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**COUNTY COUNCIL**  
COUNTY OF MAUI  
200 S. HIGH STREET  
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793  
[www.MauiCounty.us](http://www.MauiCounty.us)

April 1, 2023

Mr. Herman Andaya, Administrator  
Maui County Emergency Management Agency  
County of Maui  
Wailuku, Hawaii 96793

Dear Mr. Andaya:

SUBJECT: **FISCAL YEAR ("FY") 2024 BUDGET** (BFED-1) (EMA-2)

May I please request you be prepared to answer the following questions at the BFED Committee meeting on **April 17, 2023**.<sup>\*</sup> This will enable the Committee to comprehensively review the FY 2024 Budget. Please also submit your answers to [bfed.committee@mauicounty.us](mailto:bfed.committee@mauicounty.us) by the end of the day on **April 17, 2023**. *\*Date subject to change without notice.*

**Overall**

1. A draft ordinance proposes to redirect \$2.35 million in bond proceeds to the renovation project at 60 Church Street, Wailuku (Hawaiian Telcom building). What is the Administration, Department of Management, and MEMA's scope and timeline for the relocation? [Note: A summary of additional money for the renovation of this building is found under the Executive Summary for Management.] (TC) (TP)
2. How are funds for the State Homeland Security Grant program disbursed and who receives them? What are the funds currently used for and how can their use be expanded? (Page 153, Program Budget) (TK)
3. Is MEMA involved in the creation of the County's Resilience Hub Network, and if so, how long has the agency been involved? This program was started by the former Administration and appears to be in line with the agency's focus on "whole community resiliency." (Page 142, Program Budget) (TP)


Mr. Herman Andaya  
April 1, 2023  
Page 2

4. Please provide an update on ownership title transfer for the former FEMA containers now used by MEMA to store emergency supplies at Hana School. Please provide a maintenance plan for the containers. Is any funding proposed in the FY 2024 Budget to address title transfer and maintenance needs? (Page 148, Program Budget, Key Activity Goal 7, item 1: Conduct community outreach and facilitate community-based resiliency planning) (SS)
5. Regarding the FEMA Public Assistance Grant:
  - a. The total cost for damages due to the December 2021 Severe Weather Event totaled approximately \$6.4 million. The FEMA Public Assistance Grant received in FY 2023 totaled \$5 million. Are we eligible to receive additional grant funds to alleviate the cost of damages not covered by the FEMA grant received in FY 2023? (Page 147, Program Budget) (NUH)
  - b. What ongoing repair and mitigation efforts are still in progress due to the December 2021 Severe Weather Event? (Page 153, Program Budget) (NUH)
6. With Maui County residents' safety at the forefront of our minds, we want to ensure that all residents are properly set up for emergency situations, including technology. With the increase in MEMA's social media presence, production of informative videos, advertising, and overall community outreach, would that equate to an increase in subscribers to MEMA's database? Please explain. (Page 148, Program Budget) (NUH)

To ensure efficient processing, please include the relevant Committee item number in the subject line of your response.

Should you have any questions, please contact me or the Committee staff (Lesley Milner at ext. 7886, Kasie Apo Takayama at ext. 7665, or Yvette Bouthillier at ext. 7758).

Sincerely,



YUKI LEI K. SUGIMURA, Chair  
Budget Finance, and Economic  
Development Committee

**RICHARD T. BISSEN, JR.**  
Mayor

**HERMAN ANDAYA**  
Administrator



County of Maui  
**MAUI EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY**  
200 SOUTH HIGH STREET  
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793  
PHONE: (808) 270-7285  
FAX: (808) 270-7275  
emergency.management@mauicounty.gov

17 April 2023

Ms. Maria E. Zielinski  
Budget Director, County of Maui  
200 South High Street  
Wailuku, Hawaii 96793

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "R. Bissen", written over the address of Ms. Maria E. Zielinski.

Honorable Richard T. Bissen, Jr.  
Mayor, County of Maui  
200 South High Street  
Wailuku, Hawaii 96793

**APPROVED FOR TRANSMITTAL**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Richard T. Bissen", written over the "APPROVED FOR TRANSMITTAL" text.  
**Mayor** **Date** 4-20-23

For Transmittal to:

Honorable Yuki Lei K. Sugimura, Chair  
Budget, Finance, and Economic Development Committee  
Maui County Council  
200 South High Street  
Wailuku, Hawaii 96793

**SUBJECT: FISCAL YEAR ("FY") 2024 BUDGET (BFED-1) (EMA-2)**

Dear Chair Sugimura:

This is in response to your letter dated 1 April 2023, relating to the above referenced subject.

1. ***A draft ordinance proposes to redirect \$2.35 million in bond proceeds to the renovation project at 60 Church Street, Wailuku (Hawaiian Telcom Building). What is the Administration, Department of Management, and MEMA's scope and timeline for the relocation?***



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The scope of the project, as it relates to MEMA, is the renovation of the third floor of the Hawaiian Telcom Building and to house the future home of MEMA and the Emergency Operations Center. We are taking up one floor and the other floor will be occupied by ITSD. The project will provide for a larger and more modernized EOC. The Department of Management is managing this CIP and it is projected that the renovations should be completed before the summer of 2024.

