

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

MINUTES

April 24, 2026

Online Only via Teams

CONVENE: 9:10 a.m.

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

STAFF: Kirsten Szabo, Legislative Analyst
Pauline Martins, Senior Committee Secretary
James Krueger, Senior Legislative Analyst
Peter Hanano, Legislative Attorney
Megan Moniz, Legislative Attorney
Kasie Apo Takayama, Senior Legislative Analyst
Jarret Pascual, Legislative Analyst
Clarissa MacDonald, Legislative Analyst
Lenora Dinneen, Council Services Assistant Clerk
Ryan Martins, Council Ambassador

ADMIN.: Kristie Wigglesworth, Deputy Corporation Counsel, Department of the
Corporation Counsel
Lesley Milner, Budget Director, Office of the Mayor

OTHERS: Jake Carton
Jeff Ueoka
Lisa Darcy
Travis Liggett
Jim Langford
Jasee Law
Others (21)

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

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

April 24, 2026

**ITEM 1: PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2027 BUDGET FOR THE COUNTY
 OF MAUI** (BILL 55 (2026), BILL 56 (2026), BILL 57 (2026), BILL 58
 (2026), BILL 59 (2026), BILL 60 (2026), BILL 61 (2026), BILL 62
 (2026), BILL 63 (2026), BILL 64 (2026), BILL 66 (2026), BILL 67
 (2026), BILL 76 (2026), and RESOLUTION 26-63)

CHAIR SUGIMURA: . . .*(gavel)*. . . Good morning, everybody. Welcome to the Budget, Finance, Economic Development Committee, and it is now 9:10. I appreciate all of you for being here, we've had a few kind of interesting days, a lot of nights and hard work from the Committee and Staff. So, this meeting is being conducted in accordance with the Sunshine Law, and as a reminder, when your name is called, please do note who is with you in your workspace, and minors do not need to be identified. Member Kauanoe Batangan, excused for now. Member Cook, good morning.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Aloha. Good morning Chair. Looking forward to today's meeting.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yes, important. Member Johnson will be joining us. Chair Lee, good morning.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Good morning. Aloha kākou. I'm in...I'm here in my office alone, waiting for the meeting.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Yay. Member Paltin will be joining us. Member Rawlins-Fernandez, good morning.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aloha kakahiaka kākou. I'm currently in my office alone, and I'm going to walk outside into the Chambers right now.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, good. I'd like to have you in person. Good morning. Member Sinenci, good morning.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Aloha and good morning, Chair. Straddling a couple of meetings this morning. I'm in my office, and I'm here with district Staff members...or Staff members, Don Atay and Carol Lee Kamekona.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Very good. Member U'u-Hodgins will be joining us. All right. So, we have quorum, we're going to begin. Assisting us with today's meeting are the BFED Committee Staff. And I really appreciate them because they all have been working...when we gavel out, they're still working. So, appreciate all of you. Our invited resource persons from the Administrations [*sic*] include Budget Director, Deputy Corp. Counsel Wrigglesworth, and please see the last page of the agenda for information...agenda for information on connectivity. Thank you, Members, for attending today's BFED Committee meeting. We have one item on the agenda, which is BFED-1, Proposed Fiscal Year '27 Budget for the County of Maui, and I will be now taking public testimony. Please do identify yourself by name when you come up to the testifiers...when you come up to testify. You will be given three minutes plus an additional...additional 30 seconds to complete if you're not done. So, individuals

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

April 24, 2026

wishing to testify via Teams, please raise your hand by clicking on the raise-your-hand button. If calling in, please follow the prompts via phone, star-5 to raise your hand and lower your hand, star-6 to mute and mute...unmute. Staff will add names to the testifier's list in the order testifiers sign in or raise your hand. For those on Teams, Staff will lower your hand once your hand is...once your name is added. Staff will then call the name you're flagged...you're tagged...logged in under, or the last four digits of your phone. At this time, Staff will then enable your microphone and video. Please enter...please ensure your name appears in Microsoft Teams as a name you prefer to be referred to or as anonymous if you wish to testify anonymously. And oral testimony is limited to three minutes per item, and if you're not done, it will be...you'll be given another 30 seconds to complete. Once you are done testifying or if you do not wish to testify, you can always view this meeting on *Akakū* Channel 53, Facebook Live, or micro...mauicounty.us/agendas. We will do our best to take each person up in an orderly fashion. So, can I please have the first testifier?

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Chair?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Chair? Chair? First...Chair?

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Chair Lee?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: I have a quick question.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Yeah.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Does Staff have the exhibit for...the up-to-date exhibit for distribution today?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Are you talking about Exhibit 1?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Yeah.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Which is all the work that was done. So, is that passed out or is it online?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Everybody . . .(inaudible). . .

CHAIR SUGIMURA: It's being put on right now for Exhibit 1.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay. Can I request that it be emailed to me because I...we normally run an EI report on it...I mean an AI report on it. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Wow. We would love to hear what...

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

April 24, 2026

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Well, that's my grandson. Yeah. . . .*(laughing)*. . .

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: He does all that.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Yeah.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. First testifier.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Thanks.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you.

MS. APO TAKAYAMA: Yes, Chair. The first testifier is Jake Carton, to be followed by Jeff Ueoka.

. . .*(silence)*. . .

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Good morning.

. . . OPEN PUBLIC TESTIMONY . . .

MR. CARTON: Aloha, honorable Councilmembers and community. My name is Jake Carton. I speak on behalf of Maui Indivisible, and I am a voting resident of Maui County. The County Clerk threw out almost 1,000 votes in the last election, declaring them fraudulent because the voter signatures...

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. This is about budget, right? This is about budget?

MR. CARTON: Yes, it is.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

MR. CARTON: I reserve those seconds, sorry. Declaring them fraudulent because the voter signatures did not match the signatures on their driver's license. Nowhere in the 2027 budget do we see a County effort to educate voters to match signatures between driver's license and ballot. We are now vulnerable to Trump's Homeland Security investigations plan to undermine our right to vote under his made-up claim of massive voter fraud. Anecdotally, we know the County Clerk tossed mostly young voters' ballots. This analysis makes sense as young voters' signature and contact information change often, so they face higher obstacles to cure or fix and defend their legitimate votes. When our County Clerk throws out the votes of our young at more than double Statewide and four times nationwide rates, and the County does nothing to correct this disgrace, Maui

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

April 24, 2026

sticks out like a sore thumb. County government is inviting Trump to federalize our elections, something he has generally and recently threatened. When our County declares our young voters' ballot signatures fraudulent, it is calling attention to Trump's HSI to open a case here and seize our ballots like it has recently done in Georgia, Michigan, and elsewhere. When MPD Chief signs a contract with HSI a few weeks after the Trump election to give them a rent-free office in our police station, the County is inviting this kind of trouble. When County lawyers declare that MPD-HSI contract void, but the MPD Chief testifies here last week that he intends to continue this HSI relationship, and he publicly declares that he is negotiating a new HSI contract, the County is inviting this kind of trouble. When the Council has yet to further investigate whether the 2016 and 2013 MPD-HSI contracts are still in effect since the 2024 one is void, the County is inviting this kind of trouble. Last week, the MPD Chief called his HSI relationship lies, fake news, and false narratives, and then blustered about narco-terrorism, corpses rotting in the sun, the need for armored military vehicles, DMRs on Maui roads in this budget, and breaking away from democratically accountable oversight to make contracts, sounds like somebody else we want to keep away from Maui and our voters' ballots. Please act now to avoid Trumpian trouble, and make sure the County . . . *(timer sounds)* . . . does not discard another 1,000 voter ballots when Maui voter participation is at an all-time low. We need to especially support young people voting by educating to match signatures between driver's license and ballot, not punish them.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. Any questions? Thank you very much. No questions. Next testifier please.

MS. APO TAKAYAMA: The next testifier is Jeff Ueoka, to be followed by Lisa Darcy.

MR. UEOKA: Good morning again.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Good morning.

MR. UEOKA: Sorry to be here. Jeff Ueoka, Waikapu Country Town. Coach's apologies, he can't make it this morning, he had another matter he had to attend to. We were told that there were some questions about the wastewater treatment facility, so wanted to come and give some information. So, periodically Councilmember Cook and his Staff, and, you know, we get calls from a lot of various people to just reach out, see how Waikapu Country Town is going. And in my last or most recent discussion with Councilmember Cook and his Staff, we kind of mentioned that the wastewater timing is one of our concerns. We...we have no reason to believe that DEM won't finish on time, but it's the one matter that is completely out of our control. So, the problem is...so we...our understanding is we reached out a couple of months ago actually to a wastewater treatment consultant and to understand better what the timing and the cost of building a small package plant, which would serve as an interim gap if, for whatever reason Central isn't online by '29 or '30...because we were curious about how long it would take to get the plannings and permitting and design for it. Our consultant's best estimate is, if he were to start now, September 2029, he'd probably have everything ready. And then to construct it, if all goes well, around a year. We're fortunate, we

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

April 24, 2026

already have it, it was included in our FEIS as one of the options. Our ultimate goal is always to connect to the Central Wastewater Treatment Facility, but we are hoping to, you know, get some insurance here. And if '28, '29 comes along, and for whatever reason, Central is a little behind--not saying they will be, but just in case--we'd want to be ready to start construction on a Phase I of it, of our package plant, basically. And it would probably cover around 300-something...3 to 400 single-family homes. And then that would allow Waikapu Country Town to keep building. We probably, the next phase, would be the 213 single-family workforce housing units as contemplated in the PPP. And we probably want to do some additional market stuff to help pay for all the backbone infrastructure. But it just allows us to have an idea of the ability to keep moving forward. So, that's what that was about. But every intention to connect to the Central Wastewater Treatment Facility. We are not aware of...we have not been informed by DEM that they aren't going to meet their '29 or '30 deadline. So, we're not trying to make trouble there or anything, just...this was just a insurance policy for us. So --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

MR. UEOKA: -- thank you very much.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Appreciate that. So...oh, go ahead, Member Cook.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: So, Mr. Ueoka, so the 500,000 could be...would be a loan, and the company would own the plant. And what's the...what is the potential for, after hooking up to the main one, how...how...what does this package plant, basically in a thumbnail sketch, consist of?

MR. UEOKA: So, I'm no expert on it, but it's basically a chamber. And some stuff happens there, some separation, and there's some pumps. I don't know the science of it. And, you know, solids are going to go one side, and they're going to treat the effluent. So, it'll be R-1, so we can use the R-1, even from this small package plant. When it's done, we will decommission it. We were hoping there's probably some other community. I was...because I was here yesterday, I was very enlightened by the...the Mā'alaea group in there. And it really could be reused somewhere else for some other small...well, 392 homes is not a small community, but, you know, it could be given to the County or donated somewhere else to be used elsewhere, because it'll be a functional thing. I know a used wastewater treatment facility sounds kind of gross, but I...I think it's doable.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Not...not really. It's just...thanks for that, because not having unused redundancy and generating waste and...is part of the concern, too. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. Member Rawlins...

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Question.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, sorry. Chair Lee after Member Rawlins-Fernandez. Oh.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Chair Lee?

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

April 24, 2026

CHAIR SUGIMURA: No, it's you. It's you. It's you.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh, it's me?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: I called on you. Yeah. Sorry.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh, I thought you were letting her go.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: And then we'll ask Chair Lee. No.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: And then we'll ask Chair Lee.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aloha, Mr. Ueoka. Mahalo for your testimony.
What is the total cost of the...what is it called? Package...

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Package plant.

MR. UEOKA: Let's call it a package plant.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Package plant.

MR. UEOKA: So, what...the first phase is probably design and permitting. That's what we're asking for. So, it'll probably be...you know, we're looking at anywhere from 3 to 500,000, depending on...we got a lot of T&M quotes, time and materials. So, if processes take a lot longer in the permitting, I have a feeling our consultant there will probably charge us more money. That's why I had the bigger range. The overall package plant, we got the bid pre-events happening in the Middle East. So, it was between 5 and 6 million. It could bump. It could stay the same, because to be fair, we won't be ready to actually build it until September of 2029. Hopefully, there'll be a huge reduction in construction prices and building material prices between now and then. So...but that was the estimate we got right now, 5 to 6 million.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: So, you said you won't be ready to build it until 2029?

