

Budget, Finance, and Economic Development Committee (2023-2025) on 2023-04-06 6:00 PM

Meeting Time: 04-06-23 18:00

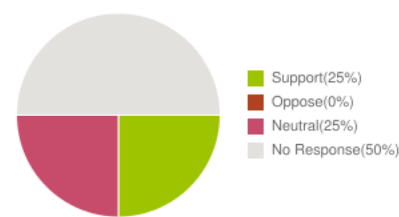
eComments Report

Meetings	Meeting Time	Agenda Items	Comments	Support	Oppose	Neutral
Budget, Finance, and Economic Development Committee (2023-2025) on 2023-04-06 6:00 PM	04-06-23 18:00	2	8	2	0	2

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



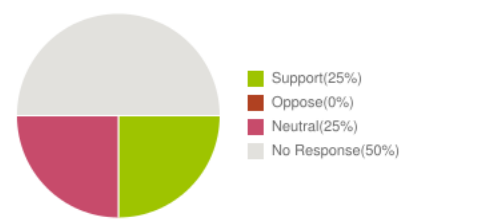
Budget, Finance, and Economic Development Committee (2023-2025) on 2023-04-06 6:00 PM
04-06-23 18:00

Agenda Name	Comments	Support	Oppose	Neutral
A G E N D A	2	0	0	0
BFED-1 FY 2024 PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2024 BUDGET FOR THE COUNTY OF MAUI (BFED-1)	6	2	0	2

Sentiments for All Agenda Items

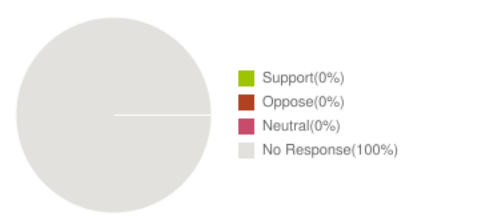
The following graphs display sentiments for comments that have location data. Only locations of users who have commented will be shown.

Overall Sentiment



Agenda Item: eComments for A G E N D A

Overall Sentiment



BFED Committee

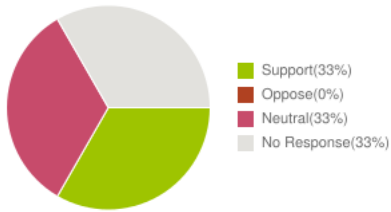
Location:
Submitted At: 8:46am 04-10-23
Written testimony received at Hana meeting 04/06/2023

BFED Committee

Location:
Submitted At: 12:18pm 04-06-23
Written testimony received 04-06-2023

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

Overall Sentiment



Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 8:25am 04-10-23

Aloha Chair & Committee members,

Mavis Oliveira-Medeiros of Hana District Office. I cannot stress enough how important it is to finish the last phase of the Community Center in Hana. It is the hub of our community & many many organizations rely on it for business.

Right now, we are taking up the space of the Hana Cultural Center Museum. It's nice but we're taking up space that others rely on for their business. The Hana Youth Center is currently at the Hana High School cafeteria & being the only place left to hold larger meetings due to the County Helene Hall & County Community Center Cafe being closed due to renovations that are taking way too long, making it difficult to even have meetings at the Hana High & Elementary school cafeteria since the Youth Center uses it. Our Public Health Nurse & Hana's UH Maui satellite office with students, are also using space at Hana School. They want their rooms back and the Hana Community is in dire need of a place to have meetings with more than 20 people. Even if the Community center & Helene hall is under renovation, why can't the community use it? So far, besides fumigating, the hazard removal & painting has been done. The final phase that everyone is awaiting, is the one that will be messy, with ceiling & floor work. We're quite used to floors & ceilings that could use work.

We've been here for 2 1/3 years & the last phase of renovations are nowhere in sight. Who complained to SHPD or gave them the right to slow the already slow progress down?

I'm wondering if contracting out much of the Counties work is working? Why we're taking bids from Honolulu, when much of the funds will go to housing & trips over & back? Maybe consider taking the next lowest bid if the company is from Maui because not only will the work have a chance at being better quality, you could actually save money in the long run. Maybe consider a County Construction/Repair dept., like DAGS.

We may have lost Hui No Ke Ola Pono (much needed Native Hawaiian Health Care) and QLCC (Queen Liliuokalani's Children Center), which serve the underserved.

You know we come from a humble community who don't like to complain and I don't want to use the words oppressed or suppressed, but if I didn't see that other communities are going through the same things, I would. Something needs to change. Our community needs your support.

Mahalo,

Mavis

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 8:43am 04-07-23

Aloha Maui County Council Members,

My name is Lezley Jacintho Malama Hamakua Maui board president. I'm a lifelong resident of Haiku and have been a part of the beginning.

Mahalo for your past support in funding Malama Hamakua Maui. The funds from Maui County have allowed us to remove more than 40 vehicles from the area, have allowed us to clear, mow, maintain a clear sight of line and fire break, and begin a native plant restoration in 8 of the 308 acres of this Open Space Preserve. In addition to this we have had five school groups visit and connect with the land, installed two water catchment systems, and created over four compost bins.

With our monthly clean up efforts, we are able to connect with over thirty volunteers a month, all invested with the

same goal, to return this Maui County Open Space Preserve into the Heart of Haiku again.

Working with multiple agencies within the County, Haiku Community Association, Surfrider Foundation of Maui, Sierra Club Maui, Malama Maui Nui, Hands on Maui, Maui Invasive Species Committee, and Alexandra and Baldwin, Kamehameha Schools, Waikikena Foundation, and Aha Moku Council of Hamakualoa, Volunteer Week Hawaii, and countless local businesses, we have been able to make a real change (your own words- what change have you seen?)

With the funds provided by the County to maintain these County lands, we have also been able to apply for more grants from different entities. This has allowed us to expand our fundraising capabilities, looking to move forward with extended clean up efforts that will reach across the acres of this Open Space Preserve.

Mahalo for your time, continued support, and further championing of our organization. We look forward to future collaborations.

Lezley Jacintho

Malama Hamakua Maui board President

BFED Committee

Location:

Submitted At: 10:27am 04-06-23

Dear County Council Budget Committee Members,

As you prepare the FY2024 budget, I'd like to please ask you to continue the Food Hub Support item in the HFUU Farm Apprentice Mentoring program.

This item supports H_na's food hub and farmers market, which is crucial to the sustainability of our rural community. Throughout the past 3 years, we've learned how to collectively support our farmers, ranchers and fishermen. It's been a beautiful evolution, shining light on the long-term viability and growth of our local agricultural economy. We gather weekly and promote health, wellness and local business. The food hub/farmers market also provides resources otherwise unavailable in H_na. It's so important for our underserved residents to continue supporting these programs.

Mahalo nui loa for your time and consideration.

Aloha always,

Kari Hagedorn

H_na Community Resident

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 8:14pm 04-05-23

Aloha Committee Members,

My name is Keolaon_kai_elua Mather and I am 12 years old. I would like to testify in support of giving Ka_ehu Bay funding because it is a Hawaiian based educational outlet for kids to learn about and appreciate the __ina. I joined their Summer mentorship program where I was able to help repair an auwai, taught how to identify, use, and cook canoe plants, and more specifically, how to make delicious gnocchi out of kalo. It is a fun place for keiki to go and socialize and they also provided us with food (like chocolate muffins!). The funding would greatly help these wonderful people and the programs they offer to keiki like me.

Mahalo for reading this testimony!

