

Budget, Finance, and Economic Development Committee (2023-2025) on 2023-04-05 9:00 AM

Meeting Time: 04-05-23 09:00

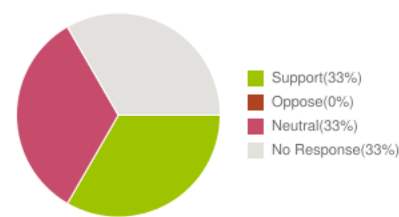
eComments Report

Meetings	Meeting Time	Agenda Items	Comments	Support	Oppose	Neutral
Budget, Finance, and Economic Development Committee (2023-2025) on 2023-04-05 9:00 AM	04-05-23 09:00	2	3	1	0	1

Sentiments for All Meetings

The following graphs display sentiments for comments that have location data. Only locations of users who have commented will be shown.

Overall Sentiment

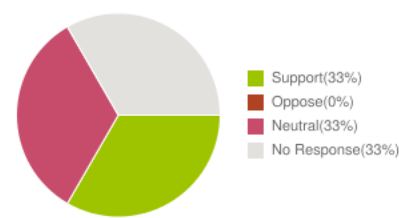


Agenda Name	Comments	Support	Oppose	Neutral
BFED-1 FY 2024 PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2024 BUDGET FOR THE COUNTY OF MAUI (BFED-1)	3	1	0	1

Sentiments for All Agenda Items

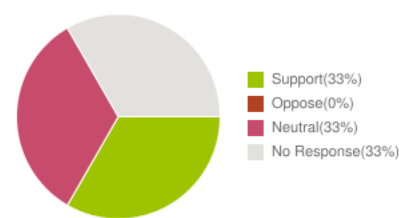
The following graphs display sentiments for comments that have location data. Only locations of users who have commented will be shown.

Overall Sentiment



Agenda Item: eComments for BFED-1 FY 2024 PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2024 BUDGET FOR THE COUNTY OF MAUI (BFED-1)

Overall Sentiment



BFED Committee

Location:
Submitted At: 4:26pm 04-05-23
Written testimony received 04/05/2023

Guest User

Location:
Submitted At: 11:53am 04-05-23

Thank you for doing what’s right & good for Maui community. Please add funding to improve & maintain the tennis courts at War Memorial.
We are thankful that there will be newly constructed pickleball courts soon because people have tripped over the pickleball tape when playing tennis. Plus the tape makes it confusing.
I play both sports.
Would Parks & Rec consider having Temporary spots like Velma Wayne community center/patio to pickleball?

Cynthia Reeves

Location:

Submitted At: 3:02pm 04-04-23

Please see attached testimony in support of the UH CTAHR Cooperative Extension \$150,000 budget line in the Agriculture Department. Thank you!



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College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources
Cooperative Extension Service

CTAHR Leverages Maui County funded Molokai Garden & Grindz project into a \$350K USDA-Rural Health and Safety Education grant to take the program Statewide! Thank you so much! Please Support the UH CTAHR Maui Cooperative Extension Line Item

Good Morning, my name is Cindy Reeves and I am the Maui County Administrator for UH CTAHR Cooperative Extension. I would like to thank you for your support in the past, and I am here today to request your continuing support of our current budget line item this year. The following FY 22 projects are nearing completion and the FY 23 projects are just underway—and none of these would have happened without Maui County funding:

FY 22 projects to be completed by May 31, 2023:

- **Multigenerational Gardening Education as a Strategy to Address Self-Sufficiency for Households in Hana, Lanai City, and Kula;** Project Manager: Heather Greenwood-Junkermeier, Jennifer Hawkins, Rosemary Gutierrez-Coarite, Nancy Ooki
- **Investing in the Preservation and Distribution of Protea in Maui County.** Project Manager: Hannah Lutgen
- **Workforce Development through 4-H Programming on Lānaʻi;** Project Manager: Nancy Ooki
- **Multipurpose Covered Area for Livestock Producers and 4-H Youth in Maui County.** Project Manager: Kyle Caires
- **Innovative Solutions to Increase Soil Health for Molokai Farmers;** Project Manager: Jennifer Hawkins
- **Evaluation of onion yield under organic and conventional soil fertilizers and irrigation systems.** Project Manager: Rosemary Gutierrez-Coarite and Jennifer Hawkins