MR. UEOKA: Correct. So, what we were hoping for now is some help with the design and permitting money. It'll be designed and permitted in September of 2029, if...if all goes well.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Because if you listened to our discussion last night, that was one of the questions about timing.

MR. UEOKA: Yeah.

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

April 24, 2026

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Because if the Central Maui Wastewater Facility is completed and operational by 2031, then that'll be about the same time.

MR. UEOKA: Correct. And we probably would not move forward with it. But...so, we...we'd have the plans, but we won't know if they're going to be ready until probably '28 or '29. If they start construction at that time, '28 probably, they probably could be online in 2030 or 2031. But if we start in '28, we wouldn't be online until who knows when, probably 2032. So, we're just hoping to keep Waikapu Country Town moving forward systematically, and this was the insurance policy, basically.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo for that information.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Chair Lee?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Thank you. Good morning, Jeff. This is on another project, but also related to the budget that you're representing Ho'onani, right, in Kahului?

MR. UEOKA: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay. And then that request --

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Chair?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: -- is for...yes.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Point of order. That's not what his testimony was on.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: You can have him come back and talk about Ho'onani, but . . . *(inaudible)* . . .

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Yeah, maybe you can come back then, Jeff. And so, that I'll be able to ask you questions on the record because you won't be part of our meeting tonight or this afternoon. Okay?

MR. UEOKA: Can do, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. You can call him. So, I have a question for you.

MR. UEOKA: Sure.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: So, through the years, because I've been working on the Central Maui Wastewater Reclamation Facility or the Kahului, right, plant and hearing all the discussions. So, the start date of the Central Maui Wastewater Reclamation Facility has been 2027, and then it's moved and it's moved. I really understand what you're trying to do because until this gets built, the whole Waikapu Country Town, all the units are delayed because you need to plug in. And then the other thing that the Legislature

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

April 24, 2026

is watching, that's where the site of the super school is going to be, right? They've been calling it the elementary and intermediate, which...which Coach gave them property, gave them or whatever, has property for them to build. So, there's support from the Legislature because they have that also waiting. So, you have a comment about that?

MR. UEOKA: Sure. Thank you, Chair. So, in 2022, we entered into the PPP. Thank you, everyone. That was great for us. And in there, yeah, the discussion in 2022 was, yeah, Central would be online in 2027. A couple events happened in between, so I totally understand why it, you know, got delayed. So, that happened. We...in the PPP, we do have an interim connection of 100,000 gallons into the Kahului Wastewater Treatment Facility. The issue we run across now, though, is while we can move forward with those units, Aikanaha, which is the 212 multifamily LIHTC project, we have 100 or 99 market units and some rural lots. The cost to get those running, the backbone infrastructure is tremendous. So, we're hoping that we need to keep the pipeline of product moving forward. Or, you know, for us, the large lots to sell to builders to build the, you know, small subdivisions, kind of like Kehalani and Maui Lani work. So, that's...that's why the...the partners have been very concerned about if we move forward with all this infrastructure and we're stalled indefinitely because there's no additional wastewater capacity, that's a problem. So, that's why we...we're looking for this. And thank you to Councilmember Cook for trying to help us with this, but I understand it's hard. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah. So, Aikanaha, Members, is connected to this, right? And we approved the Aikanaha Affordable Housing Funds, and it's tied to the purchase project. So, we're all talking about the same story, so sorry if it sounds like it's a new...new project. So...and you're right, we're not sure when the...you know, with all the things that goes on in the world, really, now we're...have this war in Iran and we have other things that are affecting costs and materials, which makes it even more challenging. So, I...I support this because I believe by doing the package plant, which--thank you, Member Cook, for proposing it--then we will be able to...it's almost like a ripple effect of things that could happen.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Chair? Point of order. Do you have a question for the testifier? Or we're not in deliberations yet.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah. I'm sorry, I'm advocating. Okay. Anyway, any other questions for Member Cook? I'm sorry.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Member Cook?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Member Ueoka...no, that's Jeff...Jeff Ueoka..

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: More coffee, please.

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

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: No more questions for Mr. Ueoka.

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

April 24, 2026

MR. UEOKA: Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. Vice...vice Budget Chair [sic]. . . .(laughing). . . Next testifier.

MS. APO TAKAYAMA: The next testifier is Lisa Darcy, to be followed by Travis Liggett.

MS. DARCY: Good morning, Chair. Good morning, Council. I...I would like to see coffee put in the budget. . . .(laughing). . . I think we need a lot more turnout. My name is Lisa Darcy, and I am the founder of Share Your Mana. I was in last week and I gave some testimony. And I did submit some testimony also to the BFED Committee. I want to put an exclamation point on it. The one in particular item, and I'm sorry, it's...it's...I look at that huge binder of everything everyone's got to go through. As just an average citizen, I...I...I can't get through all that. However, when I did see the over \$1 million slated for...and it's under, I think, houseless solutions and grants for the Clean and Safe Programs. I really, really strongly urge this Council and the Mayor's Office to pause that over \$1 million for that program. I really believe, A, I'd like to work with that program a little more closely. I am actually an expert in SPMI employment, which is serious and persistent mental illness. I led the...the nation, actually, in training people across the country and even internationally. And this program, it has a lot of issues with it that I think \$1 million is really a catastrophic amount of money to be...for this County to be putting towards a program that's under Homeless Solutions because it actually ends up criminalizing people. It doesn't actually provide any solutions. So, I don't honestly have time to go into all of that, as you know. However, I just think there is such a better use of that money and, like I said, I'd really like to work with that program and understand why it even got a foothold. I mean, I understand why it got a foothold, but why this County wants to put this much money towards replicating it. So, I really want, again, to urge that to be reconsidered, either removed and/or just paused and have an opportunity to work with...with them. I also wanted to let you know that I did get a chance to meet with the Director of Human Concerns. It's not on the agenda. However, I'm very happy to have met with her and the advisory committee. We were pleased to do that. And that also ties into the other item that is definitely on my list, which is \$750,000 for gates on Holomua Road. And again, I would really urge the County to utilize that money to actually solve the problem. Again, the Clean and Safe Program doesn't solve the problem, it shifts it...and then the problems for those individuals get bigger and it's more costly for everyone. The same thing with the gates. I understand it's kind of a knee-jerk reaction and people . . .(timer sounds). . . say, oh, you know, let's put a gate up. But none of that, that \$750,000, that does not actually solve any problem. I urge this County to please start solving the problems and give the advisory committee for Share Your Mana an opportunity to really be a part of some of those dialogues. So, thank you very much for this opportunity today. Yay, coffee. More coffee. I'm behind --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Thank you.

MS. DARCY: -- Fernandez...Rawlins-Fernandez on that one.

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

April 24, 2026

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Anybody have questions? So, in our budget is \$4,695,612 for Houseless Program. So, thank you.

MS. DARCY: Thank you. I don't see any of that, FYI.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh. Oh, for yourself you're talking about?

MS. DARCY: Absolutely zero.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah, yeah. Okay. Thank you. Next testifier.

MS. APO TAKAYAMA: The next testifier signed up and currently the last individual signed up to testify is Travis Liggett.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Mr. Liggett?

MR. LIGGETT: Okay. Good morning. Happy Aloha Friday, everyone. I saw you were here past 9:00. I don't know how you do it. I just had to go to Clinical Labs again for yet another culture to try to get on top of this illness. And it's so funny. I had a coffee thing. I forgot my coffee. So, that was like a couple hours in the car. Whoo. So, I just had a little coffee too. But yeah, Lisa Darcy is an absolutely fantastic person because...yeah, I got really sick after a wastewater plant tour, and that happened to be after exposure to an illegal discharge from the Maui Ocean Center. And yeah, my supervisor decided to fire me less than half an hour after I told the first person, with permission, not directly involved in that permit violation. And I've been literally fighting with...for my life ever since because, yeah, animal waste has a higher level of risk than human waste, and it was present in that plant illegally. And I didn't know. The operator didn't know. It was so confusing because I didn't understand what I'd been exposed to. And yeah, there's been like this campaign. It was like...I joke with Member U'u-Hodgins, it was like that Austin Powers movie with like the villain talks back to the big villain and he hits the chute. It's like into the hot lava and the guy's like in the hot lava like, I'm still in the hot lava and all the villains are like this. But yeah, just as soon as I started talking about that violation, I'm just out. And yeah, Lisa Darcy was like this real person that was like, hey, how are you doing? And she's just such a kind person. And I just...you know, being unsheltered isn't always about bad choices. For me, it started when I had to leave my Federal position because of the Defense of Marriage Act. I've never really recovered. So, just this idea that people are unsheltered because bad choices. Yeah, there's bad choices in there. There's also structural problems, systemic problems. And I'm just bringing it full circle to my request for maybe not sending funds down to Mā'alaea from taxpayers. We have a plan to pay for it with nonprofit funds. And above all, you know, people are dealing with unsheltered issues. They do not need to be dealing with exposure to an illegal discharge from the County that may get them sick on top of it. And then you send in the new AI to see if people are twitching in crowds. It just...hmm, we really need to get this together where, yeah, people are just, you know, true to their mottos and stuff. And yeah, wastewater disinfection is so important. I wouldn't wish what I've been going through on anyone. The people at Clinical Labs are absolutely wonderful. But yeah, I don't want anyone to have to go

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

April 24, 2026

. . .*(timer sounds)*. . . down there. And yeah, this is so preventable. And a little bit of funding for CBS 1169. Adopt the limu. Adopt the solutions. And we can move forward. So, thank you so much.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. Any questions for Mr. Liggett? Seeing none. Thank you very much. Thanks for being here.

MR. LIGGETT: Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Take care. Next testifier, please.

MS. APO TAKAYAMA: Chair, the next testifier is Jim Langford.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Mr. Langford?

MR. LANGFORD: I just got...hello, Chair. I just got activated. I wanted to start by saying thank you, Chair, and for all...and thank you, Council. You guys are doing really great work and keeping yourselves emotionally centered and grounded. And it's really hard to do that with all this going on. So, I want to take a moment. And I want to thank you guys personally. My software has helped stop some corruption over in the State building. So, just wanted to let you guys know that. And thank you for all your help letting me watch all these meetings and find out who the bad actors may be. I really want to thank you folks for that. It's...it's fun to see when our budget gets misappropriated through bad actors. And...and I'm really proud of you all for standing up and making sure that the right things get done for our people. In light of...some information did come up in light of the Lieutenant Governor stepping down. So, I have new information for you folks on...on --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Excuse me. Please talk about the budget.

MR. LANGFORD: -- on the budget so that you don't find yourselves in a situation that violates sunshine or the HRS 84, I believe, which is the...it...it shows that favoritism. It's a law about favoritism. So, before you sign the budget, I strongly advise as a private citizen and a bloodline member of the Holy C (*phonetic*), the Catholic Charities, noticed some improprieties during the wildfire stuff. So, before you sign any budget, please make sure that you communicate to all of the...the public any relationships that may be tied to Ms. Lake (*phonetic*) and any of her staff or folks that were named in the previous lawsuit to protect you from the ongoing audit and investigation. So, thank you so very much. We're going to have a really great community without pressure from any cartels or syndicates. Spoke to the folks at the Chicago Police Department who work with the Feds. And I do agree with the...some of the folks that testified earlier. There is a bias potentially in our Police Department. And those...some names have popped up in my auditing work as well. So, to...for your protection and love, and so no one's leveraging you folks, I just want to offer that big . . .*(timer sounds)*. . . those big wings that I have and wrap them around you of aloha and...and say please keep...congratulations on eradicating corruption. And I'm looking forward to protecting you guys further. Thank you, and I love you.

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

April 24, 2026

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. Any questions...

MR. LANGFORD: Good luck with the budget.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Any questions for the testifier? Seeing none. Thank you. Next testifier, please.

MS. APO TAKAYAMA: Chair, we haven't received any additional requests for testimony, but I see an individual approaching the podium.

