

HUMAN CONCERNS AND PARKS COMMITTEE

Council of the County of Maui

M I N U T E S

November 28, 2022

Online Only via BlueJeans

CONVENE: 1:30 p.m.

PRESENT: Councilmember Tasha Kama, Chair
Councilmember Yuki Lei K. Sugimura, Vice-Chair
Councilmember Alice L. Lee, Member
Councilmember Tamara Paltin, Member
Councilmember Shane M. Sinenci, Member

STAFF: Laksmi Abraham, Legislative Analyst
Wilton Leauanae, Legislative Analyst
James Forrest, Legislative Attorney
Shelly Espeleta, Supervising Legislative Analyst
Jocelyn Moniz, Committee Secretary
Jean Pokipala, Council Services Assistant Clerk
Lenora “Lei” Dinneen, Council Services Assistant Clerk
Nalani Fujihara, Hawaiian Language Communications Specialist

Evan Dust, Executive Assistant, Councilmember Kama
Davideane Kama-Sickels, Executive Assistant, Councilmember Kama
Lois Whitney, Executive Assistant, Councilmember Kama
Ellen McKinley, Executive Assistant, Councilmember King
Jade Roajs-Letisi, Executive Assistant, Councilmember Molina
Dawn Lono, Executive Assistant, Councilmember Sinenci
Gina Young, Executive Assistant, Councilmember Snenci
Angela Lucero, Executive Assistant, Councilmember Paltin
Mavis Oliveira-Medeiros, Council Aide, Hāna District Office
Denise Fernandez, Council Aide, Lānaʻi District Office
Zhantell Lindo, Council Aide, Molokaʻi District Office
Daniel Kanahele, Council Aide, South Maui District Office
Christian Balagso, Council Aide, West Maui District Office

ADMIN.: Richelle Thomson, First Deputy Corporation Counsel, Department of the
Corporation Counsel
Sandy Baz, Managing Director, Department of Management

OTHERS: Brian Hoyle, West Maui Hospital Foundation
Jo Anne Johnson-Winer, West Maui Hospital Foundation

Tim Cutler
Michelle Berner, Executive Director, West Maui Hospital Foundation
Faith Chase
Levine

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Additional attendees (2)

PRESS: *Akakū: Maui Community Television, Inc.*

CHAIR KAMA: . . .*(gavel)*. . . Will the Human Concerns and Parks Committee meeting of November 28th, 2022, come to order. It is now 1:30 p.m. I am Tasha Kama, and I'm the Chair of the HCP Committee. This online meeting is being conducted in accordance with the Sunshine Law. As a reminder, when your name is called, if you are not in the Council Chamber, please identify by name who, if anyone, is in the room, vehicle, or workspace with you today. Minors do not need to be identified. Do we have any questions before I continue? Okay. Seeing none. So, Committee Voting Members who are here today, I want to greet them with an aloha 'auinalā and aloha Hau'oli Lā Kū'oko'a to our Vice-Chair, and welcome, Ms. Suki...Yuki Lei Sugimura.

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: Wow. Aloha 'auinalā and the other one, I'm not too sure how to say it. I'm going to have to get a lesson from Shane Sinenci. But good afternoon, everybody, from Kula. Nice seeing all of you, and looking forward to a productive meeting. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR KAMA: It's in the chat. It's Hau'oli Lā Kū'oko'a...Kū'oko'a, and it's Hawaiian Independence Day, and that's today. And it's significant for many reasons, but we can go into that later. And so, I'd like to welcome our Council Chair Alice Lee. Aloha 'auinalā and Hau'oli Kū'oko'a [*sic*] to you too.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Hi, Chair. Hau'oli Lā Kū'oko'a.

CHAIR KAMA: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Yeah. Okay. Great. Got...good to see all of you, and looking forward to your meeting, although I can't stay very long. I thought you were going to be short a quorum.

CHAIR KAMA: Well, I know that you have to leave at 4:00, and we're hoping that we'll be done by that time, so nobody will have to miss anything today. But thank you for being here, Chair.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: All right.

CHAIR KAMA: And we're aware of your...having to leave early. I'd like to say aloha 'auinalā also to Councilmember Tamara Paltin, and Hau'oli Lā Kū'oko'a to you too.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Aloha 'auinalā and Hau'oli Lā Kū'oko'a. Broadcasting live and direct from rainy Lāhainā Town. And we have with us Angela Lucero and Christian Balagso, and we have nobody waiting to testify at the district office at this time. Thank you.

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CHAIR KAMA: Thank you. Aloha ‘auinalā to our Councilmember Shane Sinenci, and Hau‘oli Lā Kū‘oko‘a to you too.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Hey. Hau‘oli...aloha ‘auinalā ia oe and aloha Lā Kū‘oko‘a kākou. Happy to join this afternoon from my home office, where I’m by myself. And currently there are no testifiers at the Hāna District Office.

CHAIR KAMA: Thank you, Member Sinenci. And I just love your background, it’s just so nice to see that. It’s gorgeous for today, yeah, so thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Ae.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Chair? Chair?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

CHAIR KAMA: Yeah. Yes, Council Chair?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Just wanted to let you know that I’m home in my workspace alone. I had to add that. Thank you.

CHAIR KAMA: Thank you. Thank you. So, our Non-Voting Committee Members, if they show up, is Member Gabe Johnson, Member Kelly King, Member Mike Molina, and Member Keani Rawlins-Fernandez, and they’re always welcome to join us when they prefer to. We also have with us from Department of Corp. Counsel, Richelle Tom...Thomas...Thomson, who was sitting in for Mimi Desjardins. Aloha, Richelle Thomson. How are you today?

MS. THOMSON: Aloha, Chair. Very nice to be with you, and Hau‘oli Lā Kū‘oko‘a.

CHAIR KAMA: Oh, maika‘i maika‘i. Thank you.. And I think we have also, from the Department of Management, Sandy Baz. Aloha, Sandy, and Hau‘oli Lā Kū‘oko‘a unto you too.

MR. BAZ: Aloha, Councilmembers. Aloha. Hau‘oli Lā Kū‘oko‘a ya okoa pau . . .*(spoke in Hawaiian)*. . . Happy to be here and seeing all your lovely faces today. I have a mask on because I...recovering from a cold, but happy to see you.

CHAIR KAMA: Always happy to see you too. Better in live, but that’s okay, we’ll get there next week, right? But thank you for being here today. We also have other resources, we have Brian Hoyle, the President of the Board of Directors of the West Maui Hospital Foundation, as well as former Councilmember Jo Anne Johnson-Winer, who is a board member of the West Maui Hospital Foundation. So, I’m hoping that they’re going to be joining us later on this afternoon. We also have our Committee Staff with us today. We have Laks Abraham, our Legislative Analyst. Aloha ‘auinalā, Laks, and Hau‘oli Lā Kū‘oko‘a to you.

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MS. ABRAHAM: Hau'oli Lā Kū'oko'a to you too, Chair. And aloha, Members.

CHAIR KAMA: And we have also Wilton Leauanae, our Legislative Analyst. Aloha, Wilton, and Hau'oli Lā Kū'oko'a to you.

MR. LEAUANAE: Aloha, Chair, and aloha, Members.

CHAIR KAMA: And we have Maria Leon, our Committee Secretary. Aloha, Maria, and Hau'oli Lā Kū'oko'a to you. We also have with us our Legislative Attorney James Forrest. Aloha 'auinalā, James, and Hau'oli Lā Kū'oko'a to you.

MR. FORREST: Aloha, Chair. I'm very happy to be here today. We've been working on this bill for six months now.

CHAIR KAMA: Yes. Thank you for being here, I appreciate that. We also have Ms. Jean Pokipala, the OCS Assistant Clerk. Aloha 'auinalā, Jean, and Hau'oli Lā Kū'oko'a to you. So, thank you, Members, for attending today's HCP Committee, and we have two items on our agenda today. We have HCP-66, which is Bill 170 (2022), Relating to Establishing a Division of Grants Research and Writing Under the Department of Management. And we have HCP-65, Resolution 22-252, Establishment of the Proposed West Maui Hospital and Medical Center. So, let's begin with public testimony. Staff, do we have any testifiers today?

MR. LEAUANAE: Yes, Chair.

CHAIR KAMA: Okay. Very good. Okay. So, let's begin with the oral testimony via phone or video conference will be accepted. And in accordance with the Sunshine Law, testimony can occur at the beginning of the meeting, but cannot be limited to the start of the meeting. The Chair will receive oral testimony for agenda items at the beginning of the meeting and as the item is called up on the agenda. When testifiers sign up to testify, they must let Staff know whether they wish to testify at the beginning of the meeting or before the agenda item, otherwise, Staff will assume the testifier will testify at the beginning of the meeting. Testifiers wanting to provide video or audio testimony should have joined the online meeting via the BlueJeans link or phone number noted on today's agenda. If you are logged in to the meeting, Staff will add your name to the testifier's list. Written testimony is encouraged, and can be submitted via the eComment link at mauicounty.us/agendas. Oral testimony is limited to three minutes per item. If you are still testifying beyond that time, I will kindly ask you to complete your testimony. Unless you want to testify anonymously, please clearly identify your name, organization, and items you would like to identify on in the chat. We ask that you state your full name, but if you prefer to testify anonymously, Staff will identify and refer to you as testifier and assign you a number. Please also indicate the agenda item or items you are testifying on. You may indicate in the chat if you do not wish to testify; however, chat should not be used for discussion or comments. Please be courteous to others by turning off your video and muting your microphone while waiting your turn to testify. Once you are done testifying, or if you do not wish to testify, you can also view the

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meeting on *Akakū* Channel 53, Facebook Live, or mauicounty.us/agendas. Thank you all for your cooperation. I will now proceed with oral testimony. And Staff has been monitoring people joining today's meeting by phone and by video, and will do our best to take each person up in an orderly fashion. At this time we'll call on testifiers wishing to testify at the beginning of the meeting. Staff, do we have anyone wishing to testify at the beginning of the meeting?