Aloha,

Keolaon_kai_elua Mather

Jen Mather

Location:

Submitted At: 8:04pm 04-05-23

Aloha Chair Sugimura and Honorable Committee Members,

My name is Jen Mather and I currently reside in Kahului. I am testifying in support of further monetary assistance and consideration of a long term lease for M_lama Ka_ehu - the non-profit organization that stewards the 64 acres that front Ka_ehu Bay in Paukukalo.

Coming from Lahaina, the North shore of Maui was alien to me when we first moved to Kahului. The staff at Ka_ehu were amazingly welcoming and allowed my family and I to get to know the area through monthly ___ina clean ups, their fantastic Ka_ehu Youth Mentorship Program which both my son and daughter have taken part in, and they even let an old lady like me join their Summer Archaeology internship field training.

To put this last opportunity into perspective – Ka_ehu funded six (6) k_naka to be trained by ___ina Archaeology's principal investigator, Tanya Lee-Greig, and three of her field technicians for six weeks, giving us more hands-on field experience than some undergraduates in archaeology at universities that I will leave unnamed. This was at no cost to those of us who signed up for this opportunity. We were fed, taught, engaged, and then we were given the further opportunity to utilize our studies with seminars and ethnographic history projects. Our Ka_ehu project was even highlighted at the Bishop Museum during the Society of Hawaiian Archaeology's annual meeting. I have since gone on to work with ___ina Archaeology at their offices and in their lab. I have also been able to use the ethnographic history lessons to copyedit an ethnohistorical report for Kea_au on Hawai_i Island.

Ka_ehu Bay has also helped with building resiliency in our county. I_m a volunteer leader for Team Rubicon, a veteran led, international humanitarian organization, and although I don_t speak on behalf of the organization in this testimony, I can say that Ka_ehu Bay has agreed to let us use their facility to train and build our own capacity to help the county should any disasters occur where Team Rubicon could assist and deploy.

Being able to empower us as capable individuals with new skills that give back to our community, and partner with organizations that help Maui County is priceless. Unfortunately, there is a price that comes with projects and non-profits like Ka_ehu Bay and that_s where county assistance comes in. I am asking that the FY 2024 budget please ensure that Ka_ehu Bay has the maximum amount of funding earmarked for them, to ensure they continue to do the great work they have shared with not just the community that surrounds them, but the community that they continue to build throughout Maui County. Furthermore, I would request that Ka_ehu Bay be granted a long term lease on the land they have shown they are more than capable of caring for and stewarding for the future generations of Maui citizens.

Mahalo for your time and consideration and the countless hours of work you put into the annual budget.

E M_lama,
Jen Mather

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 9:50am 04-04-23

Aloha! I am writing in support for Malama Hamakua Maui to secure ongoing funding for its efforts in rehabilitating and caring for the land adjacent to the Peahi (Jaws) access road. This area has been a dumping ground for decades and MHM had made a tremendous impact on restoring this land. I have been volunteering with MHM for a few years now and the progress we have made is remarkable. Every month they have a work day to which many people come to volunteer. I see the same group of dedicated people each month, and in addition I see new faces month to month. I am surprised to find that many of the new faces are tourists who have come to contribute during their vacations! I worked with an elderly couple from Boston of all places, and they worked hard alongside of us. I worked the day after the Aloha Classic windsurfing competition and many of the professional sailors who we watched compete were there to help. It is a very rewarding effort for the volunteers, to see the progress we have made each day and over time. However there is a lot left to do. Please consider generous funding for this valiant effort to restore this land of natural and cultural significance to it's natural state.

Steve Elliott
Ha'iiku

Date: April 6, 2023

Fiscal Year 2024 Budget Hearing

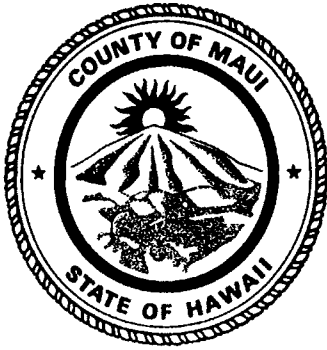
My name is Nalani Shamblin...Born and raised a resident of Hana. Currently employed with Roberts Hawaii School Bus Driver for the Kipahulu unincorporated community of the Hana District.

My purpose here this evening, is for this committee to consider Upgrading the Hana Highway from Hamoa (which is MM 50) to Kipahulu area near MM 40 only approximately 10 miles. By Paving, upgrading the shoulders all along this stretch, installing Guard rails, brighter signages. This 10 miles stretch is heavily used, accommodating travel from Kipahulu to Hana Town along with the Thousands of Tourists heading to ~~Kipahulu~~ Haleakala National Park.*in Kipahulu.*

This part of the Hana Highway is the worst paved road on this island. I have personally witnessed years of temporary patch work on this road, with temporary materials poured down over and over and over again. Not to mention that many areas along this stretch have no guard rails for protection. In other words, we are driving on roads that are shaking, rattling, and overall wrecking my Kia Sedona.

Understanding however, that the Tourism industry promotes, publicizes, reports on, and advertises the Hana District to the world, which then forces our Community to endure Thousands of Tourists Traffic, that flow to and fro, and parking wherever they please, and trampling on everything, everywhere ~~they can~~, including private properties. Do we continue to endure the amount of tourism traveling on our roads, while our roads, highways, and infrastructure continue to be at its poorest? I'm here to encourage this committee to consider pouring more

dollars towards upgrading this part of the Hana Highway
between MM 50 moving South to MM 40! Thank you Very Much!



COUNTY OF MAUI
~~**Office of the Mayor**~~
Fiscal Year 2024
Community Budget Request

THE STATE USE ONLY	NO.

PLEASE PRINT

Name: William R. Sides II

Email Address: wrsides@hotmail.com

Phone: (808)248-7758

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 432

City/Zip: Hana, HI 96713

I Represent: ☐ **Myself**

☒ **Organization** Hana "Festivals of Aloha"

Request/Issue: I submitted a community budget request at the meeting in Hana and would like to amend it in

that I did not have this years festival expense available at that time. After due consideration, we would like to see

the festival budget brought back up to \$100,000.00 with an additional \$20,000.00 dollars from that going to Hana.

For your consideration I have attached our flier that shows what we do and what the money currently goes for.

We still call it "Aloha Week" because we are the only community in the state that does 17 events over 8 days.

The increase in regulations, growth of the events, travel, housing expenses and inflation has increased our

operating costs such that we cannot continue with the current budget. We feel that if it is to continue it needs to

be a long term structured organization running a destination event for Hana that would bring guests to the hotel

and money into the community rather than, as in the past, an all volunteer local celebration of Aloha. I hate to

see it change but times have changed and this is the direction that we will have to go continue and it will take

additional funding.

Bill Sides

Funding Request (if known): \$\$20,000.00

Responsible County Department: Parks

Saturday, October 22nd

CROSS COUNTRY GOLF - Holani Hale 2:00pm to 4:00pm

Bring 3 clubs, 1 homemade putter and nine golf balls. Shoes and ribbon required. Ten dollars to be eligible for pupule prizes.

Sign up to start at 15 minute intervals.
For details contact: Francis Sinenci 281-2730

Ho'Ike Night - Hāna Bay 5:00pm to 10:00pm

FESTIVAL RIBBONS

A ribbon must be worn at all events and can be purchased at Hāna Store, Hasegawa General Store, Hāna-Maui Resort, Kahanu Gardens, Hāna Ranch Restaurant, Texaco Gas, and at events.

Proceeds from these sales help augment the support from the county to fund these events.

CO-GRAND MARSHALS

Hanau ka 'Aki'aki noho i ka l.
Born was the tough seagrass living in the sea.

Kla'i la e ka Manlenle-'aki'aki noho i uka.
Guarded by the tough sea grass living on land.

