

Budget, Finance, and Economic Development Committee (2023-2025) on 2023-04-12 6:00 PM

Meeting Time: 04-12-23 18:00

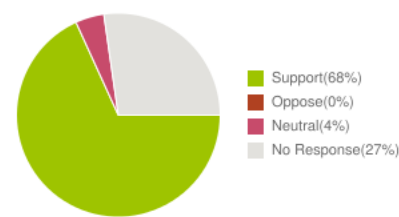
eComments Report

Meetings	Meeting Time	Agenda Items	Comments	Support	Oppose	Neutral
Budget, Finance, and Economic Development Committee (2023-2025) on 2023-04-12 6:00 PM	04-12-23 18:00	2	22	15	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

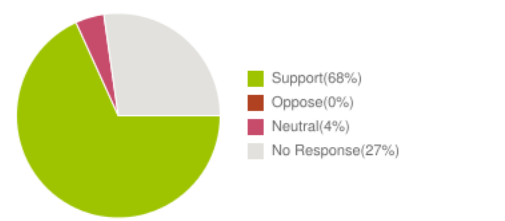


Agenda Name	Comments	Support	Oppose	Neutral
A G E N D A	1	1	0	0
BFED-1 FY 2024 PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2024 BUDGET FOR THE COUNTY OF MAUI (BFED-1)	21	14	0	1

Sentiments for All Agenda Items

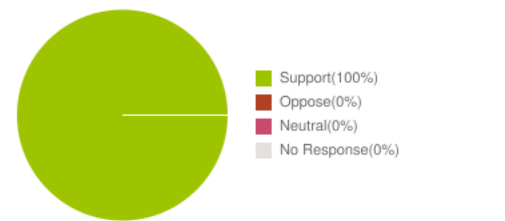
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Overall Sentiment



Agenda Item: eComments for A G E N D A

Overall Sentiment



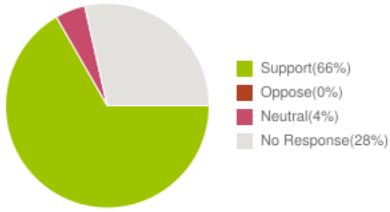
rita marlowe

Location:
Submitted At: 5:00pm 04-04-23

Aloha BFED Committee,
I would like to offer supporting comments for Malama Hamakua Maui and their efforts to restore the Hamakualoa Open Space Preserve. This is a valuable and important community project for Ha'iku. Years of trash have ruined a beautiful area that has deep cultural significance and Malama Hamakua is doing a great job at restoration and conservation of the area. Please continue funding this important effort.
Mahalo loa, Rita Marlowe Ha'iku ritamarlowe@gmail.com

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: 8:33am 04-13-23

Written testimony received at 04-12-2023 Upcountry meeting

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 6:41am 04-13-23

Aloha Maui County Councilmembers,

My name is Megan Nakashima and I am the President of Pukalani Superette.

I am testifying in strong support of the Kekaulike High School Foundation.

The Kekaulike High School Foundation aims to support the ENTIRE Kekaulike complex, through scholarships for students and grants for teachers. In 2022, their initial year of supporting the community, they provided \$8,500 in scholarships to seniors pursuing higher education and \$600 in grants to Upcountry public school teachers.

The upcoming Upcountry Winter Festival that the foundation is organizing, aims to unite the Upcountry community in a safe and fun family friendly environment. Public schools, non-profit organizations, and small businesses will be able to gather in one place to showcase their work, as well as raise funds for various programs - including funds for grants for teachers and scholarships for students.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of the Kekaulike High School Foundation.

Megan Nakashima

Pukalani

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 5:24pm 04-12-23

Aloha Maui County Council Members,

My name is Naomi Glass and I am a resident of Kihei as well as a board member of the Hui No'eau Visual Arts Center. I'm writing in support of Hui No'eau Visual Arts Center's Art with Aloha Program funding at \$50,000 and an increase from \$25,000 to \$50,000 for Hui Youth Arts Education & Outreach Programs in the FY24 budget. The Art with Aloha program gives many members of our community an opportunity to learn and connect with Hawaiian culture through the arts and the Youth Arts Education & Outreach Programs impact some of the youngest members of our community. For children to have the opportunity to engage hands-on in art projects and encourage their creativity at their school or at no cost to their families can have a lasting impact on one's development and can be a blessing in their lives. I thank you for your consideration and for continuing to support local arts.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 4:32pm 04-12-23

Aloha County Council Members.

My name is Christine Conlon-Kemp. I am a resident of the island of Maui. I support the recommended Hui No Eau Visual Art Center funding for the following line items in the Mayor's proposed FY2024 budget:

- \$25,000 increased to \$50,000 for Youth & Family Arts Education and Outreach Programs
- \$50,000 for Art with Aloha Programs

The Youth & Family Arts Education and Outreach Programs not only inspire our keiki to be creative but also reinforce the foundations of order (following instructions), collaboration (being a team player,) and socialization (interacting with others). Please consider the increase from \$25,000 to \$50,000 for our kikei for FY2024.

The Art with Aloha Programs is a unique way to couple the creation of art with shared knowledge of the Hawaiian culture. I particularly like the appeal of this program not only to our residents but also to visitors alike. We, as a community, need to support perpetuating Hawaiian arts and culture.

I thank you for your time, consideration and continued support of the Hui No Eau Visual Arts Center.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 3:49pm 04-12-23

Aloha Maui County Councilmembers,

My name is Kristi Kakiuchi and I am an elementary school teacher in the Hawaii DOE. I am testifying in strong support of the Kekaulike High School Foundation. The Kekaulike High School Foundation aims to support the ENTIRE Kekaulike complex, through scholarships for students and grants for teachers. In 2022, their initial year of supporting the community, they provided \$8,500 in scholarships to seniors pursuing higher education and \$600 in grants to Upcountry public school teachers.

The Kekaulike Highschool Foundation supports our future- our keiki. I was lucky to be one of the teachers who were supported by the Kekaulike High School Foundation for a grant to give my students opportunities outside of the classroom such as field trips and community member/artist visits. Since schools are doing their best to return to "normal" after virtual learning and disruptions from COVID-19, I wanted to take my class on a fieldtrip and bring an artist to my classroom. The grant money given by the foundation helped me to get transportation for my students (with no additional cost to the students/families) AND I was also able to ask an artist from our Kula community to come to my classroom. It was important for me to get funding because I know that some of my students and their families may be undergoing financial struggles resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic and other unfortunate personal events. The funding from the foundation allowed for all of my students to participate in these wonderful opportunities!

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of the Kekaulike High School Foundation.

Kristi Kakiuchi

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 3:26pm 04-12-23

Aloha, My name is Joan Martin. I live in Kihei and am a Board Member of the Hui No'eau Visual Arts Center. First, I would like to thank all of the County Council members, along with Mayor Bissen, for all the hard work you do everyday on behalf of the people of Maui county. Today I'm writing in support of Hui No'eau Visual Arts Center's Art with Aloha Program funding at \$50,000 in FY24 and an increase from \$25,000 to \$50,000 for Hui

Youth Arts Education & Outreach Programs in the FY24 budget. As I'm sure you're aware many children in Maui county have no creative outlet that the arts provide. The staff at the Hui No'eau make a special effort to reach out to all children in our county to provide art classes that help children develop observation and interpretation skills. Art provides brain development, mastery, self-esteem and creativity. We are fortunate on Maui to have a dedicated team of committed and caring people at the Hui No'eau that to bring art to our youth as well as people of all ages and we ask for your support to continue this important mission.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 3:26pm 04-12-23

“Aloha Maui County Councilmembers,

My name is Ryan Tengan and I am testifying in strong support of the Kekaulike High School Foundation.

The Kekaulike High School Foundation aims to support the ENTIRE Kekaulike complex, through scholarships for students and grants for teachers. In 2022, their initial year of supporting the community, they have provided \$8,500 in scholarships to seniors pursuing higher education and \$600 in grants to Upcountry public school teachers.

I am a King Kekaulike High School graduate and a lifelong upcountry resident. With the rising cost of living, providing students with additional scholarships is becoming an increasingly important factor in achieving a college education. Especially encouraging is the fact that the foundation is providing grants to our embattled teachers who sacrifice so much to educate our youth. King Kekaulike, being a newer school with a limited number of alumni, needs the support of this committee to place it on equal footing with more established schools who have a robust field of donors to rely upon. I have heard that the foundation aims to bridge the gap by raising funds with a winter festival which will benefit not only students and teachers with funding, but also our community by providing a fun and safe event for our families. As we all step out of the collective struggles we have had during the pandemic which pushed us all apart for years by necessity, any event which brings us closer together for the good of the community is uniquely appreciated.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of the Kekaulike High School Foundation.

-Ryan Tengan

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 2:02pm 04-12-23

April 12, 2023

Aloha Budget Finance and Economic Development Committee;

Aloha! I am Wesley Kosaka, an 8th grade student, and I am testifying in support of the Maui Economic Development Board and their support of our STEM after school programs, including robotics. I'd like to thank the board for their generous donations that have allowed me to compete in VEX IQ Robotics competitions. Over the last five years, their financial support has allowed me and my team to do everything, from registrations, to competitions, to travel, and even provided the part kits and game elements.

I have competed in robotics through Pukalani Elementary School, in both fourth grade and fifth grade, and both years the Maui Economic Board's generous support has allowed me to compete. What I've been able to do in the past three years because of those opportunities, have given me an insight into robotics, and new aspects of technology like engineering and programming. It is only because of these two years of experience at Pukalani School with STEM, that I was able to continue robotics throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, with essentially no team help. In fourth grade, I had the amazing experience of going to the National VEX IQ competition. It was one of the best, most life-enriching times I've ever had in my life. I got to compare our team's engineering thought process with other team's, and I got to improve on our design because of it.

I have been able to do so much because of MEDB's support of STEM, and I am so grateful. They have helped me so much in growing and learning as a person. Supporting the Maui Economic Development Board has great

benefits for students. It would give them so many experiences they couldn't otherwise get. Once again, I'd like to say: Thank you.

Sincerely,
Wesley Kosaka

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 1:50pm 04-12-23

My name is Cheryl Tipton and I am a Board Member of the Hui No'eau Visual Arts Center. I thank the Mayor for again including the Hui as a line item in his proposed budget. Our thanks go to you the Council for supporting us for the last few years and we hope that you will support us in this year's budget. The Hui's Art with Aloha Program helps perpetuate the learning and appreciation of Hawaiian culture through the arts. We are asking for support at the same level as we have received in the past few years - \$50,000 as is included in the Mayor's proposed budget. Our second program - Youth & Family Visual Arts Educational and Outreach Programs - has been funded by the County at \$25,000. We have great feedback from the community with this program which includes reaching out to our younger children in after school programs, bringing projects to children who are underprivileged, and providing many other opportunities for sharing art. The Hui is constantly getting more requests for these programs and therefore I would humbly request that you consider further partnering with the Hui by adding another \$25,000 for a total of \$50,000 for this project. I know many of you have visited the Hui campus and have seen all the work we have done, even through the COVID epidemic, and we invite you to come see for yourself what we are continuing to do for our community. Thank you again for your support.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 12:53pm 04-12-23

April 12, 2023
Aloha Maui County Council.

We are writing in support of the Maui Economic Development Board. Thank you for the funds that you have provided to MEDB and STEM education for our island keiki.

