

BUDGET, FINANCE, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Council of the County of Maui

MINUTES

November 21, 2023

Online Only via BlueJeans

RECONVENE: 9:05 a.m.

PRESENT: Councilmember Yuki Lei K. Sugimura, Chair
Councilmember Tom Cook, Member (Out 11:36; In 11:40)
Councilmember Gabe Johnson, Member
Councilmember Alice L. Lee, Member (In 9:11 a.m.)
Councilmember Tamara Paltin, Member (In 10:04 a.m.)
Councilmember Shane M. Sinenci, Member
Councilmember Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez, Member (In 9:08 a.m.)
Councilmember Nohelani U'u-Hodgins, Member

EXCUSED: Councilmember Tasha Kama, Vice-Chair

STAFF: James Krueger, Senior Committee Analyst
Kasie Apo Takayama, Senior Committee Analyst (back up)
Carla M. Nakata, Legislative Attorney
Stacey Vinoray, Substitute Committee Secretary
Jean Pokipala, Council Services Assistant Clerk

Additional staff

Executive Assistants for Councilmember Tom Cook:

Jared Agtunong
Stacy Takahashi

Executive Assistant for Councilmember Gabe Johnson:

Axel Beers

Executive Assistant for Councilmember Alice L. Lee:

Michele McLean

Executive Assistant for Councilmember Tamara Paltin:

Angela Lucero

Executive Assistant for Councilmember Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez:

Sarah Sexton

**BUDGET, FINANCE, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui**

November 21, 2023

Executive Assistants for Councilmember Shane M. Sinenci:

Dawn Lono
Gina Young

Executive Assistants for Councilmember Yuki Lei K. Sugimura:

Jocelyn Moniz
Jordan Helle
Jennifer Matsumoto

Executive Assistants for Councilmember Nohelani U‘u-Hodgins:

Laura McDowell
Susan Clements

Residency Area Office (RAO):

Mavis Oliveira-Medeiros, Council Aide, East Maui Residency Area Office
Roxanne Morita, Council Aide, Lāna‘i Residency Area Office
Zhantell Lindo, Council Aide, Moloka‘i Residency Area Office
Bill Snipes, Council Aide, South Maui Residency Area Office
Jade Rojas-Letisi, Council Aide, Makawao-Ha‘ikū-Pā‘ia Residency Area Office

ADMIN.: Scott Teruya, Director, Department of Finance
Marcy L. Martin, Real Property Tax Assistant Administrator, Department of Finance
Kristina Toshikiyo, Deputy Corporation Counsel, Department of the Corporation Counsel

OTHERS: Michael Williams (*resource*)
Others (12)

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

CHAIR SUGIMURA: . . .(*gavel*). . . Good morning, everybody. Welcome to the Budget, Finance, Economic Development Committee. It is now 9:05 a.m. Welcome, everybody, and I’d like to do a welcome, and then I’m going to have an announcement. So, where is Chair Lee, so she can give us her greeting? I saw her a little while...okay, we’ll...we’ll go...move on. So, next we have Member Cook. Good morning, Member Cook.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Aloha and good morning, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Good morning. Next we have Member U‘u-Hodgins.

COUNCILMEMBER U‘U-HODGINS: Good morning, Chair.

BUDGET, FINANCE, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

November 21, 2023

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Good morning. And next we have...good...good morning to Member Sinenci. So nice seeing you here in the Chambers.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you, left over from yesterday. Good morning, aloha and ohayou gozaimasu.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, ohayou gozaimasu. And online we have Member Cook [sic]. Good morning, Member Cook [sic] from Lānaʻi--oh, Member Johnson, sorry.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Hi, I'm alone in my workspace, and there's no testifiers at the Lānaʻi District Office. Mahalo, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: And there's nobody...what happened to, I saw Chair Lee here when we first started. But anyway, Members, we are, as you know, in our...our recessed meeting. So, today we are waiting for Member Paltin to join us, and she is at the Board of Ethics meeting, listening in to that meeting, and...and had reported when we...when we did polling that she wouldn't be here until 11:00. So, what I want to do is this, is that I have an ASF, which I talked about at the end of the last meeting that we had last week, which is to include the items that we sent a letter actually to Finance, and we created it into a ASF for us to discuss today. So, I wanted to pass that out to the Members--if we could, Mr. Krueger. So, that is an ASF, which would be 3.48.230, Damage or Destruction by Disasters. So, this would include what's happening with the wildfire situation. And it is already in Code, so we're add...we're adding that, and we sent it over to Finance for comments, and--oh here's...hello, good morning, Ms. Rawlins-Fernandez.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aloha kakahiaka, Chair, kala mai for my tardiness. I'm at the Molokaʻi District Office, alone on my side of the office. Mahalo.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Welcome. So, I just announced that I'm going to be recessing the meeting to 11:00 because Member Paltin will not be here. That's what she said when we polled, that she wouldn't be here until 11:00 because she's at a Board of Ethics meeting, listening in on that. And I believe...

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Chair?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Is...is that what Member Paltin asked you to do, to recess then until 11:00?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: No, it's what she told our Staff, not going to be there, not going to come until 11:00. So, I have not mentioned this to her. Yesterday when I did talk to her, she did mention she was going to this meeting. I did not think it was going

BUDGET, FINANCE, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

November 21, 2023

to be until 11:00, and I didn't realize that until I opened my notes up yesterday evening. And so, out of respect for her--because a lot of this is regarding West Maui--is that I didn't want us to dive into the issues, and then exclude her. Because we're expecting answers from Marcy Martin from our November 17th meeting, which we talked about. So, that went to her, and we were expecting results from that, which is the data on what are the different, you know, costs by doing these exemptions before and after the wildfire, and some other things for Upcountry also. So, that information we...we're expecting today.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Chair?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Let me finish. And as well as the ASF that at--Chair Lee has an ASF, I have an ASF, and I wanted us to be able to discuss that out of respect for Miss...Ms. Paltin when she's present. Yes, Keani.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo. So, a counterproposal, instead of until 11:00, until 10:00 because if that's not something that Member Paltin requested of you, then I...I...I don't know if that's something that she necessarily...this...this course of action is something that she would necessarily be supportive of. Like she...she wouldn't want to be holding up the...the process of us discussing this, so...

CHAIR SUGIMURA: To my...my...I really...okay, I'll leave it up to the Members. Because my biggest...out of respect for her and what's happening in...in West Maui, which we all stand together, I wanted to be sure that when we discuss the ASFs which are being proposed today, as well as--and probably equally as important--the feedback from Finance on the impact of RPT, Real Property Tax, to what we're talking about, right, for Real Property Tax exemptions and what should be included and not. I wanted her to be in this conversation. But if you think--if the Members think that it doesn't, we don't necessarily have to wait, I...I'll be willing to proceed. I'm going to...I want to distribute the ASF so you can look at it, I would be willing to take a short recess at that time, and then we can proceed with the meeting. I'm...I'm open to do that too. So, you tell me what you want to do.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yeah, I'm...I'm okay with recessing until like 10:00. I spoke with Member Paltin this morning, she didn't say that she requested to hold up the process.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: No, she didn't, I'm just trying to respect what...what she said during polling. Okay. So, anybody else? Are you okay? Okay. Ah, here's Chair Lee. Good morning, Chair Lee.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Good thing...I'm sorry I joined a little late, I couldn't get my BlueJeans to work.

BUDGET, FINANCE, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

November 21, 2023

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Soon we won't have that problem, right?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Yes, we'll have another problem. . . .*(laughing)* . . .

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yes, Teams. All right. So, the discussion on the floor now is, I want to pass out the ASFs to you, and then...which is...one is yours, Chair Lee, and one is mine. Oh, it was emailed to the--okay. All of you have the ASFs, which was emailed to your...which was emailed to you. And then can we post it online also?

