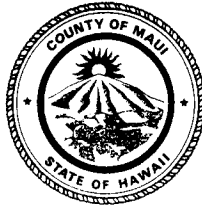


ALAN M. ARAKAWA
MAYOR



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KEITH A. REGAN
MANAGING DIRECTOR

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OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

Ke'ena O Ka Meia

COUNTY OF MAUI – Kalana O Maui

July 5, 2016

Honorable Michael White, Chair
and Members of Maui County Council
200 South High Street
Wailuku, Hawaii 96793

Dear Chair White and Members:

SUBJECT: CONSIDERATIONS TO REDUCE HOMELESSNESS

Homelessness is a complex topic in our community. It will take a combination of efforts to make a significant impact on the issue. I appreciate the renewed focus that Council has provided to this issue in Maui County. In my initial presentations at the special Council meetings in October and November, I presented various suggestions. My administration has been working with various partners to develop viable projects to address homelessness. We appreciate the additional support provided to the Department of Housing and Human Concerns with the addition of 2 positions and increased funding for grants to nonprofit homeless service providers. Along with the projects listed below, the department will also need operational funding of approximately \$100,000 to support the efforts of the new division and direct efforts by the county to reduce homelessness.

KA HALE A KE OLA

- Kihei – Potential New Facility
 1. Existing funding from a private developer to KHAKEO of \$1.5 million earmarked for facility in South Maui. Potential to create an emergency, transitional and/or permanent support housing with a county match of \$1.5 million or more could create a new facility where none exists. Options:
 - a. Quickest way to accommodate would be to take over an existing building.
 - b. New construction – similar set up as existing Lahaina facility:
 - i. Dormitory space – 10 women, 32 men
 - ii. 3 buildings of multi-dwelling units – mix of studios & 2 bedrooms
 - iii. Facilities: cafeteria, laundry, utilities, bathroom, hygiene/showers, kitchen/feeding, fencing, linen/towels, furnishings
 - iv. Staff: maintenance, operations/security, kitchen staff & case management

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- Wailuku Facility – 32 new units, permanent supportive housing with minimal staffing
 1. Demolition & construction of existing storage building into a 16-unit multi-family dwelling. Mix of studios & 2-bedrooms.
 2. New construction for a 16-unit multi-family dwelling. Mix of studios & 2-bedrooms.
- Lahaina Facility – 46-48 new units, emergency, transitional and permanent mix
 1. Temporary Unit Options on adjacent property (Kaanapali Land Company)
 - a. 14 Tiny House Units
 - i. Facilities: bathroom, utilities, hygiene/showers, laundry, kitchen/feeding, fencing, linen/towels, furnishings
 - ii. Staff: maintenance, operations/security, kitchen staff & case management
 - b. 4 Space Max units – creates up to 16 separate units
 - i. Each 40x40 unit with its own bathroom & hygiene/shower
 - ii. Facilities: utilities, laundry, kitchen/feeding, fencing, linen/towels, furnishings
 - iii. Staff: maintenance, operations/security, kitchen staff & case management
 - iv. Recreation area needed for daytime use (units will be hot)
 2. New construction of 2 buildings – for a total of 32 multi-family dwelling units. Mirror Wailuku facilities. Minimal staffing.

FAMILY LIFE CENTER

1. 4 Space Max units on adjacent property (A&B owned) – creates up to 16 new units
 - a. Each 40x40 unit with its own bathroom & hygiene/shower
 - b. Facilities: utilities, laundry, kitchen/feeding, fencing, linen/towels, furnishings
 - c. Staff: maintenance, operations/security, kitchen staff & case management
2. Purchase of property in Kahului (95 Kane Street) which includes an additional 5,000 square foot building to accommodate 50 new individuals.
 - a. Upgrade of bathroom, utilities, hygiene/showers, laundry, kitchen, furnishings
 - b. Staff: maintenance, operations/security, kitchen staff & case management
3. Purchase of building in Wailuku (1325 Lower Main Street). Acquisition & renovation to include approximately 20 units to accommodate up to 44 new individuals. Permanent housing – with project based vouchers, rental income will allow self-sufficiency.

MENTAL HEALTH KOKUA

The creation of new “Safe Havens” to accommodate individuals with substance abuse & mental health issues.

While these projects will make a major impact on reducing homelessness and providing support to individuals and families in need, we acknowledge that other solutions are required to prevent our residents from being houseless. The lack of available housing is one of the major reasons for the rise in homelessness over the past decade. The County Council adopted policies, overriding my vetoes, such as workforce housing and water availability that have reduced the number of houses developed. The repercussions are skyrocketing rents and the median price of

Honorable Michael White, Chair
and Members of Maui County Council
July 5, 2016
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a home exceeding \$620,000. The State of Hawaii DBEDT 2015 Housing Demand Forecast estimates total demand of between 14,000 and 15,000 additional housing units for Maui County by 2025. This means that the current deficit of available units will only grow exponentially.

I encourage you to review these proposals expeditiously. Many of these projects can be done quickly with the Governor's proclamation in place. I also welcome any other viable options for consideration on this issue.

Thank you for your attention in this matter. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at Ext. 7855.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alan Arakawa". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Alan" and last name "Arakawa" clearly distinguishable.

ALAN M. ARAKAWA
Mayor

cc: Honorable Stacy Crivello, Chair, Housing, Human Services and Transportation, Maui County Council
Keith Regan, Managing Director
Sandy Baz, Budget Director
Carol Reimann, Director of Housing and Human Concerns