FY 23 projects just started as of March 2023:

- **Herbs and Spices as a potential niche market for small farmers and market gardeners.** Project Manager: Jennifer Hawkins
- **S.T.E.A.M. on the Bookshelf: Introducing families to Science, Technology, Engineering, Agriculture, and Mathematics through literature and experiential learning.** Project Manager: Heather Greenwood; Team: Hannah Lutgen, Chad Junkermeier, Marielle Hampton, Hallie Cristobal
- **Field Assessment of Avocado Rootstock Selections Tolerant to Avocado Root Rot.** Project Manager: Dr. Rosemary Gutierrez-Coarite
- **Evaluation of saturated steam with hot water to control weeds for Maui landscapes and farms.** Project Manager: Hannah Lutgen; Team: Rosemary Gutierrez-Coarite, Orville C. Baldos, Shannon Sand, Robin Proctor
- **Programs to Support Livestock Producers and 4-H Youth in Maui County.** Project Manager: Dr. Kyle Caires
- **Enhancement of Cooperative Extension Teaching Garden.** Project Manager: Dr. Cynthia Reeves

What I really want you to know is that Cooperative Extension is here to support Maui County 4-H youth, families and communities, and landscaping and agricultural producers and businesses to be successful and economically viable.

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CTAHR Cooperative Extension is here for the Maui community, and all of you, as a resource to help you find answers to the questions you need to make decisions for the good of Maui County. We are Education, Outreach, Workforce Development, Economic Development and Youth Development. Our efforts, through our edible crops Agents, **Jennifer Hawkins, Glenn Teves, Rosemary Gutierrez Coarite; our floriculture and landscape Agent, Hannah Lutgen, and our livestock producer and 4H agent, Kyle Caires,** are to improve the livelihoods of growers, landscapers, and producers with education and outreach to teach them skills to improve their own businesses; yes, but our outreach to the Maui County community is also so much larger. As of Jan 1, we doubled our faculty on Molokai when we hired **Kyle Franks** as our **DHHL Homestead Agent** and **Kristina Cacpal** as our **Farm to School Agent**. More broadly, we train adult volunteers, currently 125 persons strong, through our Master Gardener classes, who then provide gardening, plant disease and pest information to consumers, collect soil samples for analysis, and provide training to other participants on beekeeping, pruning and to school children on native plants. **Nancy Ooki, our 4H Youth Development Agent** provides education for youth on emergency preparedness, computer technology, robotics, and civil discourse; and our **Intergenerational Agent, Heather Greenwood** provides succession planning for farm families, classes for seniors who care for their grandchildren, classes for caregivers of people with dementia; and for families to learn about nutrition and food safety, to shop, cook and provide healthy food for their families.

Thank you again, for your support in the past, as I humbly request your ongoing support of our line item in this current budget cycle. Thank you!

BFED Committee

From: Tamara A. Paltin
Sent: Wednesday, April 5, 2023 9:15 AM
To: BFED Committee
Subject: Fwd: WMGC Budget Request Supplemental Information
Attachments: West Mauio Green Cycle Budget Request 202324.pdf; WMGC Compost Operations Expansion Budget 202324.pdf; WMGC School Composting Program Presentation 2023.pdf; WMGC School Food Waste Composting Program Budget 20232024-2.pdf