The cultural practices of Po'e Hawaii thrives in small communities in Maui Hikina East Maui. Aloha na po'e o Hāna Ka Aina Ua Lani Ha'a. Co-Grand Marshalls from the Kipahulu District are brothers Kaneholani and Pekelo Lind.

Together as a community let us together thrive to take the high road and protect the aina and marine resources through generations of kilo or observations and "Kū i ke Aki"

THIS YEAR'S THEME:

Kū i ke 'Aki"

"Stand Upon the Highest Point"

HĀNA HO'IKE SATURDAY

OCTOBER 22nd, 2022

**Hāna Bay - 5:00pm to 10:00pm
(Gates will open at 4:00 p.m.)**

Performances by:

**Mikey Mina & Friends
Kamalel Kawa'a
Eastside Hamahz
Shandi & Simply Solid**

\$10.00 - Presale with ribbon

\$15.00 - Without ribbon

\$20.00 - At the gate

Children under 10 - Free

Tickets can be purchased from:
Hāna Store or Hasegawa's General Store

**This is a drug and alcohol free event.
No coolers allowed.**



HĀNA FESTIVALS OF ALOHA OCTOBER 15 - 22, 2022

**Saturday, October 15th
Hāna Ballpark**

HĀNA CELEBRATION & PARADE 11:00am - 1:00pm

The entire town participates in this parade, and gives it a heartfelt flavor seen nowhere else. Motorcycles, Pa'u riders, floats, vintage cars, marching band, taiko, and the Grand Marshal, preceded by the Hāna Royal Court with all of its impressive traditions.

Entertainment: 1:00pm - 3:00pm

For the keiki, Cirque Jolie the clown will be stilt walking in the parade and balloon twisting at the park.

Zenshin Daiko (taiko) will be in the parade and performing at the park.

Followed by a 1 hour magic show by:
Brenton Keith & His Bag O' Tricks

RIBBONS ARE REQUIRED AT ALL EVENTS!



HAWAII TOURISM
AUTHORITY

Sunday, October 16th

SHORE LINE FISHING - Hāna Bay
7:00am - 12:00pm

Keiki Shoreline Fishing Tournament:

Fish contest for kids up to 15 years old.

Check In: 7:00 a.m. - 8:00 a.m.

Starts: 7:30 a.m.

Weigh In: 12:00 noon

OHANA BEACH DAY - Hāna Bay
12:00pm - 5:00pm

Play Day games (Keiki to Kupuna). Net Throwing, Water Balloon Toss, Hula Hoop Competition and more.

Monday, October 17th

TRADITIONAL LEI MAKING CLASS -
Hāna-Maui Resort Lobby

Classes start at 3:00pm or 4:30pm

Limited spots available

Join us in celebration of Hāna's "Festivals of Aloha" for a traditional lei making class (no thread) in conjunction with U'I Kahue.

Available to guests and the community.
\$20/person.

Inquire with the front desk or concierge to purchase an Aloha Week Ribbon and to sign up.

SPORT NIGHT - Hāna Ballpark
5:00pm - 9:00pm

Doubles Tennis and Coed Volleyball Finals

Tuesday, October 18th

LEI & FLORAL CONTEST - Hāna Farms
10:00am - 2:00pm

Registration: 10am - 11am

Judging: 11:15am

Awards: 12:00pm

Hosted by Hāna Farms

Categories: Lei po'o, Lei a'i and floral arrangements.

All arrangements must be made with fresh flowers.

Keiki Division: Preschool - 5th grade

All leis must be made by the keiki.

For more information or questions call Ipo Mailou at (808) 281-7749

KARAOKE CONCERT - Hāna Ballpark
5:00pm - 9:00pm
Hosted by Poerava Ori Nui Inc.

Come sing and dance to over 120k hit songs and the largest selection of local songs on Maui!

Wednesday, October 19th

KUPUNA LUNCHEON -
Hāna-Maui Resort
11:00am - 2:00pm

Hāna's kupuna come together for a Hawaiian Style luncheon and entertainment.

For reservations and price call the Hāna-Maui Resort at (808) 248-8211.

Thursday, October 20th

HĀNA ART ANNUAL TALENT SHOW -
Kapueokahi (Hāna Bay)

Registration - 4:00pm - 5:00pm
Showtime: 5:00pm - 9:00pm

Enjoy Hāna's wealth of homegrown talent. A fun and special evening at beautiful Hāna Bay with cash prizes, and expert judges and delicious food.

Six categories: Keiki (5-9yrs), Middle (10-13yrs), High (14-18yrs), Hawaiian Arts, Adult Amateur, Adult Professional.

Friday, October 21st

ULU, POHOLE & POKE COOK OFF -
Hāna Bay Beach Park

Hosted by Kahanu Gardens

Submit Entry - 4:00pm - 5:00pm

Winners Announced - 6:00pm

PO HAWAII & ALOHA ATTIRE CONTESTS
Kapueokahi Bay (Hāna Bay)
5:00pm - 10:00pm

Presented in Hawaiian with English translation.

Come and join us for an evening celebrating everything that makes us proud to be Hawaiian

Performances by award winning:

**Lahela Park
&
Kalnani Kahaunaele**

Fiscal Year 2024

Community Budget Testimony

Agency: Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc.

Program: MAUI ADULT DAY CARE/Hale Hula Mamo

Name: Sheila Roback

Email Address: sheila@medee.org

Aloha -

I am the Senior Center Director of Hale Hula Mamo a program of Maui Adult Day Care Centers.

We are grateful for MEO transportation services. They provide transportation daily Mon. - Fri. to and from our center.

They also pick up Kupuna to come to different programs and activities here like Lomilomi, Hula, Exercise class and laundry services.

Transportation is a valuable service for our Kupuna and their families and we are thankful for MEO.

Please continue to support MEO in Hana we appreciate you!

Mahalo

Sheila Roback

Testimony for ²⁴2023 Budget Meeting

Madam Chair, council members, and others...

Aloha mai kākou

O Claudia Kalaola ko'u inoa

Ola ka inoa o Kanui, Kahoa'a, Kaulei, Puou, a Hewahewa

Ke noho nei 'au ma Hāna, ua penekū ku'u 'ohana ma Aleamai, Mū'olea a Koali.

My name is Claudia Kalaola.

I give life to the names of my kūpuna from the families of Kanui, Kahoa'a, Kaulei, Puou and Hewahewa.

I currently live in Hāna, but my kūpuna have lived for generations in Aleamai, Mū'olea and Koali.

I am here today to lend support and to commend the work of the following nonprofits in Hāna Moku:

- Nā Mamo O Mū'olea
- Ke Ao Hāli'i
- Kipahulu 'Ohana
- Na Moku Aupuni O Ko'olau Hui
- Ma Ka Hana Ka 'Ike
 - Mahele Farm
- Ala Kukui
- Kahanu Garden
- Hōlani Hāna

- Hāna Canoe Club
- Hāna Cultural Center
- Hale Hulu Mamo
- 'Ohana Makamae

All have proven their commitment and integrity in the day to day workings of their respective organizations. All work tirelessly with limited funding, always with the goal of serving the people of Hāna.

Some look to the social well-being of kūpuna and 'ohana, through assistance, food, and service.

Others are 'Āina and Ocean Defenders dedicated to environment and resource management, all the while perpetuating historical and traditional practices.

YOU CANNOT SUPPORT ONE AND NOT THE OTHERS!

I humbly ask continued funding for these fine organizations so they may continue to serve Hāna.

I would also like to ask for continued support for Nā Mamo O Mū'olea, of which I am a director.