We are so fortunate to have had both our children attend and benefit from STEM classes at both Pukalani Elementary and Kalama Intermediate. The classes that our children have been able to attend range from graphic design, movie making, coding, to competitive robotics. There is a high demand and waiting list to get into these classes.

The education that our children have received from the STEM program is invaluable to our family and the island's future. They have gained technical knowledge but more importantly teamwork, community service, and problem solving skills that will follow them for the rest of their lives.

I have seen my children's confidence in themselves sky rocket, their advancement with speaking to adults is amazing, and their ability to set goals and perseverance to achieve them is astounding. This program provides an education far beyond what we ever expected possible, not to mention the positive friends and relationships that they (and we) have made along the way.

Thank you for your consideration. Please continue to fund this incredible program for our Islands' future.

Aloha,
Jason and Christina Wehner

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 12:27pm 04-12-23

Aloha,

I am writing in support of Hui No'eau Visual Arts Center's Art with Aloha Program and Hui Youth Arts Education &

Outreach Programs. As the demand for Hui Youth Programs continues to increase, the Hui respectfully requests an increase from \$25,000 to \$50,000 for Hui Youth Arts Education & Outreach Programs in the FY24 budget. We also request that the County will maintain Art with Aloha Program funding at \$50,000 in FY24.

County funding is critical to the delivery of each of these programs, which provide access to invaluable arts and cultural learning experiences for Maui County residents ages 2 and up.

Hui youth programs are an especially critical resource for Hawaii's K-12 students, who lack access to arts education both in and outside of school. Hui youth programs eliminate cost and logistical barriers to arts education for students with the greatest needs by sending teaching artists out into the community to reach children in their own classrooms, cafeterias, and libraries. For example, the Hui's Na Keiki No'eau program sends professional teaching artists into 4 Title 1 elementary schools after care programs, serving more than 500 students annually. The Hui sends 50 art kits every month for youth on Lanai and delivers another 100 kits monthly to Ka Hale A Ke Ola Homeless Resource Centers in Lahaina and Wailuku.

The numbers tell an important story, but testimonials best describe the impact of the Hui's Youth Programs in Maui County:

- "The kids are always really excited about art on Wednesdays and Fridays. I think it's a really amazing thing that we are offering these kids art. Most of the kids are waiting until 5 pm just to get picked up from school and go home. We don't know what they go home to, but having art before they leave really gives them a creative space where they can be free and express themselves, their feelings/emotions however they want. We've had some children come to us with abuse happening at home. It is always hard hearing these experiences from a child, but the fact that they feel comfortable around us in a creative non-judgmental space really shows how this program impacts children in an important way. They feel comfortable, safe, excited, and happy to be doing art with us." - Kela Kahikina, Na Keiki No'eau Teaching Artist

- "Painting, coloring, drawing, designing, and crafting help them to get out the feelings and ideas they are having and sometimes the hurt they feel in their hearts. I am so grateful for the kindness and generosity being offered by Hui No'eau Visual Arts Center." -Misty Bannister, Children's Services Coordinator, Ka Hale A Ke Ola Homeless Resource Centers

- "Our son is very critical of what he does. Learning that there are no mistakes when he's creating art has been a huge confidence booster in other parts of his life! This has been one of the most developmentally beneficial experiences that our son has been able to be a part of." - Parent of Child in Camp Kaluanui

- "Kah_li'a enjoys being at Camp at the Hui. I can tell she feels a sense of belonging to this special place. She loves being there and is always excited to share what she has learned. I'm happy that she found a place that helps her to develop her more creative side. Thank you all!" -Grandmother of Child in Camp Kaluanui

- "The art projects kept our keiki engaged at home, learning to read and follow instructions. The projects involve hands-on activities, watching short instruction videos, and learning olelo as well. Parents and teachers are impressed with the thoughtfulness the Hui No'eau staff put into creating fun and educating art projects." -Peggy Fink, Previous Branch Manager at Lanai Public Library

Art with Aloha Programs connect Maui County residents to practitioners and cultural knowledge through the creation of cultural art forms:

- "Kekai (Daunhauer) was exceptional. She shared her knowledge with clarity and enthusiasm. The work she did before class to harvest, prepare, sort and display was an immense undertaking. The care taken for each person's individual skillset was carefully considered and executed. Her delivery of content was well done. I look forward to when I will next have an opportunity to learn from her again."

- "I really enjoyed that Rose (Bailey) was a fifth generation lei maker and native Hawaiian. She gave us a lot of cultural information as well as explaining and showing hands on techniques which was valuable. I think everybody really enjoyed the creations that Rose helped us to make.

- "I have been wanting to learn lei making for years, and Rose was wonderful. This experience was a wonderful reminder of connecting with nature and history in a world where technology is such a strong force."

Thank you for your consideration of continued and increased support for Hui No'eau's Art with Aloha Programs and Youth Arts Education & Outreach Programs in FY24.

Sincerely,

Erin O'Kief
Development Director
Hui No'eau Visual Arts Center

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 12:23pm 04-12-23

4/12/2023

Budget testimony

Aloha Maui County Council members.

I totally support funding for planning, and developing a new pickleball facility Upcountry. It is needed now. I ask our Country Council to expedite this. It's what I believe the Parks Department should focus on also.

I also strongly agree there should be no more tennis court conversions on Maui.

We only have four playable tennis courts, for tennis Upcountry, across the whole mountainside. Our courts are busy with tennis often, and tennis as a sport is growing with increasing numbers.

In Kula, the tennis community currently does consider sharing the courts with PB as a minor conversion of our court use. It's acceptable as temporary, with PB taping lines, bringing their own nets, cleaning the courts when done. Painting PB lines within tennis lines would be a real court conversion. Totally unacceptable. I believe the new Parks Director understands this, as the past Director expressed to me also. Excluding tennis on the Kula tennis courts altogether would almost be criminal after the years the community and County worked to get the courts built, and the care we put into them.

Both sports need room to grow separately. They both are not compatible in noise requirements. Tennis under 40db, PB over 70db. They are both not compatible in design with different lines, rules, and dimensions.

Even downtown resurfacing and lining into a multi use court would cost the County maybe 10K or more, to reline it back to tennis a few years later. it would never happen. Bottom line, Tennis loses courts. I don't understand how this would be a "good compromise" as some in the PB community suggest.

PB needs leadership that focuses on the real solutions, and vision for their sport, as we in the Tennis community have done for years.

Please help give the PB community the direction to plan for their sport, and to plan for the growth of both tennis and Pickleball. Help them focus on a facility of their own. Please secure funds for planning of separate pickleball facilities, not converting tennis courts in any way.

Thank you all for your thoughtful deliberations.

Aloha,
Steve Sutrov
Kulatennis@gmail.com

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 12:15pm 04-12-23

I am a 25-year Kula resident wishing to submit my full-hearted support for additional Upcountry pickleball facilities. Pickleball is a sport that is growing exponentially on Maui and throughout much of the world. It is providing a unique opportunity for youngsters, oldsters, locals, visitors and everyone in between to get out, have fun, and become part an active community. It is a sport that is typically enjoyed from the first experience, which explains the tremendous appeal and growth. In Kula, the interest in the sport is amazing, with more folks discovering the game every week. The issue has become one of access to facilities to play and enjoy. As it stands, the only Upcountry public pickleball is found at the Kula Community Center. On a typical Tuesday and

Thursday morning 40 or so pickleballers carrying their own nets and masking tape (to put down temporary court lines) set up 5 temporary pickleball courts in the space of 2 tennis courts, and proceed to have a great time. This set-up allows 20 people to be playing at one time, while the others are lined up waiting to play. Players of all abilities are welcomed in this unassuming atmosphere. It is obvious to everyone aware of the situation, that dedicated public pickleball courts are desperately needed Upcountry. Mahalos for your consideration! Marc

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 6:46am 04-12-23

Aloha, I am writing in support of designated pickleball courts in Kula. I play on a regular basis every Tuesday and Thursday morning at the Kula and tennis courts where we have to tape the courts and set up our own nets. I am part of the early morning set up crew. We have a large group of people that come, up to 40 so the waiting time can get long. Pickleball has grown so much in our community and around the country as well. It is said to be the fastest growing sport in the country. If you look at it purely from serving your constituents perspective, it's a no brainer that there are more pickleball players than tennis. Tennis and pickleball can co-exist, we just need more designated courts for the latter. Almost every week that we set up our own nets and tape the upper courts for pickleball, there is only one tennis court below being used in comparison to a long wait to play pickleball.

It's my understanding that the County does not own the land where the Kula tennis courts are on. I would like to encourage the County to consider purchasing this land and build designated pickleball courts at this location.

Thank you for your consideration and best of luck to you with the budget process.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 9:35pm 04-11-23

I used to play tennis at the Kula courts but lost connections with other players. I have enjoyed the Tuesday/Thursday pickleball so much for the exercise and community, i only wish we could have courts assigned for pickleball as we tape our lines and supply our own nets and it is very crowded. I hope its in the budget to purchase the adjacent land for more courts.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 3:49pm 04-11-23

My name is Eva Wehner and I am in fourth grade at Pukalani Elementary School. I am testifying in support of Maui Economic Development Board_s Economic Development Grant..

I have been a part of Stemworks since first grade. Some of the classes that I have taken are coding, 3D printing, movie making, and robotics. My robotics team built a robot and competed in competitions around the island. We improved our design and got to travel to Oahu and Iowa to compete. Being part of robotics has taught me how to be a problem solver and a complex thinker.

This week in my movie making class, I have been creating a stop motion film to be shown at our school's STEM night. We are using playdough and taking pictures in different positions to tell a story. I like how I can share my creativity and not be judged in this class.

Please support MEDB so that they can keep supporting STEM in my school.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 2:38pm 04-11-23

Aloha, I am writing in support of Hui Malama in particular of the tutoring support program called Liko. I am a counselor at Maui High School and I have been able to refer students to them for additional support. I have had great student success with their programs and my students have found joy in attending school because they feel supported in their academics. Everybody learns differently and my students have found a sense of belonging with their tutors and have built great rapport with the staff which has improved their self esteem and confidence.

Please continue to support them so they can continue to support our future generation. They might not serve huge quantities of students but the quality of what they provide is enormous. Mahalo nui, Nalani Caulford

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 2:38pm 04-11-23

Aloha, I am writing in support of Hui Malama in particular of the tutoring support program called Liko. I am a counselor at Maui High School and I have been able to refer students to them for additional support. I have had great student success with their programs and my students have found joy in attending school because they feel supported in their academics. Everybody learns differently and my students have found a sense of belonging with their tutors and have built great rapport with the staff which has improved their self esteem and confidence. Please continue to support them so they can continue to support our future generation. They might not serve huge quantities of students but the quality of what they provide is enormous. Mahalo nui, Nalani Caulford

Jody Singsank

Location:

Submitted At: 1:10pm 04-11-23

Aloha,

I am a long time Kula resident and have enjoyed using the Kula Community tennis courts for many years as a tennis player.

Several years ago I also took up pickleball and play with the Tuesday/Thursday morning group. We usually number between 24-40 players per day.

It has been quite the journey trying to get the tennis and pickleball players to share the courts over the years. We seem to have finally settled into a schedule that works for players of both sports. The best case scenario would have separate courts for each sport.

The community center, gateball field and and tennis/pickleball courts are all used regularly and keep our community members connected through exercise and social gatherings.

I would like to ask the County to consider using funds to purchase the Kula Community Center land and to build designated pickleball courts at this location.

