

COUNCIL OF THE COUNTY OF MAUI
**BUDGET, FINANCE, AND ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

June 7, 2024

**Committee
Report No. _____**

Honorable Chair and Members
of the County Council
County of Maui
Wailuku, Maui, Hawaii

Chair and Members:

Your Budget, Finance, and Economic Development Committee, having met on May 15, 2024, makes reference to Bill 57 (2024), entitled “A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE FISCAL YEAR 2024 BUDGET FOR THE COUNTY OF MAUI, APPENDIX A, PART I, DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND HUMAN CONCERNS, AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT, HOMEOWNER ASSISTANCE FUND.”

Bill 57’s purpose is to amend the Fiscal Year (“FY”) 2024 Budget, Appendix A, Part I, Grants and Restricted Use Revenues - Schedule of Grants and Restricted Use Revenues by Departments and Programs for FY 2024, for the Department of Housing and Human Concerns (“Department”), by adding a new appropriation entitled “American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 - Homeowner Assistance Fund” in the amount of \$16,425,000.

Your Committee notes the Council previously recognized \$8,060,550 for the Department in FY 2022 under the State of Hawaii - Homeowner Assistance Fund (Ordinance 5332).

By correspondence dated March 15, 2024, the Interim Budget Director explained that the State elected to reprogram Oahu’s remaining allocation of American Rescue Plan Act funds, totaling \$16,425,000, to the County of Maui.

The Interim Budget Director confirmed that the Department is finalizing a contract with Catholic Charities Hawai‘i to administer a program to assist homeowners affected by the COVID-19 pandemic using

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the FY 2022 funding. If Bill 57 is approved, the contract will need to be amended to reflect the additional \$16,425,000 from the State.

A representative of the State's Hawai'i Housing Finance and Development Corporation ("HHFDC") said up to 15 percent of the total \$24,485,550 in funds may be used for administrative costs, which would amount to \$3.6 million. A representative from Catholic Charities Hawai'i said the funds for administrative costs will be used for six staff, mortgage servicing, accounting, and compliance testing.

The HHFDC representative explained the Homeowner Assistance Fund program provides financial assistance to address delinquent homeowner costs, such as mortgage payments, real property taxes, and homeowner association fees. The funds can also be used for mortgage payment assistance for up to one year.

Further, each qualified applicant may receive up to \$60,000 in assistance. The HHFDC representative estimated that up to 850 homeowners may be assisted with these funds.

The Director of Housing and Human Concerns described the ways Catholic Charities Hawai'i is making the program accessible to potential applicants, including home visits to assist people with the application process. The Catholic Charities Hawai'i representative said as the organization conducts its other activities, such as Federal Emergency Management Agency disaster case management, its staff are also referring eligible people to the Homeowner Assistance Fund program.

The Interim Budget Director confirmed that Lahaina homeowners are presumptively eligible for the program because Lahaina as a tourist destination was impacted by the pandemic. More individuals should be able to qualify for the funds since the Federal government has relaxed restrictions on the funds' use.

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The HHFDC representative noted that because the Homeowner Assistance Fund is a federal program, applicants cannot qualify if they are already receiving assistance from another program for the same purpose. Applicants also do not qualify if they own more than one property suitable for dwelling purposes.

The HHFDC representative also provided the following statistics:

- 167 applicants submitted pre-screening information for the program.
- 49 applicants have met the requirements for the program and were asked to complete applications with mortgage loan information and other necessary documentation.
- 15 applications were received as of May 13, 2024.
- 309 registrants are on the program's waitlist.

The HHFDC representative said the program's performance period runs until September 30, 2026, and the funds will need to be fully expended within 120 days after the performance period ends.

Your Committee voted 9-0 to recommend Bill 57 (2024), on first reading. Committee Chair Sugimura, Vice-Chair Kama, and members Cook, Johnson, Lee, Paltin, Rawlins-Fernandez, Sinenci, and U'u-Hodgins voted "aye."

Your Committee is in receipt of Bill 57, CD1 (2024), approved as to form and legality by the Department of the Corporation Counsel, incorporating nonsubstantive revisions that take into account prior amendments to the FY 2024 Budget.