MR. KRUEGER: Yes, Chair, since they've been distributed, we can also upload to Granicus.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, I guess the times for the recess then...sounds like Member Rawlins-Fernandez has...has texted with Member Paltin, and so 10:00 is a better time; is that correct? Yeah. Yeah. Okay. So, Members...Chair Lee, do you...I don't know if you heard, as you weren't --

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Yes, I heard.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: -- . . .*(inaudible)*. . . Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: I heard, but I have a comment. Okay, it's...it's very important since we have a quorum now --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: -- that when we reconvene, one of the priorities is for RPT to confirm what the deadlines are. Because some of...we don't have to take action on everything by December 31st, but there are some things we do have to. So, that should be the priority, yeah...I would think, yeah?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: And then once you folks decide on that, then it...then Staff and I have to figure out if we need special Council meetings, and try to work backwards from December 31st. So, that's my top concern this morning is timing, okay.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: So, please keep that in mind. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah, perfect. Because Finance indicated from the get-go that what they need is the proposed amendments to Chapter 3.48.415, and that's critical for their operations, and these were the exemptions. So, if we can go through that and finalize that, there are...you're right, there are things that we do not need to finalize

BUDGET, FINANCE, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

November 21, 2023

now, and would appreciate if, you know, we can take it up in another...another BFED meeting that doesn't have that timelines attached to it. So, Members, you both...you have both of the ASFs, you can review that, and I'm going to recess this meeting to 10:00. And thank you very much for checking with Member Paltin. So, now this meeting is now in recess, and we're going to be recessed until 10:00. . . .(gavel). . .

RECESS: 9:14 a.m.

RECONVENE: 10:04 a.m. (Excused: TK)

CHAIR SUGIMURA: . . .(gavel). . . Welcome back to the Budget, Finance, Economic Development Committee. Thank you very much for the recess, we now have Member Paltin back. Good morning, Member Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Oh, wrong button. Aloha kakahiaka kākou, streaming from the Council Chambers.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Very nice to have you here. And so, Members, we took a recess so all of you could receive the ASFs, which is sent to you by email. Is it also on Granicus for the public--it is, yeah?

MR. KRUEGER: Yes, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: So, Alice Lee's ASF is number what on Granicus?

MR. KRUEGER: Chair, so the ASFs that were distributed this morning, they...under Granicus, they are numbers 20 and 21. 20 is the ASF distributed from Chair Lee, and then number 21 is the ASF distributed by you, Committee Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. And then we also got--thank you very much, Marcy Martin and Finance--answered the questions that we had submitted on November 17th to her, which is on Granicus number 22.

MR. KRUEGER: Yes, Chair.

**BUDGET, FINANCE, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui**

November 21, 2023

**ITEM 35: REAL PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION FOR PROPERTIES
IMPACTED BY NATURAL DISASTERS OR WILDFIRES
(BILL 91 (2023); BILL 95 (2023); BILL 102 (2023))**

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, Members and the public now has all of this information. So, I wonder if we could get...if we could begin with Finance talking about the Granicus item number 22, which is her answers to the questions that we had submitted on November 17th. And then go through the ASFs from Chair Lee and myself. And ask for the Member's questions after Marcy Martin presents her presentation. Then we'll have four-minute questions from each of the Members because I think it's important information. So, at this time then, can we please have Department of Finance providing us information?

MS. MARTIN: Thank you, Chair. So, as requested at the last meeting, we created a chart of, you know, what's been done and what's left for the properties impacted by the unfortunate August wildfires. So, keep in mind, we're always correcting, we're always updating, always improving, but as of the date of the letter, 2,078 parcels had been made nontaxable per the Mayor's initial waiver because all of the buildings on the parcels were destroyed. So, in Lāhainā, that left a little over 1,700 parcels that are taxable, to the extent of about \$10.3 million for the entire year. In Upcountry, there are seven parcels where they've been made...or will be made partially nontaxable. The portion of the property that was destroyed will be exempted under 230, and the portion that remains useable and accessible will still be taxable. So, of the 1,700 parcels that remain taxable in Lāhainā, about 580 of them are in green zones, meaning they're occupiable or mostly useable. For example, Safeway is open, even though they...they don't have water. They are in a green zone, Lāhainā Cannery. And of that, there are a little over 1,100 parcels that are in those areas that have been closed off as part of the disaster response. Some of those properties were not completely destroyed, and within those 1,100, there are 225 vacant lots. Some of the vacant lots are...are peppered within Lāhainā residential, and some of them are the newer subdivision by West Maui Land, that's the parcels in that agriculture zone to the east of the Pioneer Mill. And their taxes for the vacant land is about 370,000.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Are you done? Oh.

MS. MARTIN: Yes...yes, I'm done.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. All right. So, I guess the choices before us...either we should use tax map keys, or should we use these colored zones for Finance to be able to quantify and under...you know, what would work better for Finance?

MS. MARTIN: Chair. You know, the...the colored zones on the maps represent basically a...a Government restriction, and we are using those maps to identify properties being impacted. So, I...I feel that --

BUDGET, FINANCE, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

November 21, 2023

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

MS. MARTIN: -- yeah, these are good. It's a good resource, a good starting point.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: A good starting point. Okay. And I do know that in a previous meeting, you said that the requirements for us to help Finance with RPT is that you would like us to propose amendments to Chapter 3.48.415, which are the exemptions, which is critical for the operations for Finance, and for the people who would be qualified to apply for the exemptions; is that correct?

MS. MARTIN: Yes, that is correct. That...by keeping the exemptions, we can first reduce work for the Division. We don't like to do things twice, you know, we are tasked with reassessing 85,000 parcels every year, and we...we move like a freight train, so we don't want to do anything twice. And so, by allowing us to keep those exemptions in, you know, as people rebuild, we can keep that data. And we will disallow them as deemed appropriate, but it...it would really help us in our reassessment if we could --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

MS. MARTIN: -- keep the exemptions.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: So, by--just for the Committee's clarification. So, by December 31st, you need us to pass a bill so that you could fulfill that goal of proposing amendments to Chapter 3.48.415, correct?

MS. MARTIN: That is correct.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Are there any that you need absolutely by December 31st?

MS. MARTIN: Okay. So, what I've gathered from these meetings is we have...there's three components. We have, you know, the current year, we have next fiscal year, and then we have maybe a new exemption for...to create a benefit for those providing housing to the displaced. And for the new exemption, we will need applicants, so that really needs to be done as soon as possible. For any reduction in Fiscal Year '24 taxes of this fiscal year, we're going to create our tax bills for second pass around the beginning of January. So, for us to process those waivers, we would need direction by mid-December. That's for this fiscal year.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: . . .*(inaudible)*. . . Okay.

MS. MARTIN: If...if you waited later to do that, it could be handled, but those people would be billed on January 20th for that second half taxes. And then if they paid, we would have to refund them.

BUDGET, FINANCE, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

November 21, 2023

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Reimburse.

MS. MARTIN: So, it would be most efficient, if the intent was to reduce any taxes for Fiscal '24, of that...that also be done as soon as possible. Okay. Then the third component is, how are we going to access these properties for Fiscal Year '24, '25--for our January 1, '24 assessment? So, right now, we are working on our values for January 1, 2024. So, again, as soon as possible, but if the intent is to make parcels nontaxable for the next fiscal year, we would probably need to know by January 15th. And all three boxes, the sooner, the better.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, we are looking at the current year, and we're also looking at--which is Fiscal Year '24, also Fiscal Year '24...'25, and benefits for the parcels. We also need exemptions, that's why we have to pass 3.48.415 [sic] and have the applicants apply by--you did say they could apply January 31st; is that right? Instead of December 30th?

MS. MARTIN: If we're going to create that six-month exemption, you know, we have extended that deadline to the end of January. But to get the word out, to give people time to apply, it really needs to be done as soon as possible. And the...the timeline is, you know, we mail our assessment notices out on March 15th, but we have to finish our data and get it to the vendor by the end of February, which means we have to get it in our system by mid-February. And so, even that January 31st deadline is...is really, really, tight. And that's for you, that's to give the taxpayer their option to appeal between March 15th and April 9th, and then we get it into certification on April 19th so that you can budget. And then, of course, the Mayor needs to know what's happening for his budget. So, yes, a lot of moving parts.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you for working so hard. Member Johnson, you have a question?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Chair, yes. We do have a resource here in the last meeting, Michael Williams, and I'd...if you allow it, I'd like to have him maybe speak on...on his two yen on this as well. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Is he on? Mr. Krueger, is he on?

MR. KRUEGER: Chair, yes, we...we do see Michael Williams on the line.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Sorry about that. Okay, go ahead. Mr. Williams, good morning.