I know that this may seem like a small and insignificant request in the big budget picture but it would be a big benefit to the upcountry community.

Mahalo!

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 12:37pm 04-11-23

Aloha Maui County Councilmembers,

I am testifying in strong support of the Kekaulike High School Foundation.

The Kekaulike High School Foundation aims to support the ENTIRE Kekaulike complex, through scholarships for students and grants for teachers. In 2022, their initial year of supporting the community, they have provided \$8,500 in scholarships to seniors pursuing higher education and \$600 in grants to Upcountry public school teachers.

I have worked in Kekaulike Complex Schools for over 30 years with 26 years at King Kekaulike High School. I have brought high school students to engage in volunteer activities at all five elementary school in our complex and to Kalama Intermediate School over the years and am always in amazement of the dedication of the staff at each school. By the time these keiki arrive at our doors, they have received a solid foundation of learning with such a variety of experiences from Hawaiian Immersion, farm to table, and STEM and robotics! With your

continued support of our fledging foundation, we will continue to be able to increase our grant offerings to all Kekaulike Complex teachers and support more graduating seniors with their post-secondary endeavors.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of the Kekaulike High School Foundation.

Cindy Asato-Kochi
Haiku

Guest User

Location:
Submitted At: 2:42pm 04-04-23

Aloha,

I am writing to request a change in the ridiculously regressive structure of charging multi family condo and apartment complex water usage as general use. This rate structure seems intentionally designed to inflict the most harm upon the most vulnerable of constituents. How can you possibly support the notion that, simply because a family is so wealthy they can afford a standalone home, they deserve to also have a much more affordable water bill? How does it make sense that my family only gets about 75 gallons at tier 1 pricing, as opposed to 5000, simply due to sharing a meter with other people? This is simply overcharging your constituents least able to afford the increased rates based solely upon the point of measurement which is beyond their control.

This response on 11/10/22 from the Fiscal Officer is an outright assault on common sense and critical thought. "We understand that the multi-family customers on master meters generally use water more like commercial customers. That is, usage is a relatively steady rate throughout the day, unlike single-family customers who tend to have two peaking periods in the morning and the evening. This is due to a combination of multiple families with different schedules living in the same complex, along with common area usage and in some cases, irrigation use."

It's literally spelled out right there that you have to view the dataset in a specifically skewed way in order to justify the decision. I would love to see an honest look at this data if you're able to provide it. It seems a fair assumption due to the language used it would be quite as easy for me to show that multi family complexes peak with similar trending as single family dwellings "tend to" if you also allow me to ignore all of the dataset that doesn't fit my narrative as you have done in accepting this statement. It would also be easy show that single family homes use water throughout the day by not ignoring all of data from single family homes who don't "tend to" follow peak trends. I highly encourage all of you to take a drive through the parking lots of apartment and condo complexes at 6am, 2pm, and 10pm on a weekday. I am sure seeing the massive difference in the amount of vehicles in the parking lot in the middle of the day will help you understand that multi family complexes "tend to" be mostly empty during the day while the vast majority of us are all at work and not home using water.

Again, this is just a penalty based upon the point of measurement, not any kind of rational view of how water is used. Unfortunately this issue continues to be decided in a way that is completely unequitable and harms Maui's lowest earners. Hopefully this a lapse in critical thought, as that's about as charitable of an assumption as I can make about it, but sadly the stiff resistance to change makes it seem like an intentional cruelty against those least able to do anything about it. I would respectfully request you review the pricing structure in a way that is fair and equitable to all of this island's residents.

Kind regards,
Jon DuPont
480 Kenolio Rd 22-102
Kihei, Hi 96753

KULA COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

<http://www.kulamaui.com/>
Bobbie Patnode, President

The VISION of the Kula Community Association is to preserve open space, support agriculture, maintain a rural residential atmosphere, and to work together as a community.

The SPECIFIC PURPOSE of this association is to improve the quality of life for the residents of Kula, to promote civic welfare, and generally to benefit the community of Kula.

Kula Community Association BUDGET PRIORITIES for Fiscal Year 2023-2024

- 1. Kula Community Center**
 - 2. Invasive Species Control**
 - 3. Water Supply**
 - 4. County Support for Agriculture**
 - 5. Children's Safety**
 - 6. Firebreak Barrier**
 - 7. Kula Recycling**
 - 8. Road Improvements and Maintenance**
 - 9. Upcountry Greenways Master Plan**
 - 10. Pickleball Courts**
-

Detailed List

- 1. Kula Community Center** – This is a facility on leased land for which the County has already spent million\$. Please finalize the actual allocation of funds to acquire the land under the Kula Community Center, parking lot, gate-ball court, and tennis courts this year. The cost will only rise as the land's lease-term comes to an end.
- 2. Invasive Species Control**–The KCA strongly supports efforts to control, reduce and eradicate invasive species, especially Axis deer, the Little Fire Ant, coqui frogs, glycine, and chickens.
Axis deer are by far the biggest concern in the Kula community. The deer are eating pasture land that should be available for the ranches' cattle operations. They are destroying many small farmers' crops. They impact the gardens of many residents. And they are a significant danger to automobile traffic.
We support increased funding for Maui Invasive Species Control (MISC) and other programs. Glycine weed is a particular problem Upcountry, as the weed attaches itself to Jacaranda and other trees and eventually kills them. Coqui frogs are a major concern as neighboring Haiku and Maliko Gulch are facing severe problems that could lead to the spread of the frog to Kula and the rest of the island.
- 3. Water Supply** – The KCA continues to prioritize the creation of a system that provides dependable, quality water for all our residents and that provides water meters for the Upcountry Water Meter List. We would like to ensure that we have adequate water supply for all the meters being requested. We encourage the Council to ensure that funding is available for water storage alternatives and to request cost estimates for various sized reservoirs and water tanks in the upcountry area. We also request that new water sources be looked at as well as increased treatment facilities. As such, we support funding for the Upcountry water system reliability project.

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Upcountry

4. **County Support for Agriculture** – The Kula Community Association is thankful that the County Council placed on the ballot the creation of a County Department of Agriculture and that the voters of Maui endorsed this new department. Now we ask that the budget provide adequate funds for this department to support Upcountry agricultural operations.

We support grant funding specifically for all types of agriculture including both conventional and organic. The KCA Board would also like to see the expanded Kula Ag Park receive budgetary support to place this new organic facility in operation within the next year including deer fencing, an irrigation system, surveyed farm lots, etc.

We request that the county budget include provisions for additional agricultural support capabilities, such as a commercial kitchen, food processing hub and marketing support. Let's all work towards a goal of achieving agricultural/food self-sufficiency for Maui County!
5. **Children's Safety** – We request the County construct the connector sidewalk to the existing Lower Kula sidewalk in the vicinity of Haleakala Waldorf School. There is no safe way for the children and their parents to walk between the school on Lower Kula Road and the County's Kula Gym.
6. **Firebreak Barrier** – With the closing of the HC&S plantation there is a greatly increased risk of a wildfire moving mauka into lower Kula from the large unused plantation with its very high fuel load. KCA has as its priority the construction of a firebreak just makai of the residences in lower Kula. We request funds be budgeted to both construct and maintain an adequate firebreak. To ensure safety, we would like additional firefighting equipment be available to fight a fire and maintain water conserving reservoirs on Mahi Pono land.
7. **Kula Recycling** – We request:
 - a) a recycling site be established in the Kula area;
 - b) a location for the disposal of appliances, TVs, etc. to be located at the central landfill or similar central location to keep this kind of trash off our road-sides; and
 - c) expand the support of organic composting capacity for purely non-toxic materials, e.g., green-waste, restaurant waste, etc.
8. **Road Improvements and Maintenance** – On the County's web-site we would like to see the Public Works Department establish a priority list of roads that need to be repaved and those planned for the slurry treatment within each district of the County, and then budget to build the highest priority road improvements.
9. **Upcountry Greenways Master Plan** – The County has already developed an excellent recreational master plan that would connect all the upcountry communities: Kula, Pukalani, Makawao, Olinda and Haiku with a series of trails for hiking, cycling and equestrian activities. We ask that the plan be included in the budget for implementation over a multi-year period.
10. **Pickleball Courts** – The Kula Community has a need for pickleball courts, just as the rest of the County. Please include Kula in your plans to make space available for everyone to enjoy this very popular sport without taking away from other uses of public courts.



April 12, 2023
BUDGET HEARINGS

HANNIBAL TAVARES CENTER, PUKALANI

Aloha Council members. My name is Eve Hogan. I own The Sacred Garden below Makawao and I'm an Ag Working Group member and a member of The Maui Coffee Association. I'm testifying tonight on behalf of The Maui Coffee Association.

Maui Coffee Association receives funding through Maui County Farm Bureau and over the last year we accomplished several notable items due in part to on-going County support.

In collaboration with UHMC we recently received and commissioned an optical sorter that allows our farmers to separate defects associated with coffee berry borer in a few minutes vs 12 long hours of manual labor. This is a game changer in terms of labor saving and maintenance of high quality coffee. It's also protecting the livelihoods of Maui's coffee farmers. In concert with this, we have started a collaborative relationship with UHMC to start a Maui Coffee Academy to help train the local service industry about great coffee and the basic elements of coffee appreciation. These are large steps to help our industry on island and we thank Maui County Council for their help in making this possible.

This has been a hard couple of years for our growers, roasters and baristas between Covid and food service shut downs, coffee berry borer and coffee leaf rust. Funding from the county and the grants kept many farmers, ranchers and purveyors here from losing their livelihoods.

But great things are brewing for our future and we hope to see you at our first post-COVID Seed to Cup event at Maui Tropical Plantation on July 16th this summer!

Thank you for bringing the budget hearings upcountry!

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upcountry

Eve Hogan
470 Kaluanui Rd.
Makawao, Maui, HI 96768
(808) 280-5294
sacredmaui retreats@gmail.com

Aloha Council Members and Chair Sugimura,

Thank you for bringing budget committee hearings to the community.

My name is Sydney Smith, I'm an upcountry coffee grower, a charter member of the Maui Coffee Association and the facilitator for the Ag Working Group. I'm testifying tonight on behalf of the Maui Coffee Association and the Ag Working Group.

Last month we learned of the impending closure of the Kihei Composting Facility. This is a compost crisis as the only remaining commercial compost facility on-island is West Maui Green Cycle. They have the permits from the State Department of Health for handling food waste and can expand their operations if they get increased funding from the County. Maui County has been burying over 30,000 tons of food waste a year in our landfill, essentially filling it up with greenhouse gas generating materials, turning a potential resource for our island farmers into a liability. We ask that you approve funding to West Maui Green Cycle so they can ramp up operations.

We also ask that the Council cast a careful eye towards the draft of the Integrated Solid Waste Management Plan which as presented does not include food waste composting as an alternative to food waste diversion. This is a critical time for the future of our island's agricultural sector and one that depends on compost.

We are farmers and ranchers and generally conservative in our spending habits, but this is a situation where *not* funding this will result in a much higher cost to the County.

If farmers, landscapers and nurserymen begin importing compost from the mainland and O'ahu it will result in higher costs for their products and the very real potential for bringing in more and more invasive species to our fragile environment. As someone who fights cane grass on a weekly basis, I can tell you personally we don't need more invasive species. All of the Maui Coffee Association growers including me are dealing with coffee berry borer and coffee leaf rust. And I don't need to tell you the costs of fighting Little Fire Ant or Coqui Frogs, because I'm sure MISC is already a line item in your budget.