MR. LEAUANAE: Yes, Chair. We have Tim Cutler, followed by Michelle Berner.

CHAIR KAMA: Okay. Okay.

. . . BEGIN PUBLIC TESTIMONY . . .

MR. CUTLER: I'm sorry. I did not have any testimony, I was just listening in.

CHAIR KAMA: Okay. Thank you. So, Staff, do we have any other testifiers?

MR. LEAUANAE: Yes, Chair. Thank you. Next is Michelle Berner, followed by Faith Chase.

CHAIR KAMA: Okay. Michelle? Are you there, Michelle?

MS. BERNER: Hi there. This is Michelle. I apologize, I'm new to BlueJeans, and I couldn't figure out how to unmute myself. I'm actually the...I'm the Executive Director for the West Maui Hospital Foundation, so I'm just actually...I'm not testifying, but I'm attending --

CHAIR KAMA: Okay.

MS. BERNER: -- as an observer along with Brian Hoyle and Jo Anne.

CHAIR KAMA: Okay. Well, thank you for being here very much. I appreciate that, Michelle.

MS. BERNER: Thank you.

CHAIR KAMA: Staff, will you please call up our next testifier please?

MR. LEAUANAE: The final testifier currently on the list is Faith Chase.

CHAIR KAMA: Good afternoon, Faith.

MS. CHASE: Good afternoon, Chair Tasha Kama. Aloha, Committee. Thank you. I want to say that I'm really pleased to see this grants research and writing position. A couple of things that I wanted to point out was I'd like to see...let me see, under B1, assist agencies...let's see, what is that, 3.41...the...the...the first section.

CHAIR KAMA: Okay.

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MS. CHASE: B1, assist agencies and entities that partner with the County, including the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, by identifying funding sources to support existing planned programs and activities and coordinate the development, writing, and submittal of grant proposals. I...I think it should be expanded to include DHHL and the SCHHA, Department of Hawaiian Home Lands and the Sovereign Council...Hawaiian Home Lands Association. Number 2, when you analyze...when...when whomever should get this contract, when you analyze the data for presentation, this is...in no way means for me this is...I don't feel...this is not as if I want this job, I'm just saying that there is a new way to display information. It's becoming more and more popular, and it includes data with graphics. And a lot of times they actually have someone who is capable of translating the data with the conversation, and making it a little bit more animated and...and information capturing. And it helps to...helps for the body and those who are on the receiving edge...receiving end of sort of assimilating the information. It makes it a deeper reach. And we...since Hawai'i, we actually are...we have a large population of sort of visual learners, I would...I would say when they analyze and expand to try to make a presentation that they include that graphics with the data. And in no way because I'm a graphic designer am I, you know, advocating, but I just...this is my industry knowledge, and it's...it's important because you want the...you want the research to be...to fit then. Number 3, I'm...okay. So, I don't understand, I tried to call and get information kind of last minute, but I don't know what a pass-through grant is, and I'm going to hypothesize that a pass-through grant is a grant that actually affects your County residents, but it may be from, say, the Federal level, or maybe the State level, and then the Maui County is just sort of watching that grant, you know, deliverables unfold. And in that aspect, I'm glad that there is eyes on the...on this body, the section. But under number 3, I don't know if you wanted to maybe exclude...it says "have experience existing"...is that the one? No, number 3, where am I? Except as otherwise provided, all rights, powers, and authority pertaining to grants are vested in the Division of Grants Research and Writing. I don't know if those pass-through grants can be vested, so that might just be some...I don't know, that might just be some grammatical stuff. But not understanding what a pass-through grant is . . . *(timer sounds)*. . . I...I would hope that somebody could answer that. And I like the language around contracting a legitimate accounting firm, and I would just...in closing, I would just like to say that as this goes out for listing, that the Maui County doesn't just expect people to refresh their job site, that you actually have a little bit of pushout of this job...this job and other jobs, like the five civil engineer jobs we need. You know, you need a different sort of arm of promotion about...to collect. Maybe our...our graduates that came from Maui. Anyway, some intellectual sort of outreach. Thank you.

CHAIR KAMA: Thank you very much, Faith, for your testimony. Members, questions for our testifier? Yes, Mr. Sinenci?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you, Chair. Mahalo, Ms. Chase, for your testimony this afternoon. My apologies, can you explain the...the SCHHA acronym again, what it stands for?

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MS. CHASE: So, you know, the reason why I mention it because under that B1, including the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, well, I feel like it's a sort of genuine reach to sort of encompass all those issues that are under the purview...you know, that...that affect na pueo (*phonetic*) Hawai'i. Oh, yeah, Hau'oli Lā Kū'oko'a by the way. Mahalo for all that. But, you know, Office of Hawaiian Affairs, OHA, is actually limited in their...in the outreach scope. So, if you include the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands and the Sovereign Council of Hawaiian Homelands [sic] Associations, then you actually are making a broader reach for that. So, just some linguistics, I guess, or whatever, to just add. I mean you can leave Office of Hawaiian Affairs, but include DHHL and the SCHHA. Because I understand with the government's appointment...the Governor's appointment that that whole...that whole gamut, that whole area, is going to be, you know, morphing into a lot of things. So, just don't forget those people that have been doing the hard work in a grassroots way. Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Mahalo. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR KAMA: You're welcome, Mr. Sinenci. Any other Members have a question for our testifier? If not, thank you so very much, Faith, for your testimony.

MS. CHASE: Mahalo.

CHAIR KAMA: You're welcome. Staff, do we have any other testifiers wanting to testify at the beginning of the meeting?

MR. LEAUANAE: Yes, Chair. We have someone signed up as Levine.

CHAIR KAMA: Could you call up the next...

MR. LEVINE: Aloha.

CHAIR KAMA: Hi.

MR. LEVINE: I...I was actually just waiting to hear the commentary on the West Maui hospital.

CHAIR KAMA: Oh, okay. Thank you, Levine. So, is there anyone else out there wishing to testify at the beginning of the meeting? Please unmute yourself, and identify who you are. Give them a moment or so. Okay. So, not hearing any other testifiers, I would like to continue to proceed with our very first item on the agenda.

ITEM HCP-66: BILL 170 (2022), RELATING TO ESTABLISHING A DIVISION OF GRANTS RESEARCH AND WRITING UNDER THE DEPARTMENT OF MANAGEMENT

CHAIR KAMA: So, HCP-66. Bill 170 (2022), Relating to Establishing a Division of Grants Research and Writing Under the Department of Management. So, Members, today we're going to be discussing Bill 170 (2022), Relating to Establishing a Division of Grants

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Research and Writing Under the Department of Management. The purpose of this bill is to expand the Maui County Grants Program to manage a Countywide grants portfolio inclusive of all Federal, State, pass-through, and foundation grants to be able to monitor and enforce the grants management process by working with agencies to ensure the County is optimizing all available grant funding while meeting compliance and reporting requirements. This legislation would require the County Administration to obtain specialized assistance to increase its probability for success in competing for State and Federal funding sources from external agencies. It would also require that this new division of the Department of Management report back to both the Mayor and the Council on the County's success in obtaining grant funding. And I would like to have this legislation in place for the new Administration to expedite their ability in seeking grant funding as early as January, 2023. But in order to meet this goal, we will not be taking legislative action on this bill today; however, I have posted Bill 170 (2022), on the December 2nd, 2022, Council meeting for urgent consideration. I'll be seeking the Council's support in expediting the passage of this bill, given the importance of establishing a division of grants research and writing to provide a coordinated process in securing grant funding for the County specifically for Federal funding sources. And so, at this time, I am pleased to welcome Managing Director Sandy Baz to provide opening remarks on this bill. Mr. Baz? Oh, hi there.

MR. BAZ: Aloha...yeah, hi. Wait, I'm going to cough. Sorry about that. Okay. So, the...thank you, Chair, for the opportunity to review this. I wasn't involved in your preparation of this bill --

CHAIR KAMA: Yeah.

MR. BAZ: -- so I...I'd like to hear first from you and the Staff about the intent of the bill and what you're trying to accomplish before giving too much comment. I will tell you that this...the functions of...of what you're trying to put into Code here do already exist in the County in different aspects...maybe not as coordinated as they need to be. But yeah, I'd like to hear more, and then we can have a discussion after.

CHAIR KAMA: Okay. Thank you very much, Mr. Baz. I think for my intent to bring this forward to the...the Administration was to ensure that as the IIJA funding starts coming down the pipe, that we would be in a good condition to be able to apply for this funding, also to monitor the funds, and also to be able to make sure that we're going to be in total compliance. I know that the funding will be coming down soon, and the intent was to really get the Administration prepared, you know, and maybe to be able to get an outside source onboard to be able to help facilitate the funding of this...of...of...for the Federal funds for us to be able to compete nationally with that. And that was the intent, and that was my intent. I think at this time, if I could invite Mr. Forrest...Forrest...are you here, Mr. James Forrest? We worked on it with James, and also with...oh, there you are. Okay. Are you able to help...to help Mr. Baz understand where we're going with this, Mr. Forrest?