MR. WILLIAMS: Good morning. Thank you for allowing me to speak again. I have two quick points I want to make, not covering everything that Marcy just talked about, but...first of all, the...for tax relief for next year and for 2025, I don't think there's

BUDGET, FINANCE, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

November 21, 2023

any reason you can't wait until April to do that in the normal budget process when you will know so much more information about exactly which properties you're proposing to waive taxes on, and how much that'll be. The other point I want to make is that the way this is structured, you're waiving property taxes for a lot of wealthy nonresidents, the owners of nonowner-occupied parcels, short-term rental parcels, commercial parcels, and so forth. And I think that you should retain that revenue instead of giving it away to wealthy non...nonresidents, retain it for the residents displaced by the fire. It's just the...the County Tax Revenue is going to be so precious next year and the following year that don't--at least now, don't give it away to wealthy nonresidents, you know. And take your time on this. There's a lot of nuance to this. You'll have plenty of time to handle that when you get to April. That's the two...yeah, you do got to fix the long-term rental issue now, so that people can file their applications and the Department can process them. But as far as I can tell, that's really the only thing you need to do. And...and of course, if you're going to extend the Mayor's Tax Relief for fire-damaged properties to the nonuseable properties, you need to do that now too. But those are the only two things you need to do now. That's...that's it. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. So, Mister...we're looking to see if we had designated you as a resource. Mr. Krueger, can you check?

MR. KRUEGER: Chair, apologies. We...we...because the meeting has been ongoing for...for several days now, we just weren't sure if the Committee had actually designated Mr. Williams as a resource person.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh.

MR. KRUEGER: We do have record of him testifying, but...but we don't have record of the Committee formally designating him a resource. So, maybe just to be safe, the Committee might want to consider making that designation now.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Sure. Members, is that...is that okay with you? Oh, thumbs up...okay, no objections. Thank you, Mr. Williams, for your written testimony, always being here, your cost of government report, everything that you do for Maui County. So, thank you. Anybody have any questions for the resource, Mr. Williams? Mr. Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you, Chair. Mahalo, Mr. Williams. So, you're...you're saying that we would have to come up with another graph for those particular nonowner-occupied and out-of-state owners?

MR. WILLIAMS: Well, I'm...I'm not sure what graph. If you look at the...

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: I guess, do we need to have those by December 31st?

BUDGET, FINANCE, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

November 21, 2023

MR. WILLIAMS: No, I don't think you do. I think you can do it all in the next budget process for...for next year. This year's taxes have already been cut...waived by the Mayor for fire-damaged properties except for the unusable properties, which you may want to fix. But in terms of cutting taxes for next year, you can wait until next year to do it. And the numbers...if you look at the numbers that...that Marcy Martin gave you guys, there's only about a million dollars in taxes you would be waiving for owner-occupied and long-term rentals, and those are the properties that are...were housing residents. All the other categories of properties there--nonowner-occupied, short-term rental, hotel and resort, commercial, industrial, and so forth--I...I would wager that most of those are owned by nonresidents. And you can wait until April to find that out. And I...I just don't see why you want to give away money to nonresidents when the displaced residents need it so badly.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you very much. Anybody else have any questions for...Ms. Paltin...Councilmember Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you. I almost went with the wrong button again. Oh, so I just wanted to clarify, those properties that were owner-occupied or long-term rentals, but are in the burn zone and still standing, not necessarily habitable...I mean if you have, say, asthma, or young kids, you're not opposed to waiving those property taxes, right?

MR. WILLIAMS: No, I'm...I'm all in favor of waiving property taxes for --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Impacted.

MR. WILLIAMS: -- owner-occupied, and for long-term rentals...for sure.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. Even if it's still standing inside the burn zone, there's some folks --

MR. WILLIAMS: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: -- with young kids, or medical issues, that are staying at the hotels and stuff.

MR. WILLIAMS: Yes. But do it one year at a time. Because come April of 2025, you may have enough information...those people may be back in those homes by then. There's no reason to waive anything for two years now.

BUDGET, FINANCE, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

November 21, 2023

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Interesting. Okay. Thank you very much. Any more questions for Mr. Williams? Seeing none. Thank you very much. Thank you very much, Mr. Williams. Okay. So, Members, I will now have you ask questions of Ms. Martin, and every...everyone will have four minutes. There's so much information here, you guys need time to look at the ASF...or the Granicus number 22, which is Marcy's presentation that she just gave us, with all the graphs? Are you all fine? You want to...you want to take a five-minute recess? Yeah, okay. I'm going to call a recess until...let's go until what, 10:00...let's go to 10:30...10:30. This meeting is now in recess to 10:30. . . .(gavel) . . .

RECESS: 10:24 a.m.

RECONVENE: 10:33 a.m. (Excused: TK)

CHAIR SUGIMURA: . . .(gavel) . . . Welcome back to the meeting, it's now 10:34. And I just want to let the Members know, this question was asked, what Granicus number that we're using...or what bill are we using, which is a Finance-proposed bill, which is what we've been talking about. So, it's number 12 in Granicus. And it is...it is a copy of a bill that we're now getting for Director Teruya, who has joined our meeting. Thank you very much, Director, and Marcy Martin is online. So, Director, do you want to say anything?

MR. TERUYA: Well...morning, Chair and Members. Scott Teruya, Finance Director. I apologize I'm not as astute as to what's going on right now. I missed the last meeting, so I missed the conversation, but I'm kind of up to speed with the Division as to what they are...we're looking at and proposing. I feel that this is probably time-sensitive. Best, if...if it was me, would be for the December 31st deadline like all other exemptions. But I can...I can be flexible to extend it to the end of January, knowing that people need to apply for this. Just...but just be mindful that the longer the deadline, the shorter time the Department has to --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah.

MR. TERUYA: -- enter all of this information. But I think...be mindful, the only things that I haven't heard yet is to be mindful that Fiscal '25 taxes are for valuations as of January 1, 2024. So, the timing is...is, I would say, is essential because I think this body should know that you want certified values for your decision-making when you guys have to deliberate on tax rates. So, I think it would be my opinion that you should act on this as soon as you can. And things that are not in here that are not time-sensitive, we can take...take at a later date. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Thank you for joining us. So, Members, you got that, right? So, it's Granicus number 12, and that's the bill that we're working on that was

BUDGET, FINANCE, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

November 21, 2023

proposed by Finance. And it was used the last meeting, so that's one. And then the ASFs that you received is one from Chair Lee, number 20 in Granicus, one from myself which is 21 in Granicus, and all...those two are regarding 3.48.230, and it's Damaged or Destruction by Disaster, that's what this section is about. So, that...and then the other ASF that we received is from Finance Department, thank you very much, Director and Marcy Martin. So, anybody else have anything that they would like to ask the Department, and that would be for four minutes. Shall we just go down the line? Will all of you have questions? We'll start with Ms. Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Ms. Martin and Director Teruya. I just...I'm not sure if you have looked at Councilmember Sugimura's ASF about 3.48.230...at the end, Section C, I was wondering if it would be possible to amend that to say, at the end, something like except owner-occupied and long-term rental as of August 9th, or something like that? Because it...it...hers says, for real property located in a red or yellow re-entry zone in Lāhainā, as established by the County following the August 2023 Maui wildfires in its re-entry map of impacted areas, posted on mauirecovers.org, or for which local access was only allowed from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. as of November 15th, 2023, are exempt from real property taxes through June 30th, 2025, except...except for owner-occupied and long-term rental for impacted areas which local access was only allowed from August 9th, 2023.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Local access were --

MR. TERUYA: Chair?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: -- what...what was the last part? Local access...

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Was only allowed from August 9th, 2023, are exempt from real property taxes through June 30th, 2025.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: If that's a possibility of something that could be done.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Director or --

MR. TERUYA: Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: -- Ms. Martin.

MR. TERUYA: Thank you, for that question, Member Paltin. I...I think the best would be to get an opinion from Corporation Counsel, as you are excluding people. So, maybe we can punt that to Corp. Counsel.

BUDGET, FINANCE, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

November 21, 2023

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Is it Ms. Toshikiyo?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Kristina Toshikiyo.

MS. TOSHIKIYO: Hi.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Hi.