We ask for continued support for our Hana Limu Festival. For one thing it is getting harder and harder to expedite the permitting process.

After 12 years the Hana Limu Festival is recognized state wide, Annually infuses approximately \$30K into Hāna's economy.

We also ask for "boots on the ground" support to maintain the 73+ acres leased to us by the County of Maui. For 17 years, we have been an all voluntary workforce. Over the past 2 years we are blessed to purchase a tractor for 'āina maintenance. Now we just need a small ground crew to assist with projects.

We most humbly ask for the County's help in securing water for Mū'olea. Like the plight of NMAOKH...we need WAI to be 'āina momona and have abundance for our communities to share. Mū'olea currently has NO WATER!!! Ola i ka wai!

In closing I mahalo all who work diligently in the task of balancing the budget for the County. I know it goes without saying, but for the record, our nonprofits provide services that helps the County care for its people in Hāna Moku, so please keep us ALL high on your priority list.

Me Ke aloha nui....Mahalo

Testimony

Maui County Council Budget Hearing 4/6/23

Aloha, my name is Bill Chang; I am a member of the Hana Health Board.

Thank you for coming to Hana; we appreciate your providing us this opportunity to testify in support of a budget item.

I am a lifelong resident of Hana; and I was recently seated a member of Hana Health's Board.

We, in Hana, face a housing crisis that spans all segments of the community.

At Hana Health, providing workforce housing for our physicians, healthcare providers, and farm employees is essential if we are to sustain the center and develop it to its full potential.

To address this concern, Hana Health seeks to develop housing for its healthcare staff on approximately one acre of land leased from the State.

This housing will assist Hana Health with difficult employee recruitment and encourages Hana District residents to train for jobs in healthcare locally rather than be forced to relocate outside of the area for employment and housing.

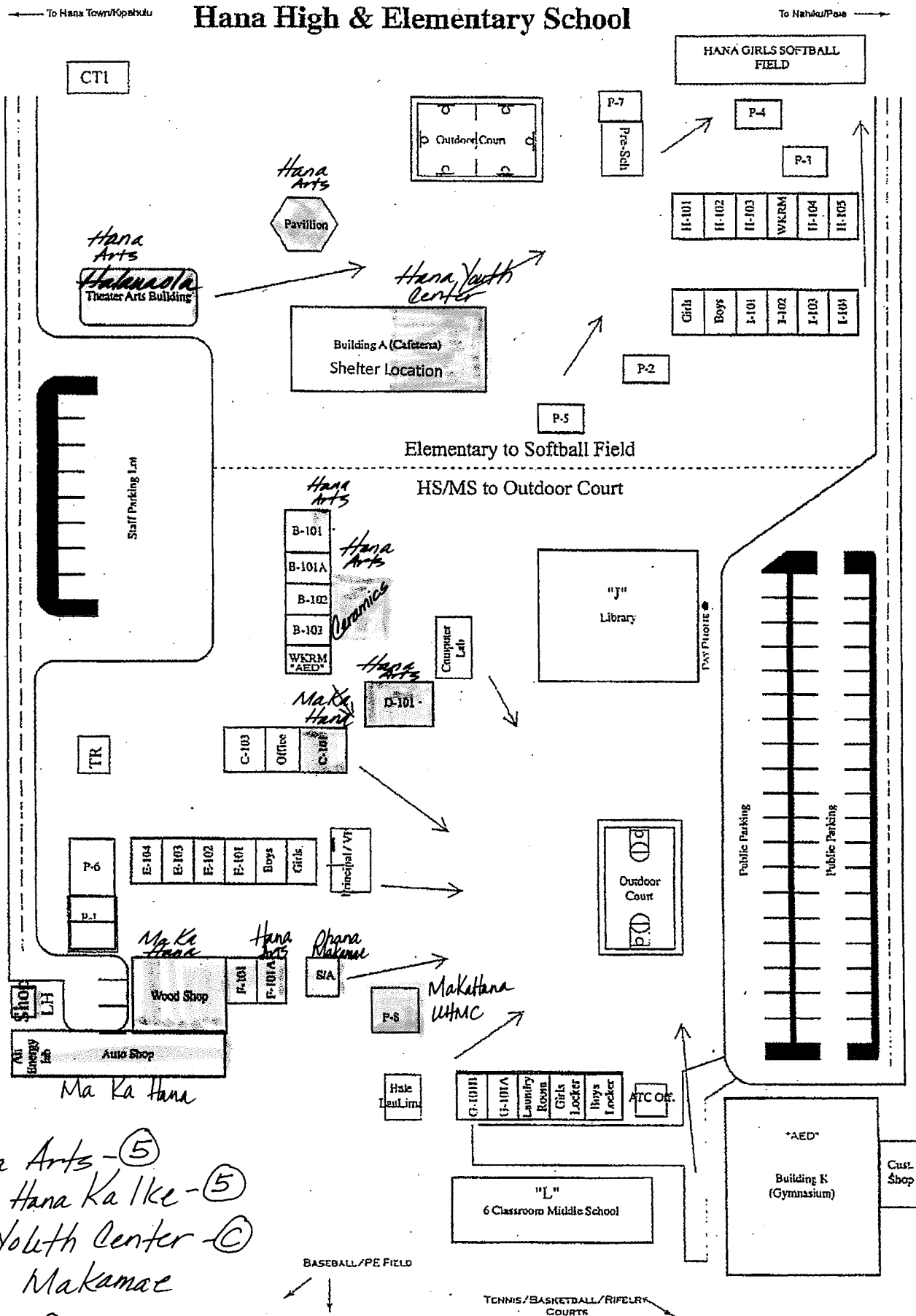
We are asking you to please approve our \$500K budgetary request for our housing project.

Again, I thank you for this opportunity to testify before you. Mahalo,

- Hana Community needs a community center.
- A gathering ^{place} for community meetings & events
- No community playgrounds for our keiki
- Walking pathways,
- All of the old school businesses and organizations have been displaced.
- Hana School accommodates 5 different agencies. And there is no more space at the school. We have to turn some events, mtgs. away.
- Can the old school be worked in phases & opened as they're completed?
- We are grateful for the Hana Youth Center. It is a blessing to have them on our campus.

Kimberly Baker

Hana High & Elementary School



Revised 3/20/17

Fiscal Year 2024 Community Budget Testimony

Agency: Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc.

Program: SENIOR SERVICES

Name: Timmy Satot

Email Address: _____

I support continuous funding for MEO that provides transportation for Kupuna and caregivers. to senior services eg. Aerobic Exercise, Hula, MEO Senior Club Meetings, Kannoa Congregate Meals Program, Food Bank Boxes with Ohana Makamae, Farmers Market, Shuttles to Kahului/Wailuku.

Fiscal Year 2024 Community Budget Testimony

Agency: Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc.

Program: MAUI ADULT DAY CARE

Name: Timmy Satot

Email Address: _____

I support the continuing funding of MEO
that provides transportation services for
Kupuna to Maui Adult Day Care at Hale Huluh
Mama Hana Senior Center, a program of
Senior Drop-in Respite of Maui Adult Day Care
Centers.

Fiscal Year 2024 Community Budget Testimony

Agency: Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc.

Program: SENIOR SERVICES/Transportation

Name: Sheila Roback

Email Address: sheila@madcc.org

Aloha,

I am submitting a written testimony in support of MEO transportation services in Hana. They have been providing transportation for my two mothers to and from the youth center at the Hana High School which I appreciate.

They also provide transportation for me if I need to go to Wailuku for Doctor appointments or to do my monthly grocery shopping.

