Michael P. Victorino Mayor

Sananda K. Baz Managing Director

JoAnn Inamasu Director





OFFICE OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

COUNTY OF MAUI 2200 MAIN STREET ONE MAIN PLAZA, SUITE 305 WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793 www.mauicounty.gov

February 1, 2021

Honorable Michael P. Victorino Mayor, County of Maui 200 South High Street Wailuku, Hawaii 96793 APPROVED FOR TRANSMITTAL

For Transmittal to:

Honorable Alice Lee, Council Chair and Members of the Maui County Council200 South High StreetWailuku, Hawaii 96793

Dear Chair Lee and Members:

## SUBJECT: Maui Economic Opportunity Agricultural Micro Grant Program ("Program")

In recent weeks, there have been questions and concerns on the awarding of grants through the Program and I would like to take this opportunity to clarify the intent of the funding for the Program.

1. In an effort to ensure that the grant funds for this Program, as well as other grant opportunities, is available to a broader population of farming businesses and other small business, applicants were restricted from receiving funds through multiple grant programs provided by the County. The intent of the restriction was to allow all potential applicants the opportunity for assistance during these unprecedented times.

Applicants receiving grants through the CARES Act funding or other programs will be considered for funding through this Program after March 31, 2021, pending availability of funds. February 1, 2021 Page 2

> 2. Each applicant approved for funding from the Program were allowed to request payment to four vendors providing the service, product, or equipment to achieve the program goals and objectives. The restriction to four vendors may have caused hardship for some of the applicants therefore, Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc. has agreed to allow up to eight vendors for payment per applicant.

If you have any further questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at 270-7224.

Sincerely,

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JØANN INAMASU Economic Development Director

cc: Debbie Cabebe, Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc. David Daly, Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc. Tina Silva, OED Grants Manager