

Michael P. Victorino  
Mayor

Sananda K. Baz  
Managing Director



**OFFICE OF THE MAYOR**  
COUNTY OF MAUI  
200 S. HIGH STREET  
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793  
[www.mauicounty.gov](http://www.mauicounty.gov)

April 17, 2020

Honorable Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez, Chair  
Economic Development and Budget Committee  
200 South High Street  
Wailuku, Hawaii 96793

Dear Chair Rawlins-Fernandez:

**SUBJECT: FISCAL YEAR ("FY") 2021 BUDGET** (EDB-1)

In recent weeks, the County of Maui has been faced with great uncertainty surrounding the impacts of COVID-19. The proposed FY 2021 Budget was created prior to the pandemic and based on the limited information available at that time. As the pandemic continues, so does the uncertainty of Maui County's economy.

As we collectively deal with the issues of COVID-19, the Administration is proceeding with the last quarter of FY 2020 with caution. The departments have been asked to freeze all vacant positions with exemptions for first responders and essential services such as wastewater and solid waste personnel. They have also been asked to reevaluate purchases for equipment and to minimize operational costs where possible.

Looking ahead to FY 2021, I am requesting that the EDB Committee be cognizant of the budget request and suggested reductions from each department. The department's proposals were based on the operational needs to maintain their services to meet the needs of the public. Anticipating reduced revenues, I have asked each department to review their proposed budgets, prioritize their needs, and look at ways to reduce up to 10 percent of their costs. I understand that reductions are inevitable, but I humbly ask that the EDB Committee take into serious consideration the recommendations provided by each department. They have made the recommendations based on their knowledge of their operational function and capacity to fulfill their duties.

Furthermore, because of the uncertainty of the economy, the estimated revenues for FY 2021, and unanticipated expenditures, I am requesting that

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Section 7 of the General Budget Provisions as it relates to A, B, and C accounts be suspended. This would allow the departments to have flexibility within their budgets to respond to any unforeseen operational or emergency services for the community.

Thank you for your cooperation and understanding as we all work together for the people of Maui County. Should you have any questions, please call me or Budget Director Michele Yoshimura at ext. 7212.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael P. Victorino". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a long horizontal line extending from the end of the name.

MICHAEL P. VICTORINO  
Mayor, County of Maui

## EDB Committee

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**From:** Shirley Blackburn <Shirley.Blackburn@co.maui.hi.us>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 17, 2020 2:17 PM  
**To:** EDB Committee  
**Cc:** Shirley Blackburn; Wendy Nathan  
**Subject:** FY 2021 Budget\_EDB-1 (COVID-19)  
**Attachments:** Shirley Blackburn.vcf; FY2021 Budget \_EDB-1 COVID-19.pdf

Aloha Committee Chair Rawlins-Fernandez,

Attached please find correspondence from the Office of the Mayor, relating to COVID-19.

Mahalo,

**Shirley L. Blackburn**

Budget Specialist

County of Maui

Office of the Mayor

[shirley.blackburn@co.maui.hi.us](mailto:shirley.blackburn@co.maui.hi.us)

(808) 270-7516