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From: Gretchen Losano <gretchen@westmauigreencycle.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 4, 2023 11:19:10 PM
To: Keani N. Rawlins <Keani.Rawlins@mauicounty.us>; Thomas M. Cook <Thomas.Cook@mauicounty.us>; Tasha A. Kama <Tasha.Kama@mauicounty.us>; Alice L. Lee <Alice.Lee@mauicounty.us>; Nohe M. Uu-Hodgins <Nohe.Uu-Hodgins@mauicounty.us>; Tamara A. Paltin <Tamara.Paltin@mauicounty.us>; Yukilei Sugimura <Yukilei.Sugimura@mauicounty.us>; Gabe Johnson <Gabe.Johnson@mauicounty.us>; Shane M. Sinenci <Shane.Sinenci@mauicounty.us>
Subject: WMGC Budget Request Supplemental Information

Some people who received this message don't often get email from gretchen@westmauigreencycle.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Aloha Maui County Council Members,

I am the co-founder and operator of West Maui Green Cycle (WMGC) and the founder and program manager of WMGC's School Food Waste Composting Program. I am sharing here the supplemental information to go with my testimony at tomorrow's budget meeting to request council support for both WMGC's School Food Waste Composting Program, and for the expansion of our facility to help deal with the current composting crisis. With our current DOH permit we are able to double the size of our equipment and operation with an updated site plan (as opposed to having to write an entirely new permit). Should our budget for expansion be approved, we could have our site triple (or more) it's throughput within 6 months from now.

****Just a note for clarification from today's meeting (4/4):** Last year we were awarded regional proviso funding for our School Composting Program. This was through the County Council, and the funding was managed through the Department of Environmental Management, but was not a program that was funded through them in the initial budget. I know it appeared as if they had funded us last year but then decided against it this year, and I just wanted to clarify that it was through this same process last year that our program was funded and then added to the EP&S division budget after their initial budget request was submitted.

I will not be able to share our slide deck and specific budget sheets with you during tomorrow's meeting, so I have shared all 4 items here. Attached is a brief narrative describing both programs, 2 budget sheets, one for the School Compost Program and one for our compost facility's expansion, and a slide deck that visually describes who we are and what we have accomplished so far for waste diversion and composting for Maui County. Please feel free to reach out to me with any questions. It is truly an honor to be able to serve our community and 'āina through composting ❤️

Mahalo a nui,
Gretchen

Gretchen Losano
Co-Founder
West Maui Green Cycle
(808)428-9931

“He ali’i ka ‘āina, he kauā ke kanaka // The land is chief, man is his servant”
-‘ōelo no’eau

West Maui Green Cycle Budget Request 2023/24

West Maui Green Cycle is Maui's only commercial composting facility permitted by the Hawaii Department of Health (HDOH) to accept food waste, green waste and compostable food service ware. With our current equipment we are able to process 700 tons of materials per year. We are currently operating at less than half of that capacity, and are able to increase our throughput by about 75% if we double the size of our operation, which is the maximum amount of feedstock processing permissible with our current DOH permit. With the additional requested funding we would be able to compost 1400 tons of materials per year, and mulch roughly an additional 700 tons. This would add over 2,000 tons of soil amendments to our agriculture operations, providing high quality compost for our businesses and residents, and be a place for landscape businesses to bring their green waste.

Our School Food Waste Composting Program is in its second consecutive year and has diverted and composted over 85,000 lbs of compost since the fall of 2021, with over 65,000 lbs of that this school year alone. We are running our program at 5 schools currently, and are planning our expansion to include 10 schools for the 2023/24 school year. We are currently running our program at:

Princess Nahi'ena'ena Elementary School
Lahaina Intermediate
Kihei Charter School
Baldwin High School
Waihe'e School

And are currently in planning phases with:

Lahainaluna High School
Pōmaika'i Elementary School
MEO Schools (starting with the Lahaina campus)

We are also running a reusables pilot at Lahaina Intermediate School. We received grant funding to install a dishwasher and purchase reusable plates and utensils, and have been running this pilot since November of 2022.