MR. LAW: Individual [sic] with liberty and justice for all. Ohayo, Chair Kashiwa Sugimura. Thank you for the...letting the...I really appreciate you allowing the previous testifiers to complete their testimony without objection. Hawaiian word of the day, kōnea, restored to health. So, yeah. So, speaking on the budget, speaking of...well, let me just go ahead with the...say what the Five Man Electrical Band said in 1971. And the sign said, long-haired freaky people need not apply. So, I took my hair up under my hat and I went in to ask him why. He said, you look like a fine, outstanding young man. I think you'll do. And I said, imagine that. Oops, I skipped that part. I took off my hat. Imagine that. Me working for you. Sign, sign, everywhere a sign. Blocking up the scenery. Breaking my mind. Thank you for that, Chair. My suggestion with the budget thing is that you guys get some music in here. So, I can't work without music.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Any questions for the testifier? Seeing none. Next testifier, please.

MS. APO TAKAYAMA: Chair, I don't...

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah.

MS. APO TAKAYAMA: I think the individual is seeking clarification about returning later in the meeting. If you'd like to designate him a resource.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: I think, you know, I'm going to take a little recess. Okay. Two minutes. For...to 9:45. . . .(gavel). . .

RECESS: 9:43 a.m.
RECONVENE: 11:11 a.m.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: . . .(gavel). . . (Audio begins mid-sentence) -- to the Budget, Finance, Economic Development Committee. It is now 11:11. And thank you for the break. We were waiting for some technical difficulties. And at this time, I'd like to welcome all the Members. So, Member U'u-Hodgins.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Good morning, Chair. Good morning, everyone.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Good morning. Member Johnson, welcome.

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

April 24, 2026

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Good morning, Chair, Councilmembers. I'm here and ready to work.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Great. Member Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Aloha kakahiaka kākou. Streaming live and direct from the Council Chambers.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. Member Batangan.

VICE-CHAIR BATANGAN: Aloha kākou.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay, everybody, we're all here. Thank you very much. I have to start by first thanking everybody for really working hard. As you know, the budget is always a grind. And it is our responsibility on the Council side to just be fiscally responsible and take the budget as you all just did. Tear it apart. Listen to the community at the residency area meetings as well as all the testifiers that have come forward up until this morning. We had our last bunch of testimony. So, appreciate that. It's been hard on your families. I think the other night my...my husband actually stayed up late so he could talk story with me. Yeah. And I'm sure you must be experiencing that with your children. They must be missing you. And I asked Member Batangan if his kids are watching him on TV. So, I hope so. And...and Alice, too. Your children are missing you. But anyway, it...it is a grind. And I appreciate what you have given back to the community in terms of your time and sacrifices with the families...with your families. It is our responsibility to be fiscally responsible. It is the checks and balance of government. And through the process of reading the many, many layers, many...oh, yeah. It is our responsibility by reading all the responses that we've got from the department as to...as well as making phone calls and meetings that you have done in addition to the departments who have come forward here, that it is our responsi...to digest the budget and...and come up with a finished product, which is...hopefully, we can do by today. At this time, I'd like to close public testimony and receive written testimony. I didn't do that.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, last call.

MR. PASCUAL: Chair, this is the last call for oral testimony. If anyone would like to come up to testify, please come up to the podium or raise your hand on Microsoft Teams. The countdown is three...two...one. Seeing none. Chair, no one has indicated that they wish to testify.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Thank you. With your permission, I'd like to close public testimony and receive written testimony as we have done every day.

. . . CLOSE PUBLIC TESTIMONY . . .

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

April 24, 2026

CHAIR SUGIMURA: And so, to continue, what I'm going to do today is call on some Members for revisits. I'm going to talk about Countywide, look at the bills that were proposed by Administration as well as Member Johnson. And then we'll do...talk about general budget provisions. Talk about RPT, but I am going to ask for the...Staff has to rebalance our numbers and make sure it's fine. And then take a two-hour lunch so that you can...and we can get ready for the RPT discussion. It's going to be huge. I'm very grateful we're not doing this at 2:00 in the morning or, you know, even on a Sunday. I think that was last years' experience. So, we are ahead of the game in terms of my memories in the past. So, thank you very much. So, at this time I wanted to ask Member Cook, you want to talk about your revisit?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Go ahead.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Chair, can you let me turn on my camera?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, Member U'u-Hodgins, can you turn on her camera?

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Yeah, no, no. You're good. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Go ahead.

REVISITS

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Okay. Thank you, Chair. After having a discussion with Managing Director today, I...I request that we withdraw the \$2 million appropriation for the assisting South Maui residents and small businesses affected by the Kona low storms. The principle is for mold mitigation, small businesses. And after discussion between the Federal Government and the Maui County disaster funds, that's being funded and it's already underway. And this isn't necessary, and I don't want the potential to have the confusion of double servicing and giving the Federal Government . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Thank you very much. So...

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Motion to --

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Withdraw.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: -- withdraw this.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Withdraw. Second.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Second.

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

April 24, 2026

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Second, Member U‘u-Hodgins. All in favor, raise your hand and say “aye.”

COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Nine “ayes.” Thank you. Motion carries.

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

NOES: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: None.

EXC.: None.

MOTION CARRIED.

ACTION: WITHDRAW the motion.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you very much.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah. We’re down to the grind. So, for mine, last night, we were talking about...oh, you got to...sorry. Nohe, you got to leave.

COUNCILMEMBER U‘U-HODGINS: I’m...I’m happy to leave. I also have a couple last --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, wait.

COUNCILMEMBER U‘U-HODGINS: -- minute --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER U‘U-HODGINS: -- changes.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Let’s do yours first then.

COUNCILMEMBER U‘U-HODGINS: Okay. Thank you. I’m actually going to do one for Tom first, and then I’ll do one for myself.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Go for it.

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

April 24, 2026

COUNCILMEMBER U‘U-HODGINS: Okay. So, I move...on page 55 of the budget bills in our Special Purpose Revenue Funds, I remove [sic] to reduce the \$1.8 million that’s left in anticipated revenues from Managed Retreat Revolving Fund--as you might remember, I described that we don’t actually have to put money in there right now--by \$1 million and use that to offset Member Cook’s Kihei Drainage Master Plan work of \$1 million.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER U‘U-HODGINS: That’s my motion. Second.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Second.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Member Cook. Motion made by Member U‘u-Hodgins and second by Member Cook. Discussion.

COUNCILMEMBER U‘U-HODGINS: I kind of did my little bit discussion in my motion, but we don’t...we don’t buy...we don’t have to fund this right now, and the work is quite similar. So, we can reduce our offset because we can move this into cash and --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yay.

COUNCILMEMBER U‘U-HODGINS: -- offset with this...which I do think kind of fits just a little bit--not exactly, but a little bit--and then we can have \$1 million more in cash funding.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Okay. No other discussion. All in favor, raise your hand and say “aye.”

COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Nine “ayes.” Motion carries.

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

April 24, 2026

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

NOES: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: None.

EXC.: None.

MOTION CARRIED.

ACTION: Reduce the Managed Retreat Revolving Fund by \$1 million.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Member U‘u-Hodgins?

COUNCILMEMBER U‘U-HODGINS: Thank you so much. And then I spoke to Budget Director Milner yesterday over dinner--thank you, Budget Director, because I know you’re listening, for giving me a few minutes of your dinner. On page 52 of the Budget Bill Special Purpose Revenue Funds in the GET Excise Tax, I move to condition up to \$9 million must be for the Ho‘onani Village Mixed-Use Development Project for well and water system improvements, infrastructure, and connections.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Second. Chair Lee. Motion made by Member U‘u-Hodgins and second by Chair Lee. Discussion?

COUNCILMEMBER U‘U-HODGINS: Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Can you repeat the motion? Sorry, I wasn’t paying attention.

COUNCILMEMBER U‘U-HODGINS: Sure. Yeah. Sure, absolutely. So, let me do...let me just explain that we have \$9 million left in the GET tax...Fund, and I’m going to condition what’s left in that fund, so no movements of more monies. So, I’m just going to condition what’s left, which is about 9 and change, but I’m only going to do 9, we’ll leave the change, for the Ho‘onani Village Mixed-Use Development Project for well and water system improvement, infrastructure, and connections.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Member Paltin?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. For my discussion, I’m happy to do this at this time. And then, you know, as the Water Department and the Ho‘onani folks talk, if it becomes unfeasible or whatever, they can just come back to us for a budget amendment to remove the condition. It’s just giving it the opportunity now to move forward.

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

April 24, 2026

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Exactly. So, in my conversation with Budget Director yesterday, as we all know...we're still in the conversation portion of this project, but as we also all know, all this stuff takes years and years and years. And my hope is that we can expedite this project because we needed housing last week, last year, last decade. So, this is just to assist in finding a way to provide housing for our community sooner than later. And thank you all for your support. Thank you, Member Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Yeah, I can support it. I mean, because of the unknowns and the potential at this moment, if at any time they figure out like, oh, the well doesn't produce as much as they need or whatever, then they can just come back to us with a budget amendment if they need to use the money for some other purpose. And it's not adding money to the budget. So, I don't have a problem with it at this time.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Member...thank you, Member Paltin. Member Batangan?

VICE-CHAIR BATANGAN: Thank you, Chair. As this project is on the same property as MEO's transportation baseyard, and I really don't know what impacts it might have on the organization, out of an abundance of caution, I will be abstaining from discussion and participation in this vote.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Thank you. Thank you. So, any more discussion? All in favor, raise your hands...

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Roll call.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Roll call? Okay. Roll call.

MS. MONIZ: Chair, proceeding with the roll call vote. Councilmember Tom Cook.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Aye.

MS. MONIZ: Councilmember Gabe Johnson.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Yes.

MS. MONIZ: Council Chair Alice Lee.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Aye.

MS. MONIZ: Councilmember Tamara Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Aye.

MS. MONIZ: Councilmember Keani Rawlins-Fernandez.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: No.

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

April 24, 2026

MS. MONIZ: Councilmember Shane Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Aye.

MS. MONIZ: Councilmember Nohe U‘u-Hodgins.

COUNCILMEMBER U‘U-HODGINS: Aye.

MS. MONIZ: Committee Vice-Chair Kauanoë Batangan.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Abstain.

MS. MONIZ: Abstain. Committee Chair Yuki Lei Sugimura.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Aye.

MS. MONIZ: Chair, that’s seven “ayes,” one “no,” one excused. Motion passes.

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

NOES: Councilmember Rawlins-Fernandez.

ABSTAIN: Vice-Chair Batangan.

ABSENT: None.

EXC.: None.

MOTION CARRIED.

ACTION: Conditional language – up to \$9 million must be for the Ho‘onani Village Mixed Use Development Project for well and water system improvements, infrastructure, and connections.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I think it’s important we clarify he recused, not excused...or abstained, because that’s the word we’re supposed to use, right?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

MS. MONIZ: Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. Okay. Any...any more? Okay.

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

April 24, 2026

COUNCILMEMBER U‘U-HODGINS: I do not have, but I will recuse myself now so you can --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah. Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER U‘U-HODGINS: -- continue to have your conversation I think you’re probably going to have. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah. Thank you. So, now you will recuse yourself, Member U‘u-Hodgins. This was talked about last night and I’m bringing it back. I move to amend the conditional language under fringe benefits to read as follows. Funds may be used for costs related to supplemental agreements, for the master agreements, for collective bargaining contracts, provided...provided that \$1,184,375 for terminal pay salary adjustments shall be reserved for Bargaining Unit 15 contract cost items and any supplemental agreements executed for Bargaining agreement [sic] 11 and Bargaining Unit 15. That’s the motion.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Second.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. And for our discussion, last night Budget Director Milner informed us that there are sufficient funds in the budget to cover potential supplemental agreements for Bargaining Unit 11 and 15. The \$1,184,375 amount reflects the expansion budget request on page 8-57 of the Budget Details and reference on page 2 of...of BD, sorry, Budget Director letter 15. The purpose of the conditional language is to ensure that at least this amount is dedicated for Bargaining Unit 11 and 15 supplemental agreements. If you look on page 8 of the Budget Details, Bill 55, towards the bottom, it talks about Countywide costs, fringe benefits, and there’s 175 million in there. So, this would be added to that. And BD-15, the response is what I referenced. And what it says is that the wage increases for Bargaining Units 11 and 15 are included in 907774B-6550 for the amount that I designated...or I stated, \$1,184,375 under the Department of Finance, Countywide costs, fringe benefits, and the Department may also use salary savings to support these increases. The base of the amount budgeted is a 3 percent increase for all impacted personnel. So, this is for Bargaining Units 11 and 15. Member Paltin?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I guess I just have a question on what...what our goals are, and I don’t know if there’s an answer. But for me, my goal would be parity or equity or equality, whatever you want to call it, amongst all of our first responders. And I’m not sure what --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: . . .(inaudible). . .