Please continue to support them through funding and know that their services is a wonderful help to our community.

Mahalo,

Sheila Roback



HALE HULU MAMO

Hana Senior Center

P.O. Box 567 Hana, Hi. 96713 (808) 248-8833

Fax (808) 248-8803



April 6, 2023

County Council Members
Testimony

Aloha:

My name is Sheila Roback and I am the Senior Center Director of Hale Hulu Mamo; a program of Maui Adult Day Care Centers. We opened our doors 22 years ago as our little community of Hana was in dire need of caregiver respite and we wanted to provide a safe and nurturing haven for our beloved Kupuna *elders* of Hana to meet their social, creative, cultural and physical needs. Ours has been a pioneering effort, and the goals we have reached would never have been realized without the invaluable support of many people and organizations, most notably the County of Maui, Maui Adult Day Care Centers and generous donors like the Agua Fund. We are also blessed by The Charles Engelhard Foundation which funds our Lomilomi *Hawaiian massage* program and The Hana Maui Trust which funds our Arts and Crafts program.

Since then we have grown and continue to move forward in providing assistance, information and services for the Kupuna of Hana. With daily attendance setting new records, with a continuing expansion of new activities and programs.

We collaborate with many organizations to help provide and link our Kupuna to the services they stand in need of. We are proud of our 'Hana Hospice' which is a partnership with Hospice of Maui and volunteers from our community. Because these services are not available to Hana we store at our center hospital beds, wheelchairs, commodes, shower benches, adult pampers, bed-liners, crutches, walkers, shower lifts and other health aids available to families in need. We also have an oxygen concentrator designated for Hana at Hospice of Maui.

We offer arts & craft classes, Rummikub, Sakura Card games, holoholo *fieldtrips* days to meet the social, cultural and creative needs of our Kupuna. We offer Lomilomi, Cardio Exercise Yoga and Hula to meet the physical and spiritual needs of our Kupuna. We collaborate with Kaunoa Seniors and have a monthly Bingo game, Karaoki and lunch together that has been met with much enthusiasm. We are the designated Distribution Coordinator for Maui Food Bank's Commodities Supplemental Food Program Senior Food Box. The CSFP provides without charge a monthly 32lb. assorted food box to seniors who meet their qualifications. We have laundry services available for Kupuna who live off the grid and cannot make the 4 hour trek to and from the city where the Laundromats are accessible. We offer power of attorney, last will & testament, and healthcare directives through Legal Aid Society of Maui cost-free to Kupuna of Hana. We also offer a monthly caregiver support group meeting where caregivers can share their experiences, struggles, strengths and hope with each other. Every quarter we hold a caregiver workshop; the workshops are provided on behalf of Maui Adult Day Care Centers and the Maui County Office on Aging. Topics presented help to educate the public on issues that are related to the role of care giving and the Kupuna such as caregiver burnout, stress, depression, and dealing with dementia behaviors, Alzheimer's disease, health issues, legal issues, and much more.

We have had 2 fundraisers a year: our Annual Christmas Fun Fair which is held on the first Saturday of December our 16th but did not have it in 2020-2023 because of the Pandemic it was cancelled. We also did not have our 7th Annual Stroll in the Park fundraiser in 2020 which would have been held in the month of May; which was cancelled due to the Pandemic. We are part of ten non-profit organizations in Hana who joined together to create the Hana Community Endowment Fund. The endowment gives people who love Hana the

opportunity to support the Hana community as a whole by giving to a single fund. Our goal is to raise \$1 million in principle, and the income generated will provide operating funds for each organization, to support their ability to provide important services to the people of Hana. The endowment is administered by the Hawai'i Community Foundation.

The wellbeing of our Kupuna is vital to our community. Hale Hulu Mamo is a place that embraces our precious and esteemed Kupuna... Hale Hulu Mamo is the House of the Precious (Yellow) Feathers. It was a commitment between generations; that one would not forget and the other would not be forgotten...It is our commitment to our living ancestors that they will not be forgotten, that they will be cared for and that their memories will be cherished for the future...

We thank you for considering our Kupuna, their caregivers and our community of Hana; for bearing in mind the lack of services we face every day as an isolated and small community in the County of Maui. Mahalo for all the work you do and have done on behalf of Hale Hulu Mamo and the people of Hana....We appreciate all you do...

We hope the funding we have been receiving from you will continue; without your financial support we would not be able to provide the quality of service that we do. Please if you are ever in our neck of the woods come by and see us and you will see we are the hub of the community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sheila Roback', written in a cursive style.

Sheila Roback
Hale Hulu Mamo
Senior Center Director

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

Aloha! My name is Kawika Gonzales. I am a teacher at Kaunakakai School, and I am also a STEM and Computer Science leader for our school. Today, I am here to speak in support of the Maui Economic Development Board.

For the past twenty-two years, I have been teaching Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math, and Computer Science in the classroom. In addition to numerous school-level fundraising efforts, funds from the Maui Economic Development Board, or MEDB, have supported my teaching of STEM programs not only financially, but also by purchasing licenses for different programs, and providing professional development. This assistance included sending personnel to our school and immediate online follow-up support.

One of the newest programs that I was able to implement into my classroom was Minecraft in Education. The Maui economic development board purchased 60 Minecraft in Education licenses for our school, and sought the help of Microsoft to assist our school in implementing this program. Our students already love Minecraft and when we were able to integrate into subjects such as Social Studies, science, or Language Arts, students became excited about learning and engaged in these subjects. For example, my students are currently redesigning our school in Minecraft. They measured every building, sidewalk, and play structure on our campus! Not only did they learn math concepts, but they also learned different measuring tools including augmented reality applications!

Another STEM program that the Maui Economic Development Board sponsored focused on Geographic Information System (GIS), which provided professional development for all teachers, including support and follow-up sessions. This program allowed teachers to understand the significance of maps and how they could be used to tell stories. Additionally, MEDB provided individual student licenses for creating story maps and even sent support personnel to assist our students. Thanks to this program, our students have gained valuable knowledge in map-making and storytelling, helping them to develop a new perspective on the world around them.

The types of support and resources provided by MEDB help to keep our students and teachers up to date with the latest technologies available, and also helps to excite and engage our students in learning. As an educator, it makes my job a lot easier when my students are enthusiastic about their learning and when I have the tools and resources available to teach STEM and Computer Science.

Thank you County Council for your many years of support to our Island through the funding of MEDB. I respectfully ask that you continue your funding of the Maui Economic Development Board, as it has truly made a world of difference for our keiki.

Aloha and MAHALO!

Kawika Gonzales
5th Grade Teacher, Kaunakakai School

BFED Committee

From: Maui_County Council_mailbox
Sent: Thursday, April 6, 2023 12:01 PM
To: BFED Committee
Cc: lee.imada@meoinc.org
Subject: FW: MEO written testimony from Hana
Attachments: Testimony - Brittany Malin (Rural shopping).pdf; Testimony - Aleksandra Tsangarides (Rural shopping).pdf; Testimony - Brittany Malin (Work).pdf; Testimony - Cranston Kanaka'ole via Pomai Konohia.pdf; Testimony - Aleksandra Tsangarides (Work).pdf; Testimony - Danielle Smith (Youth Transportation).pdf; Testimony - David Olivier Lord (Rural shopping).pdf; Testimony - Creg Gumanas (Youth Transportation).pdf; Testimony - David Olivier Lord (Work).pdf; Testimony - Devon Andrada (Youth Transportation).pdf; Testimony - Elzie Brook (Youth Transportation).pdf; Testimony - Guy Akiu (Dialysis).pdf; Testimony - Halia Sinenci (Youth Transportation).pdf; Testimony - Jacqueline Nolan (Work-Rural shopping).pdf; Testimony - Kaili Kanaka'ole (Rural shopping).pdf; Testimony - Karen Cardenas (Rural shopping).pdf; Testimony - Kaimana Cabebe (Youth Transportation).pdf; Testimony - Karen Cardenas (Work).pdf; Testimony - Keoki Kalani (Youth Transportation).pdf; Testimony - Lia Williams (Transportation).pdf; Testimony - Meha Lono via Carol Oliveira (day care-rural shopping).pdf

Please see forwarded email and attached, written testimonies for Budget, Finance, and Economic Development Committee, specifically for the Hana Residency Area Meeting tonight.

