least amount of...of asks in the long run. But in any way, I'm happy to do that. I cannot...I cannot really fully support with all my heart and soul the real property tax proposals and what passed yesterday in Committee, but I'm not going to vote no on it because it's part of the Ordinance and overall, I support the Ordinance. I wish we could have come up with more cuts. I didn't want to touch real property. I really feel that because the assessments were so high, it was...you know, I wish I could have thought of different alternatives so that we didn't have to, you know, make changes, increase changes to the real property tax revenues. But I want to thank everybody, and especially our Staff working until 2:30 in the morning many times and, you know, just we...we put them through a lot and I really appreciate what they did. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah. All right. Anybody else want to say anything before I take the vote?
Member Cook.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: I just want to clarify that it was actually Mayor U'u...I mean --

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Mayor. Wow.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: -- Member --

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

CHAIR SUGIMURA: . . .*(laughing)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: -- Member U'u-Hodgins, who I think was the lowest with Chair Lee for ask. I kept mine relatively modest, but it did...and I concur with...I...I also want to thank all of the Staff and for you, Chair. This has not been an easy task for any of us. And thank our families --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Everybody. Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: -- for supporting us with putting up through this time, and I hope that we as a body can come together and do the public's work with a good heart. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. Anybody else want to say anything before I call for the vote? No? All right. Members, all in favor, raise your hand and say "aye." I guess I have to...Member Johnson's going to pop up.

COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yay. Okay. All right. Nine "ayes." Motion carries. Thank you.

MR. KRUEGER: Chair?

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CERTIFICATION

I, Logan Tsuji, hereby certify that pages 1 through 31 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 31st day of May 2025, in Wailuku, Hawaii

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

Logan Tsuji