

EDB Committee

From: William B. Hess <wbhess@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 05, 2020 7:42 AM
To: EDB Committee
Subject: Funding for Common Ground Collective

Dear Council Members,

I am submitting testimony to ask you to provide funding in the amount of \$30,000 to the Maui based 501c3 Common Ground Collective. This is a non-profit that was started by Maui residents to help increase food security and economic benefits in Maui County. This organization works hard to provide education, outreach, and assistance to community members, farmers and local businesses.

This organization also provides much needed services, like data collection, management of food streams that would otherwise be wasted, donations of healthy fresh local produce to food insecure individuals and helping landowners, and businesses navigate a complex the food system. All of these services are incredibly beneficial to our Maui community and they are only getting started. They have done the majority of their work with very little donations and funding, and they deserve support from the County.

This organization is providing much needed assistance and with your help they could continue to grow and thrive and help our community do the same. I ask that you please support Common Ground Collective and provide them with \$30,000 for their program.

Mahalo,
William B. Hess
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