MR. FORREST: Sure. Thank you, Chair. We did work with the Administration, I believe it was Acting Director at the time, and, you know, Mr. Baz is correct that this...this does

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exist in the County in different levels and different types. And exactly as he mentioned, we're...we're...we're trying to bring it all under one umbrella, and then to hire a professional firm to manage, and apply for, and research our grants. I think, you know, over the last three years working with the Council and the Committees, I think we can all see the need for a more sophisticated and hopefully more successful grant research and writing. That's the purpose of this. And ultimately, what we would like to be doing is providing basically in the Code that this is a requirement, and it's...it's true to say that this already exists, and the Administration can do this, this will be a requirement. So, if there is a change in Administration, you know, we often do that where we recognize that certain things need to be required and not just permissible. And hiring an accounting firm that has experience...if you look into these accounting firms, if you look into like the top 50 or top 100 accounting firms, you'll see what they've been doing with Federal grants, and you quickly see the benefit of having a professional team, not just a person or a couple of people at a sort of minor level, and you see a team that's been working in Federal grants. And, you know, basically at this time, I guess the...the real thing behind a lot of this was, we know that there's more Federal funding coming to us now than ever because of the ARP funding, because of the infrastructure bill. So, realizing that the opportunity is there, and also, Hawai'i has the...a very good story to tell as far as grant writing is concerned. And we really need to be benefitting from the extremely high professional level of grant writing that is...we've been missing out on for a while. So, that's what we were...we're ultimately trying to do with the bill. And so, you will see that it...it is...it requires for...basically for us to...instead of giving grants to other people, which is already in the Code, this is a section for us researching and writing grants that are coming to the County, and then the main part of the bill is just that we're going to hire a high-level accounting firm to do that work.

CHAIR KAMA: Mr. Baz, is that helpful?

MR. BAZ: Thank you, Chair. Yes, it is...it is a little bit helpful. You know, I've been working with grants, Federal grants particularly, for the last 22 years. I...I'm a certified grant writer, Grantsmanship Institute graduate. Been, you know, dealing with these things in different aspects for...for quite a long time. Right now, there is quite a bit more Federal money coming down the pipe, so it's important to focus on this. The...and I've hired outside firms to do the grant writing, and I've...I've hired Staff to do grant writing, done it myself. You know, one thing to understand is what type of...of funding is available. Right now, yes, there's...and...and just...just a note right now, I really not recommend putting specific language in there about the...the...the Code itself--excuse me, the Act itself, American Rescue Plan Act--because that's only the current moment. You know, Code --

CHAIR KAMA: Yes, yes.

MR. BAZ: -- should be --

CHAIR KAMA: Okay.

MR. BAZ: -- you know, reflecting --

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CHAIR KAMA: *(Audio interference)*

MR. BAZ: -- broader, you know, larger scope items. Maybe Federal --

CHAIR KAMA: Yeah. *(Audio interference)*

MR. BAZ: -- monies, you know.

CHAIR KAMA: Right. Yeah.

MR. BAZ: But, you know, what...what...we've done a lot of research and, you know, we have a hired firm. We have right now contracted with a firm to assist us in identifying grant opportunities, as well as the congressionally directed spending I think Josiah has talked to you about...Deputy Managing Director Josiah Nishita talked to you guys about that in the past. We've been very successful in getting money appropriated for, you know, large things like . . .*(inaudible)*. . . \$11 million, getting that down into, you know, the Federal request, as well as getting actual cash dollars in through different means. The...every single funding source, and to understand the...even the...the American Rescue Plan Act, or the infrastructure bill, which was...was before, those monies are not just here as a free-for-all, go and apply, you know, most of them have Federal programs that they're running through. So, those Federal programs have their own jurisdictions, their own understandings, you know, the...the...the needs they're trying to fill, and also, how that money comes down through to local municipalities.

CHAIR KAMA: Correct.

MR. BAZ: And then in the State of Hawai'i, that's really important to understand. We don't --

CHAIR KAMA: Yeah.

MR. BAZ: -- have control over a lot of the monies that come in. Department of Transportation, so any Federal Department of Transportation money that comes in doesn't come directly to the County. It has to go through the State Department of Transportation, the Office of Planning. That's just the way that things operate. There's a number of...of different grants that are out there. There are funding sources that they're advertised. You know, Federal...the Federal legislators say yeah, here, Congressman, say here's lots of money, and then oh, yeah, and Hawai'i can get \$2 point whatever billion. But when you get into the weeds of it, first of all, you find out that that's not a...not all of that's additional money. Because a lot of these Federal programs are existing Federal programs, so they're funding that existing Federal program. Like our Federal Highways Program, we already get \$20 million or so a year, and so, when they added Federal Highways money to that, yeah, we get a little bit more, but it's still just...just that addition. And --

CHAIR KAMA: Right.

MR. BAZ: -- and that's just one small example, there's other examples that I could give. But

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the...the idea of us having a consolidated grant services section, whatever, is a good idea. I think that that's something that has been kind of bantered about a little bit over the years. When I was the Budget Director, the Department of Finance asked for a grant support person. The Council didn't want to fund it in the Department of...in the Department of Finance, they wanted to...so, they ended up putting it in the Budget Office. So, there is an existing person in the Budget Office, and he, you know, is...he's under that position. I don't know exactly what the function is at the moment, but when we created the position, it was to oversee the grants that we receive to make sure that we're processing them properly. A big problem we had was that the...all of these departments were going out and getting Federal grants, they're getting State grants, some pass-through Federal through the State, different grants, and they all have requirements to...to reporting, to do the requests for reimbursement, you know, making sure that we're auditing them properly. And so, the individual I hired then to that position had a lot of grant experience, and she was able to work with the departments, and actually recoup millions of dollars of monies that we had gone and spent without actually going and asking the Fed to reimburse us. That was a big problem back then. And so...so that process, you know, made it so that the...those...those that were receiving Federal grants have some oversight to say, are you doing your job, right? And then those different departments have people that are writing the grants, that are fulfilling the services, and they're reporting on those--the Fire Department, Police Department, Prosecutor's Office, you know, throughout--Department of Public Works, you know, there's...Department of Transportation. They all have grant specialists that are functioning in that area, whether it's a full-time job or not, that are working on making sure that we're applying for the right grants, making sure that we're getting the funding that we need, making sure that the services is being delivered appropriately, and that we're now getting reimbursed for that. So, that function is really critical, and I...and I think that's...that's important. Hiring a firm that can do all of that, I don't suggest either. I apologize, but the...having one accounting firm that has the accountants, the grant management specialists, the auditors, the lawyers...we hire an external auditor, N&K, that does audit our books, they audit our grants as well. They do a single audit, which is a Federal grants audit. Looking at the Federal grants programs, they identify, you know, major and minor grant programs. They audit specific ones in...in-depth, and they rotate those over the years. So, that process is happening already from an external audit standpoint, to making sure that the County is doing its job as an entity in managing the grants that we receive. And we have to do that as a part of the...the grant receipts from the Federal Government, they require that single audit. And so, our...our external auditors already...is already doing that for us. Having...hiring a firm that can do the research, analysis, and supporting with the grant writing, I think is very valuable. And that's what we're doing now with...with the firm that we have. They...you know, we've had them meet with the departments, understand what the departments' needs are, look...they're experts in Federal monies that are coming out of Congress, as well as the Federal programs that are already existing, and getting those lined up. We get regular announcements from them about what grants are available to apply for. They'll provide us with support. So that...and...and yes, I agree that that function should hopefully go beyond just a mayoral term, right, beyond this Administration. No matter who is sitting in my seat, or who is sitting in the 9th floor, those kind of functions are very good. But yeah, the auditors and lawyers part of

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it, I don't know that that should be necessarily in Code. We could talk about, you know, requirements when we do RFPs, something like that. But Mr. Forrest is correct, in some of the...these firms now that are Washington...mostly out of Washington D.C. or New York that do this are large...they're...you know, these...not just the big five but large organizations that have an expertise in this. So, we've got to understand, you know, what financial commitment we want to make to make that happen because, you know, getting grants costs money. Whether it's your own Staff time to do the research, analysis, and grant writing, or whether you're hiring somebody to do that. You know, there...it does take money to make money if...even in the grant world. So, you know, those are good things to understand. As far as the...the...you know, having it within the Department of Management, I'm not quite sure that that's the right place for it either, and I've mentioned to the Council, I've mentioned to the Charter Commission, that Department of Management, while it does oversee...you know, Managing Director is...is over all of the departments, so you figure, you know, it's multi department, stick it in Department of Management, it also dilutes my ability or any...any managing director's ability to be that principle management aide to the Mayor. To be able to be overseeing the departmental operations and functions. The more that the Department of Management has grown, you...again, dilute that ability. I mean, you know, we have...I have a wonderful Deputy, and he and I can manage our...our County operations as well as the Department, but, you know, right now, we have a Planning and Development Division, which we didn't have before. You know, that's got a chief, it's got an engineer, an architect, an archaeologist, support Staff. We have a planner in there, and, you know, we have...of course, IT is a part of Department of Management, and there're 58 people. We have the EEO Office. We have security. We have, you know, different functions that are...are good because they're broad and...and do go across the...the...maybe this isn't the right place to talk about, but maybe next term, we should talk about a Charter amendment to maybe create a central services department, some area where those functions can be held to understand that those are cross-departmental functions, but it doesn't necessarily mean it has to be Department of Management. Department of Finance does all cross-departmental functions, right? They pay everybody's bills, they manage everybody's leases, they do a lot of different functions that are cross departmental. Corporation Counsel services the whole County. You know, so...Public Works somewhat services the whole County. So, you know, that's a broader, long-term discussion.

CHAIR KAMA: Right.

MR. BAZ: But right now, I think having maybe some...some Code in there saying that this is...this is the intent of the Council, this is the intent of wanting to make sure that we are addressing grant revenues, to make sure that we're, you know, looking at every source possible and applying for those is good. Having too much detail in there, I think at this point, is a little bit restrictive. So, anyway, that's just, again, some more comments. But...and if you guys have questions or...and I'd love to have, again, a conversation with you guys about what you're thinking individually and...and as a Council.

CHAIR KAMA: Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Baz. So, Members...Mr. Forrest, you popped in.

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Did you want to comment?

MR. FORREST: Yeah, just a couple of comments if I can, Chair. If we...if we look at the...the section related to the accounting firm's qualifications, where it does say auditors and lawyers --

CHAIR KAMA: Yeah.

