



WAI-30(4)

**Central Maui Soil & Water Conservation District  
77 Hookele St., Suite 202, Kahului, HI 96732**

TO: Water and Infrastructure Committee Chair Alice Lee, Vice Chair Tamara Paltin, and Maui County Council Members

DATE: May 13, 2019

SUBJECT: Department of Public Works, Storm Water Management Program and the Maui District Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Presentation) (WAI-30(4))

My name is Mae Nakahata, Secretary of the Central Maui Soil and Water Conservation District. The Maui County consists of five Soil & Water Conservation Districts (SWCD) – Central Maui, Hana, Olinda-Kula, West Maui, and Moloka'i-Lana'i. Our efforts are focused on watershed planning, flood prevention, reforestation, runoff control, wildlife habitat and environmental education. We also assist farmers, ranchers, and private land users in making the best use of their natural resources through proper land use planning, design and implementation of best management practices, and use of federal funded farm programs.

Maui SWCD appreciates the support provided by the County over the years. It has enabled us to leverage our State and Federal resources to deliver the maximum amount of benefit to the County. Last year alone, the conservations specialist and executive assistant position together with our State and Federal resources brought \$1,748,342.00 of cost share assistance into Maui County.

We are here today to strongly support the Department of Public Works efforts in managing stormwaters as required by the Federal Municipal Stormwater4 mandate. As our population grew and the Central Area became an MS4 district, Public Works informed us of this development. Key to their philosophy that is sound is we need to stop the water at the highest level. They invited our conservation specialist and technical assistant for grading and grubbing reviews to training sessions. Since then we have tried to incorporate basic principals as well as ensure that clear metrics are provided in engineering plans that come across our office. It is no longer okay to say you will have a drainage basin. Who will construct it, who will check it, who will maintain it and at what frequency are all now part of the engineering design. We provide a checklist for engineers so plans that come to us will be complete.

We strongly support DPWs efforts as it is critical to protect our resources. It provides a comprehensive program that will protect our reefs and other natural resources for future generations.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide input on this important issue.

RECEIVED AT WAI MEETING ON 5/13/19