Your Budget, Finance, and Economic Development Committee RECOMMENDS that Bill 57, CD1 (2024), as revised herein and attached hereto, entitled "A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE FISCAL YEAR 2024 BUDGET FOR THE COUNTY OF MAUI, APPENDIX A, PART I,

COUNCIL OF THE COUNTY OF MAUI

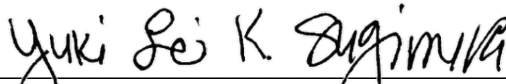
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DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND HUMAN CONCERNS, AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT, HOMEOWNER ASSISTANCE FUND,” be PASSED ON FIRST READING and be ORDERED TO PRINT.

This report is submitted in accordance with Rule 8 of the Rules of the Council.



YUKI LEI K. SUGIMURA, Chair

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ORDINANCE NO. _____

BILL NO. 57, CD1 (2024)

A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE AMENDING
THE FISCAL YEAR 2024 BUDGET FOR THE COUNTY OF MAUI,
APPENDIX A, PART I, DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND
HUMAN CONCERNS, AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT,
HOMEOWNER ASSISTANCE FUND

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE COUNTY OF MAUI:

SECTION 1. Ordinance No. 5528, Bill No. 22, CD1, FD2 (2023), as amended, "Fiscal Year 2024 Budget", Appendix A, Part I, Grants and Restricted Use Revenues – Schedule of Grants and Restricted Use Revenues by Departments and Programs for Fiscal Year 2024, Department of Housing and Human Concerns is amended to add a new appropriation entitled "American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 – Homeowner Assistance Fund" in the amount of \$16,425,000 and to make nonsubstantive revisions to item e., to read as follows:

"I. GRANTS AND RESTRICTED USE REVENUES- SCHEDULE OF GRANTS AND RESTRICTED USE REVENUES BY DEPARTMENTS AND PROGRAMS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024	
<u>REQUEST DEPARTMENT/PROGRAM</u>	<u>APPROPRIATION</u>
6. Department of Housing and Human Concerns	
a. Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) Expansion	1,000,000
(1) Disbursement for salaries and premium pay is limited to 5.5 LTA equivalent personnel.	
b. A&B Kōkua Giving Contribution	20,000
c. Assisted Transportation Program	12,000
(1) Disbursement for salaries and premium pay is limited to 5.0 LTA equivalent personnel.	
d. Congregate Meals Program	60,000
(1) Disbursement for salaries and premium pay is limited to 6.3 LTA equivalent personnel.	
e. <u>U.S.</u> Department of Housing <u>and</u> Urban Development Emergency Housing Vouchers	1,294,620
f. Family Self-Sufficiency Coordinator Grant	45,000
g. Healthy Aging Partnership - Empowering Elders	150,000
(1) Disbursement for salaries and premium pay is limited to 1.0 LTA equivalent personnel.	

h. Home-Delivered Meals Program	117,000
(1) Disbursement for salaries and premium pay is limited to 6.5 LTA equivalent personnel.	
i. HOME Investment Partnership Program	3,000,000
j. Kupuna Care Program	1,142,917
(1) Disbursement for salaries and premium pay is limited to 2.0 LTA equivalent personnel.	
k. Matson Foundation Contribution	1,000
l. National Housing Trust Fund	3,000,000
m. Nutrition Services Incentive Program (NSIP)	250,000
n. 'Ohana Zone- Kahului Affordable Housing for Homeless Families	2,000,000
o. Private Donations	1,000
p. Retired Senior Volunteer Program	73,350
(1) Disbursement for salaries and premium pay is limited to 1.0 LTA equivalent personnel.	
q. Section 8 Housing Program	28,163,848
(1) Disbursement for salaries and premium pay is limited to 22.0 LTA equivalent personnel.	
r. State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP)	1,000
s. Strategic Prevention Framework Partnerships for Success	110,000
(1) Disbursement for salaries and premium pay is limited to 1.0 LTA equivalent personnel.	
t. Title III Programs	1,500,000
(1) Disbursement for salaries and premium pay is limited to 5.0 LTA equivalent personnel.	
u. Voluntary Contributions	25,000
v. Volunteer Center Program	10,000
w. American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 – Emergency Rental Assistance Program #2 (ERA #2)	322,248
x. USAging Disaster Relief Fund	15,000

y. Federal Disaster Relief Grant Funds

1,081,528

z. American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 – Homeowner Assistance Fund

16,425,000”

SECTION 2. New material is underscored.

SECTION 3. This Ordinance takes effect upon approval.

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kristina C. Toshikiyo", is written over a horizontal line.

KRISTINA C. TOSHIKIYO
Deputy Corporation Counsel