

## **WIT.Committee**

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**From:** Dick Mayer <dickmayer@earthlink.net>  
**Sent:** Sunday, May 17, 2020 9:42 PM  
**To:** WIT.Committee  
**Subject:** WUDP Letter to Council May 18-2020  
**Attachments:** WUDP Letter to Council May 17-2020.pdf

**Aloha,**

**Please circulate this letter to the WIT Chair Sugimura and to all the Committee members. I will be referring to the letter when I give oral testimony Monday afternoon.**

**Attachment**

**WUDP Letter to Council May 17-2020.pdf**

**Mahalo, Dick Mayer cell 283-4376**  
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To: Chair Yuki Lei Sugimura and Members,  
Water, Infrastructure, and Transportation Committee

May 18, 2020

From: Dick Mayer

**RE: (WIT-25) Proposed Water Use and Development Plan (WUDP)**

I urge council members to consider the proposed Water Use and Development Plan (WUDP) to be no more than a comprehensive, overly detailed, repetitive “water document”, but definitely do NOT consider it to be a “water **PLAN**”.

For example, there is considerable discussion of water in several large aquifer sectors (Central, Koolau). However, that methodology is confusing since water distribution sub-systems that should be analyzed together are found in separate chapters, while water distribution sub-systems that are completely separate are put together in the same aquifer sector.

The Central and South Maui sub-system is lumped together in the same chapter (15) with the Upcountry system, even though there are no physical connections between these two County source/distribution systems. Concurrently and unfortunately, Upcountry Maui’s water use and needs are separated from the source of much of its water supply in the East Maui Koolau aquifer sector.

A real PLAN would indicate what should be done next; what are the options; what does it cost; and it should contain recommendations on the sequence of events needed to anticipate and solve future problems.

A glaring omission is the total absence of any reference to the four East Maui State lease areas that are the largest source of water on Maui Island. There is no map of that area illustrating the location, the sources, and ditches/tunnels; no discussion of the ditch system that connects that water source to both Central Maui and Upcountry Maui. There should be a detailed history of that water source and the legal background to the issues that remain unresolved. This State Lease area water source is too important to be ignored, even if there are controversial elements to the matter.

Furthermore, you will not find a discussion of the steps that need to be taken to improve the UpCountry system’s quality, quantity and reliability of water. There is no list of potential specific projects, no financial plan, nor discussion of the cost of delivery as compared to the potential revenues. The same can be said for each of the other County water sub-systems

Therefore, I request that the Council’s Water Committee send back to the Water Department the present version of the Water Use and Development Plan, and ask that the DWS include in the executive summary an actual plan. Alternatively, your Water Committee and the full Council may approve this version of the WUDP document so that it can be sent to CWRM, but require that the Department of Water Supply prepare an actual plan for each of the County’s water systems: Central and South Maui, UpCountry, West Maui, Hana, and Nahiku.

On WUDP page 232, it boldly states that, “In consistency with the Maui County Code Title 14, the plan shall serve as the primary guide to the council, the department, and all other agencies of the county in approving or recommending to other agencies the use or commitment of the water resources in the county; and in using public funds to develop water resources to meet existing or projected future demands on the MDWS system.” The WUDP totally fails to do this.

On WUDP pages 234-241, there is a long list of projects. However, most projects have no cost figures, and there is no prioritization of the projects. In other words, there is NO PLAN! The WUDP Plan on page 233 (PDF page 303) trivializes planning by giving this insignificant, useless estimate to county officials and the public:

1. Central Maui Water System: Source development depending on the combination of new sources pursued: **\$100 million**
2. West Maui Water System: Source development depending on the combination of new sources pursued. Costs do not include the development of raw water storage: **\$100 million**
3. Upcountry Water System: Source development costs are based on satisfying a significant portion of the upcountry water meter list. This demand is far in excess of demand projected in the Maui Island Plan: **\$100 million**
4. East Maui System: Various combinations of source, storage and transmission improvements: **\$10 million**

I would ask the department to supplement this document with several very brief chapters. Each chapter would discuss one of the County’s water supply/distribution sub-systems: UpCountry, Central and South Maui; West Maui; Hana, etc.

Each of these chapters would describe the quantities supplied and the quantities consumed in the system. Then it would briefly describe ways to increase or improve the water supply and the related costs estimates. Finally, a CIP prioritization for each sub-system would be provided.

Mahalo for allowing me to testify, Dick Mayer  
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