We need to divert more food waste and green waste from our landfill and we have to produce the compost we need here at home. Bringing it in from off island is just asking for trouble. The Ag Working Group and Maui Coffee Association is in full support of providing more funding for waste diversion and composting and we also urge you to form a coalition with other island counties to pressure our State Department of Health to revise their onerous rules about composting. Mainland Departments of Health are miles ahead of us on this.

Thank you!

Sydney Smith, *facilitator*, Ag Working Group
Maliko Estate Coffee, 808-268-3646 call/text

Ag Working Group was formed in 2013 by the Ag Chair of Council who needed input from the Ag community. Members must be Farmers or Ranchers

We are comprised of neutral representatives from:

Maui County Farm Bureau • Maui Farmers Union United • Maui Coffee Association

Maui Cattlemen's Association • Maui Flower Growers Association

Kula and Makawao Community Associations • Hawaii Forest Industry Association

And include members from Hawaii State Department of Agriculture, Maui County Department of Agriculture and

Maui County Council



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Upcountry

KĒŌKEA HOMESTEAD FARM LOTS ASSOCIATION COMMUNITY CENTER

**FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT/
ANTICIPATED FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT
(HRS 343)**

**Kēōkea Ahupua'a, Makawao District, Maui
TMKs (2) 2-2-032:067 and 068**

APPLICANT:

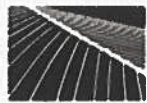
Kēōkea Homestead Farm Lots Association

PROPOSING AGENCY:



DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS

PREPARED BY:



**PBR HAWAII
& ASSOCIATES, INC.**

**PREPARED PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 343, HAWAI'I REVISED STATUTES AND
CHAPTER 11-200.1, HAWAI'I ADMINISTRATIVE RULES**

JULY 2022

RECEIVED AT BFED MEETING ON 4/12/2023
Upcountry

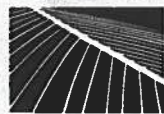
**KĒŌKEA HOMESTEAD FARM LOTS
ASSOCIATION COMMUNITY CENTER**

MASTER PLAN

Kēōkea Ahupua'a, Makawao District, Maui

TMKs (2) 2-2-032:067 and 068

PREPARED BY:



PBR HAWAII
& ASSOCIATES, INC.

JULY 2022



KĒŌKEA HOMESTEAD FARM LOTS ASSOCIATION COMMUNITY CENTER

Vision Plan



INTRODUCTION

Vision Plan

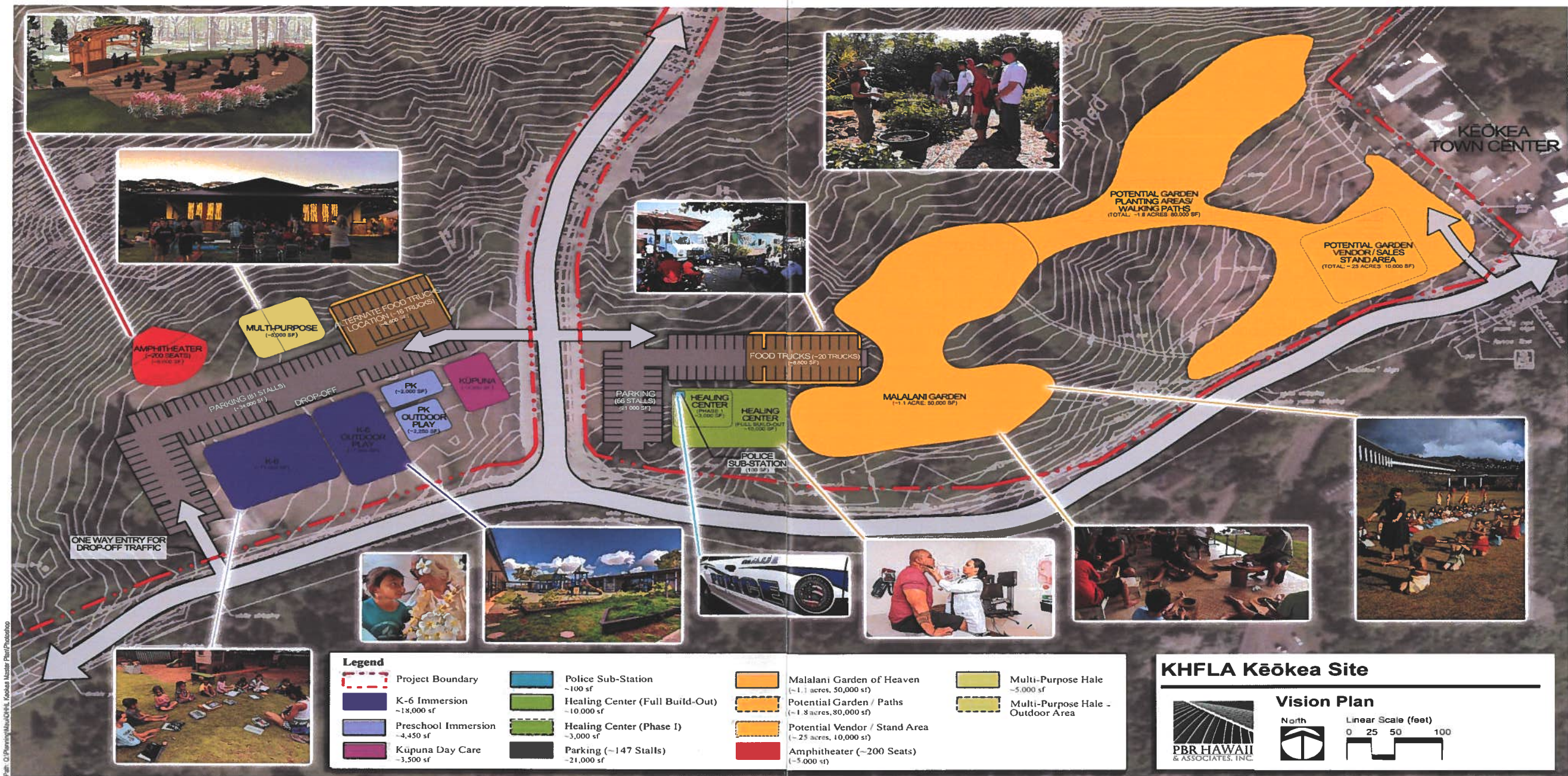
Kēōkea Homestead Farm Lots Association Community Center

Kēōkea Homestead Farm Lots Association (KHFLA) Community Center Master Plan is a manifestation of the Homestead community's vision for their future, to support the economic, social, health and cultural well-being of native Hawaiians in the Kēōkea Homestead community and neighboring communities.

Since 2016, the community's vision has guided their efforts to establish an agricultural marketplace and associated community center facilities in Kēōkea that will enhance the quality of life for native Hawaiians and the Kēōkea region as a whole.

The KHFLA Community Center Master Plan is a community-driven initiative that spans generations of community planning and organizing. This succession of generational knowledge invested into the community and this Vision Plan provides the steppingstones toward making the community's vision a reality.

VISION PLAN



1

MĀLALANI GARDEN

The area furthest mauka on the Project site will feature a Native plant garden (māla and lo'i) for educational tours.



2

HEALING CENTER (HALE OLA)

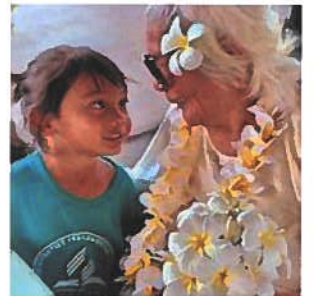
Situated adjacent to the Mālalani Garden is the Healing/Wellness center, which includes parking and also a food truck area for events and gatherings. Projected uses include a variety of medical services, from general practitioners to dentists and eye doctors along with rotating access to various wellness services and programs including lomi, diabetes prevention, exercise, nutrition classes, and physical rehabilitation. An office space within the building will be set aside for use by the Maui Police Department (MPD) as a sub-station for check ins and report filings to provide MPD with additional access to this region of Maui County.



3

KŪPUNA DAYCARE

Kūpuna Daycare is currently unavailable or underserved in the Kēōkea region, this facility includes approximately 3,500 SF of daycare space, eventually serving 40-50 seniors.



4

PRESCHOOL TO KINDERGARTEN IMMERSION SCHOOL

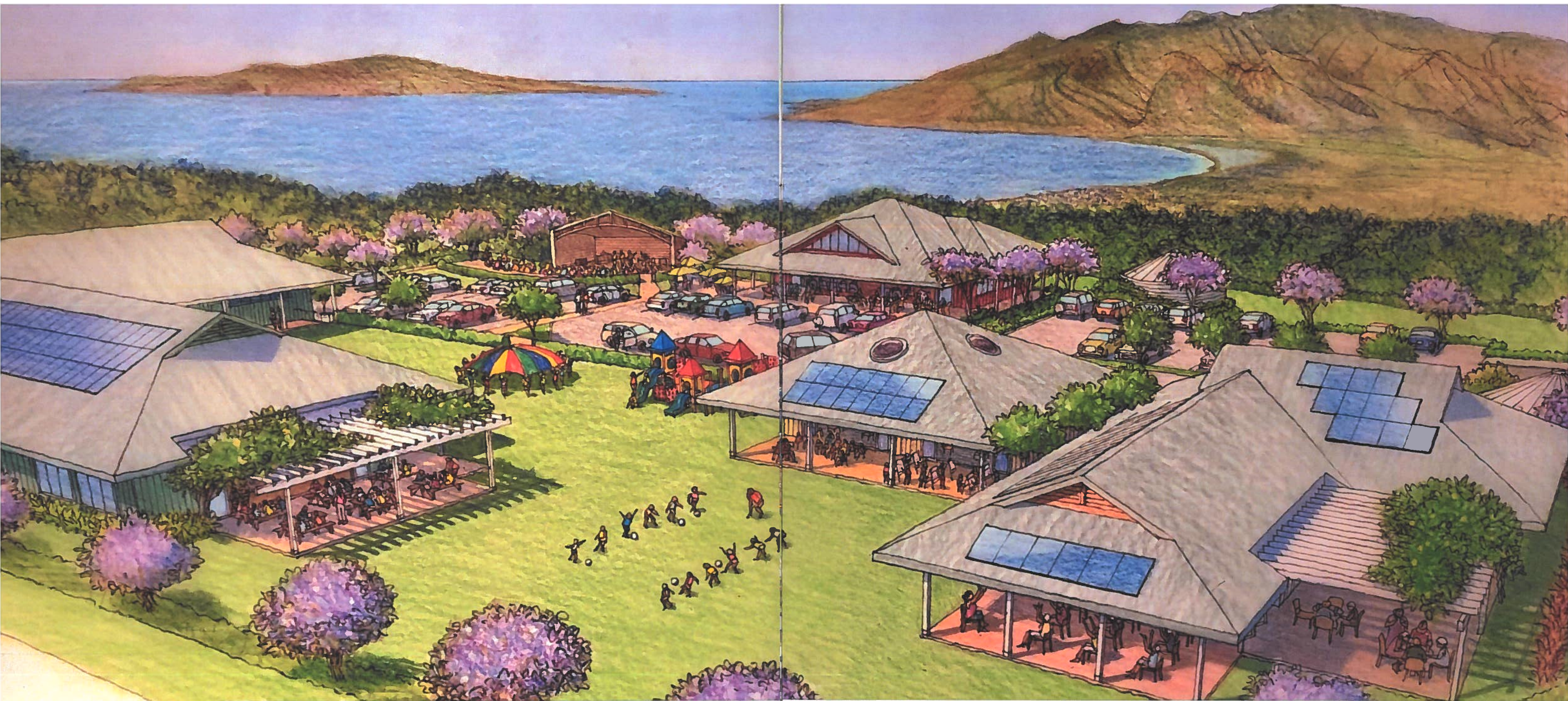
The preschool to kindergarten school is envisioned to be approximately 4,450 SF and be featured adjacent to the Kūpuna daycare facilities, to allow for an intergenerational learning and care environment. The Preschool to Kindergarten outdoor play area is approximately 2,250 SF.



