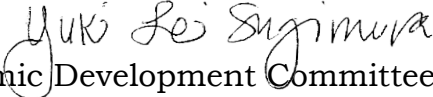


April 13, 2023

MEMO TO: Members of the Budget, Finance, and Economic Development Committee

F R O M: Yuki Lei K. Sugimura, Chair 
Budget, Finance, and Economic Development Committee

SUBJECT: **HĀNA RESIDENCY AREA MEETING REGARDING THE FISCAL YEAR (“FY”) 2024 BUDGET** (BFED-1)

On April 6, 2023, the Budget, Finance, and Economic Development Committee held a public meeting in Hāna regarding the proposed FY 2024 Budget.

The following persons testified:

1. Five people requested improvements and repairs to a 10-mile stretch of Hāna Highway from Hāmoa, mile marker 50, to Kīpahulu, mile marker 40. Testifiers noted the need for guardrails, brighter signs, speed tables at Kīpahulu, netting to prevent falling rocks on the highway, and the diversion of water flowing onto the highway near the Paihī Bridge.
2. Six individuals requested support for the \$500,000 included in the Mayor’s Budget for Hāna Health for the construction of six housing units on an acre of land leased from the State for healthcare worker housing. Testifiers said the project will help with workforce recruitment and retention, and encourage residents to train for careers in healthcare.
3. Six people testified in support of funding for Hale Hulu Mamo for senior drop-in center needs, including the completion of Hāna Community Center, Phase II. The organization was displaced due to the construction and has been sharing use of the Hāna School cafeteria as a temporary location. Funding is also needed for a 10-passenger van to take field trips with kūpuna.
4. Three people spoke in support of continued funding for Nā Mamo O Mū‘olea, and one person also requested consideration of its water needs.

5. One person requested funding for the 2024 East Maui Taro Festival event.
6. Six individuals expressed support for community infrastructure, including creating a playground; youth sports and activities; increased dumpsters and garbage collection at Hāna Bay; adding an additional pavilion at Hāna Bay; and diverting water at Pāʻani Mai Park. One testifier spoke in support of providing affordable housing for teachers, and one resident spoke of the need for home care and a multimodal pathway to make it safer to walk through town.
7. Three people testified in support of Ke Ao Haliʻi. The request is to carry over last year's \$800,000 appropriation for land acquisition at Hāmoa, continued funds for two staff positions, and a waterline to the property, including signs and fences.
8. Four people testified in support of continued funding for Hāna Youth Center.
9. Thirty-six individuals supported MEO's transportation programs which provide youth and bus service for residents for work, or errands such as grocery shopping, laundry, banking, post office visits, and doctor appointments. Two of the testifiers requested funding for the addition of satellite phone service in buses for emergencies.
10. One person provided testimony supporting Festivals of Aloha, requesting a budget increase for a total of \$100,000, with \$20,000 allocated to Hāna Festival.
11. Seven individuals provided testimony in support of Ma Ka Hana Ka ʻIke (MKHKI) for its building program, providing hands-on training for construction projects for high school students. Testifiers also expressed support for MKHKI's Mahele Farm, a community farm that provides opportunities for keiki and kūpuna to work on the land and also distributes fresh organic produce to the Hāna community.
12. Five people expressed support for Hāna Community Center and requested the restoration project be expedited to decrease the burden on Hāna School facilities currently hosting other community organizations. One testifier also requested long-term maintenance

plans for all park facilities to avoid multimillion dollar repairs due to neglect.

13. One person testified in support of continued funding for the Department of Housing and Human Concerns.
14. One individual expressed support for Hui Laulima O Hāna dialysis service in Hāna.
15. Four people testified in favor of continued support for Maui Invasive Species Committee (MISC) in the amount of \$2.8 million from the Mayor's Office, plus \$260,000 under the Department of Water Supply, and encouraged engagement with the County for the organization's fight against invasive species, including little fire ants and miconia.
16. Three individuals expressed support for Kahanu Garden with one requesting increased support to continue the organization's work caring for cultural sites, cultivating native plants, and providing opportunities for education and ceremonies.
17. Three people expressed support of funding for firefighters and emergency responders.
18. Four people testified in support of Kīpahulu 'Ohana and its efforts to develop a shared community kitchen and food hub. The organization needs continued funding to enhance the value-added products market and obtain a USDA grant to promote economic development in the community.
19. One person requested funding for the Hāna Business Council web portal to highlight visitor safety, traffic conditions, and a community calendar.
20. One individual testified in support of continued funding for Maui Economic Development Board STEM programs.
21. Ten individuals testified for continued or increased support of "all Hāna area nonprofits." Nonprofits named for support include: Hāna Food Center, Hāna Arts, Nā Moku 'Aupuni 'o Ko'olau Hui, Ala Kukui, Hōlani Hāna, Hāna Canoe Club, Hāna Cultural Center, 'Ohana Makamae, and 'Āina and Ocean Defenders. One testifier

mentioned that all nonprofits rely on additional grants and matching funds, and County funds help fill in gaps and provide the basis for leveraging other funds.

In addition, two individuals submitted written testimony in support of continued funding for Malama Hamakua Maui (Hā'iku); one person submitted written testimony requesting continued support for the Food Hub Support item in the Hawai'i Farmers Union United's Farm Apprentice Mentoring Program; and two people submitted written testimony requesting funding for Ka'ehu Bay/Malama Ka'ehu, a nonprofit that stewards 64 acres in Paukūkalo.

For questions relating to the Hāna residency area meeting, please contact Shelly Espeleta, Ellen McKinley, Pauline Martins, or Maria Leon. If you have any questions relating to the FY 2024 Budget, please contact the Committee staff (Lesley Milner, Kasie Apo Takayama, James Krueger, Ana Lillis, or Yvette Bouthillier). Thank you for your cooperation.