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: -- the Police got exactly, but I think it was like 5 percent, and I don’t know if that’s good enough. But I haven’t heard the same kind of complaint from Police as Fire. And so, like for me, I would...I would imagine that it should be equitable between Police, Fire, Ocean Safety, all of our first responder classes. I don’t know if...if the strategy is to jump on because Bargaining Unit 15 is the one...or not the one, but supplemental agreements are held up because they haven’t reached the contract, and

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

April 24, 2026

they're the only bargaining unit that hasn't reached the contract. So, you know, I think my hope would be that the other first responders support Bargaining Unit 15 to get parity with the Police. And then we bring up Fire to get parity with everybody else so that all the first responders are treated equitably. Because a lot of times they're literally risking their life, their health, and all the things. And why would we treat one class of first responders different from another class of first responders when we all agree that they risk their lives to do the jobs that they do? They could have long-term health impacts from the jobs that they do. And why wouldn't we...why would we treat one class of first responders different than the other? So, for me, in the negotiations that are, I guess, either stalled or ongoing for Bargaining Unit 15, I would support parity with Police. And I would support parity for Bargaining Unit 11 firefighters to get parity. Like I don't see how anything less is right. So, I hope that this proposal will get us to that point where we treat all of our first responders equitably. There's pros and cons to each line of first responder work, but they all risk their lives. They all can suffer health impacts. And so, that's what I would hope that voting for this would do. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. Anybody else have anything? Okay. So, thank you for allowing me to bring this back. We heard you loud and clear when we passed the bargaining unit resolution at the last Council meeting, and I think that we all stand by what you say. And because of that, I wanted to do this because I want the firefighters to know that supplemental will happen after the contracts are done. So, this is in addition to and to support that effort, and that this...I'm saying that this is money already in the budget for that purpose. I agree with you that SHOPO got...or the police officers got whatever their agreement was. And I think that I assume that the firefighters would get something similar, but they have not. It's so...it's really bad, and even no step increases, right? And so, I'm glad that there's a Hawai'i Labor Board discussion going on about just how the negotiations were going, and hopefully they get that resolved. I think that if in case that agreement does come back to us to...for a new revise, I don't know how this...the right words for it, but I think that all of us would stand by the firefighters. And when the Ocean Safety, which their negotiations hasn't even done yet, is not even done yet...but when that comes, I'm sure that we will stand by them for the same reason. So, this money is to...to show our support, and I hope that you will support this.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And to be clear, that we can't even enter into a supplemental until the entirety of the bargaining units' contracts get settled. And I don't mean to say like Bargaining Unit 15 is holding it up because it's not like the workers' fault that it's...the...they don't have really much to do with the negotiations. But until their unit gets a contract, then we can start with the supplemental agreements. But my understanding is, we can't enter into the supplemental agreements until all of the unions have contracts. Is that correct?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: I think all of the bargaining unit is done, right?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Yeah, so they're not because 15's...

CHAIR SUGIMURA: 15 will be separate. I think they haven't even started negotiating.

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

April 24, 2026

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Well, Director might have more info.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Budget Director?

MS. MILNER: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Councilmember Paltin. Yes, it's my understanding...because we've already entered into supplemental agreements with some of the other unions whose master agreements have been concluded. So, once the union's master agreement's concluded, then we can move into the supplemental. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah. Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Also, we don't need to wait for a Bargaining Unit 15 to enter into a contract?

MS. MILNER: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Councilmember Paltin. No, I believe those are separate union agreements. So, we could proceed with one while the other is still in negotiation because they're separate. But I will defer to DPS and Managing Director if they have anything they want to share with you when you speak to them. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Oh, okay. Well, that's better. Nobody needs to wait then.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: We just need the other counties to pass. So, that's an important thing. All right. With your...all in...all in favor, raise your hands.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: . . .*(inaudible)*. . . discussion.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, you want to say something? Member Johnson, sorry. I thought you were voting.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Well, I just want to say a rising tide lifts all boats, and I'm ready to vote. Thank you, Chair.

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

COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. This is eight "ayes" and one recused, right? Member U'u-Hodgins.

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

April 24, 2026

VOTE: **AYES:** **Chair Sugimura, Vice-Chair Batangan, and Councilmembers Cook, Johnson, Lee, Paltin, Rawlins-Fernandez, and Sinenci.**

NOES: **None.**

ABSTAIN: **Councilmember U‘u-Hodgins.**

ABSENT: **None.**

EXC.: **None.**

MOTION CARRIED.

ACTION: **Conditional language under fringe – provided that \$1,184,375 shall be reserved for Bargaining Unit 15 contract cost items and supplemental agreements executed for Bargaining Units 11 and 15.**

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. Thank you very much for letting me revisit. All right. So, I want to next take up the bills and then...then we'll do the general budget provisions. Member U‘u-Hodgins can join us again. So, the bills that were presented to us by the Administration, besides the two that was by Member Johnson. So, Bill 61 is...does anybody want to read the title like you do...like Corp. Coun...clerks do?

BILL 61 (2026)

MR. KRUEGER: Yes --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you.

MR. KRUEGER: -- Chair. So, Bill 61 before the body is "A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A NEW CHAPTER 3.101, MAUI COUNTY CODE, FOR A FISCAL RESERVE FUND."

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, this one I'm going to refer to BFED for later. Okay. Bill 62?

MR. KRUEGER: Oh, Chair? Perhaps...

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, we got to take a motion?

MR. KRUEGER: Yeah, the body could take a motion to recommend referral of the bill --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

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

April 24, 2026

MR. KRUEGER: -- to the BFED Committee.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Chair Lee, thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Second.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Second.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Move motion to recommend referral.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. And second by Member U'u-Hodgins. Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Excuse me. Is this initiated by the Administration?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: All in favor...

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Question.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Go ahead.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Are we doing one of the bills? Because there's 76 and 77.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: We...we're doing all.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh, all the bills.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: We're going to do all, but not 55. We're not ready for 55.

MR. KRUEGER: One at a time though.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: One at a time.

MR. KRUEGER: So, only 60...the only bill that the recommendation before...that the Committee is making right now is on Bill 61.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Only Bill 61. Right now.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Bill 61. Okay. We're talking about Member Johnson's bill and then you made a motion. So...

MR. KRUEGER: Yeah.

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

April 24, 2026

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Chair, if...if you'll allow, I'd like Bill 60...67 to be referred to GREAT Committee.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: . . .*(laughing)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Did you finish? Did we --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: We didn't finish.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: -- did we finish taking that vote?

VICE-CHAIR BATANGAN: . . .*(inaudible)*. . . on the motion . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Let's...let's go in order. Okay. Okay.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, all in favor of Bill 61 being referred to BFED?

COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

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

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

ACTION:	REFERRAL of Bill 61 (2026) to the Budget, Finance, and Economic Development Committee.
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CHAIR SUGIMURA: Now we're doing Bill 62. We're doing it in numerical sequence. Go ahead, James.

Council of the County of Maui

April 24, 2026

BILL 62 (2026)

MR. KRUEGER: Chair. So, Bill 62 is “A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTIONS 3.54.020, 3.54.025, 3.55.020, AND 3.55.030, MAUI COUNTY CODE, ON THE SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT FUND AND THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND SUSTAINABILITY FUND.”

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, recommend first...passage of Bill 62.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: So moved.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Thank you. Chair Lee, second by Member Paltin. Thank you. Any discussion? All in favor, raise your hand and say "aye."

COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. Nine “ayes.” Motion carries.

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

NOES: **None.**

ABSTAIN: **None.**

ABSENT: **None.**

EXC.: **None.**

MOTION CARRIED.

ACTION: FIRST READING of Bill 62, CD1 (2026).

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Wait. Now Bill 63.

BILL 63 (2026)

MR. KRUEGER: Chair. Bill 63, as...with the recommended amendments from the Committee, is "A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTIONS 3.38.010 AND 3.38.020, MAUI COUNTY CODE, ON RENAMING THE HAWAIIAN CULTURAL RESTORATION REVOLVING FUND AND USING THE FUNDS TO EXPAND THE LAHAINA ROYAL COMPLEX AREA."

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

April 24, 2026

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Chair, we did that last night.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Well, we just amended the title. We didn't pass it, we just amended it.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: How can we amend a bill without a main motion?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. I guess then we didn't really amend it, if that's the case.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Go ahead.

MR. KRUEGER: Well, for...for budget session, you know how the...the Committee has been making its amendments to the...the bill throughout this whole week, right? So, typically in this sort of situation where the Committee can make a recommendation to pass the bill with the Committee's amendments. So, in this situation, the body could proceed with that.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: I'll accept your response, Mr. Krueger.

MR. KRUEGER: Thank you. . . .*(laughing)*. . .

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKERS: . . .*(laughing)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: So moved on the motion.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Second.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: So, Chair and...okay. Motion made by Chair Lee, second by Member Paltin.

VICE-CHAIR BATANGAN: Sorry, I got confused from that. So, what is...what is before us now?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: The amended bill from last night.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Bill 63, and we corrected the name.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Change the name.

VICE-CHAIR BATANGAN: Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. All in favor, raise your hand and say...

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Oh, discussion.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, go ahead.

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

April 24, 2026

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: So, initially, I was a little bit hesitant to do this because there wasn't a plan on how to continue to contribute to the revenue source because --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Parking lot.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: -- the parking lot that was generating the revenue for this Revolving Fund, they would like...is part of the Royal Complex that needs to be restored. Moku'ula, Loko O Mokuhinia. And so, if we weren't going to use the parking lot for revenue and we're going to restore parts of the Royal Complex, how would we re-fund the...the fund? But in Committee, Department of 'Ōiwi Resources mentioned that they found 120 other County-owned stalls that they would use to generate revenue that are not on sacred sites, as well as I wanted to point out that the Department of 'Ōiwi Resources has brought in \$2 million in addition to this Revolving Fund for the restoration of the Royal Complex area. And I think that action alone shows that they are taking it very seriously and...on the financial side and bringing in money and not just expending money. And it...it shows the worth of the Department's creation in...in just the first couple of years, all the things that we depend on them for. So, I'm...I'm willing to support them on this direction that they choose to go in. For many, many years there hasn't really been any kind of movement with this fund because there hasn't been like an overall vision. And this provides the overall vision that we would like to restore the Royal Lahaina complex area...or sorry, Lahaina Royal Complex area...I think. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Thank you. So, any other discussion? All right. All in favor, raise your hand and say "aye."

COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: The motion carries. Nine "ayes."

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

NOES: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: None.

EXC.: None.

MOTION CARRIED.

ACTION: FIRST READING of Bill 63, CD1 (2026).

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

April 24, 2026

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Bill 64.

BILL 64 (2026)

MR. KRUEGER: Chair, this is "A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE 3, MAUI COUNTY CODE, ON ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING FEES."

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. I recommend passage on Bill 64 (2026). Thank you.

VICE-CHAIR BATANGAN: Second.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, Member Batangan, you made the motion. And...oh, okay. Member U'u-Hodgins, and second by Member Batangan. All right. Any discussion? Member Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: With the additional fee that we added last night, do we need to make note of that in this bill?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Do we need to...

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Chair?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Mr. Hanano? Oh, go ahead.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: 3.102.020 says fees, all charging fees are set in the annual budget ordinance.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, we did it.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: So, no need worry.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: No need.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. All in...any more discussion? All in favor, raise your hand and say "aye."

COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

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

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

April 24, 2026

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

NOES: **None.**

ABSTAIN: **None.**

ABSENT: **None.**

EXC.: **None.**

MOTION CARRIED.

ACTION: **FIRST READING of Bill 64, CD1 (2026).**

CHAIR SUGIMURA: So, that one was Member U‘u-Hodgins first, and then second was Member Batangan. Now we have yours, which is 66 and 67.

BILL 66 (2026) & BILL 67 (2026)

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Yeah, Chair. Well, how about we do this a little cleaner? I’ll just defer it and then we’ll come...

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: I move to defer it.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: GREAT.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay. I might...you know, if we’re going to do a Charter amendment, I got to write a reso with the bill. So, that’s...that’s the one thing I’m thinking maybe it would be better just to defer it now, and then I come up with a reso with the bills.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

MR. KRUEGER: Chair?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Oh, okay.