K-6 IMMERSION SCHOOL

This outdoor play space would be adjacent to the Preschool to Kindergarten outdoor play area to complete the educational center of the Community Center Vision Plan.

5

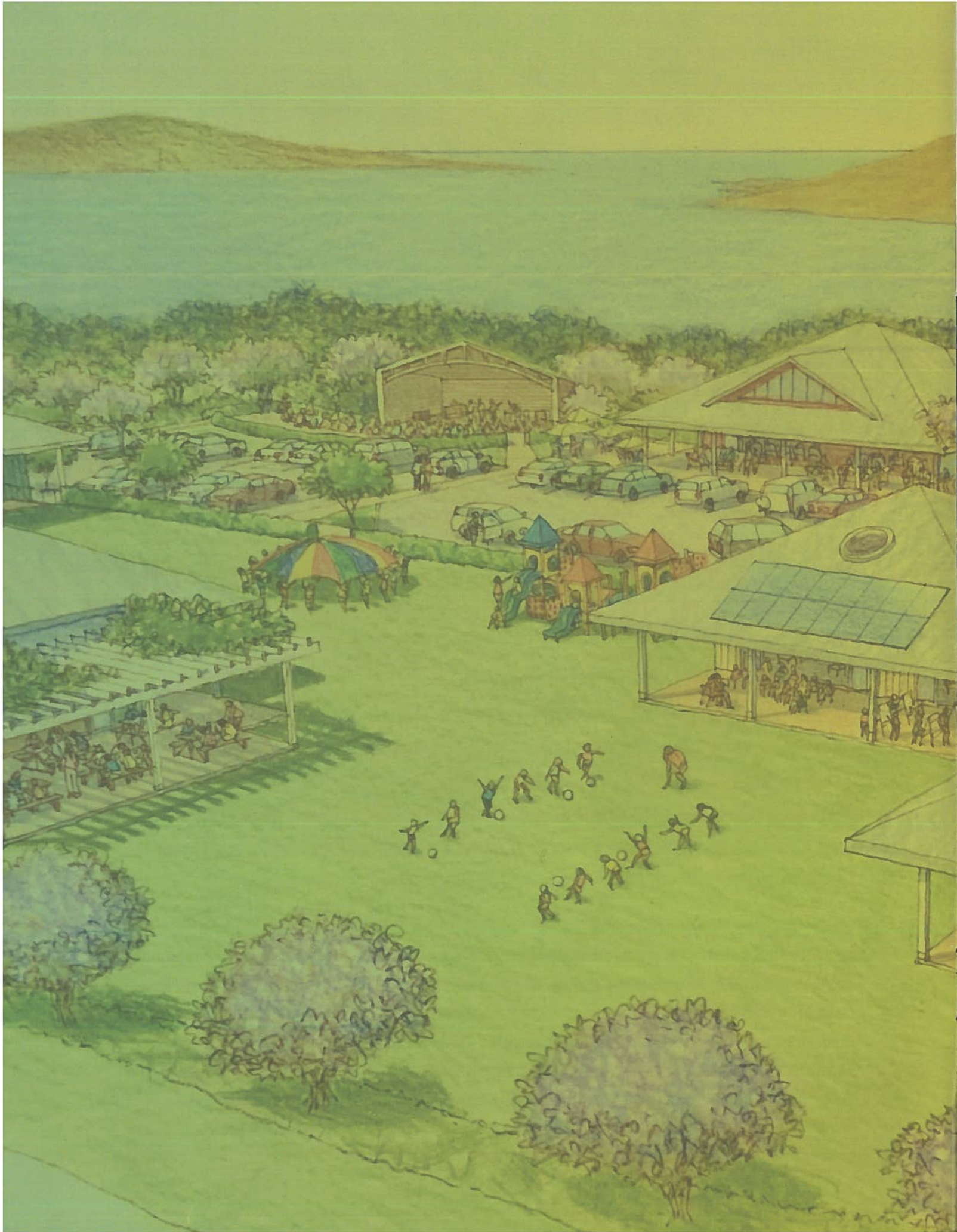


6

MULTIPURPOSE HALE AND AMPHITHEATER

The main community use building and main projected economic drivers for the Project are the 5,000 SF multipurpose "hale" building and an approximately 200 seat outdoor amphitheater. The Multipurpose Hale is envisioned to be 3,500 SF of enclosed space, with 1,500 SF of covered open air lanai space wrapping around the perimeter of the slab footprint to allow outdoor gatherings and shared event space with the amphitheater. Projected uses include replacing the existing temporary outdoor marketplace, multi-purpose function hall, outdoor amphitheater, and office/program spaces for various organizations and community

uses which may include social services, non-profits, Native Hawaiian, senior and youth services, craft fairs, or other events. The amphitheater will be built into the hillside and utilize the existing topography as much as possible to reduce cut and fill. The amphitheater would be used for concerts, performances, cultural events (hula), or other programs. Thermal solar panels for hot water generation and photovoltaic panels for supplemental electricity generation will be utilized. Natural ventilation, building overhangs will reduce or eliminate air conditioning needs while natural lighting will be utilized to reduce daytime lighting requirements. The Multipurpose Hale is also envisioned to be an emergency evacuation center, including shelter for farm animals.



Community Comments

Please help in any way to bring this plan into reality, Mālama nā po'e 'o
Kānaka Maoli, Kūpuna, Mākua, 'Ōpio, keiki, pēpē...

We really, really need this for Kēōkea.

I wanted to congratulate just the idea of having a plan like this for the
betterment of the community. Eō

This is an excellent vision. I hope we can protect and preserve the iwi
kupuna, the archeological remnants and cultural sites in honor of our
kūpuna and for the education and practices for future generations. Mahalo.

Wonderful plan that would serve the needs of the Hawaiian community
now and in the future.



Keokea
Homestead Farm Lots
Association



THE SPIRIT HORSE RANCH

AT TRIPLE L RANCH | MAUI | HAWAII

EMPOWERING TEEN SURVIVORS OF ABUSE TO EMBRACE THEIR INNER WARRIOR

David
4/12/23

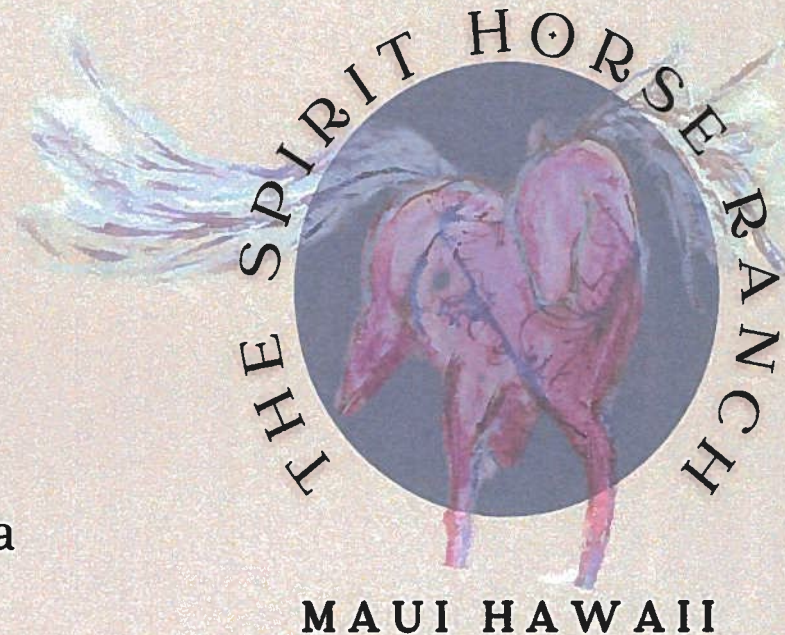
ABOUT THE SPIRIT HORSE RANCH

OUR MISSION

The Spirit Horse Ranch connects adolescent and teen survivors of abuse to their inner warrior, reigniting the light in their eyes through the healing energy of equine-facilitated learning, gardening and art therapy in the foothills of Haleakalā.

OUR VISION

Through equine assisted learning, artistic expression and organic gardening in the healing environment of the slopes of Haleakalā, **The Spirit Horse Ranch** seeks to identify and nurture the warrior spirit of adolescent survivors of trauma and abuse, enabling them to find the strength to achieve a positive, productive, beautiful future and to learn to love and be loved again.



THE CHALLENGE

Nationally, 8% [10 million] girls and 0.7% [791K] boys under age 18 have been sexually and or phycally and mentally assaulted. When experiencing sexual violence as a child makes it more likely the survivor will experience re-victimization in adulthood - 30% of adult rape victims were first assaulted before they were 18.



10.1% of girls were victimized by a stranger.



43.6% of girls were victimized by an acquaintance.



27.7% of girls were victimized by a family member.



28.8% of girls were victimized by a current or former intimate partner.



Over 35% of boys were made to penetrate someone else (completed or attempted) by an acquaintance.

Young people who experience sexual, physical and emotional violence are far more likely to demonstrate poor academic performance, sexual risk taking behavior, pregnancy, and self-harm. Even for youth who had not experienced this degree of trauma, the rates of anxiety and depression have been on the rise. In 2017, suicide became the second leading cause of death for people ages 10 through 24. **Our children are hurting and looking for answers.**



THE CHALLENGE

The mental health of our children was already in a tenuous space - and then came the global pandemic in 2020/2021 - COVID-19. The pandemic and lockdown brought a sense of fear and anxiety to people globally, leading to short term as well as long term psycho social and mental health implications for children and adolescents.

According to the C.S. Mott Children's Hospital National Poll at Michigan Medicine, **46 percent** of teens have shown signs of a new or worsening mental health condition since the beginning of the pandemic. Suicidal idealization is at an all-time high. Our children are suffering and the long-term impact is still unknown.

Additionally, economic adversity (e.g. job loss) has been observed as a precursor to harsh parenting and as a risk factor for psychological maltreatment and physical abuse. "Violence against children has always been pervasive, and now things could be getting much worse," Henrietta Fore, executive director of UNICEF, said. "Lockdowns, school closures and movement restrictions have **left far too many children stuck with their abusers**, without the safe space that school would normally offer. It is urgent to scale up efforts to protect children during these times and beyond."

Our vulnerable children are even more at risk in these challenging times. The need for a haven like **The Spirit Horse Ranch** has never been more pressing.



THE SOLUTION



At **The Spirit Horse Ranch**, through the powerful combination of equine (**Horse**) therapy, **Organic gardening**, artistic expression (**Painting**) and the dormant volcanic **Energy** of Haleakalā and Maui, a four week curriculum facilitated equine practitioners certified in thier field who will work closley with the participants experts in mitigation of adverse childhood experiences (ACEs). The program participants will be immersed in an environment that instills neace, claritv and **HOPE**, reigniting the light in their eyes

HORSE-ASSISTED LEARNING - EAL



Equine Assisted Learning provides a healing environment utilizing equine activities including riding instruction, interactive horse and ranch activities and hands-on horse care.