MS. TOSHIKIYO: Good morning. Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Member Paltin. I...this is something I am going to have to think about. I'm just kind of writing down my notes, and when I read it all together...so, if I could just have some time to think about this.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

MS. TOSHIKIYO: I think that's kind of a...the policy discussion that you've been having. So, before I dive into it deeper, is...is this something that I think maybe other Members would be asking too, if we're going to be separating the...the classifications and allowing a benefit to only certain classifications within the burns or within the impacted zone versus other classifications; is that correct? Okay. Thank you. If I could just have some more time.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Yeah, and...and...and for me, my reasoning would be like, you know, I guess do unto others a little bit. Like if everything around me was burned, and I don't have water, and electric, and sewer, and maybe I have young kids, and asthma, I can't live there as my primary dwelling even if my house is still standing, you know...or like a dog.

MS. TOSHIKIYO: I...I...

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: You don't want your dog in the ashes.

MS. TOSHIKIYO: I...I think the more the concern is treating the different classifications with...you know, so all of the properties that you're discussing may be not destroyed, but are damaged and uninhabitable. But by singling out owner-occupied and long-term rental versus other types of classes where...that were similarly affected. So, that's the analysis that we'll have to look at.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. The other classes, they might not have been their primarily where they're living would be the difference to me. But I guess...

MS. TOSHIKIYO: Okay...oh, the use is as a primary long-term residence?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Yeah, like if owner-occupied does something . . . *(timer sounds)*. . . is that the owner has another place that they can live, that's why they're

BUDGET, FINANCE, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

November 21, 2023

not living there.

MS. TOSHIKIYO: Um-hum. So, similarly with commercial...okay. Okay. Thank you. I'll look into this.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay, we'll come back to you...we'll come back to you then, right, with that. Anybody else have any questions for...Ms. Paltin, are you done? No, no, not to you, but are you done?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Oh, I did hear the bell, so, I'll follow the rules.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: . . .*(laughing)*. . . Four minutes. Okay. So, next we'll go down to Member Johnson, then we'll go to Ms. Rawlins-Fernandez after that.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay. Thank you. I...Councilmember Paltin asked the question that I was going to ask, so I'm looking forward to Ms. Toshikiyo's answer. But I do have a second one for the Department, Director Teruya, you can...if he can catch this ball. Basically 2025, can we wait until budget session? Do you recommend that we wait, or is it...I kept hearing you saying it's pressing. So, I know Mr. Williams mentioned that we could hold off until budget session. What say you, Director?

MR. TERUYA: Chair?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yes.

MR. TERUYA: Thank you for that question. I'll...I'll defer to Ms. Martin, as more operationally, she can speak to it. For me, if you're going to ask me, I...I'm going to say it should be done now.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay. Thank you. Sorry, Ms. Martin?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Ms. Martin.

MS. MARTIN: Thank you, Chair. So, if you wait until April, the impacts of what you'll be doing will not be in certification. And if you do decide to provide any relief, you know, Staff will have to reassess the properties where you're going to be changing their assessment and taxes. You'll have to re-notice them, they'll have the opportunity to appeal. Those that don't qualify, the appeal period ends April 9th. So, those properties that weren't included would not have the opportunity to appeal. And then all the people who were noticed in March that don't feel they should pay taxes probably have...would lodge appeals between March 15th and April 9th, right...because they're going to hold their position, and then you're going to lose that value in your certification. So, if the intent is to provide some kind of relief, it is best that taxpayers are noticed properly of that relief in March so that if

BUDGET, FINANCE, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

November 21, 2023

they do have a protest, they can lodge it; and if they don't need a protest, they don't have to.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay. Thank you for your analogy on that. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you very much. I think the Department's been pretty consistent that they want us to take some kind of action so that they can do their work, and I was kind of...so what Ms. Martin said is that, you know, they...they don't need to touch the same thing twice, right. So, if we give them definitive direction, which I think what we all want to do, and it's just figuring out what it is. And may I also ask a...oh, I'm sorry, I'll wait for my turn. Next, Member Cook.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: I think you said...

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, sorry, Ms. Rawlins-Fernandez. Sorry about that.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo. So, I would like to segue off of Member Johnson's question. Aloha, Ms. Martin, mahalo for being with us and answering our questions today. So, I think we all hear the concerns, and we...we don't want, you know, our employees wasting time on things that, you know, if we can, that...make a decision quickly to avoid duplicative effort. What is the latest that you would need us to make a decision so that Staff can focus on, you know, not...not doing things in vain?

MS. MARTIN: Chair? So, anything involving the re-assessment from January 1, 2024, if properties were going to be...or taxes were going to be remitted, you know, we...ideally, we would like that by January 1, but for sure a...a drop...a final deadline would be January 15th. Like I said, you know, we...we've...we've got to notice everybody. And if they weren't going to be assessed for January 1, 2024, we would like to include that in our annual assessment notice. That's our annual contact with taxpayers when we let them know that's March 15th. So, again, I say the same thing I've said; the sooner, the better. And, you know, a good sample property to think about is McDonald's on Waine'e. That...you know, it's a commercial property, it's not owner-occupied, it's not long-term rental, it's...and it's still standing, you know, it's in...it's in the red, yellow zone, it's still there, you know, what do you want to do with...with that property, right? And then another example would be on Komo Mai Street, you've got four houses that are remaining, but they are intermingled with properties that are destroyed, that will be going through their environmental cleanup, and...and most likely will be on January 1. Your green zone properties are going to be Upper Lāhaināluna, the Cannery Mall, Gateway, and your Leiali'i. Those are...those are your buckets of properties to be, you know, thinking about.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

BUDGET, FINANCE, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

November 21, 2023

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Ms. Martin. Mahalo, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. Next, we have Member Cook.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Thank you, Chair. I'd like to direct my question to Director Teruya. The process of a protest and appeal, can you kind of walk us through that briefly, kind of thumbnail sketch timeline? And this is what I'm getting at, is the...the Department's personnel's capacity to process information and work. It seems like there's twofold; one is this initial one that we're discussing, and then the potential collateral aspect of decision-making that we do that is appealed, and what is the potential impact of that? Thank you.

MR. TERUYA: Chair?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yes.

MR. TERUYA: Thank you for that question. I...I'll defer that to Marcy Martin, she kind of went over that really high level, but maybe Ms. Martin can put...put that thing more in perspective. But in general, our notices go out to all taxpayers on March 15th. In order for you to get a notice on March 15th, we got to get that to the vendor by the end of February. That means all of our edits, everything by mid-February has to be complete because it needs to be checked, and then goes to the...the vendor to mail out. From that time you receive your notice on March 15th thereabouts, you have until April 9th to file an appeal. Now, if we wait, then that means people are not going to get proper notice. That means you're going to have to re-notice them, and then reopen an appeal period. So, if I send you a corrected notice in April 30th, I got to give you time to lodge another appeal because you may not agree with your notice. So, that further hampers your certification and your certified revenues because, now you...now it's compromised. So, I'll...I'll defer to Ms. Martin if she has more...more things to add. Thank you, Chair.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Chair, may I clarify the question? So...so, if we meet within all the criteria so that people are notified, but you get an appeals within that...within that time frame, what does it take to process an appeal? Because that...this is getting to the...the essence of what properties we include and not include, and whether people are going to be appealing. And we need some guidance from the Department of where we're more likely to get pushback so that you don't get overwhelmed with appeals that you would expect?

MR. TERUYA: Chair. I...I really appreciate that question because I don't know if you guys remember how we did this condo thing about ten years ago. And it had an influx of appeals, about 5,000 a year, and we couldn't even finish them in the fiscal year to be heard before the Board of Review. So, by passing this, I...I believe now, or soon hereafter, it'll eliminate a flux, a...a bevy of appeals to the Department, and

BUDGET, FINANCE, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

November 21, 2023

you'll cripple them, to be honest with you. And you'll cripple the Board, and then you have revenues more in court than in your coffers. So, Ms. Martin, would you agree, or have something to add?

MS. MARTIN: Yes. Thank you, Director Teruya. You know, the Division does have to process their appeals, we've got, you know, a hard deadline. Like other divisions, we are very short-staffed right now. It...it is a very labor-intensive process. And valuing properties...you know, let's just use McDonalds again. or use that one house that's standing in the midst of a street that's basically burned down. You know, what is the value? That's very...it's a very difficult thing to value on. So, it will be contentious, and it will be a challenge. We're up for the challenge, we can do it, but the idea would be, you know, to...to be upfront, to be transparent, and...and that way at least people going in know, okay, I'm going to appeal because I disagree, or I know they deliberated on this, and this is what they intended. It's better for everyone if we know upfront what is going to happen.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you very much. Member U'upps [sic].