MR. KRUEGER: Since...right. Since the bills are under the budget item, Staff’s...you know, we think that maybe the Committee should consider either if they want to keep it in

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

April 24, 2026

Budget Committee, recommend referral to the Budget Committee, and then we can create separate items, or recommend referral to GREAT or wherever it's going to go.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I...

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Member Batangan? Sorry.

VICE-CHAIR BATANGAN: Thank you, Chair. I guess my recommendation to Member Johnson would be to refer to your own Committee. You can hear the merits, and then I can take up the Charter amendments in...in GREAT when we take up all of the Charter amendments. And that way you can get...you can have control over when it would come up and you'd be able to preside over the meeting. I'm happy to take it in GREAT if you would prefer, I just wanted to offer you that as an option.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Yeah. Okay. Let's do that. I don't want to spend too much time on that. . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. You made a motion. Is there a second?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: I'll second that.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: I move to refer Bill 66 and 67 to ADEPT Committee.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, motion made by Member Rawlins-Fernandez, second by Member Johnson. Are you okay, Member Johnson?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Very much okay.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. All in favor, raise your hand...these are for the two bills, which is 66 and 67. All in favor, raise your hand and say "aye."

COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: We have nine "ayes."

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

April 24, 2026

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

NOES: **None.**

ABSTAIN: **None.**

ABSENT: **None.**

EXC.: **None.**

MOTION CARRIED.

ACTION: **REFERRAL of Bills 66 (2026) and 67 (2026) to the Agriculture, Diversification, Environment, and Public Transportation Committee.**

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Thank you, Members.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Very good. And Bill 76, which is...go ahead and read it.

BILL 76 (2026)

MR. KRUEGER: Chair, this is “A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE 14, ARTICLE I, MAUI COUNTY CODE, ON THE WATER SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT FEE.”

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, this one, are you going to...after we’re done with the budget, you have to make some adjustments?

MR. KRUEGER: Chair, our understanding is on this one, the adjustments are already in the budget bill. So, it would be the opposite, if the Committee does not want this bill --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, I see.

MR. KRUEGER: -- I believe we need to make the...revert it back.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Because we made some adjustments. So, therefore, when we recess for lunch, you folks are going to be looking at these bills? This...this one bill? No. Include permission to change Appendix B as it may relate to this bill.

MR. KRUEGER: Apologies, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: No, no need?

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

April 24, 2026

MR. KRUEGER: Staff...Staff's received some new information on this bill. Can we hold off on making a recommendation on this bill at this time?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Okay.

MR. KRUEGER: Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Very good. So, I'm going to hold off this last bill, and then we'll wait to hear more from OCS. Chair Lee, are you ready to take up general budget provisions, or shall we wait until after lunch? After lunch.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: After lunch, please.

REAL PROPERTY TAX

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, this and this after lunch. Okay. Real property tax. So, what I'm going to do...we have to get the final numbers from OCS. And I'm going to find...we can find the Mayor's proposed real property tax rates and classifications in...in Appendix B on page 12 of the Ramseyered version. Earlier this week, we sent two letters to Finance, FN-9 and FN-11 to the Department requesting the certified values of various real property tax rate classifications and tiers. Their responses are in 187 and 190 in Granicus, respectively. Members, are there any proposed amendments to real property tax? We should talk about that after we break for lunch and come back, right? Two hours lunch, so that you guys can...

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I have a proposal if you want.

MR. KRUEGER: Chair, whatever the body decides. If you want Staff to just go over the numbers as they stand right now, we can.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Yeah, do that.

MR. KRUEGER: Would you like us to proceed?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Sure. Are you ready?

MR. KRUEGER: Yes. Yes, Chair. The...the Committee made some adjustments this morning, but, you know, it was \$3 million. It was flat numbers, so we're...we're comfortable talking at least about that if the Members want that to --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

MR. KRUEGER: -- kind of weigh for their proposal.

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

April 24, 2026

CHAIR SUGIMURA: So, sight [sic] now...okay. Let me ask you a question. So, right now...the next thing we're going to do is pull out the Excel spreadsheets that everybody got this morning and plug in numbers, right?

MR. KRUEGER: I don't...it's up to the body if it wants to do that now, but right now or after, if the Committee wanted some time to weigh --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah.

MR. KRUEGER: -- to...to come up with proposals for --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah.

MR. KRUEGER: -- real property tax and...

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Chair?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Of course, we have Member Paltin who's ready, but...Member Paltin?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Chair, if they can tell us what we're short, I can give a proposal to make it up and maybe we can go home at 2:00.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKERS: . . .*(laughing)*. . .

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I like that.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: 2:30 flight. If we go faster, we can go home at 1:30 so she can be early.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: So, really, what I want to do is take a two-hour lunch so that you guys can come up with whatever you want based upon the responses we got from Finance. And so, OCS, why don't you share with us where we are or what --

MR. KRUEGER: Yes, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: -- you want us to know.

MR. KRUEGER: So, the Mayor's proposed appropriations were 1,616,432,298. The Council's current...current appropriations is \$1,612,210,439. So, in aggregate, the Council's current appropriations are under the Mayor's by \$4,221,859. But there's a fund imbalance in the General Fund. The Council is short in the General Fund. I mean, the...the Committee is . . .*(inaudible)*. . . \$10,848,100. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Which means? Which means?

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

April 24, 2026

MR. KRUEGER: That means in order to balance the budget, the Council needs to, you know, either increase General Fund revenue or cut General Fund appropriations or a combination of both to make up the \$10,848,100 difference.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, that's the golden number. So, Members...oh, Member Paltin?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I have a starting point that generates 10.3...\$10,334,014 that I can share with you guys before we go to lunch, and then you guys can play around with it.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: So, I'm just working with the one tier...one classification, which is Non-Owner Occupied. My proposal would change the tier structure. From the second tier, I would change it from \$1,000,001 to \$2.5 million. And then the Tier III would be 2.5 million and above. And I would add a quarter to the first tier and 40 cents to the second tier. So, that brings us to \$10,334,014.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Can you say that again, what you're adding?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Sure. All of it?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: No, just the second tier, third tier.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. I'm not touching the third tier.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: The second tier I put as \$9.40, 4-0.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: And the first tier you're leaving, whatever the Mayor recommended?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: The first tier is 6.50, adding a quarter. And that generates \$10,334,014.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Pretty close.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: I'll second that if...is that a motion?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: No, it's not a motion.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: No, it's for --

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay. All right.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: -- your consideration during lunch.

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

April 24, 2026

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: I'm considering. . . .*(laughing)*. . .

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah. Member Rawlins-Fernandez?

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. I'd like to ask for not a two-hour recess. We already had a one-hour recess. And there's a flight that just opened up at 4:20, so that I don't have to fly at 10:00 tonight.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Mokudelaylay *(phonetic)*. So, amazing. I feel bad for Molokai Island. Okay. So, it's now 11:48. Well, I...we...I'm trying to be considerate. Besides you guys, we have Staff. So, I just want to be considerate to the crunching that they've got to do, which is over and beyond us while we're eating. So, please. So, it's 11:48. And can we --

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: I'm sorry. Chair?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: -- come back at...yes?

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Chair, what do you mean the...the crunching?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Whatever they need to do.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Because we'll...we'll...we need to set the rates and then they need to do the numbers and...or like, what would they do over the break? What does...

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Staff, what do you need to do?

MR. KRUEGER: Chair, at this stage, right now, the main follow up that we have is to check on that Bill 76 issue. So, that we'll use the lunch break, however long it is, to --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

MR. KRUEGER: -- figure that out. Apologies, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. And basically have the numbers you need unless if we come up with more amendments?

MR. KRUEGER: Yes, Chair. Right now, we're balancing.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

MR. KRUEGER: But if the Committee has more changes after the break, then, yes, we may need to rebalance depending on the...the amount of cuts, if any proposed.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

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

April 24, 2026

MR. KRUEGER: Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Okay. Good. No changes.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Chair?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: So...

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Sorry. James, can you repeat how much we need to raise General Fund by? It was 10,000,800...

CHAIR SUGIMURA: \$848,100.

MR. KRUEGER: Yes, it's \$10,848,100. And just so you know, that's...that's using the Mayor's proposed RPT number, apologies, not the certified number compared to the Council's appropriations. Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Oh, okay. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, it is now 11:50, so let's say noon. And come back at 1:15? 1:30. What...what...what time?

MR. KRUEGER: And Chair, apologies, just...just to clarify, that number that I provided doesn't include the Open Space appropriation. So, there might need like just to be a little bit more above to account for the Open Space required deposit. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, can we come back at 1:30 and you'll be fine?

MR. KRUEGER: Yes, Chair. Staff's fine.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Staff's fine. Okay. Okay. Are you guys ready? Recess until...oh, go ahead. So, you're fine? 1:00, all of you are fine? Come back at 1:00. ...*(gavel)*...

RECESS: 11:51 a.m.
RECONVENE: 2:05 p.m.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: ...*(gavel)*... (Audio begins mid-sentence) -- Finance, Economic, Development Committee. It is now 2:05. And...all right. We are down to the nitty gritty [sic], right? So, I wanted to bring us to be actually below the Mayor's budget, which we are not. We are...how much off are we? Ten million-something above. Yeah.

MR. KRUEGER: Yes, Chair. Yeah. In...in...and as far as General Fund goes, the Committee was about 10 million out of balance.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Out of balance, yeah? Okay.

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

April 24, 2026

VICE-CHAIR BATANGAN: Chair, can I just make sure I understand that? Because I thought you said that we were below the Mayor's budget. So, in aggregate, but not by General Fund. That's...that's what we're at.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Which is cash, right?

VICE-CHAIR BATANGAN: I see. Okay.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: So, I move to change the funding source for the Office of County Council CIP project Legislative Branch office renovations from General Fund to bond. Okay. So, Member U'u-Hodgins and who's the second? Oh, second.

VICE-CHAIR BATANGAN: I'll second.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, second. Okay. So, during the recess, we checked to be sure that the Legislative Branch can move forward and have the funds they need to do this move that Chair Lee has championed and got promises that it would happen. So, we're...we like see. But the funds that are in the budget, we were told that it can be bonded. So, that's why we're doing this. Okay. So, that's 900,000. Okay. So, all in favor, raise your hand and say "aye."

COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, that's nine "ayes."

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

NOES: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: None.

EXC.: None.

MOTION CARRIED.

ACTION: Move \$900,000 from General Fund to Bond Fund (Office of Council Services Capital Improvement Project).

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. And then I move to decrease the appropriation from the Department of Management Office of Recovery general...general Category B item (i), so that's two for the Lahaina Restoration Foundation to rebuild the Old Lahaina

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

April 24, 2026

Courthouse and the Old Lahaina Prison by 3.29 percent for a new total of 3.5 million. So, Director Milner was discussed...we discussed this with her in the...during the lunch. Are you going to pop up? So, this was discussed with Director Milner and Josiah Nishita. There you are. Hi.

MS. MILNER: Hi. Thank you, Chair. Yes. I discussed this with the Department of Management during recess. At this time, they're willing to reduce it to 3-1/2 million with the understanding that there may be a budget amendment in the fiscal year as we further move down this road with Lahaina Restoration Foundation. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Very good.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Second.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Thank you. So, motion made by me, I guess, and then second by Member Johnson. Member Paltin?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I'm going to speak against this motion...or I move to amend it to 3.9 million total.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Second.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: That's what...that's what I'm trying to reduce.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Not to 3.5. I move to amend it to 3.9.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, I --

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Second.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: -- see what you're saying. Okay. So, then it would be Tamara Paltin, second by Member Rawlins-Fernandez. Budget Director, can you speak to this amendment?

MS. MILNER: Thank you, Chair. Yes. My understanding is this amendment would make the reduction 2.89 million instead of 3.29 million, which we would have no problem with. Thank you, Chair.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: So, Lahaina, the whole entire town burnt down. We know what a struggle it is for the historic district to rebuild. They're rebuilding County assets in the courthouse and other things. And we know that prices are rising. I'm okay with the cut that the Director mentioned, but I...I can go further down than 3.9.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, this is appropriation...so, it's Department of Manage [sic], Office of Recovery. Okay.

