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DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
COUNTY OF MAUI
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April 26, 2024

RECEIVED
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OFFICE OF THE
COUNTY CLERK

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

APPROVED FOR TRANSMITTAL

Richard T Bissen 4-28-24

Mayor Date

For Transmittal to

Honorable Alice L. Lee, Chair,
and Member of the Maui County Council
200 South High Street
Wailuku, Hawaii 96793

Dear Chair Lee and Council Members:

**SUBJECT: PROPOSED RESOLUTION TO ADOPT THE MAUI WILDFIRES
DEBRIS REMOVAL ALTERNATIVE PROGRAM STANDARDS**

The Department is transmitting the attached proposed resolution entitled "ADOPTING MAUI WILDFIRES FIRE DEBRIS REMOVAL ALTERNATIVE PROGRAM STANDARDS." The purpose of the proposed resolution is to establish the deadline to complete debris removal and to adopt the minimum standards applicable to fire debris removal conducted under the Alternative Program established pursuant to Ordinance 5562.

The proposed standards follow the same protocols and procedures being implemented by FEMA and USACE to perform debris removal under the Government Program established by Ordinance 5562. The Department is proposing a deadline of June 15, 2024 for property owner to apply for the Alternative Program or to obtain approval under the Government Program.

The Department requests consideration to waive committee referral and act on this resolution on the floor at the Council's next regular meeting. The urgency to adopt the standards and the deadline is to maximize the amount of time property owners have to prepare for the upcoming deadline. Referring the resolution to committee then back to Council for final action will delay adoption by 4 weeks leaving little time between adoption of the resolution and the arrival of the deadline.

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The proposed deadline is critical to allow sufficient time for the County to implement abatement proceeding while the resources of FEMA and USACE are still on island and available to assist the County with cleaning up properties who fail to meet the deadline. The proposed deadline also provides for the timely implementation of debris removal under the Alternative Program which is critical to ensure the hazards are removed from Lahaina Town when repopulation occurs.

As of April 25 2024, the Department has approved 1,851 applications and have 322 application pending review under the Government Program. There are only approximately 56 parcels that have not yet applied for debris removal under the Government Program.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. Should you have any questions, please contact me at Ext. 7845.

Sincerely,



JORDAN MOLINA
Director of Public Works