MR. FORREST: -- that's just the qualifications of the firm. If you look at what we're wanting people to do, it is not actually auditing. So, if we want to delete the reference to auditor or lawyer, we can, but it isn't saying that...if...if you look in the first section of what they'll actually be doing, grant research writing and management, it doesn't mention auditing whatsoever. So, I have no problem...like I don't think it's a big issue to delete the words auditors and lawyers from the accounting firm's qualifications. But I also want to point out that...that Mr. Baz is right, that we...we do have more specific information in this bill because we're noticing that...I guess that's the way, Chair, you...you wanted it to be drafted. So...and I support that because what we're doing here is saying yes, you have the ability to...to have these grant positions already, but we want more, and now is the time to have more because of the opportunities we have. And then to put it in writing, and like...like he said, to survive different terms of different administrations. So, I think that's...that's...it sounded like we ultimately got general support. I do remember that your Staff was working with us, and initially we had...we were talking about putting this under an assistant deputy position in the Office of Management, and...or maybe providing funding that would create that position. We ultimately backed off of that after meeting with the Administration themselves. And so we kept it general, but in...within the...the Charter right now, a deputy director...you're not limited to one deputy director is the point. You could have assistant deputy directors. So, recognizing that yes, that's the...that's...the points that have been made about, you know, diluting the Management Office, that's...that's legitimate, and we recognize that.

CHAIR KAMA: Yeah.

MR. FORREST: I don't necessarily know where else this would go. I do think it belongs there, and maybe we need to provide funding for additional deputies.

CHAIR KAMA: Yes, Ms. Yuki Lei Sugimura?

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: I see Sandy popped up, and then I'll go next.

CHAIR KAMA: There you go. Okay.

MR. BAZ: Thank you, Councilmember Sugimura. The reason why I popped up was because by Charter, there's no restriction to a second deputy, but by HRS, only one deputy or first assistant is allowed at the County level. The State level allows for multiple appointed deputies, but at the County level, we can only have one appointed deputy or a deputy or first assistant. So, if you guys...for those of you who might remember,

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in...say, maybe about ten years ago or so, the Deputy Managing Director wasn't called the Deputy Managing Director, it was called the first assistant to the Managing Director, First Executive Assistant to Managing Director. So, you know, that's just something to consider for that. I'm not saying that you couldn't have a...an EM-7, you know, heavy managerial position, executive assistant doing this as well. That would work. You know, we...we added an EA-2 position to the Department of Management to help some of these functions already, but, you know, the additional Staff person, again, would be fine to assist. But overall direction and oversight from the department director level...you know, department director is still ultimately responsible for the...the department itself, right? So, the functioning of the...the department decision making on how the department's functioning, actions taken, all that. Direct...the director is signing off on all that and approving all that, so, just to consider. Also, I did have a question, maybe we can kind of direct the conversation to a little bit different. You know, the County itself can...can use services like this. And in here, it's asking for this to...contract to also assist agencies, entities that partner with the County, including OHA, and I heard possibly DHHL, and...and others. You know, how...those are State, granted very low funded or, you know, not necessarily managed appropriately for this function, but how much are, you know, the County willing to invest in assisting these other organizations? You know, that's something that we have to evaluate as well in...in looking at this. You know, we partner with these organizations, we do good things. If it's...if it's related to a County function, I could see yes, okay, you know. If...if we're working on a joint water source development for DHHL and the County, that makes a lot of sense, right, that...that we partner up, that we work together, identify funding sources, maybe even develop a project jointly, things like that. But when it comes to just in general finding money out there, a lot of times we'll be competing for that same money, right? So, we have to understand...yeah, so how much money are we willing to invest in this, and at what point is that partnership going to be beneficial to the County taxpayers that are funding it.

CHAIR KAMA: Okay. Thank you. Members, any questions for either Mr. Baz or Mr. Forrest? Oh, hi, Richelle, you popped up. Okay. Do you have any comments to make, Richelle?

MS. THOMSON: Thank you. Thank you, Chair. Just along the same...similar lines that Managing Director Baz brought up, a couple of questions for this body. As I'm looking at the revised version that was posted in Granicus as of today...so, I know when we...we had the opportunity, a meeting on Friday afternoon, and my understanding during that discussion was that this division would assist the other County departments and all, but not necessarily be the sole kind of division responsible for all grants. But it looks...looks to me like this is really all grants funneling through this...this portal, or through this process. So, that's a question just on intent. Managing Director was just talking about assist agencies and entities that partner with the County, you may want to add "assist County departments, and agencies and entities that partner," just so it's clear that this...this division can assist within the County as well...that is if they're not taking over, I guess, all of the grant writing for the departments that currently do it. So, it's just a bit of clarity on the...on the words...wording.

CHAIR KAMA: Richelle, where were you reading from?

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MS. THOMSON: So, in the...it's in a couple of places. So, Section 1 --

CHAIR KAMA: Okay. Yeah.

MS. THOMSON: -- Section 1 says, the first sentence, inclusive...inclusive of all Federal, State pass-through, and foundation. So, it's that "all." You know, if it really means all, or just...you know, then it's going to be complementary to what already exists within the...within the departments. And then down in Section 010A, that same language is picked up, inclusive of all Federal, et cetera. So, it looks to me, from the current wording, that this would be a division that would manage and oversee all grants that the County was trying to obtain. But if that's not the intent, we could just broaden it...broaden it, take out "all," and make it more of an advisory-type group to the other departments that are currently doing this.

CHAIR KAMA: Okay. Well, we'll work on that, I guess, if that's what you're...I mean I kind of like the idea of having . . .*(inaudible)*. . . Yes, Sandy? Yeah.

MR. BAZ: Hello, Chair. If you want to finish your thought. I just...in...in managing grant writing for multiple departments, when I was at Maui Economic Opportunity, we had six different departments.

CHAIR KAMA: Yeah.

MR. BAZ: Varied...you know, varied functions from reentry programs --

CHAIR KAMA: Yes.

MR. BAZ: -- with inmates, to elderly, to Head Start preschools, to transportation function/operation. And having a single grant writer or grant management firm is a significant challenge. And it's a kind of a panacea because the departments still need to be involved, right? When you're...when you're looking --

CHAIR KAMA: Yes.

MR. BAZ: -- at, you know, a grant opportunity, somebody who's just blanket, okay, you know, looking at the...the Federal Register, you know, the...the NOFA grant announcements that come out, they...they can, you know, look at that and say okay, well, you know, this may...the County's eligible for. But when you're actually developing a successful grant application, you need to be able to successfully identify the need that needs...that is going to be solved. And that can only happen, you know, at a...at a functional level down within the departments that are actually providing those services. For a fire department to apply for a grant related to, you know, the hazardous material management, they need to have the expertise to identify what the need is, have...you know, hopefully that lead...that...that need then aligns with the funding opportunity. Then, you know, as they're writing that, they also are the experts on how to fill that need. You know, what...what services...what functions of a department need to do to

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fill that need that's been identified, and then how are you going to measure whether or not you're successful. You know, the Federal...the Federal grants programs are based on results, right? You...you're...you're managing it, you're accountable for it, based on the results or outcome that you say that you're going to provide. And so, having a third party write grants, I've seen it be successful in receiving the grant, but very unsuccessful in actually making that grant, you know, work for the community. Because the grant was written by somebody who doesn't necessarily know the...the programs, the operations, or...or sometimes even the need. So, just to understand that everything should happen in this one office, I think, more to Ms. Thomson's comment is, you know, we should be working with and maybe providing oversight and assistance to, but not necessarily doing it all. That's...I think is going to be a cause for failure and...in this...and don't get me wrong, I'm saying these things not because I don't want this. I think this is a very good thing, something that we've talked about at the County level for decades. You know, there's a...a Grant Writer in OED right now that that's their title is Grant Writer, but it's not coordinated with...with other functions. They're...they're --

CHAIR KAMA: Right.

MR. BAZ: -- specific to certain instances, right. So, yeah. Again, you know, I wanted this to be something that we can implement, something that is a good product, and...and we can move forward with.

CHAIR KAMA: Absolutely. Mr. Forrest, did you want to make a comment? I see your hand up there.

MR. FORREST: Yes. Thank you, Chair. Just appreciate what Mr. Baz just mentioned, and, you know, over the last six months, I think we've got a lot of education about this process and what we wanted it to be like. And it definitely involves, you know, an outside firm that would also invest in our local community, and would become experts in our County. And so, over the...we would hopefully be establishing a long-term relationship to where this accounting firm would know our local government and the...the people who are there, and would assist the existing grant writers and provide more consistency and, I guess, more stability to the overall grant portfolio that we have. And I do agree with Corporation Counsel in that we...there's no problem in deleting the...the word "all" as suggested. That...that was not the intent, and I think we also had deleted...if you look in the revised version, if you look at number...let's see, the first section, which is grant research and writing and management, that would be --

CHAIR KAMA: Yeah.

MR. FORREST: -- 3.42.01, and then if you look at --

CHAIR KAMA: Yeah.

MR. FORREST: -- look at C3, it says except as provided by law, all rights and powers are vested in the division. We're suggesting --

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CHAIR KAMA: Yeah.