VICE-CHAIR BATANGAN: Can I ask...

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

April 24, 2026

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yes, Member Batangan? It's page 13.

VICE-CHAIR BATANGAN: Director Milner...

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. There she is.

VICE-CHAIR BATANGAN: Is there going to be a...would there be a difference in whether or not the Administration would need to seek a budget amendment if we went with Member Paltin's proposal versus Member Sugimura's proposal, or would we likely need a budget amendment either way?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Either way.

MS. MILNER: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Councilmember Batangan. I mean, the original amount that was requested was over \$9 million. So, I foresee there will probably be an amendment either way. I can double check with Department of Management. Obviously, 3.9 would get you a little further down the road than 3.4 before you needed that amendment. So, I defer to the body on how they choose to proceed. Thank you, Chair.

VICE-CHAIR BATANGAN: Thank you...thank you, Director Milner. Member Paltin, can I ask why you're asking for the reduction then?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: In my conversations with Ms. Morrison, this is what they feel that they can spend down in this fiscal year. And, you know, they're rebuilding historical assets owned by the County. So, I would like to give them what they feel they can...and I mean, we're cutting it like close to 6 million anyway. Like how would you like it if I took one of your priorities and reduced it that much? Like I'm willing to...I'm willing to compromise, but there's a limit.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

VICE-CHAIR BATANGAN: Understood.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. So, roll call. Oh, sorry. Member Nohe U'u-Hodgins?

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: That's okay. Thank you. I will support the 3.9. Right now Kamehameha III School funds are also under attack. And so, right? The 9.7 at its original was a lot. I feel the 3.9 is a 4,000...\$400,000 difference, which sounds like a lot, but not when it was at 9.7. So, I'm okay with the 3.9 --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: -- Chair. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Chair Lee?

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

April 24, 2026

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Can you explain the difference in the...this...this new amendment as...as it impacts your amendment?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh. So, what I'm trying to do is find money so that we can end up below the Mayor's budget. So, we reached out to...during lunch we reached out to the Budget Director to just ask for any...you know, anything that they could, you know, help us get here. So, that's...

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Yours was 3. what? Two?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: 2...3.29

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: 29.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: For a new total of 3.5.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: And hers is 3.9?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: 9. Yeah. Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay. So, this will be cutting it more.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: More. Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Or less?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, she wants to end up with 3.9. Oh, okay. I'm sorry.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I mean, I'm not talking about some arbitrary number I'm trying to hit. I'm talking about people's lives, the hopes of our community, people wanting to see what we had come back. I'm not just trying to hit a number, I'm...I'm talking about a project. I mean, we can say we need one less PARUS house. We can say we need less drainage. But I think that the Lahaina Restoration has did their part in their reduction. And if we want to find more money, let's look at your priorities now.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, the project is moving forward. It's not like we've cut it out. And I understand...

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: It's moving forward with a 5.89 million cut if you take my offer, which is, I think, generous.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Member Johnson?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Thank you, Chair. I support the amendment and I appreciate Councilmember Paltin reaching out to the folks who are actually going to be doing this work so that we can come back with some educated decisions here. I also remind the

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

April 24, 2026

Members that this is her district and your...your opinion holds water to me when you talk about your area. And I appreciate you for moving.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: You know, some folks won't. Thank you. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah. Thank you. Any other discussion? No? Okay. Ready to vote? Oh, Member Rawlins-Fernandez?

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yes, I'm ready to vote in strong favor of the motion before us.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Member...Chair Lee?

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: This is the amount...

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay. Given that we have two choices now --

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Shovel-ready.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: -- are you thinking of --

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: I wasn't pau.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: -- withdrawing...okay. Finish then.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Now I'm pau.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKERS: . . .*(laughing)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: . . .*(inaudible)*. . . thinking of withdrawing yours or keeping yours?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: So, I'm going to keep mine, but --

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: You're going to keep yours.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: -- this is being amended now, which is fine. Yeah, we're voting on the amendment.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Yeah, I know we're voting on the amendment.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: But I was thinking, are you supportive of the amendment or are you not?

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

April 24, 2026

CHAIR SUGIMURA: To keep the project going, yes, I support the amendment. I mean, if that makes...if it's better for Member Paltin and the Administration said they support it, I think it's fine. So...

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay. That's all I needed to know. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: So, at this time, are we doing a roll call? Sounds like roll call. Okay. Roll call.

MS. MONIZ: Chair, proceeding with the roll call vote. Councilmember Tom Cook.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Aye.

MS. MONIZ: Councilmember Gabe Johnson.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Yes.

MS. MONIZ: Council Chair Alice Lee.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Aye.

MS. MONIZ: Councilmember Tamara Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Aye.

MS. MONIZ: Councilmember Keani Rawlins-Fernandez.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aye.

MS. MONIZ: Councilmember Shane Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Aye.

MS. MONIZ: Councilmember Nohe U'u-Hodgins.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Aye.

MS. MONIZ: Committee Vice-Chair Kauanoë Batangan.

VICE-CHAIR BATANGAN: Aye.

MS. MONIZ: Committee Chair Yuki Lei Sugimura.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Aye. So, we have...

MS. MONIZ: Chair, that's nine "ayes." Motion passes.

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

April 24, 2026

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

NOES: **None.**

ABSTAIN: **None.**

ABSENT: **None.**

EXC.: **None.**

MOTION CARRIED.

ACTION: **APPROVE amendment to main motion.**

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Main motion as amended.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Motion...

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: All in favor.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Motion as amended.

COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Nine “ayes.” The motion...thank you.

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

April 24, 2026

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

NOES: **None.**

ABSTAIN: **None.**

ABSENT: **None.**

EXC.: **None.**

MOTION CARRIED.

ACTION: **APPROVE main motion as amended (Office of Recovery Lahaina Restoration Foundation Prison grant to \$3.9 million).**

CHAIR SUGIMURA: The third one is, I move to amend the Department of Finance Countywide cost transfer to the Managed Retreat Fund by \$800,000. Director?

MS. MILNER: Yes. Thank you, Chair. As has been stated, there is no language in the Code requiring this this year. So, if the body chooses to reduce it, that’s their prerogative. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Thank you. Okay. Any discussion?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Second.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, okay. Thank you very much. So, motion made by me and second by Chair Lee. Member...

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I move to amend the motion to decrease the Managed Retreat Fund by 300,000, leaving 500,000 for the Managed Retreat Fund.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Second.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Member Tamara Paltin, second by Member Keani Rawlins-Fernandez.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: We have...in the short amount of time that we’ve contributed funds to the Managed Retreat Fund, we’ve already used a lot of it to retreat. And, you know, the County has been one of the users as we’ve retreated Baldwin Pavilion and things. And we aren’t even seeing the worst effects of sea level rise/climate change yet. So, I’m...again, I’m willing to be flexible, but not to zero out the balance. It started with 3 million this year, we’re down to \$500,000. Imagine if that was a cut on your priority. I’m willing to be flexible, but not zero it out, given the erosion that like, you know, some

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

April 24, 2026

of our churches are seeing, some of our houses are seeing. So, again, I feel like we've flexed 2.5 million out of this and that's...that's as low as I'm willing to go.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Member Rawlins-Fernandez?

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Strong support of this motion. I think it's short-sighted to zero out a fund that has already been useful, especially since the proposal was going to be to increase on Non-Owner Occupied. So, people who own properties here that don't live in it, vacant properties...that was the proposal before we took a recess. And so, we're going to...we're going to raid our Managed Retreat Fund to save vacant property owners money. I don't support that.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Any other discussion? Member Batangan?

VICE-CHAIR BATANGAN: Can I...can you guys help me understand what the...so if we have money in the Managed Retreat Fund that isn't conditioned to go to a specific project, are people then able to apply directly for it? Okay. So, that's the difference.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: It's a revolving fund, and it was set up to take a portion of the TAT. But after the fire, Member Sugimura suspended it for three years that we would make that required thing. Otherwise, it would be 20 percent of TAT revenues. So, you know, we went along with it, even as the County churches have been pulling out from this fund. Lahaina Community Land Trust is working with some 'ōiwi families on the shoreline that would like to rebuild on the shoreline right now, and they're working to try and see if we can use the funds as a conservation easement purchase, so they will not rebuild on the shoreline, and they will take the money and hopefully move back from the shoreline. So, it's about, you know, when the effects of sea level rise in the form of catastrophic events occur, that we don't keep putting people in harm's way. Or if we're able to move back proactively, move back proactively. Or worst case scenario, like the idea came after the Florida building collapse, if...if there is a building collapse into the ocean and we need to clean it up right away for health and safety reasons, that's what the fund would be there for.

VICE-CHAIR BATANGAN: Okay. And then when people apply for money from this fund...so say, I think we talked about Pā'ia, what is the general or like the average ask? Because we're proposing to leave half a million, correct? How far does that get, like --

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Last year, Pā'ia --

VICE-CHAIR BATANGAN: -- a quarter of an applicant?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: -- took \$500,000 --

VICE-CHAIR BATANGAN: Oh, that is...

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

April 24, 2026

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: -- because of their crematorium tanks --

VICE-CHAIR BATANGAN: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: -- to take their crematorium out of the shoreline. I'm not sure how much Parks and Rec used to move Baldwin Pavilion and all of that out of the shoreline, but it is kind of pricey to do that work and the permitting and like that.

VICE-CHAIR BATANGAN: Okay. Understood.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Thank you. So, Members, on page 55 of Special Purpose Revenue Schedule Revolving Fund for Fiscal Year '27, item V., Managed Retreat Revolving Fund, Chapter 3.97, Maui County Code, has 12 million...you know, \$12 million. So, thank you. I just wanted...

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: No, it...it won't have \$12 million because you raided the 3 million.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Well, that's...that's what's in the book.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: No. It's not accurate though, is what I'm saying, because the \$12 million on page 55 reflects a 3 million injection from this year. So --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Right.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: -- it would be...if...if my motion passes and we only put 500,000 back in, it'll be 9,528,827. And when you consider all the homes and things on the shoreline, that's not going to get you very far.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Okay. Thank you. So, the motion is from Member Paltin, second by Member Rawlins-Fernandez, is instead of the 800,000, which I'm proposing, is for 300,000 from the Managed Retreat Fund.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I'm...I'm willing to compromise, I'm just not willing to zero it out. I mean, especially with how much it's...I mean, the theory was we're going to start using this when it gets really bad. And what I consider really bad is not right now. So, it's going to get much worse. The Building F Kahana Sunset is condemned. Now there's the building in South Maui after the Kona lows that are condemned. It's already happening. It's only going to get much worse in the next ten years. And sadly, 9 million isn't going to get you going that far.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Okay. Members, ready to vote? This is going to be a roll call.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Chair, wait.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, go ahead, Member U'u-Hodgins.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Chair, please wait.

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

April 24, 2026

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Just a second.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Sorry, Megan, to interrupt you. I'm okay to find some sort of balance here, either if it's...I don't know if we want to split the baby and do four-four. As personally, I feel very caught in the middle because this is a fund established before my coming here, and Pā'ia has benefited the most out of this fund. And so, it'd be hard for me to...I...I completely understand and support what you're doing, Chair. But it would be really hard for me because it is...it's been my community that has benefited from...from all the managed retreat funds so far. I don't know who else has used it except...

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, Pā'ia.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Yeah, that's what I mean.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah, the County has.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: I don't know who else has used it besides when we took out \$1 million to help with Kihei earlier this morning. But primarily, it's been Baldwin and Mantokuji. So, I'm...I'm going to support the amendment, but I do support what you're trying to do and --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: -- trying to knock back. But thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. All right. Chair Lee?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Members, I want to remind you that we...we have an obligation to present the best budget possible. And of course, it hurts to have your priorities cut, but that doesn't mean it can't be restored. And the problem is, as you all know, we just don't know where the Administration has all the cushions. And they have --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Lots.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: -- big cushions. It's over a billion dollars. So, we...we are relegated to looking at every little account, every little area.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: If...if you guys vote for me on this one, I'll find another. I have a propose...a different proposal to find some other money.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Now, that's very helpful.

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

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKERS: . . .*(laughing)*. . .

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

April 24, 2026

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: No, if you can find...

CHAIR SUGIMURA: General Fund.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: If you guys don't --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: General Fund.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: -- like what the Chair is proposing, help us with an offset. Yeah.
Great idea. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. I guess...all in favor then, say "aye."

COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Nine "ayes." Okay. This is for 300.

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

NOES: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: None.

EXC.: None.

MOTION CARRIED.

**ACTION: APPROVE amendment to main motion (decrease the
 proposed transfer by \$300,000)**

CHAIR SUGIMURA: And main motion as amended.

COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

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

April 24, 2026

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

NOES: **None.**

ABSTAIN: **None.**

ABSENT: **None.**

EXC.: **None.**

MOTION CARRIED.

ACTION: **APPROVE main motion as amended (amend Countywide Cost Transfer to the Managed Retreat Fund by \$500,000).**

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Chair Lee, right? Okay.

VICE-CHAIR BATANGAN: Chair?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Member Paltin? Oh, yes. Go. Yeah.

VICE-CHAIR BATANGAN: Before Member Paltin makes that, since...I move to reduce the appropriation for the PARUS Program by 1 million for a remaining total of 2 million.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Second.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Second.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Wow. Okay.

VICE-CHAIR BATANGAN: I have a second. May I...

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

VICE-CHAIR BATANGAN: For discussion.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: The second is who? Okay. Go ahead. Member...Chair Lee is second.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Mr. Sinenci seconded it.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, Mr. Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: I would have.

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

April 24, 2026

VICE-CHAIR BATANGAN: Thank you. Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Member Sinenci. Like...so, I under...I think I understand what we're doing. You know, we reduced the proposed budget, but we didn't necessarily reduce --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Enough.

VICE-CHAIR BATANGAN: -- the obligations under the General Fund.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yes, yes.

VICE-CHAIR BATANGAN: And so, we're trying to free up money so that we don't have to raise taxes.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah.

VICE-CHAIR BATANGAN: And I think that's honorable. I also have concerns with us messing with the proposed tax rates just for the sake of balancing. And I recognize that we all have to make sacrifices here. You know, this one was personal for me, I hope you guys recognize that. This is a legacy for Member Kama, and you know how much that means to me. And so, I...I would like to make this good faith effort to this body and to our community to be...to do my part in helping us get there. I feel like I missed something during the break when, you know, we were trying to crunch numbers to get us to where we need to be, but I want to take this step to be able to help us get to where we need to go.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. All right. So...

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Aye.

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

COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: All right. This is nine "ayes."

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

April 24, 2026

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

NOES: **None.**

ABSTAIN: **None.**

ABSENT: **None.**

EXC.: **None.**

MOTION CARRIED.

ACTION: **Reduce PARUS (Permanently Affordable Rental Units Strategy Program) grant by \$1 million.**

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you, Member Kama, also. Thank you, Member Batangan. She’s smiling. Member Paltin?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Oh. I was going to...on page 7, small f., number (14), I was going to further reduce by 50,000 to zero out number (14). The applicants that I seen on there were farm grants, and...and they can apply to the farms.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Wait. Can you...

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And there were a very small amount of applicants.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Can you give me the numbers again? So, page 7.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Page 7, bottom of the page (14). We already removed 50,000. I’m just proposing to zero it out. I don’t know if it makes sense to run a grant for that small amount, and the applicants were mostly farms that put solar. So, I figure we have other farm pots or small grant applications. So, I don’t know if it makes sense to...the effort it takes to run a special pot for...for that.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, it’s...

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: So, it would be to decrease by \$50,000, and then decrease the supplemental transfer.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Second.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Okay. Motion made by Member Paltin, second by Chair Lee. I think you explained it, or discussion. Any more?

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

April 24, 2026

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Chair, just for my discussion, you know, this is part of the CARP prog...the CARP that I think it would help implement the CARP. So, I...I don't know. I just don't feel I can support at this time.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Member Rawlins-Fernandez?

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh, it's page 7, number 14, Renewable Energy Program Grants. I agree with Member Johnson. I supported the proposal from Member Paltin in RPT before we took the recess. So, I'm not jumping on this ship to reduce all these things. I agree with Member Paltin that 50,000 will probably not go that far. So, Member Johnson, one of the things that I'll be working on in this next year is for renewable energy generation, like a zero-interest loan program for community-based groups that are doing this work to achieve the objectives of the CARP. So, it's more than 50,000 and it's just not patchwork of farms putting solar panels up, but actual generation to reduce our use and dependence on fossil fuel.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: So, I will support this. Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Chair?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Any other...Member Sinenci?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you, Chair. I too supported the RPT proposals before the break. During...during the budget, I didn't feel like, you know, cutting from a lot of these small programs. A lot of my offsets came from increasing Non-Owner Occupied only because, you know, the Federal...the...this big, beautiful bill at the...at the Federal provided substantial tax cuts for high-income earners and investors. It gave them high...high estate tax exemptions, 100 percent bonus depreciation on their private jets, and increased caps on State and local deductions, you know, for these high-tax, high-income brackets. And, again, 900 billion cuts to Medicaid, 300 billion cuts to SNAP benefits. So, I was looking at increasing Non-Owner Occupied, Chair. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. Any other discussion? Okay. Call for the vote. Is this a roll call vote? Okay. This is for decrease that item number (14), Renewable Energy Program.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And subsequently decrease the interfund...the --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Interfund transfer.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: -- transfer...the transfer to EP&S.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. Roll call. By 50,000.

MS. MONIZ: Chair, proceeding with the roll call vote. Councilmember Tom Cook.

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

April 24, 2026

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Aye.

MS. MONIZ: Councilmember Gabe Johnson.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: No.

MS. MONIZ: Council Chair Alice Lee.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Aye.

MS. MONIZ: Councilmember Tamara Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Aye.

MS. MONIZ: Councilmember Keani Rawlins-Fernandez.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aye.

MS. MONIZ: Councilmember Shane Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: No.

MS. MONIZ: Councilmember Nohe U'u-Hodgins.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Aye.

MS. MONIZ: Committee Vice-Chair Kauanoë Batangan.

VICE-CHAIR BATANGAN: Aye.

MS. MONIZ: Committee Chair Yuki Lei Sugimura.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Aye.

MS. MONIZ: Chair, that's seven "ayes," two "noes." Motion passes.

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

April 24, 2026

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

NOES: **Councilmembers Johnson and Sinenci.**

ABSTAIN: **None.**

ABSENT: **None.**

EXC.: **None.**

MOTION CARRIED.

ACTION: **Reduce by \$50,000 to zero out Renewable Energy Program Grants and decrease the supplemental transfer to the Environmental Protection & Sustainability Fund by \$50,000.**

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Thank you.

VICE-CHAIR BATANGAN: Chair, did you have any other --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: I don't.

VICE-CHAIR BATANGAN: -- proposals that you're going to make? Staff, can I ask how far off we are? Do we...

MR. KRUEGER: Chair?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Go ahead.

MR. KRUEGER: Staff's calculating that the General Fund is out of balance by \$5,708,100.

COUNCILMEMBER U‘U-HODGINS: Chair?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Member U‘u-Hodgins?

COUNCILMEMBER U‘U-HODGINS: Okay. Wait, now I've got to find my...sorry, now I've got to find my place. I was just messaging with Budget Director, and I added \$50,000 into the Environmental Protection Grants for Na Maka O Maliko, but she's saying it can be absorbed into the \$800,000 that exists. I think Member Paltin did cut it, but she did check that it can be absorbed. So, I can strike...we can move the \$50,000 and still leave the condition and it'll be absorbed.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

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

April 24, 2026

COUNCILMEMBER U‘U-HODGINS: So, I move to reduce the Environmental Protection Grants of \$50,000.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Second. Oh.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: That includes decreasing the supplemental transfer as well, right?

COUNCILMEMBER U‘U-HODGINS: Exactly, whatever you say.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: . . .*(laughing)*. . . Member U‘u-Hodgins, second by Member Paltin.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, that’ll be a condition that’ll be covered.

COUNCILMEMBER U‘U-HODGINS: Aye.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aye.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Anybody else, comments? All in favor, raise your hand and say “aye.”

COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

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

ACTION:	Reduce Environmental Protection & Sustainability General fund transfer by \$50,000.
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BUDGET, FINANCE, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

April 24, 2026

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Very good. Thank you, Member U'u-Hodgins. Okay. Any...any others? That's it. So, where are we total again?

MR. KRUEGER: Chair, Staff is calculating that the Committee is currently out of balance in the General Fund by \$5,658,100.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Say it again, please?

MR. KRUEGER: \$5,658,100.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: So, we're still looking for \$5 million.

MR. KRUEGER: Chair, that's the imbalance in the General Fund. So, got...it got better.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Chair?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: So, are you going to also put your money where your mouth is and reduce your \$3 million to your priority as well?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Sure. I will...I will delete that to...but does it...is that General Fund or is it...what is it? Mine was a condition in Office of Recovery. So, I didn't add any more. Can you check?

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: It says new. It doesn't say condition.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Can you check?

MR. KRUEGER: Chair, apologies. What...

CHAIR SUGIMURA: So, my...my \$3 million that I wanted for the Kula residents to be like...or Upcountry residents that were impacted by the wildfire, for them to have a fund to go to, you know, to do the insurance or whatever the discrepancy.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Department of Management Office of Recovery Program, General.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

MR. KRUEGER: Chair, we have that recorded as a condition, a \$3 million condition.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah. It's a condition. So, it's not an additional add. Okay. I would have.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Out of what fund --

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

April 24, 2026

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Appreciate...

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: -- Mr. Krueger?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Office of Recovery.

MR. KRUEGER: It's a condition on the Office of Recovery Program, so General Fund.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah.

VICE-CHAIR BATANGAN: But it was just a condition, correct?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah.

VICE-CHAIR BATANGAN: It wasn't a --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Just a condition.

VICE-CHAIR BATANGAN: -- add?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Are we done? So, as I said, everybody that added to the budget was either a condition or you found an offset, right? So, it could have...it should have been from a pretty neutral starting point, but we're off. It is. Go ahead.

VICE-CHAIR BATANGAN: We're off because we didn't necessarily make our adds and cuts from the same pot of money. So, we're net negative, but we're not balanced within the funds. That's the issue.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Also, Chair --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: -- didn't the Administration make changes so that that put us off as well? Like Water, for example?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Water Department, the last minute changes that they had. But Water is self-funded, right?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: No, but can...can you have our Staff explain that to us?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, okay.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Or...or Director, Budget Director.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Or Peter...or Mr. Hanano, can you explain what happened with the Water Department? Mr. Hanano, can you explain what happened to the Water Department the last day that they sent down a one-page amendment?

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

April 24, 2026

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

CHAIR SUGIMURA: I don't know if it had a bill number, but...

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: 76.

MR. HANANO: 76. Chair, are we talking about Bill 76?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: So, I thought it was that we were going to bond...

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: I don't know that the bill number, but I know it threw off our...our balance.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: So...and they sent down a whole bunch of amendments.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: There's Budget Director.

MR. HANANO: Yeah, I think that was --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh.

MR. HANANO: -- something else --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Here's Budget Director.

MR. HANANO: -- not Bill 76.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Go ahead. Hello. Thank you. Chair Lee has a question.

MS. MILNER: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Chair Lee. Yes, the changes requested by the Water Department caused a \$13.9 million decrease in the Council's current budget projections. And that was solely in the Water Fund.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Chair...Chair Lee?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Budget Director, do you know of anything that we can offset by \$5 million so we can all go home?

MS. MILNER: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Chair Lee. I tell you all the same thing every year. You know, we send it down to you the way we send it down because we feel everything in there is important. If we have any excess, we do the same thing you do when you change RPT and we put it into the supplemental transfers to Managed Retreat and Emergency Fund.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Here...thank you. Member Paltin?

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

April 24, 2026

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: If I can balance the RPT without changing the rates, I can do it simply by using Member Sinenci's tier for Non-Owner Occupied. I don't have to change any rates and we can generate \$5,668,013 simply by moving Tier II from 1 to 3 million to 1 to 2.5 million, not changing any of the rates.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Second.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Wait now. Wait now, I got to look.

VICE-CHAIR BATANGAN: Member Paltin, what page are you on?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I'm on the Excel spreadsheet. I...I changed Tier II of Non-Owner Occupied from 1 to 3 million to 1 to 2.5 million and Tier III to 2.5 million and above, did not touch any rates, and that generates \$5,668,013, which is about 10,000 over but I think that is needed for the Open Space transfer and, you know, we can take the rest out of Emergency Fund or the...something else. Not changing any rates.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Tell us how to go home early.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: . . .*(inaudible)*. . . don't look so happy.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Did somebody do it?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Shall we make it a motion so we can...