We are asking for \$250,000 to run the school food waste composting program, and an additional \$250,000 to increase the capacity of our compost facility to help our community with Maui's dire composting situation. The total ask for West Maui Green Cycle is \$500,000.

WMGC Compost Operations Expansion Budget 2023/24

Gore Cover System	\$130,000.00				
Power Upgrade Cost	\$50,000.00				
Compost Processing Equipment	\$70,000.00	Backhoe, Grinder and Screener share Cost			
Total	\$250,000.00				

Gore Cover System	
Power Upgrade Cost	
Compost Processing Equipment	
Total	

WMGC School Food Waste Composting Budget Request FY 2023/2024

	180 school Days	Materials cost	Total for school			
Lahaina Intermediate	4 hrs/day @ \$32/hr (including taxes)	\$1200.00	\$24,240.00			
Princess Nahi’ena’ena	4hrs/day @ \$32/ (including taxes)	\$1200.00	\$24,240.00			
Waihe’e School	4 hrs/day @ \$32/hr (including taxes)	\$1200.00	\$24,240.00			
Kihei Charter School	4 hrs/day @ \$32/hr (including taxes)	\$1200.00	\$24,240.00			
Lahainaluna High School	2 hrs/day @32/hr (including taxes)	\$1200.00	\$12,720.00			
Baldwin High School	2 hrs/day @ 32/hr (including taxes)	\$1200.00	\$12,720.00			
Pōmaika’i Elementary	1 hr/day @ 32/hr (including taxes)	\$1200.00	\$6360.00			
Kamehameha III Elementary	4 hrs/day @ \$32/hr (including taxes)	\$1200.00	\$24,240.00			
MEO programs (3-5 schools)			\$5960.00	Mainly for supplies and		
Program Expansion	1-2 more elementary/middle schools	\$1200.00	\$24,240.00			
Program Support (office, marketing, etc)			\$8000.00			
Program Manager	\$60,000.00					
Total Budget Request	\$250,000.00					



School Food Waste Composting & Reusables Program



Who Are We?



- First commercial composting facility on Maui DOH-certified to accept food waste, green waste and compostable food service ware
- Located at Ku'ia Farm in Lahaina, Maui
- We partner with KAEC, the Hawaii Farmer's Union, Kamehameha Schools, EcoLab Hawaii, Buoy, and Grow Some Good
- State of the art Gore Cover ASP technology designed by Sustainable Generation to fully compost organic matter in 60 days
- We run the island-wide School Food Waste Composting Program
- Started the first Hawaii DOE-approved reusables pilot program in 2 decades
- Supported by the Department of Environmental Management and Maui County Council

Inspiration from Compost 2019

- Windward Zero Waste Hui
- Started Maui School Food Waste Compost pilot through **Grow Some Good**

2019



County Grant

- Sustainable Generation ASP Gore Cover

2020

2021/2022 School Composting Program

- **Two** Schools
- **20,000 lbs** of food waste

2021

2022/2023 School Composting Program

- **Five** Schools
- **\$230k** grant funding

2022







FOOD

MILK

FOOD

Kihei Charter School

Q1 - Q3 (August 2022 - March 2023)

6,141.95 lbs

Food Waste Diverted



Baldwin High School

Q2 - Q3 (October 2022 - March 2023)



2,300.00 lbs
Food Waste Diverted

Lahaina Intermediate School

Q1 - Q3 (August 2022 - March 2023)

10,728.24 lbs
Food Waste Diverted



Princess Nahi'ena'ena

Q1 - Q3 (August 2022 - March 2023)

38,973.62 lbs

Food Waste Diverted



Waihe'e School

Q3 (February 14 - March 10, 2023)



4,023.00 lbs
Food Waste Diverted

Program Outcome

Pounds (lbs) of Food Waste Diverted

Q1 - Q3

- Lahaina Intermediate School: **10,728.24**
- Princess Nahi'ena'ena School: **38,973.62**
- Kihei Charter School: **6,141.95**