MR. FORREST: -- to delete that, and by deleting that, that maintains the power of the grant writers that already exist. Okay. Now, I...I wanted to comment briefly on...looking at the same draft, look at C1, and that's where the Office of Hawaiian Affairs is listed. So, look at 1, it says, assist agencies and entities that partner with the County, okay. Now, in legislative drafting, when we have the word "including," that just...read that as for example, but it's not an exclusive list. So, we don't have to add anything else there. We don't need that there, but we want it there because we...we specifically want to mention that...that group, okay. But the main thing to read is, assist agencies and entities that partner with us, and we discuss the word "partner," recognizing that that involves some...like a mutual benefit to the County. And if you read the last of the sentence, it's to identify funding sources, okay. So, we had testimony that we should add other groups if we're going to add OHA. You know, we can, but we don't need to. Because remember, that's one of those lists that's nonexclusive. But I think that shows what Mr. Baz was talking about. In the revised bill, by deleting number 3 that reserved all the rights and powers related to grants that's not otherwise listed in the Charter, we're saying that other grant writing people exist in the County, and they can still continue what they're doing, and just as so they could also get some help from this new division. Just wanted to make that clear because it was a good point that Mr. Baz was pointing out, but I feel like we have changed the bill so it is not just the only place that you can do grants, but it is the centralized grant office.

CHAIR KAMA: Member Sugimura, and then Member Sinenci.

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. So, I'm looking at the budget document, right, that we all finalized, and Appendix A lists all the different grants that the County has in the stock. Yeah, I...I wish...I wish I could have tallied it up for all of you just to see how many...and organizations. Emergency Management Agency, Environmental Management has...Emergency Management has three different grants. Department of Environmental Management has one, two, three, four, five...six. Finance has one, two, three, four, five...six. Department of Fire and Public Safety, I mean there's...every department already has grants that are administered through the department. And my questions to...I don't know if it's...it sounds like this is a James Forrest bill. So, James Forrest, what do all the departments do that are already writing grants, and how does this bill affect their ability to...to do what they are right now, which is finding grants to supplement their operations? Does this then become a layer of government that the departments have to get approval before they can write their operational grants or all these grants that are in Appendix A, or what...what would happen to all of this? Department of Management has, Department of Parks and Recreation has, Police has, Public Works has, Department of Prosecuting Attorney has grants, Department of Transportation--all the departments seem to already be writing grants and have...have this as part of how...how they fund their organizations. So, what happens to all of that? Because I think...I...my sense is, this needs to be thought through more because if you're talking about IJA grants, which...in my Committee, where Senator Schatz came and talked about it when those funds were available, I mean that was...that was the earlier part of the year, I think, when...when Senator came, and it's already happening.

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So, it's not something that we're...we're missing out on. My impression, from talking to Josiah, is that the departments are...DPW, Environmental Management, all these departments went after those funds. The...the 11 million that Senator Schatz put in, that was, you know, his...what are those monies called, Sandy Baz? They're...they're his earmarks. Earmark, right? So, there's all these...

MR. BAZ: Yeah, Congressionally-directed spending, but yes.

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: Earmarks, right?

MR. BAZ: Formerly called earmarks, yeah.

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah. So, I mean it...it's happening already, so it's not like we need to do this to make sure we do it, it sounds like it's happening. And I think really, even if you have a change of Administration, it's still going happen, you know, because the...the process is...you know, and those of you that are on MPO, MPO brings in funds by working, you know, with the department. So, this...this is like...I'm not sure what the impact is to all that is already currently happening, and that's my concern. You know, if we implement a law, or we pass a law, is it going to stop any of the work that is currently being done, or will it enhance it, you know? I'm not sure. I think...I think more thought needs to be put in it and defined because there's already lots going on. And...and I...and I caution us because we sound like we're saying if we don't do this, it's not going to happen...it's happening already, and very successfully, I think. The Waiale --

CHAIR KAMA: Mr. Forrest?

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: -- connector road, there's 25 million that was written from the rescue funds that came in from Federal Government. So, you know --

MR. FORREST: Chair?

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: -- the Administration is...is doing a lot. So, I just question that, the intent.

CHAIR KAMA: Okay. Mr. Forrest, could you answer Member Sugimura's question?

MR. FORREST: Sure. Thank you, Chair. And Councilmember Sugimura, you were...you were involved in probably the first discussion of this, and I think it somewhat stems from the fact that the County had been using some entry-level positions to...a lot of our grant writers were entry-level positions. Now, I think maybe it's...we've made it more complicated than it needs to be. What this bill does...says is that we're going to have the Administration hire an accounting firm to help with grant research and writing, okay. That's...that's...if you can sum up the sentence...in one sentence, that's it. It's not going to stop what you've already been doing, it's just going to assist the County, and it will bring a professional firm to the process that hopefully we could have a long-lasting relationship with. But simply stated, we are hiring a...we're requiring the

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County to hire a professional accounting firm to do research and writing. And the theory behind all of this is like, you know, if you...you're going to be getting return on your investment, you know. An analogy that I heard was, you know, you have...you send out a fisherman with a pole...well, what we're doing is buying a fishing boat, okay. We're...we're not just going small time, we're going as big as we can to get the most back. So, any time we spend money on an accounting firm to help us with grants, that's because we want millions in return. And it's not a...it's just to help what's going on now, and it's...it's not to say that we've been doing anything wrong in the past. What is different is that now we do have a greater responsibility. There's more money coming from the Federal Government right now than perhaps ever in history because of COVID relief, because of infrastructure. So, that's a little bit a part of it, and it's just so many counties and cities across the nation have been doing this for a long time. We have been doing it, and what this is just saying is that now we're going to hire an accounting firm to help us do it.

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: Chair? So, I...I --

CHAIR KAMA: Yes (*audio interference*).

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: -- I'm curious as to why an accounting firm also? Why is it so specifically --

MR. FORREST: So...

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: -- assigned to a profession? There are --

MR. FORREST: So, if...

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: -- grant companies, Mr. Forrest, that handle...handle grants...a professional...I'll give you the name if you want it, but Melissa Hampe Unemori used to work for, they had 300 grant writers, and they used to...they used to after go after and know what's happening in the Federal Government, but they weren't an accounting firm. So, I...I look at this...I...I understand what you're trying to do, but my first question is, is it needed? Number 2 is, it's happening. How does what is...what you're proposing, Mr. Forrest, enhance what the...the County is already successfully doing is what I see from where I sit with different organizations that I...that I'm working with. With DPW, DEM, as...as well as MPO. So, I just wonder, you know. I think Mister...Mr. Baz is...is...is asking us to be cautious, and he understands the depth of what's happening with all the, you know, departments that fall under him. So, I...I'm just saying that I think that this...you know, we need to be more cautious before we step in this and...and try to do something with good...good efforts. Because I understand what you're trying to do, but is it going to...is it going to help, you know, all the...all the...all the departments that are already in Appendix A to be better, or...I mean it's already happening. So, those are just my --

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Chair?

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VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: -- concerns. Thanks.

CHAIR KAMA: So...so, if you don't mind, everybody, at this point, we're supposed to be asking clarifying questions. So, I want to be able to get...and we haven't gotten to the testimonies in...of this yet. So, I want to be able to see if Mr. Sinenci...and...so, my apologies to the Committee, but Mr. Sinenci, you have any clarifying questions for either one of our resources to...to ask of them?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: I can wait until after testimony, Chair.

CHAIR KAMA: Okay. Thank you. Sorry, my...my...my apologies to the...to the Committee, and to Mr. Baz, and Mister...I think we got too excited into this--at least I did. So, my apologies, everyone. So, Members, if there are no clarifying questions for our resource people who are here, I would like to open up public testimony for HCP-66. Staff, do we have any testifiers for HCP-66?

MR. LEAUANAE: Chair, we don't have anyone signed up right now.

CHAIR KAMA: Thank you. So, if there's no one else signed up or wanting to testify, I'd like to be able to close public testimony on this item.

COUNCILMEMBERS VOICED NO OBJECTIONS.

CHAIR KAMA: Thank you.

. . . END PUBLIC TESTIMONY FOR ITEM HCP-66 . . .

CHAIR KAMA: So, public testimony for HCP-66 is now closed. And so, I think now we can enter into our discussion phase that we actually already started...so, again, my apologies. And I think Member Sinenci...I mean...yeah. So, Member Sugimura, if you wouldn't mind letting Mr. Sinenci go, and then we can come back if...okay. Thank you. Member Sinenci?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Mahalo, Chair. And mahalo for discussion and for this bill presenting. Yeah, I think during this last budget session, we realized the importance of putting additional grant writers within the departments to...to try and go after some of these large Federal grants that are probably going to be up maybe for the next five years. So, there is a kind of an urgency and a time limit for...for us to go after some of the larger ones. Part of it, I think...you know, putting these additional grant writers was--and correct me if I'm mistaken, Mr. Baz--that maybe some of the departments has...had lost out on some very large Federal grants that we weren't able to be in compliance with. So, I think maybe, you know, with...you know, when Member Sugimura talks about how do we enhance the process, maybe, you know, having some kind of entity. And I too am not fully with a...approve of an accounting firm because I think we can do the same with engineering firms as well. But I think, you know, for us to maybe...like...like Member Sugimura said, well, how can we enhance it, particularly if we're going to go after some of these very large infrastructure funding grants. Thank

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you, Chair.

CHAIR KAMA: You're welcome, Mr. Sinenci. Member Tamara Paltin, yes.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. Is...is there a time limit?

CHAIR KAMA: Thank you for asking, I should have said something earlier, and we wasn't...but the time limit really is if we could bounce out of here by 4:00. So, hearing this, and then getting to the hospital foundation reso...I think if we can get to the hospital reso by maybe 3:30, hopefully, you know...and if you just time yourselves, Members, on this item, I think would be good. Thank you for the question, Member *(audio interference)*.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. Thank you. And if our resources can help me with shorter answers. My first question is for Mr. Baz. What is the firm that we're currently using...if that's okay?

MR. BAZ: Yeah, we did an RFP, and the winning bidder was Strategies 360 out of Washington D.C.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And so, we have to...we have to do an open process like that, we can't just like go to NACo and choose like BIO-Key or something, you have to do an RFP, and you have to be familiar with State procurement laws, and things like that?

MR. BAZ: Correct.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. And then the next question, it sounds like you don't think Management is the appropriate department. Was it Finance or Budget you thought was more appropriate, or could you explain that?