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Thank you, Chair. For right now I have no questions, but we can figure out, I guess, which bill we're going to use. We're going to use the Granicus number 12 bill --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: -- to work off as a starting point for all our discussions moving forward?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Okay. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah. And that's the bill that was proposed by Finance, and addresses what they need. Member Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you, Chair. Just a...a clarifying question for Ms. Martin. So, in number 1, you said it was about \$20 million of revenues that was lost. To clarify, these are all the homes that were...were lost?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Ms. Martin, is the question...Member, your answer to number --

MS. MARTIN: Yes.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: -- 1 in...in November 20th?

BUDGET, FINANCE, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

November 21, 2023

MS. MARTIN: So, originally for Lāhainā, they were billed in July about \$21.4 million. Since that time, about 11.1 has been waived, so the remaining revenue from that area is \$10,263,835. And then the revenues in those areas that are closed off is about 8.15 million. In the areas that are opened, like they have street access, that revenue is about 2.1 million. Not...the 2.1 and the 8.15 are a part of that 10.3 that we still...we've billed, and we've collected half of it.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Oh, okay. And then does that include the damaged homes? Is that part of the 10 million?

MS. MARTIN: Yes. So, the property where, you know, the house is still there, but the cottage is destroyed, is in that 10.3 million, McDonalds is in that 10.3 million, Lāhainā Cannery Mall is in that 10.3 million, and those few houses within the closed areas are in that 10.3 million.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Okay. So, do you expect those same numbers for...for next year's projections?

MS. MARTIN: Chair? I would expect the values to go down. If people do not have access to their property, if they do not have water, or sewer, their properties are going to be worth less.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Okay. And then, Director Teruya, I guess, for...for next year's projections, is this something that the County can...are we able to take, I guess, the hit?

MR. TERUYA: Chair? Thank you for that question, it's a question that we are discussing on the 9th Floor right now, and we will have suggestions as to how we're going to go through it. I feel that we are going to weather this storm, through it all we'll figure out a way, but we're going to have to cut the budget. I mean...but those are the tough questions that we're going to have to tackle. But I think if it was me, I would just not expect this revenue for the next five years, and if it gets better before then, then good for us. But I would say, if you'd look at Paradise and everybody in California, it took them four, five years to get out of it, so I don't see how we would be any faster than that. So, I would just say take the conservative approach, expect it to last five years with no revenue into these areas, and if...like I said, if it's better than that, then that's good for us.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: All right. Appreciate that. Thank you. Thank you, Chair.
...*(timer sounds)*...

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Perfect. Good questions. Next, we have Chair Lee.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Thank you. Marcy, could you comment about what

BUDGET, FINANCE, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

November 21, 2023

Mike...Michael Williams said about not...the issue of the Real Property Tax Department could provide the tax relief that is proposed and the Legislation under consideration today if you waited until next budget session to provide it? Can we do that?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Ms. Martin or Director. Go ahead.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: A short answer would be fine.

MS. MARTIN: You can do that, it would be a lot of work.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay.

MS. MARTIN: I get that you would...you would notice the taxpayers one thing, and then you'd have to re-notice them something --

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay.

MS. MARTIN: -- else after the fact.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: All right. And then the other thing is I'm concerned about...of course, the tendency would be--and this is either for you or for Mr. Teruya--tendency would be to tax only those who couldn't afford it, and tax those who could. But here, we're talking about real property, we're not talking about income, and my concern is, we are planning to--and I know the Administration wants to convince the short-term rental folks to...to convert to long-term so that the people who are in hotels can have a place to live until the...the permanent housing is done...which by the way, isn't moving forward, but anyway, that's another...that's a story for another day. So, I would think, and...and you can comment, it would be much harder for us to convince the...the short-term property owners to convert to long-term if we're going to be charging them much higher--I mean not much higher, but charging taxes, you know, at the same rate. What is your comment on that? At the same short-term rental rate?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Ms. Martin.

MS. MARTIN: Chair?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: And...and by the way, would you be able to handle the...the processing of that? I...you know, wouldn't you want to try and hire outside help for all this extra work that your Department is going to need to undertake?

MS. MARTIN: Well, you're right, we do need about...you know, a lot of homes to convert to long-term. And those aren't just short-term rentals, they could be empty properties in the nonowner-occupied class. You know, currently we have just, I

BUDGET, FINANCE, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

November 21, 2023

think, under 4,000 long-term rentals, so...and those are one-year leases. And we've got to continue rewarding those properties, we need them more than ever. So, I would caution you against creating a situation where, you know, a short-term rental could get the same benefit as do people that are already providing housing for providing less housing. If someone wanted to rent 6 months, and they wanted to short-term rental 6 months, or use their property for 6 months, they shouldn't get the same benefit as somebody who is using their property as a long-term rental for 12 months. And that's why the bill that I...the Department submitted kind of creates a tier. Okay, here's your benefit for 12 months, but if you want to rent to someone for just 6 months, you can still get a benefit, but it's not going to be the same as 12 months...but it will also allow those property owners to make up for the loss of the 6 months. They can use their property for six months . . . *(timer sounds)*. . . or rent it short-term for six months.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Thank you. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Great. So, next then is myself. And what I would...I just want to clarify, and I want to support what the Department is trying to get us to, which is to try to make as many decisions that we can today so that they can operate, right. So...and...and the...the...if you look at bill number 12...or Granicus number 12, which is--I think...I think Department's calling it Bill 95 CD1 is what it is; is that correct, James? Right?

MR. KRUEGER: Chair, right. The...the proposal from Finance is a proposed CD1 version of Bill 95.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah, CD1. And so what it's looking at, Members, is 3.48.450, Home Standards for Evaluation, and it...it explains that, as well as claims and effects, which is the exemptions, which is 3.48.415, which is the important--all is important--but the Department is saying that they want to make sure that they have these exemptions available for people to apply, and...and this is the guidelines for those exemptions. And then, Department, can you talk about the benefit that the long-term rental standards for valuation, how many of the short-term rentals have...are now using the long-term rental benefit? I'm not too sure if I've asked you that question correctly, but I know you've been processing applications for this change. Can you talk about that, the success of it?

MS. MARTIN: Yes. So, for last year, we had 224 of the 3,779 long-term rentals were zoned to allow transient vacation rentals. So, that...the number is...is small. The bulk of the long-term rentals come from the nonowner-occupied class. That's zoned --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: . . . *(inaudible)*. . .

MS. MARTIN: -- Residential or Agriculture overall.

BUDGET, FINANCE, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

November 21, 2023

CHAIR SUGIMURA: So, you have been receiving the occupied category applications now to provide long-term rentals? Is that what it...you said?

MS. MARTIN: Well, right now, we're still processing for this year, for our January '24. People will wait until December 31st to apply. We...we just sent out about 2,000 emails reminding people to reapply who are already on it. So, we do know some charities have been able to get long-term rentals, one year, for the displaced. We are in contact with them, and we are facilitating a quick way for them to apply for their long-term rentals. But we aren't going to know what we have really until mid-January as far as, you know, did we get more --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Is it...

MS. MARTIN: -- from the short-term rental industry.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

MS. MARTIN: But if they're leasing for one year, they may apply.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah, right. And they would get the...they would get the exemption, the 300,000 exemption, but their...the tax that they pay would be how much per thousand?

MS. MARTIN: Okay. So, if you rented to somebody for a year, and you were zoned to allow a transient vacation rental, and you got . . .*(timer sounds)*. . . the 200,000 exemption plus the lower rate, if you look at the first page of the item on Granicus, you can see for an \$800,000 TVR, their savings would be \$7,680. So, their taxes would be about \$1,800 a year. That's the classification and the exemption. So, the long-term rental class and exemption is a significant tax savings if you're classified as TVR. It's also a significant tax savings if you're nonowner-occupied. And if you're owner-occupied, you still get an exemption.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, then hopefully, the benefit would be that we would be able to house some of these families that are impacted by the wildfire through this. And you support this continuing, right? So that's why you included in your bill 3.48.466, Long-Term Rentals, and that Section B, right? Okay. Sorry, ran out of time. Thank you, Members. Round two. So, this...this time, Member Paltin, followed by Member Johnson.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. My question would be for Ms. Martin. So, there's talk of a community land trust, and it would be a nonprofit. I was wondering if nonprofits in that form pay property tax?