From: Lee Imada <lee.imada@meoinc.org>
Sent: Thursday, April 6, 2023 11:17 AM
To: Maui_County Council_mailbox <county.council@mauicounty.us>
Subject: MEO written testimony from Hana

You don't often get email from lee.imada@meoinc.org. [Learn why this is important](#)

I have attached written testimony for the Council Budget hearings, specifically for Hana.

Could you confirm receipt?

I will send two files.

Thank you.

Lee

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Lee Imada, Executive Assistant

Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc.
99 Mahalani St, Wailuku HI 96793
<http://www.meoinc.org>

T: 808-243-4306E: lee.imada@meoinc.org

MEO's mission is to strengthen the community while helping people in need restore their hope, reach their potential, and enrich their lives.

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Fiscal Year 2024

Community Budget Testimony

Agency: Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc.

Program: Maui Day Care/Rural Shopping

Name: Carol Oliveira for Meha Lono

Email Address:

I want to thank you for your services in helping my brother Meha Lono get to his medical appointments. Also taking him shopping and also keeping him safe.

Mahalo,

His sister

Carol Oliveira

Fiscal Year 2024

Community Budget Testimony

Agency: Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc.

Program: Community Services

Name: Lia Williams

Email Address: nalesig@gmail.com

Transportation services in Hana has been a lifeline for me. I cannot drive and have no family, yet with MEO, I am still able to be active in and connected to my community, even when my condition limits my mobility.

Whether it is for a trip to the farmer's market, the library, the food bank, or one of the many programmes at Hana Arts, I am grateful to have MEO there for me. Getting to early morning yoga classes in particular is doing wonders for my health and saves me from having to go to physical therapy in Kahului.

I hope that in the coming year, MEO will enable me to attend more of these morning and evening events.

Fiscal Year 2024

Community Budget Testimony

Agency: Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc.

Program: Hana Youth Center - Youth Trans

Name: Keoki Kalani/Executive Director

Email Address: hanayouthcenter@aim.com

Aloha,

It's been about 3 years since moving out of the Hana Community Center. Prior to that we were in operation during the pandemic classified as essential.

Once Hana School Cafeteria became available, we reopened along with Hana School's in-person learning, providing our families in need with free after school programming.

Whereas MEO Youth Trans had provided youth transport from the school to HYC, located at Hana Community Center, they now provide youth transport from HYC (school cafeteria) to Hana town. We have an awesome MEO team here in Hana. The work they do is commendable.

Without these services, much of our Hana youth would be without oversight, guidance and support.

Thank you for your continued financial support towards MEO in Hana.

Fiscal Year 2024

Community Budget Testimony

Agency: Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc.

Program: EMD/LIW (Work)

Name: Karen Cardenas

Email Address:

This program has helped me a lot while I'm living here because I don't have a car and it is hard sometimes to go to places, so I'm grateful for this program cause it made it so easy to go to town to do groceries and be able to carry everything when it is raining too. It is also very important to me to have this service because I do go to town often and I feel safe driving the MEO instead of getting in a car with a stranger.

Fiscal Year 2024

Community Budget Testimony

Agency: Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc.

Program: Rural Shopping

Name: Karen Cardenas

Email Address:

This program has helped me to go to the other side of the island to see more places and go grocery shopping, since renting a car or any other option is so expensive. This has given me the opportunity to do that and I'm grateful. Also being able to catch a flight on Kahului and being sure I'm going to be on time. This program should keep going and help more people like me to get around the island.

Fiscal Year 2024 Community Budget Testimony

Agency: Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc.

Program: Youth Trans

Name: Kaimana Cabebe

Email Address: kaimanacabebe@k12.hi.us

Aloha,

My name is Kaimana Cabebe and I am the department head at Kula Kaiapuni o Hana. Each year MEO services our Hawaiian language programs by providing transportation support. This service is critical to providing a highly rigorous place-based education. We currently have 143 students between the ages of 3-13. Please continue to support this program.

Mahalo,

Kaimana Cabebe

Fiscal Year 2024

Community Budget Testimony

Agency: Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc.

Program: Rural Shopping

Name: Kaili Kanaka'ole

Email Address:

MEO has been so helpful in our community and also for me and my family. It helped us when our car was down to go shopping and get parts to fix our car. Also my Dad got sick and had to stay at Hale Makua. My parents are nearly 70 years old and cannot drive the road to Hana anymore but with MEO, my Mom could visit him every week. MEO is a vital part of our community and it has helped many of us from our keiki to kupuna. Mahalo MEO for all you do for us.

Fiscal Year 2024

Community Budget Testimony

Agency: Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc.

Program: EMD/LIW (Work)/Rural Shopping

Name: Jacqueline Nolan

Email Address: Jnolan3027@gmail.com

Aloha,

I am a single wahine who commutes mostly by foot for many years because poverty has directly affected me during and following the pandemic. The MEO has been a source of support as I have no 'Ohana here, the program has helped me on countless occasions to serious doctor appointments, during serious weather conditions and to buy essential supplies on Kahului town runs. If I did not have the support from the drivers and the program I surely would be depleted and struggling. Hana is a special place that has pride in its sense of community and support and the drivers and program emulate exactly what the definition of that is. I am profoundly grateful for the services and all who I share my rides with.

Fiscal Year 2024

Community Budget Testimony

Agency: Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc.

Program: Hana Youth Center - Youth Trans

Name: Halia Sinenci (Program Assistant)

Email Address:

MEO has helped our keiki to get home from the after school program at the Hana youth center. This program helps the kids to listen, do homework, not doing wrong stuff and keeps them out of trouble after school Monday through Fridays.

Fiscal Year 2024

Community Budget Testimony

Agency: Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc.

Program: Dialysis

Name: Guy Akiu

Email Address:

MEO has helped me plenty. I appreciate the rides to and from dialysis to Hana from Keanae. MEO is flexible and reliable. I would recommend this service to anyone. I remember MEO helping to transport my Mom twice a week to Kahului on the shopping shuttle. I am now a second generation to ride the bus. Please continue MEO services for the people of Keanae and Hana.

Fiscal Year 2024

Community Budget Testimony

Agency: Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc.

Program: Youth Trans

Name Elzie Brook

Email Address: Lzbrook28@gmail.com

The MEO program was essential for Hana Youth flag football. Without the assistance of MEO, we would not have had a football season. The youth of Hana have been without sports since covid started and now that MEO has stepped up to the plate to help out the youth of Hana, we have rebuilt the flag football and high school sports with all children from local communities being able to participate. The drivers were exceptional with working with the kids and helping supervise on excursions.

The MEO team in Hana has been a delight to work with and has been willing to give up their personal time to help this program move forward. We are truly indebted to the MEO team in Hana for helping us give the children of Hana something to look forward to. Every child in Hana looks forward to the MEO busses pulling up, because they know they will be taken care of.

Fiscal Year 2024

Community Budget Testimony

Agency: Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc.