MR. BAZ: Yeah, I guess it depends on the intent of...of this. If it's intending to oversee the grants that we're going out and receiving, and making sure that they're doing it appropriately, you know, typically that's financial, so that would be within the Department of Finance. That's why it was requested that originally the position was requested to be in Department of Finance.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. And then I just was wondering, like when you were saying planning...P&D, planning and something, IT, EEO, and security is under Management right now, is that --

MR. BAZ: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: -- through the Code, through the Charter, or is it just on per Administration basis? Like if a new Administration comes, P&D might be totally cut from Management, IT could be moved somewhere else and like that, is that through the Code that those things are there?

MR. BAZ: They are not in there by Code, they are funded through the budget process. They

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are civil servants. The Department of Management, other than myself, my Deputy, and the Executive Secretary, are all civil service employees, so they have job descriptions, they have classifications. We have an organizational structure that's reviewed and approved by...well, by Department of Management, and then also by the union. So, it is a fairly set structure. It's, of course, malleable, you know, depending on what the needs are and the focus might be. But the...it's not like it's just going to go away.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. So, if a new Administration came in, discussed with the unions, and they thought like P&D wasn't needed, and they could return the people to like Planning or whatever, that's a possibility. I guess the...

MR. BAZ: Yeah. I don't want to get into that discussion right now, but yes, there...we've had discussions about moving that section out of Department of Management. Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And so, I mean the reason that connects to this conversation is it could be in Finance, or it could be Budget, but it doesn't need to be in there by ordinance --

MR. BAZ: No.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: -- because it's currently happening without an ordinance.

MR. BAZ: Correct. Yeah. The...the most important thing is that we have the funding and, if needed, E/P to get the job done.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. And then can you tell me what a pass-through grant is?

MR. BAZ: Yeah. So, a lot of the Federal monies say that the Police, Prosecutors, Fire, Emergency Management, even DEM, they're...the...any grant generally we receive from the State isn't necessarily State money, it's Federal money that's get passed through the State, and then comes to us. Yeah. So, this year we're projected to receive \$112 million in Federal monies, and...not...not in Federal, in grant revenue in total. So, Councilmember Sugimura's...when you add all that up, it's about \$112 million, which is about...and it's historically been about 10 percent of our budget is grant revenue. So, you know, that's...and...and it has been that historically, up and down, of course, little bits here and there, but over time, it's been about 10 percent of our budget. Section 8 --

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And then...

MR. BAZ: -- is a major one that...you know, that we...we just...we receive as a formula. A lot of the grants that we receive are formula-based grants that only, you know, are eligible for the County to...to receive.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. And then my last few questions would be...you mentioned that there has been talk of this in the past about kind of consolidating it into one thing, but it seems like the talk in the past wasn't exactly how this bill is. And I just was

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wondering, in your opinion...

MR. BAZ: I apologize. Before you finish your sentence, let me clarify. The consolidation was the Planning and...and Development Section, not --

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Oh.

MR. BAZ: -- grant writing.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Oh, oh, oh, okay.

MR. BAZ: But...yeah, yeah. But go ahead with your...sorry.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I guess, in your opinion, would it be beneficial to have input from the incoming Administration as to how this is set up? Because the talks were had with, I guess, Mr. Nishita, and then we would be putting this on...this ordinance, the Code, onto the new Administration as kind of a directive of you must contract with...I don't...I don't know what...what the Strategies 360, is that considered an accounting firm, or...

MR. BAZ: No, they're not.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: What...what (*audio interference*) considered...

MR. BAZ: I don't know exactly what type of firm they are, but they're not an accounting firm. You know, they...they do have lawyers, they do have grant writers, they probably have accountants. A lot of it, of...of their employees are former Federal staffers, the people that are involved in the Federal legislation process, have been...Councilmember Sugimura mentioned one by name, Melissa Unemori Hampe, who...actually, when I was at MEO, I had hired her under the firm that she was working for at the time. And they do...yeah, she used to work for Senator Akaka, and so, she was a former Federal staffer that then...and I think she worked for Congressman...Congresswoman Mink too. But...yeah. So, yes, Mr. Sinenci is correct.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Oh, okay. And then...so, do you see a benefit in coordinating with the new Administration on this, or it doesn't really matter?

MR. BAZ: Well, the new Administration is going to implement this however they see fit. You know, if you wanted to make sure certain aspects of it are put into Code prior to, you know, a new Administration then, you know, that...that's your purview. The implementation of it though will still be on the new Administration.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. Is there any way you can find out what kind...what...like what kind of firm Strategies 360 is considered?

MR. BAZ: Yeah, hold on.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: It's like communications maybe?

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MR. BAZ: No, that's part of what they do. Hold on. Yeah, I got the . . . *(inaudible)*. . . brought in the...the RFP itself.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Like if we passed this, would Strategies 360 not be qualified to apply because they're not an accounting firm?

MR. BAZ: Probably.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Or *(audio interference)*.

MR. BAZ: Strategies 360 is a multinational consulting firm offering a full suite of services, including government relations, public affairs, communications, marketing, design, polling, digital marketing, and web engineering.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: So, maybe replace accounting firm with consulting firm.

MR. BAZ: Yeah, or just firm.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Oh.

MR. BAZ: So...so, yeah, it could be any kind of firm that qualifies under the proposal. So, yeah, so we...we...we put out a request for proposals for administrative professional services and outlined, you know, what we...what we desired from them. They were one of the bidders, and they were selected. I wasn't on the selection committee, but they...they were selected as the...the contractor, and then we engaged with them. They...you know, we set up...and this is a long answer, I apologize, but we set up meetings with them and our departments so, you know, departments could identify needs. They can talk about different strategies on fulfilling those needs. And then as we got closer to the beginning of this year, and congressional-directed spending, and other community funding being discussed at the Federal level, they were assisting with the Federal staffers for our delegation to make, you know, sure that the...the questions are answered, make sure the applications are in, and they reviewed our applications before we submitted them, that kind of stuff, to...to assist us in...in successfully getting our congressional delegation to...to put money in for us.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. And then one question for Ms. Thomson...or a lawyer. I just was wondering, from the reading of this, is it clear that it's only for grant monies coming in, or is it also monies going out in the terms of grants management meeting compliance and reporting requirements for monies that the County grants to others? Human Concerns, as well as, you know, other...OED does that kind of stuff, and would we be...is it clear that this is not for that, or is it supposed to be for that?

MS. THOMSON: It looks to me like it is clear that this is just for grants received by the County. So, in Section 010, this is the revised bill, it says, this chapter's purpose is to expand the County grants program received by the County, and then to manage. So, yeah. And...and I think your...your record is also going to show that this is just intended to

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be for grants applied for and received by the County, not managed by the County in terms of money that we give out.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. All right. Thank you. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR KAMA: You're welcome, Ms. Paltin. Any other Members have questions for any one of our resources who are here? Okay. Seeing not and hearing not. It is 2:51, and I do want to be able to see if we could take action...not today, but to be able to defer this for Friday. So, seeing as how...yes, Mr. Sinenci?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Is this for discharge, Chair, for Friday?

CHAIR KAMA: Yes, that's the intent.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: So, you would prefer that we do any amendments today?

CHAIR KAMA: Well, I'm not sure if we could get through that because I really want to be able to get to the West Maui Hospital presentation, and get through all of that, and...at least within an hour. And I want to give them sufficient time so that we can also discharge that for the next Council meeting, I think, on the 16th. That's --

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: That's good.

CHAIR KAMA: -- my hope.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Okay. Because I mean just from the discussion, Chair, I mean I would be open to changing a few verbiage, but I'll defer to the rest of the --

CHAIR KAMA: Members.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: -- Members.

CHAIR KAMA: Thank you, sir. Thank you. Member Paltin?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. I did receive my PAF/ASF reminder from Director Fujita, and I was thinking perhaps under your signature, you could submit a PAF for an ASF for the things that we discussed, like taking out accounting firm --

CHAIR KAMA: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: -- maybe putting it under the Department of Finance, maybe --

CHAIR KAMA: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: -- checking with Director Teruya on that.

CHAIR KAMA: Yes.

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COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And then the portion about where, you know, it's not all the grants go through this one entity, where the department still can have their role, but this one entity assists the various departments on that.

CHAIR KAMA: Yes. Yes. Absolutely. Yeah. We could do that.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I think that pretty much addresses a lot of the...

CHAIR KAMA: The discussion and concerns.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: We can do a deeper --

CHAIR KAMA: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: -- dive on the PAF/ASF with Director Baz if he's open to it.

CHAIR KAMA: Did he...Member Sinenci? Oh, there...there's Mr. Baz. Okay. Mr. Baz...let's let him go, Mr. Sinenci, and then we'll come back to you.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Did that encompass...

MR. BAZ: And I just want to yes, I'd be happy to work with any of the Members who'd --

CHAIR KAMA: Okay.

MR. BAZ: -- like to review this.

CHAIR KAMA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And...and did that encompass the majority of your concerns, that it's not an accounting firm, that it's possibly under the Finance Department, and that each department can work on their own grants, but this entity would support them?

MR. BAZ: Yes. I mean part of the...the...it brings up a question about the support of the other departments. You know, we wouldn't want them to stop doing what they're doing, and then say oh, well...because I've...I've seen it at...at the County before where, you know, so and so is given a new title, or new responsibility, and then all of a sudden...oh, yeah, not...so, it's not even...even if you take out the requirement that everything go through this to...to...I wouldn't want to alleviate the responsibility of the departments that are already writing grants, and then dump it onto this contract or person or persons.