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yeah . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. I move to change the Non-Owner Occupied Tier II thresholds from \$1,000,001 to \$2.5 million, and Tier III threshold from \$3 million to more than 2.5 million.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Isn't it just greater than?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: More than.

VICE-CHAIR BATANGAN: I don't...I don't think that was what you had originally said, right? So, the Non-Owner Occupied first tier is going to increase?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: The Non-Owner Occupied first tier, I'm not touching it.

VICE-CHAIR BATANGAN: Right. Okay. So, repeat your motion again.

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

April 24, 2026

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. I move to change Tier II from \$1,000,001 to \$3 million instead to be \$1,000,001 to \$2.5 million, and I move to change Tier III from \$3 million to greater than \$2.5 million.

VICE-CHAIR BATANGAN: Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Second.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Discussion. Moved by Member Paltin, second by Member Johnson. Discussion. This one action will generate us \$5,668,013, which is about roughly 10,000...little less than 10,000 of what we needed. But then we also need 1 percent of that to put into the Open Space Fund and I am amenable with taking that from the Managed Retreat Fund to put into the Open Space Fund. We'll also need to generate whatever that 1 percent of that is to put into the Open Space Fund by Charter. I am amenable, if this motion passes, to take whatever amount that needs to be transferred to the Open Space Fund from the Managed Retreat Fund or the Emergency Fund, but either one.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: But that's a subsequent motion --

VICE-CHAIR BATANGAN: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: -- if this motion passes. Just for discussion.

VICE-CHAIR BATANGAN: Yeah. I'm supportive...Chair?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Go ahead.

VICE-CHAIR BATANGAN: Thank you. I'm supportive of the motion on the floor, and then would like to take that second motion and then recess to have Staff re-crunch numbers and make sure that everything is in order before we...before we continue conversations.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Member Johnson?

VICE-CHAIR BATANGAN: I just want to make sure that, you know, the changes we're doing on the fly are all in order.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Member Johnson, and then I have a comment.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: I'm ready to vote. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, also on that with the Non-Owner Occupied, the rate for the highest tier, which is \$17 per...right, per 1,000, I will tell you that that rate jumped so high last year that...I don't know if you guys walk in the community and people tell you, oh, you know, my...my...my tax...my RPT jumped so high. And I think this is one of the

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

April 24, 2026

categories that we, you know, laid it on heavy last year and it's being impacted by people who really help our community. They may not live here, but they are paying a lot of taxes and helping our other tax rates be lower, right? So, that...that was mentioned before. It's something hard to say because you're going to say, why? They don't vote. They don't...you know, there's all kinds of discussions that come up and people say, well, why should you care? You know why you should care? This is going back to that Mother's Day brunch I had at my house where people that were my friends were saying, oh, our tax rates on Maui are so low. And if they have houses other places, they say, that's so high. And I said, you know why? It's the visitors who...who are paying that or...or this category. And the tax rate we have for this category is so high that those people are feeling it. You know, I hear like, oh, my tax rate went from 25,000 to 75,000, I think, a year. And...and really, I mean, I don't know if anybody has ever stopped to tell you, but I've heard it from many people. And that's not the only categories. I just want to know that what we do impacts a greater group out there and we cannot...well, I care, you know...I care about the residents. I care about, you know, all the people who are working hard, you know, that's making life happen here. And this tax category is making life happen here also. You know, I just don't want us to think it doesn't matter because, well, it matters to me. So, I want to say that. Member Cook?

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: For discussion. I hear you. I think the...the Members have heard me advocating for not continuing to raise the high...the...this...the highest tax rate because actually, this population of residents do benefit the community a lot. I feel that this proposal now, it's...I'm supportive of it. It will cost some people more money, not...nothing like the drastic increases previously. I think that the...I'm going to propose this year a methodology for that with these existing rates, part of the fee will be able to go more directly, beneficial in the community, and it'll also give the op...give a tax break, a Federal tax break to the property owners that basically will enable them to feel better about their contribution. I just encourage my colleagues to recognize this is...they are contributing to the community and we're...through taxation. I'm just...anyway, I don't want to elaborate it. We'll work on it. I'm glad we're not raising it much and I'm supportive of this.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Member Paltin?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I think it does need to be recognized that none of the proposals made so far have been to raise Tier III of Non-Owner Occupied as was repeatedly stated by some folks as where they were going to find the money. So, that has never come to fruition. And I think it needs to be recognized that none of the proposals today have been to raise Tier III of Non-Owner Occupied to this point. So --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: -- I...I appreciate your speeches, but I think you are not appreciating our restraint to this point.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

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

April 24, 2026

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: If I may --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: So...go ahead.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: -- I may not have stated myself well. I very much am acknowledging and encouraging the community to acknowledge the fact that this body did...did not increase that. It's...so, I didn't represent it pos...what I'm saying is, I'm...I am supportive and proud of what this Council has done in this budget and the way that we've worked together is...I'm grateful. So, thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Go ahead, Chair Lee.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Discussion.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yes, discussion.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Discussion. I would...I would love to vote no on this. However, I am a realist. And the only thing that gives me a little comfort is the fact that values have gone down, actually. So, hopefully this won't hurt too many people, and maybe in the future we will have more opportunities to look for other areas to cut. But it just so happens we're at the end of the...our process practically and we're running out of areas to...to look for, and...and nobody's helping us with that either. So, I am going to vote in favor of this. And I wish...honestly, I wish we didn't have to allow for the raise for the STRs. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: That's painful, right? We're...we're living with a reality of the impact of Bill 9 is what we're living with. Truly.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I will not say anything. I'm ready to vote.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, we're going to --

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: I'm ready to vote.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: -- we're going to take a recess and let whatever --

VICE-CHAIR BATANGAN: Wait...

CHAIR SUGIMURA: -- Member Batangan asked. And so...

VICE-CHAIR BATANGAN: No, I wanted to take this vote and then the subsequent vote and then recess so that they have like actual direction to go off of --

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

April 24, 2026

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, okay.

VICE-CHAIR BATANGAN: -- before they re-crunch the numbers.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Aye.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aye.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Roll call.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: All in favor...yeah. Go ahead. Roll call.

MS. MONIZ: Chair, proceeding with the roll call vote. Councilmember Tom Cook.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Aye.

MS. MONIZ: Councilmember Gabe Johnson.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Yes.

MS. MONIZ: Council Chair Alice Lee.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Aye with reservations.

MS. MONIZ: Councilmember Tamara Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Aye.

MS. MONIZ: Councilmember Keani Rawlins-Fernandez.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aye.

MS. MONIZ: Councilmember Shane Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Aye.

MS. MONIZ: Councilmember Nohe U'u-Hodgins.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Aye.

MS. MONIZ: Committee Vice-Chair Kauanoë Batangan.

VICE-CHAIR BATANGAN: Aye.

MS. MONIZ: Committee Chair Yuki Lei Sugimura.

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

April 24, 2026

CHAIR SUGIMURA: No.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Any other proponents?

MS. MONIZ: Chair, that's eight "ayes," one "no." Motion passes.

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

NOES: Chair Sugimura.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: None.

EXC.: None.

MOTION CARRIED.

ACTION: Change nonowner occupied threshold for Tier 2 from \$1,000,001 to \$2.5 million and Tier 3 threshold from \$3 million to >\$2.5 million.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, sorry. Motion passes.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Staff, will you let us know, based on that, how much we need to transfer to the Open Space Fund to comply with the Charter?

MR. KRUEGER: Chair, Staff calculates that the Committee is now over in the General Fund with \$166,461. With the RPT proposal before the Committee now, the Committee needs to...the required Open Space contribution would increase by \$58,245. So, the Committee could consider, you know, a motion to put the required amount into the Open Space and put the excess somewhere else. And if it's okay, give Staff the leeway to calculate based off of, you know, there's some rounding errors. So, if we can address those two appropriations as needed to account for rounding.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Yes. I...I move to transfer the excess balance to the Open Space Fund. One motion.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Second.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. All in favor, raise your hands and say "aye."

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

April 24, 2026

COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

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

NOES: **None.**

ABSTAIN: **None.**

ABSENT: **None.**

EXC.: **None.**

MOTION CARRIED.

ACTION: **Transfer excess balance to Open Space fund.**

CHAIR SUGIMURA: I think it's been explained. Okay. Fine. So, what about the Hawaiian Home Lands? When does that...we have to...no. Oh, I'm sorry. That's GET. Sorry, wrong one. Okay. Any others?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Recess. So, they can double check. Double, triple.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: So, we will come back at...how long do you need? Until 3:00, maybe? 3:00. . . .*(gavel)*. . .

RECESS: **2:53 p.m.**

RECONVENE: **3:09 p.m.**

CHAIR SUGIMURA: . . .*(gavel)*. . . Welcome back to the Budget, Finance, Economic Development Committee. Today is a glorious day. We are done with RPT. So, we're going to take budget provisions on Monday. And also, I just wanted to take up Bill 76 and refer it to WAI, the Water Committee. Can you please read 76?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

CHAIR SUGIMURA: We will.

BILL 76 (2026)

MR. KRUEGER: Sorry, Chair. I'm just pulling it up. Chair, so Bill 76 is "A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE 14, ARTICLE I, MAUI COUNTY CODE ON THE WATER SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT FEE."

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

April 24, 2026

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, I'm going to recommend that this be referred to WAI Committee because it's talking about rates and fees and the changes to...

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: No objections.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Great.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: All in favor, raise your hand, say "aye."

COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. That is nine "ayes." Oh. Oh. Oh, sorry. Motion made by me and second by --

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Member Cook.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: -- Member Cook.

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

NOES: **None.**

ABSTAIN: **None.**

ABSENT: **None.**

EXC.: **None.**

MOTION CARRIED.

ACTION: **REFERRAL of Bill 76 (2026) to the Water and Infrastructure Committee.**

CHAIR SUGIMURA: And Lesley wants to say something...I'm sorry, Budget Director.

MS. MILNER: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Councilmembers. I would just ask if the body could expedite to get it passed by June 30th as if this doesn't pass, we need to make changes to Appendix B to reflect that. Thank you, Chair.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: We'll make sure to get it scheduled.

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

April 24, 2026

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

MS. MILNER: Mahalo.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Very good. Member Paltin?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Just clarifying, you're...you're saying it needs to pass second reading by June 30th?

MS. MILNER: Thank you, Chair. Yes, Councilmember Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. So second reading, June 30th.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, Members, Monday, I'm going to...we're going to meet again on Monday for corrections. And what time would you like to come back? 9:00? 10:00?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: 10:00, 10:00

CHAIR SUGIMURA: 10:00? You guys fine...Member Rawlins-Fernandez has to travel. Member Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: She doesn't have to. She can stay home. She can stay home.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: And what about Member Johnson?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: 10:00 is okay.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: 10:00 is okay? Okay. So, we're recessing this meeting, correct? Okay. And then we are meeting again at 10:00 on Monday.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Thank God.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: And Chair Lee will take up the general budget provisions.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Um-hum.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Is there anything else that we need to do before we adjourn this? Oh, we're going to recess this meeting. Is there anything else?

MR. KRUEGER: Chair, no. No, there's nothing else. So, Staff will just note that the Committee is planning to recess to 10:00 a.m. Monday, which is April 27th, to the same Microsoft Teams link and connections we're using today with in-person viewing available here in the Council Chamber.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

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

April 24, 2026

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And...and so, that means there won't be testimony Monday. So, don't...don't come to testify, but --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Right.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: -- feel free to watch.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: And they can send us emails or...right? Or send to the eComment link. All right. Members, congratulations. Hooray. This meeting is now in recess. . . .*(gavel)*. . .

RECESS: 3:12 p.m.

bfed:min:260424-d:ds

Transcribed by: Daniel Schoenbeck

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

April 24, 2026

CERTIFICATION

I, Daniel Schoenbeck, hereby certify that pages 1 through 70 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 21st day of May 2026, in Wailuku, Hawai'i

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Daniel Schoenbeck", is positioned above a horizontal line.

Daniel Schoenbeck