MS. MARTIN: Thank you, Chair. So, thank you for that question. Nonprofits apply

BUDGET, FINANCE, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

November 21, 2023

the...if there's a 501(c)(3), they apply for the nonprofit exemption. They should apply by December 31st, and they're completely exempt their value. They are subject to minimum tax. So, that's something that we all should think about when we're looking at these exemptions and waivers. Your value can be brought down to zero, but you are still subject to minimum tax, or is your value brought down to zero and you aren't subject to minimum tax? So, if the community land trust makes a purchase, please, you know, come to our office, fill out the necessary forms to get your nonprofit exemption.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you. And then just checking in with Ms. Toshikiyo, was that the amount of time you were talking about, or more longer?

MS. TOSHIKIYO: Yes, thank you. I'm so sorry, I will need more time...more than that I can do while I'm also listening in to the meetings. So, I'm not sure if I'll have an answer for you by the end of this meeting.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. And then...okay. I had a question on 3.A. of the handout that we got back from Finance, where it says if--and I'm just going to cross out the words by the Mayor because it doesn't matter who waived it--if real property taxes were not waived, the current estimated revenue from Real Property Taxes per real property classifications for properties in each type of zone, that includes whether or not the Finance Department would waive the property taxes under 3.48.230, the one that we just changed to include fire or disaster as defined by HRS; is that correct? Like what the Mayor waived taxes for when we amended that law, you guys could have waived the taxes as he waived the taxes; is that correct?

MS. MARTIN: Chair? So, that would be a little different because the way that it was written is that you're waived for the portion of the year that you were destroyed. So, we assess as of January 1, and the gap--this damage was made in August, so properties would have been, you know, assessed for...seven months were useable, and the remaining weren't, so it would have been a proration. But if someone is status quo, and someone is partially damaged...I'll just use a simple example. One house is standing, one house is burnt on the same property, they can come in and apply, and we're going to process that application, and we're going to reassess them for this year, and basically take off the value of the destroyed property for the portion. And right now, we are waiting on those applications to kind of see what happens here. So, none of those are included in these numbers, we still have the basically 10.3 million as taxable, and there could be some reductions from 230 made until June 30th, 2024, if things do stay the same.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And if I could just clarify . . .*(inaudible)*. . . said, the Mayor...what the Mayor waived, he didn't waive the first seven months that they were useable, right, or...or he did?

MS. MARTIN: Chair. So, for the properties where the improvements were completely

BUDGET, FINANCE, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

November 21, 2023

destroyed. the entire year of taxes were waived, including the minimum tax.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Even for the seven months that they were used?

MS. MARTIN: Yes. The taxes for the entire fiscal year, that's the 11 million that was waived, the 11.1, that's for the entire year.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And we as the Council don't need to approve that because he has his emergency powers?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Ms. Toshikiyo to answer that. Yeah, Ms. Toshikiyo, I don't know if you heard the question.

MS. TOSHIKIYO: I believe the question is whether the Mayor had authority, under his emergency proclamation, to waive the payment...the payment of taxes for the...the tax year. And that's, I think, what Ms. Martin is describing for the fiscal year, the taxes that were due in August and in...in February, correct? And yes, and that's our interpretation. I believe that there was a provision within the emergency proclamation as it relates to suspending 3.48 as it relates to payment of Real Property Taxes.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay, thank you. I'll yield.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: That's a good point, right, because the fire was on August the 8th...August 7th...August 8th; right. Okay. So, next we have Member Johnson, and after that is --

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: -- is Member Rawlins-Fernandez.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: I'm going to get into the bill a little bit, Ms. Marcy [*sic*], so maybe you can just answer a few of these questions. I'm sorry I don't know the term arm's-length sale. Can you explain what arm's-length means?

MS. MARTIN: Thank you, Chair. That is an appraisal term, Division does this every day of the year. We look at sales and we determine, you know, if they are a market transaction, meaning a seller wants to sell and a buyer wants to buy, and the consideration is paid...a fair consideration is paid. What isn't an arm's-length transaction would be, you know, a parent selling to a child. Yeah, so, it would exempt those familial-type sales or things of that nature.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay, that makes sense to me. Thank you for that clarification. The next thing I want to go to is on page 5--let me pull it--where it mentions that long...let's see. Page 5, it says...okay, the long-term rental

BUDGET, FINANCE, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

November 21, 2023

exemptions may be allowed on more than one home--that's in Section D...D.1., long-term rental exemptions may be allowed on more than one home for any one taxpayer; provided, however, that the homes are located on different parcels. Do we have...is that a common thing? Can you explain that? What...there's some homes on the same parcel, is...can you kind of clarify that for us?

MS. MARTIN: Yes. So, say that I'm a property owner, ten homes on ten different parcels. I can get a long-term rental exemption on each of the parcels. If I have one home, and I have...I mean one parcel, and I have two homes, you only get one exemption. So, it's basically one exemption per parcel.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay. And that wouldn't have...I mean are there any farm worker dwellings that would...that would be affect...be affected by?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Ms. Martin.

MS. MARTIN: Chair? Yes. Yes so, if they have the one-year lease, right, they get their exemption, and then they get the classification. So, if it was a working farm, and there was two dwellings, they would get the...and they had leased both dwellings for a year, they would get the one exemption, but they get the lower rate on the entire property. So, the entire property would benefit.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay. I understand now. Thank you. I just want to say that I...I really appreciate the way the bill's written, where you are trying to get some incentives for folks to rent long-term in a time of crisis...boy, is this needed. So, thank you so much for trying to craft something that's we...you know, we can look at, and the Administration can administer. So, my time...that's the end of my questions. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. Next, we have Member Rawlins-Fernandez.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: No additional questions.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. So, we have Members [sic] U'u-Hodgins. Oh, I'm sorry, Member Cook.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Mentally going down the...skipped you, sorry.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Chair, my question is for the Department, for whoever chooses it. So, the \$21,403,488, the total, is the estimated...or the projected loss of revenue annually? So, for five years, Director, would that be simply multiply that by five? I mean that's what we're looking at per year, ballpark?

BUDGET, FINANCE, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

November 21, 2023

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Director.

MR. TERUYA: In general, it's a yes if the tax rates stayed the same and the values stayed the same.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Yeah. Okay.

MR. TERUYA: Yeah, if everything's equal.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Yeah. Yeah. I'm saying that's basically the reference number right now of total lost revenues annually to the County due to exempting everybody --

MR. TERUYA: That is my --

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: -- everybody impacted?

MR. TERUYA: -- that's my understanding, given...that's the broadest...that's the biggest number that it possibly could be.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Okay. Thank you. That's my question.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you very much. Next, Member U'u-Hodgins.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: I don't have any more questions. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. Member Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you, Chair. Just a couple follow-up questions on Member Paltin's questions. So, the 11 million that was collected, Ms. Martins [sic], we've since refunded those funds?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Ms. Martin.

MR. TERUYA: I can get that.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh.

MR. TERUYA: We already had refunded them by the end of October is what we had sent out, and we did comply.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Okay.

MR. TERUYA: Just for whoever paid though. Yeah.

BUDGET, FINANCE, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

November 21, 2023

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Okay. And then, I...I know Member...in Member Paltin's bill, she had a...talked about not giving the exemptions to people wanting to sell. Is that included in the bill?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: The Finance bill. Ms. Martin, or Director?

MS. MARTIN: I'll...I'll answer.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

MS. MARTIN: We assess as of January 1. So, it would...if you qualify for the exemption on January 1, you're going to get it for the whole year. So, if you...you sell during the...the year--it's just like the home exemption is now, that's business as usual for us--then you lose the exemption, you're reassessed for the following year. Very rarely...it's only in cases of compliance where you go back, and you reassess someone for a change in status. So, that's all built in.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: It's part of the bill, okay. All right. Thank you for that explanation. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you very much. Next, we have Chair Lee.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay. I just wanted to ask the Finance Director again, just to remind me, where did that \$11 million come from, as far as the recapture in the revenues?