CHAIR KAMA: Right. Correct. Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Baz. Mr. Sinenci?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Yeah, thank you, Chair. And yeah, I agree with Member Paltin. I think taking out accountants. I would be open towards, you know, even having public relations firms, or engineering firms, that also can...can, you know, apply for the...for

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the RFF [sic]. And then I'm...I'm supportive of Deputy Director Thomson's verbiage about this section assisting the other grants. Because some of the departments...like Member Sugimura said, Department of Transportation has this huge Federal grants that we don't want this to kind of interfere with. So, I support them continuing that, but maybe just the verbiage to assist those departments. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR KAMA: Thank you, Mr. Sinenci, very much. So, Members, if we have no other questions for our resources that we've spoken to today, I would like to be able to defer this item until Friday.

COUNCILMEMBERS VOICED NO OBJECTIONS.

ACTION: DEFER pending further discussion. Chair to take up at 12/02/2022 Council meeting.

CHAIR KAMA: And...thank you very much, Members.

ITEM HCP-65: RESOLUTION 22-252, ESTABLISHMENT OF THE PROPOSED WEST MAUI HOSPITAL AND MEDICAL CENTER

CHAIR KAMA: So, I'd like to continue to HCP-65, the Resolution 22-252, Establishment of the Proposed West Maui Hospital and Medical Center. I think it's three minutes to 3:00, so I think what I'll do is go ahead and do the presentation, Members, if that's okay. And then hopefully we can have some testimonies, and maybe take a break, but we'll play it by ear. Is that okay, Members?

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yes.

CHAIR KAMA: Okay. Thank you. Thank you. Okay. So, Members, at our October 17th, 2022, meeting, we began discussion on this item, and received a presentation from Mr. Brian Hoyle, President of the West Maui Hospital and Medical Center Board. Today, we'll be discussing Resolution 22-252 entitled "URGING THE STATE LEGISLATURE AND THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF HAWAII TO PROVIDE FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE PROPOSED WEST MAUI HOSPITAL AND MEDICAL CENTER." The purpose of this resolution is to seek funding for the establishment of the proposed West Maui Hospital and Medical Center. I'd like to thank Mr. Brian Hoyle, and former Councilmember Jo Anne Johnson-Winer, and Councilmember Paltin for their assistance with Resolution 22-252, and for joining us today in this discussions. And if there are no objections, Members, I would like to designate Mr. Hoyle and former Councilmember Jo Anne Johnson-Winer as a resource in accordance with Rule 18(A) of the Rules of the Council.

COUNCILMEMBERS VOICED NO OBJECTIONS.

CHAIR KAMA: Thank you. Thank you, Members. So, at this time, as the introducing Councilmember, I'd like to invite Councilmember Paltin to provide opening remarks on

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Resolution 22-252.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. You know, basically what this is, is a resolution in support of the West Maui Hospital and Medical Center. From what we've heard is, the private developer has tried to go out and get money, and a lot of times they ask...they get asked the question if there's State and County support. And so, the resolution would serve as County support for them to apply for the grant-in-aid, which is about \$7 million is my understanding. And then if they were to receive the grant-in-aid from the State, that would serve as State and County support, and they could then try to leverage funds from other sources, like USDA grants and...and things like that. You know, in these times of climate change, there's more and more concern that the...West Maui could get cut off from Central Maui. With that Category 5 that was heading for us in 2018, there was significant concern that the road in and out of West Maui would be taken out, and, you know, with climate change, the storms and whatnot are just getting more and more severe and frequent. My office has heard on both sides for this issue, for and against, and so, you know, my...I'm...I'm in support of moving the resolution forward, but I implore the developer and the board to reach out to our existing West Maui health professionals because they feel like they're being left out of the conversation. As you could probably see in a couple of the testimonies in eComment, you know, there's concern from Dr. Estin and the medical community, I guess. And...and also, to the...the financials. So, that would be my hope is that the board and the developer reach out to our West Maui health professionals, and work together for the community's sake. Thank you. And there's also an ASF posted.

CHAIR KAMA: Oh, okay. I see that. Okay. So, Members, is there questions that you might want to ask clarifying questions of Member Paltin? Thank you. So, at this time, seeing...oh, yes, Mr. Sinenci? Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you, Chair. Yeah, just if I recall, both Representative Cochran and Senator McKelvey was supportive?

CHAIR KAMA: Are you asking, or you're stating that as a...

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Ask...ask...asking Member Paltin.

CHAIR KAMA: Oh, okay.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I...I...I believe they are. I'm not 100 percent sure. I don't know that they've been asked publicly, but I...I believe they are.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Okay. Thank you for that. And then, Chair, you were going to refer this item...

CHAIR KAMA: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: It's one of your referrals for...for next term.

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CHAIR KAMA: Yeah. But --

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Okay.

CHAIR KAMA: -- if we can...I think the intent was to let it go to the...have the next Committee report so that we could actually hear it out on the...I think, the December 16th meeting. That's what I'm looking at.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Okay. All right.

CHAIR KAMA: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Okay. Thank you.

CHAIR KAMA: Yeah. Because I think this is time...isn't this time sensitive, Member Paltin?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Yes.

CHAIR KAMA: *(Audio interference)*.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Yes. They're applying for their grant-in-aid --

CHAIR KAMA: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: -- application in December. And as a resolution, it only requires one reading, so --

CHAIR KAMA: One.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: -- we can wait --

CHAIR KAMA: Correct.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: -- until the...the last Council meeting of the year --

CHAIR KAMA: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: -- and potentially pass it there, and it'll be --

CHAIR KAMA: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: -- off the agenda and fully finished.

CHAIR KAMA: Correct. That's the intent. That's the intent. Thank you. Okay. Seeing as how there are no other questions for Member Paltin, I'd like to invite Mr. Hoyle to be able to come forth and...and share with us any opening remarks you might have, or presentation, or comments.

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MR. HOYLE: I am here. Can you hear me?

CHAIR KAMA: Yes, we can. Thank you so very much.

MR. HOYLE: Very good. Again, I thank you for the opportunity to present again. And again, we had our initial presentation on the 17th of October. I do want to address the issue of Dr. Estin. While I know...I do not bear any ill will toward him, understand that he operates the only emergency care clinic, really, in West Maui. So, his interest is totally self-serving, and it always has been. But in terms of the community of West Maui itself, we have had overwhelming support to the extent that we have the only certificate of need for a brand new hospital in the history of State of Hawai'i since 1995. That's kind of an interesting statistic when you think about it. So, there's a dire need. Regardless of a hurricane or a tragic event, it is a long drive from West Maui to Maui Memorial, and that has been the case ever since there was not a hospital, which was not there until...actually, it's been probably since the coffee farms mills were actually in operation. There was a hospital, actually, in Lāhainā, but it was about 50 years ago. So, as of today, there are no emergency care services of any hospital level quality or acute level quality, and have not been for 50 years. I build hospitals and do emergency care centers all over the United States. I've been in this business for 45 years. I have never seen in my life more of a need for an emergency care service than West Maui. It is a very wealthy community, the average price of a house approaches 2 million. It's shocking to consider, with all the tourists that we have in West Maui, 7 to 10,000 on a daily basis, most of them, if they wanted a medication or a pharmaceutical prescription, do you all realize there is no 24-hour pharmacy in Maui, other than Maui Memorial? So, this is a critical situation. This is not a situation where is there a need, there always has been a need. And we've been pursuing this mission--I have--since 2008. I got the certificate of need for the hospital...a larger hospital at 25 beds in 2009. What we're asking for today is not to build a hospital--which by the way, the last hospital built in the entire State of Hawai'i was built with \$10 million of State funds. That was back in 1995. That was the North Hawai'i Community Hospital, which ironically now is run by Queens after Mercy (*phonetic*) was bankrupt or out of money. So, we're not proposing any State funds, only a grant-in-aid to pay for our infrastructure, now...which that \$7 million request consists of 1.5 million for the design and engineering of the hospital itself. We have a new plan now, a smaller hospital. We were unable to finance our hospital in the public markets. Again, as Tamara Paltin said, it's absolutely correct, we could...we could not get financing because we're not sponsored by a hospital system or any other entity, so we're a standalone hospital. And to get that kind of support, we have to show that we have at least some governmental support. So, we have 1-1/2 million for the design and engineering of the hospital itself, onsite infrastructure construction for a million, offsite infrastructure construction 4 million, and utilities connection fees at 500,000...so, we're asking for 7 million. My company has invested \$30 million, no grants, no aids, no loans, nothing from anybody. It's been a mission of mine since I've been coming to Maui since I was a small kid. That was 1962. So, we're committed to this project, we're not giving it up. We're asking for the State for the support that we need for the infrastructure. Now, mind you, this infrastructure, unfortunately, is...as Tamara well knows, the...Honoapiilani Highway was closed for...probably--how long was it, Tamara, a couple

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of weeks now or...we got a lot of complaints about that. But what we were doing is with private money, my money, we were paying for the connection, for the sewer line that would actually service the hospital site. So, to date, we've spent private money to get to this point. We have a fully graded, fully entitled certificate of need approved site, we're asking for the County and the State for support to complete our mission. And I have to say, this is a mission, and this is a mission for the community of West Maui, and for really, Maui has a whole. We are not a competitor to Maui Memorial, we're actually a support system. Because if something happened to an individual in West Maui, they have to go to the only other hospital in the island, and Maui Memorial is a good institution. I'm not in any way saying they are not capable, but the problem is distance. And when you add in the factor of a hurricane or what happens many times, a traffic jam. There's a two-lane road out of West Maui. So, we're asking for the support of the County to appeal to the State. I'm hearing that there's apparently millions and millions of dollars coming into Maui from the latest governmental act. What is more important than providing lifesaving care to a community that has none? And that's basically my position.

CHAIR KAMA: Thank you so much very much, Mr. Hoyle. I certainly appreciate your robust enthusiasm and passion for your work. So, thank you.

MR. HOYLE: Thank you.