Equine Facilitated Learning (EAL) is designed for people of all ages to treat a wide range of mental health issues, addressing both physical and psychological concerns associated with a diagnosis.

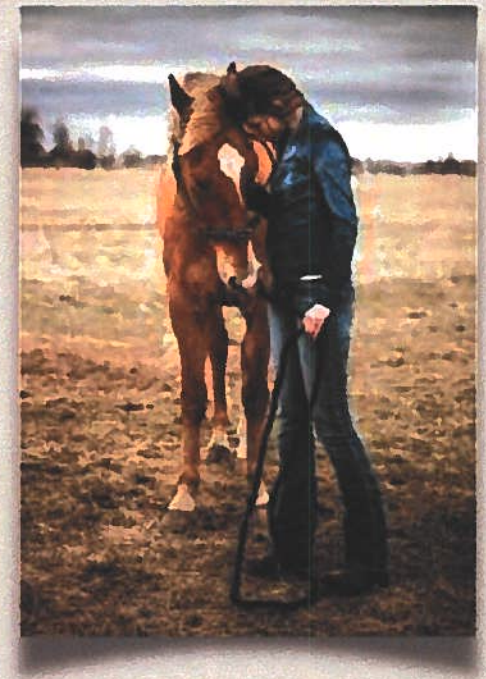
The natural ability of horses to pick up on human emotional expressions enhances the effectiveness of EFL. Patient, perceptive, and attuned to fear, anger, agitation, and despair, horses can mirror human moods in a nonjudgmental way. As the horse and person bond, a healthy connection via self-awareness grows resulting in emotional healing. [1]

EQUINE ASSISTED LEARNING

At the Ranch, the youth will transform into wranglers.

Ranch life is busy! Becoming a wrangler involves:

- Learning about ranching
- Checking fences
- Checking and fixing water lines
- Feeding animals
- Checking the cattle herd
- Exercising horses and caring for their gear
- Developing a sense of teamwork
- Gaining confidence through the knowledge that their actions help sustain life



ORGANIC GARDENING

The Ranch will have a greenhouse for the youth to learn to plant and grow food.

According to an article in *Psychology Today* ([source](#)), **organic gardening** supports mental wellness by enabling us to:

1. Practice acceptance
2. Move beyond perfectionism
3. Develop a growth mindset
4. Connect with others
5. Connect to the world outside
6. Be one with nature
7. Be present in the moment
8. Exercise
9. Reduce stress
10. Eat healthfully



ARTISTIC EXPRESSION - PAINTING & CREATIVITY



The arts - such as **painting** - contribute to “core determinants of health; playing a critical role in health promotion; helping to prevent the onset of mental illness and age-related physical decline; supporting the treatment or management of mental illness, noncommunicable diseases and neurological disorders; and assisting in acute and end-of-life care.” – *World Health Organization 2019*

Builds Confidence & Empowers Self-Care

Creating art provides a simple, tangible opportunity for a person to accomplish a task and demonstrates the benefits to self-efficacy.

Connects You to Yourself & Others

Art can be a path towards self-reflection, mindfulness, as well as interpersonal engagement and connection.

Provides an Outlet for Expression

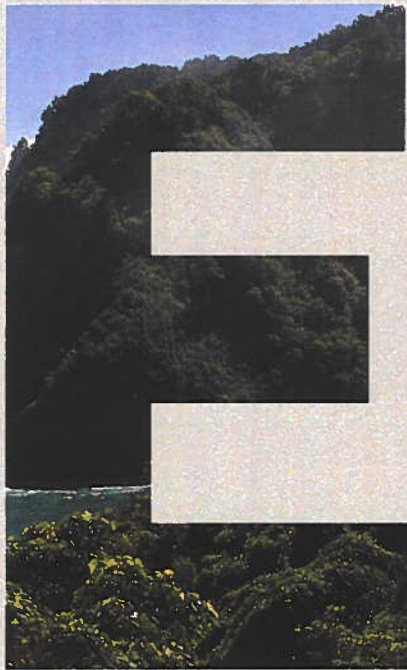
Creative expression can sometimes articulate what words can't, helping to bring complex or difficult thoughts and feelings into view.

SOURCE



HEALING ENERGY OF MAUI

The **ENERGY** of the island of Maui is unmatched.



“I went to Maui to stay a week and remained five. I never spent so pleasant a month before, or bade any place goodbye so regretfully. I have not once thought of business, or care or human toil or trouble or sorrow or weariness, and the memory of it will remain with me always.” - Mark Twain

Maui radiates its special kind of energy through highly magnetic iron oxide rocks. In fact, just up the road from The Spirit Horse Ranch, the **Haleakalā Volcano** not only provides spectacular views it also has a special energy. The top of Haleakalā gives off a frequency which matches that of the human heart. It allows visitors to feel Maui’s energy, one which is nurturing and motherly, giving it the name “**Mother Maui.**” In this environment, we find ourselves connecting on a deeper level, allowing us to move more freely and feel more deeply.

HEALING TOOLS



BREATHING INTO HEARTMATH

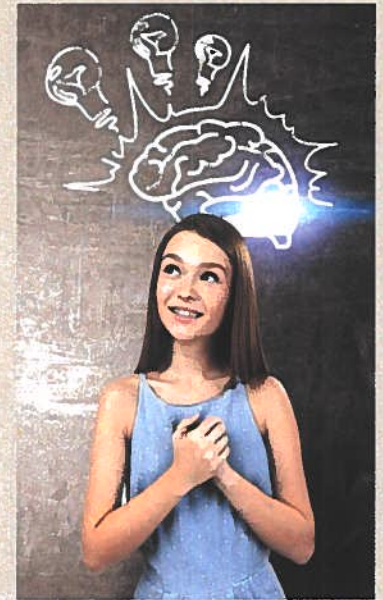
+♥ HeartMath.

TRAUMA INFORMED CARE

The Spirit Horse Ranch believes in collaboration, integration and learning from those who came before us. Through collaboration with the most revered practitioners, we seek to elevate our ability to create lasting change for those who come to the Ranch for healing.

A theory integrated into the practices of Stanford Medicine, Kaiser Permanente, Cedars Sinai, NASA and the Department of Veterans' Affairs for over 25 years, **HeartMath Institute** has been researching the heart-brain connection and learning how the heart influences our perceptions, emotions, intuition and health. The HeartMath program will help the kids tap into the power and intelligence of their heart – and their heart's intuition – which awakens them to the best version of themselves.

By bringing physical, mental and emotional systems into coherent alignment, you begin to experience increased access to your heart's intuitive guidance. Tuning into your heart's wisdom creates a profound shift within that helps you approach situations with more emotional balance, compassion, clarity and personal confidence.



SOURCE

THE SPIRIT HORSE RANCH VISION

Established in 1947, the Deponte family owns & operates **Triple L Ranch (TLR)** one of the few remaining *Paniolo* working cattle ranches on Maui. The Ranch is located in verdant, pristine, sacred, and undeveloped country on the southwest side of Haleakalā, with a combined 132 acres of lush land surrounded by acres of open space.



The Spirit Horse Ranch will be housed on TLR. Leveraging our acreage, TLR will ensure solitude required for the Spirit Horse Ranch programming in a healing environment specifically curated to support the youth beneficiaries.



THE NEED

We have the vision, the commitment and the desire. Now it's time for action.

Our objectives include:

Phase 1 | *Completed We an established fiduciary partnership with Payers Philanthropy Fund. Built our leadership team - including Advisory Board, legal counsel, marketing and design work. Certifications of Practitioners finalized, 14 Horses in Trained. Have in place professional consultants, engineers, and architect to move forward with the County and State process. The EAL Teams NEEDS : We need funds round pens horse care for retainers education and deposits. * Budgets are avaiable unpon request Capital and Operating

Phase 2 | Pre-construction environmental, archeological, grading and other building studies (3 - 6 months). Finalize design with architect. Working with County of Maui and State of Hawaii on approvals. *2023

Phase 3 | Construction begins! Build out classroom, gardening enclosures, road, parking, riding arena, solar, water, and horse stables. *2023

Phase 4 | Construction finalized! Build out barn, round pens , riding arena, horse stable, art Heartmath classroom, gardening enclosures, road, parking, solar systems, water catchment lastly *security / caretaker and manager cottages. *2023-2024



HOW YOU CAN SUPPORT OUR VISION

\$25,000 Underwrite construction of barn & riding arena

\$15,000 Creation of art & creativity studio

\$7,500 Design & planning of organic garden

\$2,500 Curriculum development

\$500 Saddle for a therapy horse

\$250 Bench for reflection

\$50 Art supplies

\$20 Feed for horses

PROUD PARTNER OF PLAYERS PHILANTHROPY FUND
A 501(C)(3) ORGANIZATION [EIN 27-6601178]
NAMING & UNDERWRITING SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE



THE VISIONARIES | Leadership & Advisory Board



Paige Deponte
TSHR FOUNDER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, EAL



Maurissa Deponte
TSHR MANAGER, ADVISORY BOARD, EAL



Dirk Tempstra
HEARTMATH | ADVISORY BOARD



Joanne Pasternack
OLIVER+ROSE | ADVISORY BOARD



AnnaLynne McCord
ACTRESS & HUMANITARIAN | ADVISORY BOARD



Jack Naiditch
ATTORNEY | ADVISORY BOARD



Dr. Dennis Banks, MD
MAUI PSYCHIATRY ADVISORY BOARD



Players Philanthropy Fund
ADVISORY BOARD

THE BACKBONE | Programming Staff



Jenni Hernandez
FINANCE DIR/ DEVELOPMENT BOARD



Horses & Livestock



Paige DePonte
ART THERAPIST



Willa Erlich
EAL PROFESSIONAL



Jobe Romanose
EAL FACILITATOR PROFESSIONAL



Bonnie Saust
EAL PROFESSIONAL



Kerri Smith
EAL PROFESSIONAL



Maurissa DePonte
EAL FACILITATOR PROFESSIONAL

THE FOCUS

The Spirit Horse Ranch is dedicated to healing, fueled by building the right team, facilities, and curriculum to ensure a safe environment.

We help kids be kids turn the page on their past, empowering them to starting a new chapter in their life journey.



"Horses reach into your soul, pull out the good and heal what isn't."

- Sandy Collier





THE SPIRIT HORSE RANCH

AT TRIPLE L RANCH | MAUI | HAWAII



TheSpiritHorseRanch.org



(808) 280-7070



info@thespirithorseranch.org



18100 Pi'ilani Hwy, Kula, HI 96790

An abstract painting of a horse's rear and tail. The horse is depicted in dark, almost black, tones with vibrant highlights of red, orange, and purple. The tail is long and flowing, rendered in shades of blue and purple. The background is a mix of dark, textured brushstrokes in various colors, creating a sense of depth and movement.

THE SPIRIT HORSE RANCH

AT TRIPLE L RANCH | MAUI | HAWAII

EMPOWERING TEEN SURVIVORS OF ABUSE TO EMBRACE THEIR INNER WARRIOR



MALP
Maui Association of —
Landscape Professionals

Importance of Locally Produced Compost for the County of Maui

Contact Information:

Allison Wright

Maui Association of Landscape Professionals

808-268-6927

malp.maui@gmail.com

The mission of the Maui Association of Landscape Professionals (MALP) is to exemplify leadership by offering education to its membership, the industry, and the community.