**2. *How are funds for the State Homeland Security Grant program disbursed and who receives them? What are the funds currently used for and how can their use be expanded?***

The purpose of this grant is to strengthen the nation's communities against potential terrorist attacks and other hazards. The County of Maui is the subrecipient of this funding and my office manages this grant. Eligible agencies submit applications to my office and based on the National Priority Areas determined by the US Department of Homeland Security and the needs of the County, we determine which projects are forwarded to the State office of Homeland Security for consideration and inclusion in our Homeland Security Grant Program application.

Agencies who have submitted applications for project funding include the Maui Police Department, the Maui Fire Department, Cybersecurity of ITSD, the Security Section of the Department of Management and MEMA. There are currently 27 active projects under this grant totaling \$2.78 million.

**3. *Is MEMA involved in the creation of the County's Resilience Hub Network, and if so, how long has the agency been involved? This program was started by the former Administration and appears to be in line with the agency's focus on "whole community resilience."***

MEMA has in the past attended meetings of the County's Resilience Hub Network since its inception during the last administration. MEMA has also attended other iterations of this program including the State led HHARP Hawaii Hazards Awareness and Resilience Program (HHARP) in South Maui and West Maui and East Maui Ready in Hana. MEMA has also supported local resiliency efforts on Molokai and Lanai. These programs serve to empower the local populations to organize and to develop skills and resources so that they are able to act immediately before help arrives.

Many of the functions of the resilience hub have for many years been conducted by MEMA including, sheltering, distribution of food and supplies, dissemination of information, community led response efforts (such as the Community Emergency Response Team), and even a cache of supplies and equipment (FEMA containers).



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- 4. Please provide an update on ownership title transfer for the former FEMA containers now used by MEMA to store emergency supplies at Hana School. Please provide a maintenance plan for the containers. Is any funding proposed in the FY 2024 Budget to address title transfer and maintenance needs?**

As reported earlier, both FEMA and the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency were unwilling to claim ownership of the containers which is required to effectuate the transfer of ownership to the County. With new leadership at HIEMA, I met with the new logistics chief who was given assurances that HIEMA will assume ownership of the containers in order to facilitate the transfer of ownership to the County of Maui. I should be before this body in the next few months to request your approval in accepting ownership of these FEMA containers.

Although the County of Maui does not have ownership of these containers, we do have possession of them. We have been accessing the containers, conducted inventory of them and replaced perishable items in the containers that required replacement. Supplies for the containers were purchased utilizing our funding for operations.

**5. Regarding the FEMA Public Assistance Grant:**

- A. The total cost for damages due to the December 2021 Severe Weather Event totaled approximately \$6.4 million. The FEMA Public Assistance Grant received in FY 2023 totaled \$5 million. Are we eligible to receive additional grant funds to alleviate the cost of damages not covered by the FEMA grant received in FY 2023?**

In the aftermath of the Severe Weather Event of 2021, a damage assessment was conducted and damages to infrastructures were initially estimated at \$6.4 million. Since then, the estimated amount of total damages has decreased significantly. Although FEMA has obligated public assistance in the amount of \$1.79 million for this event we are anticipating an additional \$1.35 million to be obligated. As such, the total amount of reimbursements projected to be obligated is \$3.4 million. We have not received these reimbursements with the exception of \$5,000 to date pending EHP (environmental historic preservation). \$5 million was included in our FY 2023 budget in anticipation of receiving public assistance funding which should be less than the amount requested. As such, additional grant funding is not necessary at this time.

- B. What ongoing repair and mitigation efforts are still in progress due to the December 2021 Severe Weather Event?**

Public Assistance funding was sought for a number of expenses incurred during the 2021 Severe Weather Event including debris removal and repairs to infrastructure. The only impacted infrastructure that was eligible for public assistance reimbursement is Lower Kula Rd. (other infrastructures were federal funded projects and so they are not eligible for FEMA public assistance). We are awaiting EHP review before work on these projects can commence.



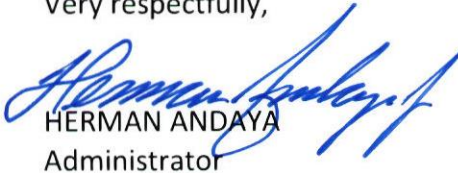
With respect to mitigation efforts, \$118 K was obligated for road erosion at Lower Kula Rd and Kepa Rd.

6. ***With Maui County residents' safety at the forefront of our minds, we want to ensure that all residents are properly set up for emergency situations, including technology. With the increase in MEMA's social media presence, production of informative videos, advertising, and overall community outreach, would that equate to an increase in subscribers to MEMA's database?***

Not necessarily. The increase in public messaging was aimed at encouraging individual preparedness, recruiting members of the public to become volunteers with the Community Emergency Response Team, and to have members of the public register to receive MEMA Alerts. Receivers of this information may not necessarily elect to subscribe to receive MEMA Alerts.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at extension no. 7825. Thank you for your consideration.

Very respectfully,

  
HERMAN ANDAYA  
Administrator



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## BFED Committee

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**From:** Desiree Echalas <Desiree.B.Echallas@co.maui.hi.us>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 20, 2023 10:06 AM  
**To:** BFED Committee  
**Subject:** FY 2024 (BFED-1)(EMA-2)  
**Attachments:** FY24 (BFED-1)(EMA-2) Response.pdf

Attached is EMA-2 response from Maui Emergency Management Agency.

Desiree Echalas  
Budget Specialist  
County of Maui  
Office of the Mayor  
[Desiree.B.Echallas@co.maui.hi.us](mailto:Desiree.B.Echallas@co.maui.hi.us)  
Phone: (808) 270-8239