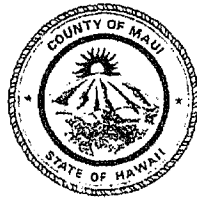


ALAN M. ARAKAWA
MAYOR



KEITH A. REGAN
MANAGING DIRECTOR

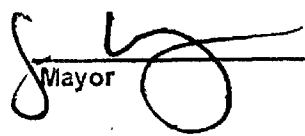
DEPARTMENT OF MANAGEMENT

COUNTY OF MAUI

July 21, 2017

Honorable Alan M. Arakawa
Mayor, County of Maui
200 South High Street
Wailuku, Hawaii 96793

APPROVED FOR TRANSMITTAL

 7/21/17
Mayor Date

For Transmittal to:

Honorable Yuki Lei Sugimura
Chair, Policy, Economic Development, and
Agriculture Committee
Maui County Council
200 South High Street
Wailuku, Hawaii 96793

Dear Councilmember Sugimura:

SUBJECT: ONE FARM PLAN (PEA-37)

Thank you for your letter dated July 19, 2017 regarding the "application processes to receive benefits or exemptions for agriculture in the County." In your letter, you request that the Department of Management "coordinate work among these Departments and the Office of Economic Development to simplify and consolidate these application processes."

We believe the simplest and most efficient approach to resolving this ongoing issue would be for the Maui County Council to pass an ordinance that clearly identifies one particular county department as the responsible department for determining whether or not a property qualifies as agriculture. Our recommendation would be that you consider the development of such an ordinance that would:

1. Place the responsibility for designation within a single department; and,
2. Clearly require that all other departments utilize that determination for agriculture designation; and,

3. Restrict other departments from burdening designated properties with additional requirements to prove they deserve to receive agricultural benefits.

We would recommend that, if you agree with this path, the identified single department be provided the necessary resources to properly carryout this role. These resources would likely include personnel and equipment.

With regards to the additional items for which you have requested information, we believe that MAPPS would allow us to more efficiently receive and process applications from property owners wishing to be identified as agriculture for the purposes of receiving various benefits. Once designated, departments would be able to easily confirm that the property has received the designation and would not require additional proof from those respective property owners. It is our belief that MAPPS would make the process more efficient.

In terms of sharing "AX system data," departments must identify data which is or is not available to other departments. If the Department of Finance determines that the data generated by them should be made available to other departments, they may request that it be made available and we would accommodate that request.

If you would like to discuss this in more detail, please contact our office and we will make ourselves available.

Sincerely,



KEITH A. REGAN
MANAGING DIRECTOR