RECEIVED AT BFED MEETING ON 4/12/2022
Upcountry

Budget Hearing Testimony 4-12-23

My name is Allison Wright. I am here as a representative of Maui Association of Landscape Professionals. I am here to talk with you about the importance of locally produced compost on Maui.

I've created packets for each council member containing information on this testimony.

- Compost is a vital part of horticulture and agriculture alike.
- Compost greatly improves plant health and soil health via the microbiome.
- Compost can decrease the need for artificial fertilizers.
- Locally produced compost helps reduce unwanted transmissions of pests and diseases from the mainland or from outer islands.
- Oahu has been stricken with Coconut Rhinoceros Beetle (CRB) which lives and reproduces in green waste and compost. (*Show a sample of CRB*) This pest is spreading rapidly on Oahu and is spreading with little control. The movement of any green waste is restricted on Oahu – imagine not being able to take your green waste to a facility for processing without having a special company pick it up – at an extra cost to you. This only increases situations of illegal dumping.
- Outer islands can purchase compost from Oahu, after heat treatment and inspection by HDOA. However, imagine if just one CRB got through.
- Oahu is expected to lose up to 85% of its palms in the next few years. Imagine Maui without coconuts, our native loulou and even hala.

A little background on Maui's compost situation:

- As of March 2020, no compost was being produced from green waste that is dropped off in central Maui by homeowners or commercial accounts. This material is shredded and mixed with bio-solids and put into the landfill. This is due to lack of space at the current landfill and lack of planning on the county's part at the time to create a new landfill space in time as the existing landfill was quickly running out of space.
- This information was not shared with the public at the time. A press release was created and quashed, according to a county source, so the public was not informed. I was told there was a "plan to make a plan."
- In 2020, I set up an informational meeting with the head of the department that oversees the landfill. I was told in this meeting that he "didn't understand why we had this meeting and did not see any problems" even though I had farmers in the meeting stating the increased cost of was unsustainable to their businesses at the time. There appeared to be little care for the issue.
- There is a "plan" to make new composting facilities, but with permitting regulations, this can take a few more years.

Here's a bag of compost, produced on Oahu, purchased at our local Walmart. You hear me talk about "yards" needed.

- 1 "cubic yard" is 18 of these bags.
- Island Plant Company is estimated to use 1000 cubic yards of compost this year. That's 18,000 of these bags in 2023.
- I've also included an article about locally produced and processed green waste material can help regenerate native soils. This is a study just published in Landscape Hawaii Magazine in March/April 2023.

At the end of this summer, Kihei Compost will be losing their lease and is attempting to move. It is already difficult to get the quantities of compost I need, let alone provide all of Maui's customers with compost.

I have known there is a facility in west Maui, West Maui Green Cycle, that is in the process of obtaining permits to sell compost. I am excited to hear they believe they will be able to supply Maui with all the compost needed this year.

I know this is not a small ask in the budget.

I know Council Member Sugimura has stated she wants to reduce the Mayor's suggested budget.

In 2012, the county paid a settlement fine to the EPA of \$580,000 for too much gas emissions from the landfill. Green waste and sludge added to the landfill only increases gas emissions as it breaks down.

Maui County has been first in:

- Banning plastic bags
- Banning Styrofoam
- Banning Plastic Straws & Foodware
- Banning all but mineral based sunscreen

Let Maui County become the leader in sustainability and upcycling in Hawaii for creating locally produced compost from food, compostable plastics, and green waste.

Thank you for your time. We're happy to answer any questions you may have. If we don't have those answers now, we will get the answers you need.



March 7, 2023

To Whom It May Concern,

I am the President of the Maui Association of Landscape Professionals (MALP). MALP graciously receives funding annually through a grant from the Maui County Farm Bureau. I was recently contacted by several of our members regarding the upcoming closure and move of the remaining composting facility on Maui, in Kihei.

In March of 2020, Maui Eko Systems closed its composting facility and subsequent sales of compost for public consumption after a loss of space due to poor planning for landfill space at the current Maui County landfill in central Maui. Maui Eko Systems currently accepts greenwaste, shreds the greenwaste, and puts the greenwaste into the landfill.

Maui's remaining composting facility, Kihei Compost, in south Maui, will be losing their lease in September, 2023, leaving Maui with no local commercial compost production.

The closure of these 2 facilities is devastating for Maui's landscape contractors, farmers, and homeowners. With no compost, there will be a decline in plant health in landscapes and production in farms and nurseries.

The remaining option for purchasing compost will be as follows:

1. To purchase bagged compost from a box store or local hardware store, imported from the mainland.
2. To import compost from Oahu.
3. To help open West Maui Cycle in 2023 with enough compost to sustain Maui's needs until additional options are created.

The two options are neither financially sustainable nor environmentally suitable. Importing compost from Oahu creates a danger to Maui's ecosystem. Among other invasive pests, coconut rhinoceros beetle is devastating Oahu's palm trees. It is estimated Oahu will lose 85% of its palm trees (coconuts and native fan palms) in the coming years due to this pest. This beetle LIVES IN COMPOST. To receive compost from Oahu, the material can be shipped, in a heat treated, sealed, inspected container – if you dare to potentially import this pest. This compost is also sterile after treatment, creating an unsuitable material. A container also costs \$6000.00 for 40 yards of compost to ship to Maui – a huge financial burden.

The first 2 available options for compost are not sustainable for Maui. With Maui attempting to increase sustainable agriculture, and with new landscapes being added daily, we need a local solution to be pushed through. While it may not be a top tier issue visible to the County of Maui, it is a multi-million-dollar issue to farmers and horticulturists alike.

Thankfully there is a third viable option for compost production. It is only by chance that a new company, West Maui Green Cycle, is already in process, with permits in place, to produce compost. I was made aware of this only recently and am certainly looking forward to the introduction of this new compost product on Maui.

Here are a few current examples of uses of compost on Maui:

-GrassMaster, a sod farm in Kula Ag Park, uses an estimated 1,500 yards of compost per year. The 2023 cost of this compost is approximately \$150,000.

-Island Plant Company, LLC, the largest landscape contractor on Maui, with 120+ employees, is estimated to use over 1,000 yards of compost in 2023. This is valued at \$100,000.

-KiHana Nursery, a third-generation nursery staple in Central Kihei currently imports approximately 5,000 bags of compost products annually. The owner, Scott Walsh, estimates he could sell double that number if Maui Eko Systems had bagged compost available still. He says he struggles at times to have compost available in bags for his customers due to mainland availability. The estimated value of his sales of 10,000 bags of compost could be \$100,000 at a wholesale cost.

**Value of compost is determined based off of \$100 per yard of compost based on the current prices of compost via Kihei Compost, located in Central Kihei.*

The production of green waste is not slowing down. With the closure of Kihei Compost, we will see a massive increase of green waste added to the Central Maui Landfill daily, creating not just space issues, but an increase in the production of methane gas, an important greenhouse gas, as the green waste breaks down in the landfill. In 2012, Maui County was fined by the EPA for gas emissions, which was settled at \$580,000 according to local news sources. This fine alone could create two West Maui Green Cycle facility upgrades.

We are asking for Maui County to move forward with new solutions expeditiously to produce compost locally not only at West Maui Green Cycle but at other locations, to reduce the risk of spreading CRB to Maui County, as well as create a sustainable solution to Maui's green waste production by creating an upcycled product. MALP is willing to help with any questions and/or research.

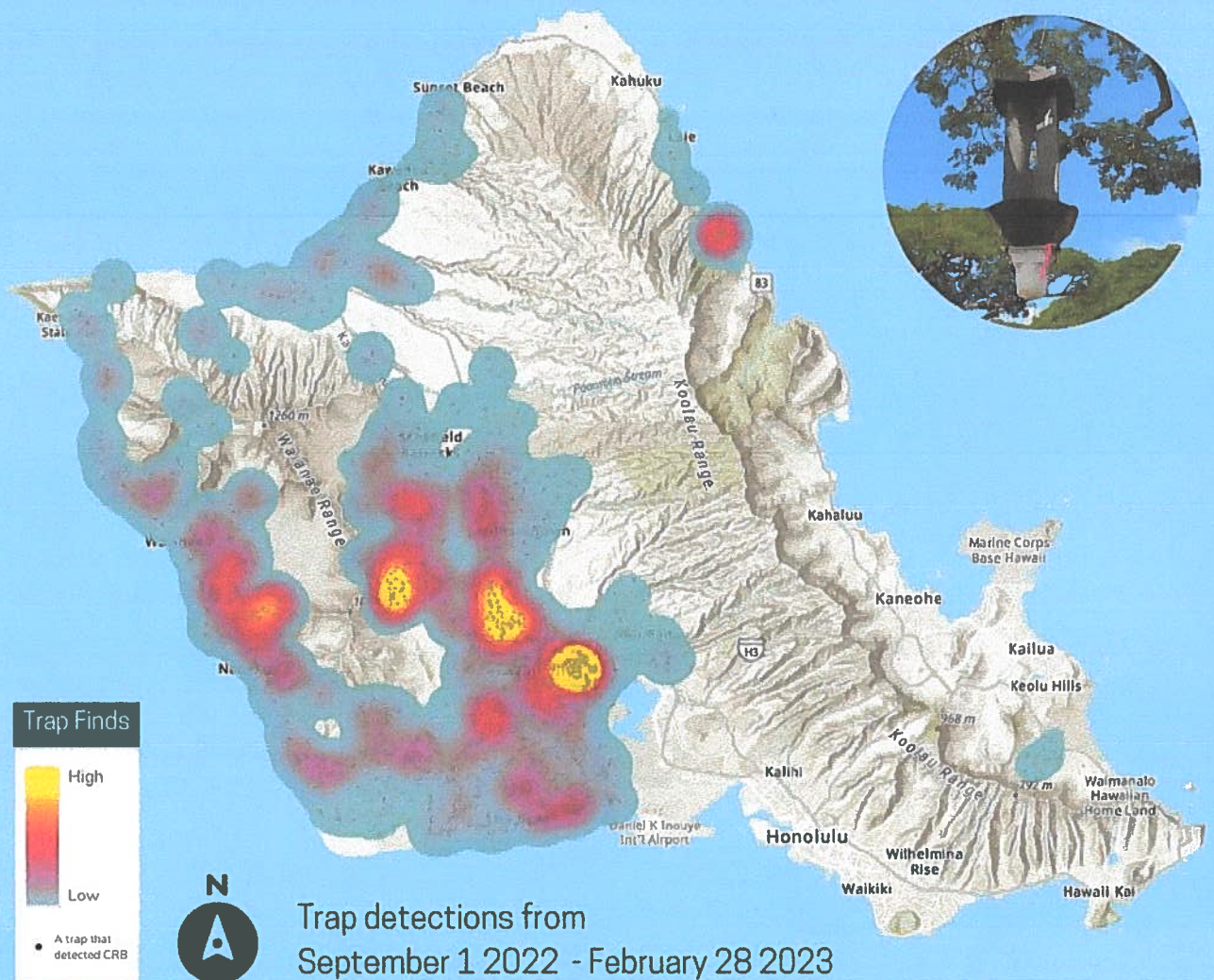
Thank you for your time. Please contact me at any time with questions. I am happy to help in any way.

Allison Wright
MALP

(808) 268-6927 - personal cell

(808) 264-4157 - work cell (best daytime number)

Coconut Rhinoceros Beetle TRAP DETECTIONS



Coconut Rhinoceros Beetle Response Hawaii (graphic by CRBRH)

- Considers this to only be containable now rather than able to be eradicated.
- Estimates are that 85% of Oahu's palms will be killed.