CHAIR KAMA: So, at this time, Members, do you have any clarifying questions for Mr. Hoyle? I guess you were very clear in your passion, Mr. Hoyle, so, thank you. So, at this time, I'd like to invite our former Councilmember Jo Anne Johnson-Winer to provide any opening remarks that she may have. Welcome.

MS. JOHNSON-WINER: Aloha. I really appreciate being given the opportunity, and I'm here in the Council Chambers today. And I want to thank Brian Hoyle for his tenacity because very few people would actually have hung on for this length of time, given all of the impediments that have been placed in his way. I have been working diligently over the years, even as a Councilmember when we introduced resolutions before, and I was the one that actually suggested this might be a means of getting this back before the Council because of all the difficulties that many of us experienced in West Maui during the pandemic. To answer one of the questions that was posed, and to clarify, both Elle Cochran and Angus McKelvey, who are State legislators, are in full support of our project. So, that is really critical to me because we now have an opportunity to have that support at a State level. So, I'm very grateful for that. Having lived in West Maui now for many, many years, and taken the drive daily when I was on the County Council, and also as Director of Transportation, it has been extremely challenging. And given the most recent fire, you know, there was a danger to many of the local residents, many of them are elderly, they have respiratory issues. It wasn't just that you couldn't get to the other side, or you had difficulty in doing so...a lot of it was inhalation, a lot of people have asthma. I have lost two husbands, who both had respiratory ailments. I watched them be transported by the ambulance, which was the only way that we could get them to the other side of the island. And it was very difficult when they needed the treatment because it was not readily available. And with all due respect to any detractors, if you

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have experienced this on a personal level, which I have, and seen many of our kupuna, many of the local residents struggle with this, some of them not even making it to the other side in the ambulance, you would, I think, really change your mind about this project. Since this is on my bucket list, and I...I have visited, of course, Chair Kama, with you before about this because our loved ones were passionate about doing the best for our communities. Even though I am not a Councilmember any longer, I always have believed in doing the best for the community, and that to me is paramount in my pushing this forward. It may not help those have...who, you know, have already, you know, succumbed to their injuries or illnesses, but future generations. And I also want to thank our Lahainaluna High School for the program that they have implemented many years ago, which was a wonderful program, which began a career path in the healthcare field. So, Malia Shimamura began that with the help of many of the seniors, who actually sewed scrubs for the kids that were in that program. My ideal thing would be to have some of our West Maui locally, you know, grown students coming to that hospital to do some of their career path work, shadowing other physicians, doing what they can to remain in a community, and be a part of the future of West Maui. And with Department of Hawaiian Home Lands also having plans to build in our area, we cannot continue to grow our population, and not serve them in a responsible and really caring way. So, I want to thank you for doing this. I also will be there at the State level, and any testimony that I can gather from others in the community, I would be happy to do that. So, thank you for your time and your consideration. And I am also very passionate about this issue, and I don't take no for an answer. Thank you.

CHAIR KAMA: Thank you for your testimony, Jo Anne. It's really refreshing to hear you still...still chucking, and still on the move, and...and still working on behalf of our community. So, thank you. Members, at this time, do we have any clarifying questions for our testifier this afternoon? Okay. Seeing none. Thank you very much, Jo Anne.

MS. JOHNSON-WINER: Thank you.

CHAIR KAMA: And we'll be seeing more of you, I am sure of it, in the future --

MS. JOHNSON-WINER: Thank you --

CHAIR KAMA: -- but thank you --

MS. JOHNSON-WINER: -- very much.

CHAIR KAMA: -- for coming.

MS. JOHNSON-WINER: Aloha.

CHAIR KAMA: Mahalo. Aloha. So, Members, at this time, I would like to be able to open public testimony for HCP-65. Staff, is there anyone wishing to testify on this item?

MR. LEAUANAE: No, Chair. There's no one signed up at this time.

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CHAIR KAMA: Okay. If there is anyone out there wishing to testify on this item, please unmute and identify yourself. I'll wait a few moments for you. Members, seeing as there are no more individuals wishing to testify, without objection, I will now close oral testimony for this item. And as a reminder, written testimony will continue to be accepted into the record.

COUNCILMEMBERS VOICED NO OBJECTIONS.

CHAIR KAMA: Thank you, Members.

. . . END PUBLIC TESTIMONY FOR ITEM HCP-65 . . .

CHAIR KAMA: So, Members, at this time, I would like to be able to recommend, if I may, adoption...well, actually, I need to recommend a motion to recommend adoption of the Resolution 22-252 entitled "URGING THE STATE LEGISLATURE AND THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF HAWAII TO PROVIDE FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE PROPOSED WEST MAUI HOSPITAL AND MEDICAL CENTER." Do I have a motion to do that?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Moved. So moved.

CHAIR KAMA: Oh, thank you --

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: Second.

CHAIR KAMA: -- Chair.

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: Second.

CHAIR KAMA: Oh, thank you, Ms. Sugimura. Okay. So, Members...yes, Ms. Paltin?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Would this be the appropriate time to...for the amendment?

CHAIR KAMA: Yeah. Well, this is what my next line was going to be. If there are no objections, I'd like to invite Councilmember Paltin to proceed with her proposed amendment as posted on today's agenda.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay.

CHAIR KAMA: So, yes, by all means, this is appropriate. Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I move to amend Resolution 22-252 as follows. In the seventh WHEREAS clause, add "current" after "the"; and replace "approximately" and with "in excess of"; and replace "medical clinic" with "one or more medical clinics"; and replace all of "which will be" with "which to date have all been." In the eighth WHEREAS clause, add "5.085-acre portion of" after "will provide." In the ninth WHEREAS clause, add "hospital" after "specifically"; add "plans" after "building"; and add "costs" after

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“infrastructure.” That’s my motion to amend.

CHAIR KAMA: Is there a second to Member Paltin’s...

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: (raised hand).

CHAIR KAMA: Thank you, Mr. Sinenci. So, it’s been moved and seconded to...to approve the amendment. Okay. Thank you, Members. Is there any discussion --

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Chair?

CHAIR KAMA: -- on the amendment? Yes?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: That...that motion will amend Resolution 22-252 to a Committee Draft 1 version to incorporate specific land value and size, and other nonsubstantive revisions.

CHAIR KAMA: Okay. Good.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And it’s posted on Granicus if --

CHAIR KAMA: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: -- there’s any confusion.

CHAIR KAMA: I looked, I saw that, and I was following you. Thank you. Is there any other discussion on the amendment to the motion?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Yeah.

CHAIR KAMA: Yes, Member...Chair Lee?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Yeah, I was just wondering about which items of that list were of substance or...or significance. So, I wanted to ask if the...the person making the...the developer, if you could comment on those changes? Hoyle or something.

MR. HOYLE: Yes --

CHAIR KAMA: Mr. Hoyle?

MR. HOYLE: -- I’m here. Yes. Happy to make those comments. These are really clarifications to the original resolution. Again, we’re not taking the entire site for the hospital, that...there will actually be ancillary buildings, the medical clinics and potentially an assisted living facility. So, even though the site is about 14.99 acres, we wanted to identify that there’s an existing tax parcel lot that’s 5.585 acres, that will be for the site for the hospital. And then in terms of the other language, it was merely a clarifying effort. And my apologies for not getting it absolutely correct in the first version.

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COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Thank you.

MR. HOYLE: You're welcome.

CHAIR KAMA: Thank you, Mr. Hoyle.

MR. HOYLE: You're welcome.

CHAIR KAMA: So, Members, if there's no more questions or discussion on the amendment, I'd like to call for a vote on the amendment. All those in favor, raise your hand and say "aye."

COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

CHAIR KAMA: I count five "ayes," and I guess there's zero "nays."

**VOTE: AYES: Chair Kama, Vice-Chair Sugimura, and
 Councilmembers Lee, Paltin, and Sinenci.**

NOES: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: None.

EXC.: None.

MOTION CARRIED.

ACTION: APPROVED amendment.

CHAIR KAMA: Thank you. So, that is the amendment. So, we're going to vote on the...the motion as amended. All those in favor of the motion as we just amended it, please say "aye," raise your hands.

COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

CHAIR KAMA: I count one, two, three, four...five "ayes." Thank you, Members. And the motion passes.

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VOTE: **AYES:** **Chair Kama, Vice-Chair Sugimura, and Councilmembers Lee, Paltin, and Sinenci.**

NOES: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: None.

EXC.: None.

MOTION CARRIED.

ACTION: Recommending ADOPTION of Resolution 22-252, CD1.

CHAIR KAMA: So, if...without objection, the Chair will ask the Committee Staff to incorporate nonsubstantive revisions to ensure consistency with the Hawai'i Legislative Drafting Manual and the Drafting Guide for Maui County Legislation.

COUNCILMEMBERS VOICED NO OBJECTIONS.

CHAIR KAMA: Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Sinenci. Well, everyone, I have nothing else on the agenda for today. Does anyone have any last-minute comments they'd like to make? Well, we ended our meeting early. Thank you. Chair, you get to go home early. Yeah, I like that, Mr. Sinenci. So, Members, there's nothing else to take care of on our agenda, and therefore, the time is now 3:22 p.m., and today's Human Concerns and Parks Committee meeting is adjourned. . . .*(gavel)*. . .

ADJOURN: 3:22 p.m.

APPROVED:

Lyske Fenn

TASHA KAMA, Chair
Human Concerns and Parks Committee

hcr:min:221128-d:slv:ds

Transcribed by: Daniel Schoenbeck

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CERTIFICATION

I, Daniel Schoenbeck, hereby certify that pages 1 through 37 of the foregoing represents, to the best of my ability, a true and correct transcript of the proceedings. I further certify that I am not in any way concerned with the cause.

DATED the 29th day of December 2022, in Kula, Hawai'i

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Daniel Schoenbeck", is positioned above a horizontal line.

Daniel Schoenbeck