Program: Youth Trans

Name: Devon E. Andrada (Athletic Director)

Email Address: devon.andrada@k12.hi.us

MEO transportation services have been so helpful for the athletic department this past year. They have opened up the ability for student athletes to participate in sports this year. Without their help getting kids to and from practice, these kids would not be able to play sports. MEO has opened the door for these kids that live far away from the school to join us.

They have also allowed the younger groups (elementary and middle school kids) to play sports and compete in games.

The service MEO provides is invaluable and so helpful for our entire community.

Mahalo MEO!

Devon Andrada

Fiscal Year 2024

Community Budget Testimony

Agency: Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc.

Program: EMD/LIW (Work)

Name: David-Olivier Lord

Email Address:

This program has been of the greatest help for us to get around. Not only to get to the other side but also to get around here in Hana. Being able to get everywhere without having to hitchhike or pay has been a lifesaver.

Fiscal Year 2024

Community Budget Testimony

Agency: Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc.

Program: Rural Shopping

Name: David-Olivier Lord

Email Address:

The MEO has been very helpful in helping us discover the beautiful island of Maui. And helping us with getting our groceries and other errands.

Fiscal Year 2024

Community Budget Testimony

Agency: Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc.

Program: Hana Youth Center - Youth Trans

Name: Danielle Smith (Program Assistant)

Email Address:

MEO is extremely necessary for our "Hana" side community. Taking our kupuna to the other side, picking up our keiki for after school programs and so much more. We do need a pick up run that can take our keiki on the Waianapanapa to Keanae side and lower Nahiku for the Hana Youth Center and after school programs. 4pm pick up time please.

Fiscal Year 2024 Community Budget Testimony

Agency: Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc.

Program: Youth Trans

Name: Coach Creg Gumanas

Email Address:

MEO has helped our team by providing transportation for our athletes that live in Keanae, to and from practice in Hana which has been a huge success. We will definitely be using their services in the future.

Fiscal Year 2024

Community Budget Testimony

Agency: Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc.

Program: Rural Shopping

Name: Cranston Kanaka'ole/Pomai Konohia

Email Address: Konohiaj@yahoo.com

Aloha and mahalo for this opportunity to speak and support MEO on behalf of my elderly uncle, Cranston Kanaka'ole. I have been blessed to provide a place for my uncle to stay when he returned to Hana a month ago for his doctor's visit. Uncle has moved back to Kaua'i with his daughter and her family after living in Hana for some time; and since his wife passed away recently My sister was able to drive out to Wailuku and pick up uncle and bring him to Hana for his doctor's appointment. I gave him a place to stay and could not drive my uncle back out to Wailuku the next day to catch his plane back to Kauai but MEO could! After contacting MEO and completing the necessary paperwork, I was fortunate to get my uncle back to Kaua'i safely and with little hassle. Had it not been for MEO, my uncle would miss his important visit with his PCP that he chooses to keep even if he has to fly off island because of MEO and its rural shuttle. Uncle can make it and live a longer, happier life! Please continue to support MEO by including this into our County budget for everything they do and more!

Fiscal Year 2024 Community Budget Testimony

Agency: Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc.

Program: EMD/LIW (Work)

Name: Brittany Malin

Email Address:

The MEO has made adjusting to life in Hana more enjoyable and much smoother for me. This service has been critical for getting to all areas of the island, especially to and from work. The MEO has saved me much time and money and has been very dependable.

Fiscal Year 2024

Community Budget Testimony

Agency: Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc.

Program: Rural Shopping

Name: Brittany Malin

Email Address:

The MEO rural shopping shuttle has given me opportunities that I did not have access to without them. The MEO allows me to attend local hula classes, get groceries and even go shopping. I also have had the opportunity to support local businesses and establishments more so than if I only relied on biking or walking. The MEO has been a critical service that increased enjoyment, decreased stress and saved me money. I heavily support the MEO and the services they offer.

Fiscal Year 2024 Community Budget Testimony

Agency: Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc.

Program: EMD/LIW (Work)

Name: Aleksandra Tsangarides

Email Address:

As a work-trader, the MEO transportation service has been extremely helpful because it is free and flexible. The MEO has allowed me to explore Hana and get more involved within the community, outside of the farm, and I am so grateful for it!

Fiscal Year 2024

Community Budget Testimony

Agency: Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc.

Program: Rural Shopping

Name: Aleksandra Tsangarides

Email Address:

Because of MEO, I have been able to see more of Maui and get involved with the community. As an unpaid work-trader, it would be impossible for me to afford to rent a car, so I am extremely grateful for MEO's free service and their amazing staff.

BFED Committee

From: Maui_County Council_mailbox
Sent: Thursday, April 6, 2023 12:03 PM
To: BFED Committee
Cc: lee.imada@meoinc.org
Subject: FW: MEO written testimony from Hana #2
Attachments: Testimony - Noah Seltzer (Rural shopping).pdf; Testimony - Noah Seltzer (Work).pdf; Testimony - Oceanne Ouellet (Rural shopping).pdf; Testimony - Patrick Macy (Youth Transportation).pdf; Testimony - Oceanne Ouellet (Work).pdf; Testimony - Scarlett Hollinger (Rural shopping).pdf; Testimony - Ryan Poe (Youth Transportation).pdf; Testimony - Paula Kualau (Work).pdf; Testimony - Pomai Konohia (Youth Transportation).pdf; Testimony - Pomai Konohia (Hale Hulu Mamo).pdf; Testimony - Scarlett Hollinger (Work).pdf; Testimony - Shelby Hoffstatter (Rural shopping).pdf; Testimony - Tina-Marie Kahula (Work-Rural shopping-Day care).pdf; Testimony - Shelby Hoffstatter (Work).pdf; Testimony - Sheri Kalalau (Work).pdf; Testimony - Wainani Lind (Youth Transportation).pdf

Please see forwarded email and attached, written testimonies for Budget, Finance, and Economic Development Committee, specifically for the Hana Residency Area Meeting tonight.

From: Lee Imada <lee.imada@meoinc.org>
Sent: Thursday, April 6, 2023 11:18 AM
To: Maui_County Council_mailbox <county.council@mauicounty.us>
Subject: MEO written testimony from Hana #2

You don't often get email from lee.imada@meoinc.org. [Learn why this is important](#)

I have attached written testimony for the Council Budget hearings, specifically for Hana.

Could you confirm receipt?

This is the second of two files.

Thank you.

Lee

--

Lee Imada, Executive Assistant

Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc.
99 Mahalani St, Wailuku HI 96793
<http://www.meoinc.org>

T: 808-243-4306E: lee.imada@meoinc.org

MEO's mission is to strengthen the community while helping people in need restore their hope, reach their potential, and enrich their lives.

Confidentiality Note: This e-mail is intended only for the person or entity to which it is addressed and may contain information that is privileged. Distribution or copying of this e-mail or the information herein by anyone other than the intended recipient, or any employee or agent responsible for delivering the message to the intended recipient, is prohibited. If you have received this e-mail in error, please contact the sender and destroy.

Fiscal Year 2024

Community Budget Testimony

Agency: Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc.

Program: Hana Youth Center - Youth Trans

Name: Wainani Lind (Program Assistant)

Email Address: nani808@icloud.com

MEO has been a vital community asset. There is no other organization that commutes as many people as they do in Hana. Without MEO there would be so many missed doctor appointments, important food shopping trips, children without a ride to and from school events and after school activities. One of my favorite memories was riding MEO to sport trips with my friends. I'm so glad to have this organization here for us in Hana getting our people to places they need to be. Mahalo Hana MEO!

Fiscal Year 2024

Community Budget Testimony

Agency: Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc.