Total for 2022/23 School Year

62,166.81

Q2 - Q3

- Baldwin High School: **2,300.00**

Program Total for 2021-2023

Q3

- Waihe'e School: **4,023.00**

82,218.73

Food Waste Diversion

Composting

- Combination of on-site & off-site composting to reduce on-site burden
- On-Site piles for educational purposes (2-4 per school, depending on space available)
- Off-Site piles for the bulk of the composting

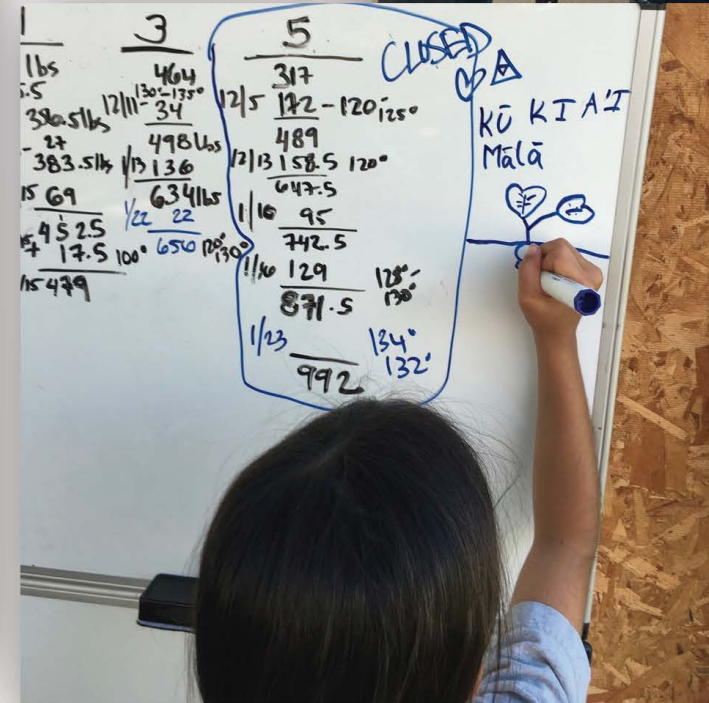
Pig Farm Collection

- For schools with no off-site composting option nearby













Upcoming Programs

For 2022/23 School Year

- Pōmaika'i Elementary School
- MEO Head Start Lahaina/Wailuku programs
- Lahainaluna High School

WMGC's Community-Sized Gore Cover System

Active ASP

Requirements

- Power Source to operate the blower
- Small machine to fill the piles
- Up to 1500lbs of food waste per day capacity







Program Wisdom

- Do **not** rely on school staff
 - Teachers & staff are busy, underpaid
 - Complications = program instability
 - **Exceptions:** Garden and/or agricultural educators who've expressed interest (*and they will!*)
- Unmanned stations are *not* the way
 - Unless the program has been running for many years in the school and even then, highly discouraged

School Reusables Pilot Program

School compost program funding for personnel cost & program manager, limiting cost to supplies if necessary:

- Reusable lunch supplies
- Trays, utensils, bowls, ramekins and cups
(if utilizing a bulk milk machine)
- Electrical
- Dish washer lease
- Monthly chemical cost











Research for Reusables Program

- Partnership with EcoLab
- Special School Pricing

School cafeteria & admin buy-in

- DOE
- Public Charter School

Machinery decisions

- Low-temp
- High-temp

1st Round Recycling Grant Approval
School Food Services Branch Approval

**End of March
2022**

Dye testing

- Water lines & sewage
- Permission from EcoLab

**May
2022**

Cost estimates

- Electrical lines
- Plumbing
- Electrical lines & floor sinks
- DOE-approved contractors

**May
2022**

Final grant application due

**End of May
2022**

Grant Awarded

**June
2022**