MR. TERUYA: I'll defer to Ms. Martin, but my understanding is that's all of the ones totally destroyed and we've already visually, using aerial imagery, omitted. So, Ms. Martin, if you...

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: No...no...no. I mean, Mr. Teruya, its...okay. We...we recognize that \$11 million, we...we weren't going to use as revenues, count as revenues because we waived the payments in \$11 million, right? Where did you reduce our revenues overall to pay for that? Where did that money come from?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Director?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Or where...what expenses did you delete to cover that --

MR. TERUYA: I didn't...

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: -- loss of revenue?

MR. TERUYA: Chair, it'd be best to ask that question to the Budget Director.

BUDGET, FINANCE, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

November 21, 2023

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay, we'll do that. And Marcy --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: We'll send that question.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: -- now, I see in your bill that you have homes covered. Is there a section for commercial? Nonprofits?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Ms. Martin.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Or it's just residences?

MS. MARTIN: Chair, you mean for the long-term rental?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Yeah, for the...for the bill 3.48.50 [sic]. So, where...where...what...where do we find...do you give any consideration to commercial, like small business owners? Nonprofit?

MS. MARTIN: For the...okay. So, for the 4...3.48.415, that's all exemptions, meaning church, nonprofit, and...and they were definitely some of the very important reasons why I wanted the 3.48.415 passed. So, schools, all of those, and home exemption, and long-term rentals. So, that's the big bucket of exemptions.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay. So, Marcy...so, Marcy, you're telling us that your proposal needs to pass by December 31st?

MS. MARTIN: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Yes. And what in our...any of our proposals needs to be included in that, that needs to pass by December 31st?

MS. MARTIN: If you would like to reduce taxes for the current fiscal year, that would be ideal getting that done by December 31st. And if you would like to reduce taxes for the next fiscal year, it would be ideal for you to pass that by the 31st.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: And to add it into your...to incorporate it into your bill?

MS. MARTIN: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: So, what exactly would you recommend?

MS. MARTIN: Well I...I don't know the legal ins and out, but I have reviewed --

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Quick, I'm running out of time.

MS. MARTIN: -- the other items that you all have supplied, and I didn't have any

BUDGET, FINANCE, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

November 21, 2023

comments on those. That would be the one dated November 20th, and the...

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: You...you don't have any comments on those? . . .*(laughing)*. . .

MS. MARTIN: All of those would...they all would work for me.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Oh, they all...okay.

MS. MARTIN: Yeah...yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay.

MS. MARTIN: I . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: All right. Thank you very much. That...that's very helpful because then...then we don't have to be guessing, yeah. We need to know so we can take decisive action.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Perfect. So, Ms. Martin, to continue what Chair Lee is asking you, if we look at your proposed bill, which is Granicus number 12, Bill number 95 CD1, and let's take it section by section so that we can be sure and clear that we are going to be addressing the exact concerns that you're talking about, and Director Teruya. So, we're not...you know, we're not asking you to go back and remit...remit statements, and refund money, and do whatever. So, let's...let's clearly take us through this bill. And, Members, if you're...if you don't have any more questions and you're okay, then I want to ask for a motion to talk about the bill--and let me know if you think it's too early, but I wanted to take a motion to talk about the bill so that we can go section by section, and make sure that we include that which the Department wants. Is that okay with you, Ms. Martin, and the Members? It's okay? Okay. I think that's where Member U'u-Hodgins was getting to. And so, at this time then, Members, I'd like to entertain a motion to recommend passage on first reading the proposed CD1 version of Bill 95, entitled "A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 3.48, MAUI COUNTY CODE, RELATING TO THE AUGUST 2023 FIRES DISASTER EXEMPTION," and make any nonsubstantive revisions, to file Bill 91 and Bill 102, which is my bill. Can I have a motion?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: So moved.

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Second.

BUDGET, FINANCE, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

November 21, 2023

MR. KRUEGER: Chair?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Chair Lee with a second from, Member U'u-Hodgins. So, thank you very much. So, Chair Lee made the motion, and second by Member U'u-Hodgins.

MR. KRUEGER: Chair?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yes.

MR. KRUEGER: Just...just to clarify for...for Staff's knowledge that the motion is for the proposed CD1 version of Bill 95 that's attached to the correspondence from the Department of Finance --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Right.

MR. KRUEGER: -- dated November 8th, 2023?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, do I need to revise what I just said?

MR. KRUEGER: Just as long...just...just want to make sure it's clear for everyone. that that's the proposed CD1 version we're talking about, the one transmitted by the Real Property Tax Assistant Administrator.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Understand, right, Members? Okay. Great. So, we're using Tamara's number for the bill that she proposed, and we are looking at then what the Department has sent over to us. So, it's been made...the motion was by Chair Lee, seconded by Member U'u-Hodgins. And you do have the ASFs that was given to you from Chair Lee, and...as well as for myself, all on the same section. So, those two ASFs are before you. And for--let me just get this--those who are listening in on *Akakū*. So, the ASFs that we're talking about from Chair Lee...so, where is it? Many papers on my desk...oh, here.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Chair...Chair, mine...mine had to do with including unusable and uninhabitable. Those were, you know, the main points in mine. If...if yours includes that infor--you know, that definition, that's fine with me. The only difference between, I think, yours and mine was perhaps that a little bit, and secondly, the...mine was only for a year, yours was until the 20...2025.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: I can...I can go with the 2025, but actually, I would prefer the one year because then we can assess everything, but I'm not totally opposed to '25.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, I wonder if we...

BUDGET, FINANCE, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

November 21, 2023

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: So, what we could do is just withdraw mine...I can just withdraw mine, we're just dealing with, you know, fewer --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: -- ASFs.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay, we'll do that. But . . . *(inaudible)*. . . the Department to answer your question, Chair Lee, if...about one year or two years.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Ms. Martin...and maybe we'll ask you to answer that because you're going to have actually do all the work in your Department.

MS. MARTIN: Thank you, Chair. So, with your ASF--because I see that are exempt from property taxes through June 30th, 2025, so--and Kristina can chime in--that would mean that we do the retroactive waiver for the 8.15 million for Fiscal '24, and then moving forward, that same group of people would be exempt from taxation for Fiscal '25. They would not be included in our certification and in the budget for the next year; is that correct?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, are...are you better than Chair Lee's question for it to be '24...June 30th, '24 instead of '25...5?

MS. TOSHIKIYO: Chair?

MS. MARTIN: Well, that would be a policy --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh.

MS. MARTIN: -- decision for you all. Again, if the intent is ultimately to remit taxes for the next year, the sooner we can get that information, the better. That would prevent us from having to do work twice.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: So, you're saying 20...June 30th '24? Not '25?

MS. MARTIN: For June...the current year would be '24. And then for the '25 would be our upcoming assessment. So, really, the sooner for both of them that we know, the...we...we got to do the work anyways, but --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: I see.

MS. MARTIN: -- again, the sooner we can know, the better.

BUDGET, FINANCE, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

November 21, 2023

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, okay. So to answer . . . *(inaudible)*. . . mine then. So, as long as you know it's going to be June 30th, '25, you're fine? Oh, okay. Are you fine with that, Chair Lee?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Yeah. That's good.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: That's good. All right.

MS. TOSHIKIYO: Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yes. Oh, yay.

MS. TOSHIKIYO: Chair, sorry, it's...it's Kristina. No, I had a question, sorry, based on what Marcy just asked in terms of when the commencement date of the two ASFs would be. Because I believe it's yours, as Marcy mentioned...as Ms. Martin mentioned, that it would be retroactive for Fiscal Year '24 tax payments, which would include the...I guess, the payments for these types of properties, including the payment that would be due...that they paid in August, and will also have to pay on...in February versus the one year beginning July 1st, 2024, which is for Fiscal Year '25...whether or not that includes the payments that would be due in Fiscal Year '24. So, that, again, a policy decision, but just wanted to make sure that I understood when and...and what periods of time you're trying to apply this to.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh. See, you must be talking about my...oh, 112; is that right? The comparison?

MS. TOSHIKIYO: No, I'm sorry. I...I'm not familiar with 112.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, no. Okay. Sorry.

MS. TOSHIKIYO: I think I'm looking at...