Bags of Compost Infested with CRB



All pictures from CRBRH Facebook Page

- Bags of compost found in "big box stores" on Oahu were found to be infested with CRB that can be purchased and transported around the island.
- Even though this is "Miracle Gro" brand locally branded compost can be infested as well. This bag would have been infested after it arrived at the box store.
- If bags from a box store are "transferred" from Oahu to Maui, CRB can be transferred as well
- Bags of Oahu produced compost are routinely shipped to Maui's box stores for sale.

OTHER PESTS THAT RESEMBLE
COCONUT RHINOCEROS BEETLE (CRB)

Grubs of other scarab beetles found in Hawai'i, such as the Oriental flower beetle, *Protaetia orientalis*, look similar but do not grow as large as CRB larvae.

Oriental flower beetle adult / grub



CRB grub



Inverted U on
underside of
grub's rear

	FLOWER BEETLES	COCONUT RHINO BEETLE
GRUB	less than 1" in length	up to 4" length
	smooth head capsule	bumpy head capsule (above, right)
	crawls straight or flips on its back when disturbed	curls into a C-shape, crawls on its side
	abdomen is firm when squeezed; inverted U marking on underside of rear (above, center)	abdomen is soft when squeezed; no marking on underside of rear
	often found in soil; feeds on decaying organic matter	
ADULT BEETLE	shiny black with white or metallic flecks (above, left)	dull matte black; female has reddish- black posterior tufts
	no horn	single, centered horn
	body up to 1" length	body up to 2½" length
	feeds on flower pollen, nectar, fermenting sap, damaged fruit	feeds/sucks on sap, not foliage
HABITS	adult beetles active during the day (diurnal)	adult beetles active at night (nocturnal)

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Hawaii Department of Agriculture

<http://hdoa.hawaii.gov/pi/main/crb/>

Hawaii Invasive Species Council

<http://dlnr.hawaii.gov/hisc/info/coconut-rhinoceros-beetle-response-updates/>

USDA APHIS

<http://www.hungrypests.com/>

PALM PEST ALERT

COCONUT RHINOCEROS BEETLE

Oryctes rhinoceros



University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

College of Tropical Agriculture and Human
Resources

Hawai'i Department of Agriculture

Plant Pest Control Branch

Coordinating Group on Alien Pest Species

CGAPS

Compiled by: A.H. Hara, B.R. Kumashiro,
R.Y. Nilno-DuPonte, S. K. Cabral, C. Martin, and
J.A. Zarders. 2014.

Website: [http://www.ctahr.hawaii.edu/haraa/
Index.asp](http://www.ctahr.hawaii.edu/haraa/Index.asp)



progressive CRB damage to coconut palms

COCONUT RHINOCEROS BEETLE FOUND IN HAWAI'I

The coconut rhinoceros beetle was first detected on O'ahu in December 2013 by a monitoring program conducted by the state and federal Departments of Agriculture and the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa CTAHR. Beetles were breeding in coconut tree trimmings that had been piled as green waste mulch for weed control near a golf course located at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

This beetle has decimated coconuts and other palms as it spread from its native southern Asia to Guam, Fiji, Samoa, and the Pacific Islands of Palau. The adult beetle feeds on the sap of coconut leaves but will occasionally attack other palms and tropical plants. Immature stages (grubs) will feed on nearly any moist, rotting or composting organic matter from fallen logs, tree stumps, green waste, grass clippings and sawdust piles, to manure.



adult male

R Ito, USDA PPQ

We need your help to immediately report suspect damage and the possible presence of these beetles and their grubs in order to keep this pest from spreading and becoming established. Call HI Dept. of Agriculture Pest Hotline 643-PEST.

Cover photo of adult female: HI Dept of Agriculture

WHAT YOU CAN DO

Clear away piles of palm tree trimmings and other decomposing organic matter (bags of potting media, livestock manure, compost piles of grass clippings and other green waste) that may serve as breeding sites for the coconut rhinoceros beetle.



Report suspect beetles, grubs and damaged trees to Hawaii Department of Agriculture's Pest Hotline 643-PEST (7378).



Be vigilant in monitoring your property and surrounding areas for unusual insects and/or damage to plants.

Inspect plants, building materials, and vehicles originating from known infested areas.



DID YOU KNOW...

CRB grubs will burrow deep into soil or sand to evade suboptimal conditions, such as heat generated in compost piles.

LIFE CYCLE and DAMAGE

5 ADULT BEETLE



Adults live 4 to 9 months; female lays 50 to 140 eggs during its lifetime.

Adult beetles remain in pupal shells for 17 to 22 days to harden, then emerge and fly to palm crowns to feed.

2 PREPUPA / PUPA



Grubs enter non-feeding prepupal stage for 8 to 13 days usually in the soil or other organic matter; pupal stage follows for additional 17 to 28 days.

1 GRUBS



Grubs hatch in 8 to 12 days from white, oval eggs (<1/4" long) laid in decomposing organic matter where they feed for 3 to 5 months.

ADULT BEETLES CAUSE DAMAGE



Beetles bore into tree crowns and growing tips with its legs (tarsi, circled below) that are lined with sharp, prickly spines, to feed on plant sap, not on foliage itself. Oval to round exit holes (above) are visible on leaf stalks (petioles).



Damaged leaves unfurl with distinctive V-cuts (above), holes in petioles and midribs (left), and browned, circular serrations (below), unlike damage caused by careless pruning.



Several beetles boring into the growing tip to feed on plant sap will eventually cause the tree to die, especially young palms (1-3 years). The dying stump then serves as a breeding site and larval habitat.

References:

Hinckley, A.D. 1973. Ecology of the coconut rhinoceros beetle, *Oryctes rhinoceros* (L.) (Coleoptera: Dynastidae). *Biotropica* 5:111-116.
Bedford, G.O. 1980. Biology, ecology and control of palm rhinoceros beetles. *Ann. Rev. Entomol.* 25:309-339.
Woodruff, R. 2006. The Asian mango flower beetle, *Protapha fusca* (Herbst), and *Euphoria sepulcralis* (Fabricius) in Florida and the West Indies (Coleoptera: Scarabaeidae: Cetoniinae). *Insecta Mundi* 20:227-231.



September 28, 2020

Hello Kimo,

I am the President of the Maui Association of Landscape Professionals (MALP). MALP graciously receives funding annually through a grant from the Farm Bureau. I was recently contacted by several of our members regarding the change in plans for the future of the composting facility at the Central Maui Landfill. The changes in the program have created a financial situation which will greatly impact the landscape industry on Maui, including, but not limited to, landscape installation & maintenance contractors, sod farms, & plant nurseries. I am guessing this impact is largely unknown and not on the mind of those making decisions regarding this matter. I am writing to see how we can work with the Maui Farm Bureau to help analyze the situation and create a plan of action to help not only our members, but all members of the landscape industry, the farming industry and homeowners on Maui.

From my phone conversations with Maui Eko Systems, as well as with several county employees, here are a few facts:

- As of March 2020, no more compost is being produced from the green waste that is being dropped off by homeowners or commercial accounts.
- Due to the need for the land to create a new landfill, the space for Maui Eko Systems was reduced by 50%.
- There is a limited amount of compost products left available for sale. This is thought to be approximately 5,000 cubic yards of material. There is also approximately 7,000 cubic yards of shredded green waste.
- Once the existing compost is sold, there is no replacement material.
- There is no current plan to make new compost.
- The new contract between the County of Maui and Maui Eko Systems, for the next 2 years, is only to grind up green waste, combine with bio-solids (to solidify it) and put the material in the landfill. This contract does not include the continuation of making new compost.
- This information has not been shared with the public.

Yes, there is another compost vendor on Maui. The cost of material is approximately 70% higher than Maui Eko Systems material. They do not have the variety of products. Businesses have had no time to plan for this possible increase in the cost of material as the situation at the landfill has not been exposed and publicly discussed in any great detail.

I have included 5 of our members in this conversation, all long-term owners & employees of some of the largest businesses in our industry. These include: Kevin Boteilho of Simplot; James Tavares, owner of Grassmaster; Thom Foster, Owner of Island Plant Company; John Okamura, Owner of Kihei Gardens & Landscape; and Jimmy Jones, Owner of Pukalani Plant Company.

With their permission, I am sharing a few details about the impact of the loss of Eko Compost on their businesses.

Example 1: Simplot is the only vendor of bagged Eko Compost products for Hawaii and bulk Eko compost to other islands. From Sept 2019 to August 2020, they sold 1037 cubic yards of bulk material and 39,480 bags of material. They are currently stockpiling bagged material for sale at all 3 of their locations. They do not currently have another supplier set up for this quantity of material in Hawaii. If each bag is sold on average at \$7, this is a retail value of \$276,360.

Example 2: Pukalani Plant Company is the most prominent vendor for "box stores" such as Home Depot, Lowes, & Walmart. They use a specially blended material including Eko Compost for their potting mix. While their 2020 year to date material use is 150 cubic yards, this is at an approximate cost of \$14,250. This special blend is not available elsewhere. The cost of re-creating this blend would probably double their cost of material. Unfortunately, they cannot just increase prices in the box stores. While they may have the smallest value of material in this group, Pukalani Plant Company, is one of the most well-known plant nurseries on Maui.

Example 3: Island Plant Company is the largest landscape contractor on Maui, with approximately 40 maintenance accounts, a nursery and an installation department. It has purchased 735 cubic yards of Eko Compost products in 2020. This is a value of approximately \$25,000. They have several large installation contracts in process, with costs of material based on Maui Eko Systems' pricing.

Example 4: Kihei Gardens & Landscape, a landscape installation and nursery business, is one of the largest buyers of Eko Compost. In 2020, they have purchased 4,400 cubic yards of compost for their nursery and installation & maintenance projects. This is approximately \$154,000 in material cost. They have several large state and county contracts for landscape installation lined up over the next year with contracts based on the existing material supply costs.

Example 5: Grassmaster is the largest sod farm on Maui, based out of Kula Ag Park. He has used 2,200 cubic yards of compost in 2020. This is an approximate value of \$77,000. As a small farmer, a 70% increase in material cost will drive his prices up or he has said he may have to consider closing.

To date, the value of materials for these 4 businesses (without Simplot) is approximately \$270,250. A 70% increase comes to \$459,425. And that is ONLY 4 BUSINESSES. Maui has hundreds of customers that use these products.

I have spoken with Cecile Powell, the Recycling Specialist for Maui County. According to Ms. Powell, there is a "plan to make a plan" regarding "the future of organics processing for Maui County." The exact details have not been fully specified, but there is a plan to create a task force. The first meeting is scheduled for October 6. This has not been publicly announced. However, the future of organics processing may not be compost, but rather other types of material to be determined by this new taskforce.

We are asking for the Maui County Farm Bureau to assist MALP in moving this forward as quickly as possible to help with notification of the issue, to ask the county to change plans and resume creating compost as a by-product of green waste while the task force creates a plan for the future, and to help lessen the financial impact on our members and beyond. I will be attending the upcoming Farm Bureau Annual Meeting and plan to bring up this issue at the end of the meeting. I will also be notifying all MALP members and others in the landscape industry later this week.

Thank you for your time. Please contact me at any time with questions. I am happy to help in any way.

Allison Wright
President - MALP
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(808) 264-4157 - work cell (best daytime number)