Program: Work/Rural shopping/Community Service/Maui Day Care

Name: Tina-Marie Kahula

Email Address:

Aloha Council Members:

My name is Tina-Marie Kahula. I'm writing in support of MEO Transportation here in Hana. My mom Shirley Kahula, sister Corrine Kahula and I utilize MEO bus services. With the new bus schedule, my family and I are able to get to Dr. appointments here in Hana, Kahului and have a ride to and from work, shopping etc. Having only one vehicle at our home is difficult to juggle everyone's schedule and get everyone to their appointments and work until MEO offered more services to help not only my family but other families in our community. Please continue to fund our MEO program for our Hana community.

Fiscal Year 2024

Community Budget Testimony

Agency: Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc.

Program: Rural Shopping/EMD WIL (Work)

Name: Sheri Kalalau

Email Address:

I use the MEO service to go to the other side to shop for food because I don't have a vehicle. Also I use MEO to go to and from work also Dr. appointments and to wash clothes. MEO is vital to the Hana Community. A lot of people either can't drive or can't drive anymore so it is important to have transportation from MEO. I have been using the service since 2012. I think MEO is doing an awesome job trying to accommodate everyone's needs.

Fiscal Year 2024

Community Budget Testimony

Agency: Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc.

Program: EMD/LIW (Work)

Name: Shelby Hoffstatter

Email Address:

Since coming to Hana Tropicals, having the MEO service has been very important in order to take trips around the island, it's been extremely helpful in order to see and explore the island of Maui, especially since most work trade individuals don't have their own transportation.

Fiscal Year 2024

Community Budget Testimony

Agency: Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc.

Program: Rural Shopping

Name: Shelby Hoffstatter

Email Address:

Having the MEO service has been extremely helpful for my co-workers and I in order to travel around the island and visit places that we wouldn't be able to see. We have 8 people and having the bus to fit all of us for trips to the beach and otherside has been extremely useful.

Fiscal Year 2024

Community Budget Testimony

Agency: Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc.

Program: EMD/LIW (Work)

Name: Scarlett Hollinger

Email Address:

It has been such a privilege to have MEO as a way of transportation since we would have no other way of getting around since we can't afford to rent a car. I've gained so many new experiences from having that service and without it, I wouldn't have had so many beautiful memories. I hope these services stay in place for everyone in Hana.

Fiscal Year 2024

Community Budget Testimony

Agency: Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc.

Program: Rural Shopping

Name: Scarlett Hollinger

Email Address:

Having the opportunity to go to the other side is such an amazing experience. From trying new delicious foods, to shopping and finding gifts for friends and family is a lovely thing! Being able to support the local businesses of Hawai'i is so important and I love that MEO gives us the chance to do so.

Fiscal Year 2024

Community Budget Testimony

Agency: Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc.

Program: Youth Trans - Excursion (Hana Takedown wrestling)

Name: Ryan Poe

Email Address: ryndagr8@gmail.com

I coach the youth wrestling club "Hana Takedown club." I love MEO , they take us out as a team. They get us there in time, even if it's really early! MEO's services help many of our athletes' families who can't leave as early as we have to leave, or parents who are working and cannot bring their kids! MEO transports the teenage volunteers who help run the tournament we are competing in. MEO is an amazing resource for our community and myself and the entire team is very thankful for their service.

Fiscal Year 2024

Community Budget Testimony

Agency: Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc.

Program: Youth Trans

Name: Pomai Konohia ('Ohana of Paliku Lind)

Email Address: Konohiaj@yahoo.com

Aloha my name is Pomai Konohia, Hana resident and proud parent, advocate and supporter for all things involving our future and our keiki! Hana, often is overlooked, given hand me downs or simply considered un-important for lack of a better term. However, this past season was the first for Hana families to experience playing "flag football" and their successful season would not be possible without the support and dedication of our MEO transportation services here in Hana. Kauai Kala-Brook and her awesome team of drivers not only dedicated the past 3 sundays to our keiki, but they have given our children that feeling of 'Ohana being able to ride out to Wailuku with their team and coaches, while parents need not worry about their safety or if their child can play because of lack of transportation. Our keiki and youth of Hana would miss out on yet another positive opportunity, learning the sport of football, meeting other youth from around Maui, and best of all development of physical and emotional overall health needed to thrive in today's world! Mahalo nui MEO for never letting our keiki down and always being there for our community!!

Fiscal Year 2024

Community Budget Testimony

Agency: Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc.

Program: Maui Adult Day Care

Name: Pomai Konohia

Email Address: Konohiaj@yahoo.com

My name is Pomai Konohia, senior aide, assisting with our Hana Kupuna with activities of daily living provided through our senior center, Hale Hulu Mamo, a program of Maui Adult Day Care. Many of our kupuna, now retired, living on fixed income and with their families often remain home alone watching TV, doing their favorite crossword puzzles or coloring, can become boring real quick when you're alone at home all day while everyone works. Thank God for services like MEO and Maui Adult Day Care to be able to provide a safe, comfortable and accessible space for all of our kupuna to relax in. However, if we did not have the means of transportation to get our Kupuna to these agencies to enjoy, what's the use of having these agencies available to our families. It is so reassuring for families to know that the care of their elderly are in good hands! Please continue to ensure MEO continues to receive the needed budget to remain assisting all of our families on the East side.

Fiscal Year 2024

Community Budget Testimony

Agency: Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc.

Program: EMD/LIW Work

Name: Paula Kuala'au

Email Address:

This service has helped me in so many ways. I live in Keanae and need to travel to Hana for work. Recently, I wrecked my car and wasn't able to commute. After learning about services, I use it whenever I need it.

The employees are always available and easy to reach no matter what time of day. Access to services are available to everyone in need. I have a few people in my family that utilize these services and it's greatly appreciated.

Fiscal Year 2024

Community Budget Testimony

Agency: Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc.

Program: Youth Trans

Name: Dr. Patrick Macy (Vice principal, Hana School)

Email Address: pmacy1971@gmail.com

It was a blessing to have the assistance of MEO Hana. We now have the opportunity for our Hana School Students to have the option of playing sports. Including after school tutoring and after school cultural events. By supplying all of the transportation some of the students come from Keanae and lower Nahiku and can now participate in afterschool programs.

MEO has been vital for our students and please continue MEO services so our students in Hana have a chance to grow and succeed.

Fiscal Year 2024

Community Budget Testimony

Agency: Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc.

Program: EMD/LIW (Work)

Name: Oceanne Ouellet

Email Address:

As someone doing a work trade in Hana, having the MEO helps me a lot to get around since I don't earn money here. It's practical to have a free option of transportation. It made my stay easier.

Fiscal Year 2024

Community Budget Testimony

Agency: Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc.

Program: Rural Shopping

Name: Oceanne Ouellet

Email Address:

Being so remote in Hana, having the MEO to take us on the other side of the island makes a lot of difference in my experience here. It gives so much more freedom and makes it truly easier in general.

Fiscal Year 2024

Community Budget Testimony

Agency: Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc.

Program: EMD/LIW (Work)

Name: Noah Seltzer

Email Address:

Being in such a rural area of Maui the MEO has been an invaluable asset. Since having a personal vehicle isn't feasible while staying here for a short time, having free public transport to the grocery store, beach or food trucks helps us feel more a part of the community and support the local businesses.

Fiscal Year 2024 Community Budget Testimony

Agency: Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc.

Program: Rural Shopping

Name: Noah Seltzer

Email Address:

Being remote on Maui makes it difficult to get to the otherside. So having the MEO has been great. It makes it easier to find transportation to Paia/Kahului for day trips.