CHAIR SUGIMURA: One...two...sorry. 102?

MS. TOSHIKIYO: Oh.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: What are you looking at? Oh, are you...are you answering Ms. Paltin's question?

MS. TOSHIKIYO: No, no.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh.

MS. TOSHIKIYO: It's...I'm sorry, Chair. It is on the ASF that I pulled off of Granicus, it's

BUDGET, FINANCE, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

November 21, 2023

that new Subsection C., it's for taxes through June 30th, 2025. So, then that's the question, is that it includes the retroactive payment of taxes for, you know, this current fiscal year, which are...are due. And I believe --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

MS. TOSHIKIYO: -- as it...the commencement date as July 1st, 2024, which would be for the next fiscal year, that goes through, oh, you know, Fiscal Year 2025. So, it seems like there is a...a one-year difference in the application of this bill, the two ASFs. I just wanted to make sure that...that's...

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: So, let's...let's...let's just pick the one that is the most generous.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: I mean after all --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: -- look what the Mayor did, he gave a complete waiver to everybody for months before the disaster. So, just pick...don't have to say you're the policy makers, just tell us which is the most efficient one, and...and the fairest one.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Department...or Kristina Toshikiyo...Ms. Toshikiyo, who wants to make the statement?

MS. TOSHIKIYO: Well, if I may.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

MS. TOSHIKIYO: So, just the difference between the two bills. So, the one that would be most generous is the one that basically goes retroactive for this current fiscal year and address up until '25...so, basically two fiscal years. That would be the most generous.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay, I withdraw mine then.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay, withdraw yours.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Like we'll go with yours...yeah, well...because we'll go with yours to be consistent with the Administration. They went all the way back, you know.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Ms. Martin, are you fine with that?

BUDGET, FINANCE, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

November 21, 2023

MS. MARTIN: Yeah. I would have to ask Kristina if it would be better to actually include that additional language in C., to maybe make it clear that it was for two fiscal years.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Ms. Toshikiyo?

MS. TOSHIKIYO: If this...I'm sorry. Oh, Chair, is this for the Chair's ASF? Just some added language for clarity that it's for the two fiscal years ending at the end of Fiscal Year '25 would be fine. And then that would bring clarity.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, in the ASF proposed under B.--under C. So, real property located in a red or yellow re-entry zone in Lāhainā as established by the County following the August '23rd [sic] Maui wildfire in its re-entry map of impacted areas posted on mauirecovers.org, or for which local access was only allowed from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. as of November 15th, 2023, are exempt from real property taxes through June, '25...and we're adding on the verbiage that Ms. Paltin read, right? And hers, if I scribbled it correctly, right, it says, except for owner-occupied, long-term rentals--what is the next word--oh, except...your mic.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Except for owner-occupied and long-term rental for which local access was only allowed as of August 9th are exempt from real property taxes through June 30th, 2025.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And we're still waiting for Ms. Toshikiyo, but she's not getting to us this meeting. So, I guess when she tells us if it's legal or not. If it's not legal, we'll have to cut it out.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Here's...here's Ms. Martin. Ms. Martin, can you give us a Finance interpretation of it?

MS. MARTIN: I want to clarify. So, okay. This is...you don't want to exempt owner-occupied, or you do want to exempt owner-occupied?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: We do.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: We do.

MS. MARTIN: Okay. So, maybe say instead of except, you would say, real property located in a red or yellow that was classified as non...or as...I forget what you said, owner-occupied and long-term rental --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yes.

**BUDGET, FINANCE, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui**

November 21, 2023

MS. MARTIN: -- for January 1, 2023, would be exempt from July 1, '23 through--is June 30, 2025, was that...am I...is that what the intention is?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: On the intent, yes except for August 9th, but if it's easier for you to do July 1st, I guess...I don't want to make your job harder.

MS. MARTIN: Yes, that would be easier, that's the starting of the fiscal year. That would be yes, easier.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Yeah. Great words. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: If we're legal, that's what I'd love to do.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, then we have to find out the legal part. Now, Ms. Toshikiyo, did you have a chance to look at that, or shall we just move on?

MS. TOSHIKIYO: Yes, Chair. If the intention is that this is going to be on the December 1st agenda, I will have an answer for you before then...the December 1st Council agenda.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Okay. So, with this amendment on...as amended, the bill as amended, and then on...would it be December 1, right, Mister...Mr. Cross [sic]?

MR. KRUEGER: Chair, if...if the Committee makes a recommendation out today, yes, then the goal would be to have the CR prepared for posting this Friday for next week's --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Wow.

MR. KRUEGER: -- December 1st Council meeting.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Wow. That's great.

MR. KRUEGER: Oh. Chair, apologies. Just...just for Staff's information, could we have that language, that change to the Chair's ASF, that was...that the Department had...had shared with us, that...Ms. Martin's language?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Ms. Martin, can you say it slowly? It would be at the end of that paragraph.

MS. MARTIN: So, first, I would need...first I will need Tamara to state what she said.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. I think it was, real property located in a red or yellow

BUDGET, FINANCE, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

November 21, 2023

re-entry zone in Lāhainā, as established by the County following the August 2023 Maui wildfires in its re-entry map. It was for owner-occupied and long-term rental classifications would be exempt for the July 1st, 2023 to June 30th, 2024 tax year.

MS. MARTIN: Okay. So, then it probably will say, real property classified as owner-occupied and long-term rental for the January 1, 2023 assessment located in a red and yellow re-entry zone in Lāhainā--then we move down--for which local access was only allowed from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. as of November 15th, 2023, are exempt from Real Property Taxes July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2025. And then you would need to decide...would you say including minimum tax, or are they subject to the minimum tax?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, basically then we...Ms. Toshikiyo would have to assess that too then, subject to the minimum tax. Okay. Yes, Mr. Teruya?

MR. TERUYA: Chair. I don't have that in...in...in front of me; however, that amendment...I would only caution that if we're saying this red and yellow zones as of November whatever, what if that changes December 1? Are we excluding those, or do we want to be little bit more flexible?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: So, the map that we're looking at with the red and yellow and...and green zones, that was established, Tamara, when we first started, right? So, those were the ones that the Office of Recovery is using for re-entry.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I can clarify.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, okay.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: So, the zones were all established, but the colors change, yeah, the red and yellow and the green. So, when it first...the zones were first established, I think majority of things were red --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: -- and then as they open it up, then it changes color. So, as of November 15th, I think...you know, like I don't really have track of time, but at one point, Lāhainā Cannery opened up and...and --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: I see.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: -- you could go to those places.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Longs.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And so, it was then it went from red to green.

BUDGET, FINANCE, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

November 21, 2023

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And so, it will change as they finish their Phase 1.5 and 1. Phase 1 is removal of household hazardous waste by EPA, and 1.5 is families going back to the properties. There's some that EPA has gone through, but because the structures are unstable, people are still not allowed entry back into where they used to live because it's dangerous. So, things will change, the red and yellow...what's green now will probably not change, but what's red could reopen to yellow, or what's yellow could reopen to green. The part that I don't really understand is how it goes during Phase 2, if properties that are green or yellow might turn red. And I...I guess a lot of that depends on how Kula goes because they're putting up air quality monitors all around what they're doing, and so, you know, a lot of people that are living in green right now are not sure if they will be forced to move out during Phase 2, or if...you know, if they have respiratory concerns, or children, or small animals, or whatever, if they should move out, and how that affects it. If they're not forced to move out, but they should move out because, you know, like what if you're pregnant or something, do you want to take a chance of still living there while debris removal is going on, so...

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, what I...then Department, do you want to use this red, green, yellow map if it's going to change? Or are you...are we looking at it and saying okay, this is the picture of what it is. Is...

MS. MARTIN: Chair?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yes.

MS. MARTIN: So, we're going to assess as of January 1.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yes.

MS. MARTIN: You know, if you don't have access on January 1, that's what we're going to assess. So, you could take out the November 15th reference.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

MS. MARTIN: And then as...if someone moved from green to, you know, yellow during calendar 2024, that would be considered for the January 1, '25 assessment, which wouldn't be included in this. It would be something --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

MS. MARTIN: -- that we take up the following year.

BUDGET, FINANCE, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

November 21, 2023

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Take it up again, yeah. So, are you then saying that delete from this verbiage the reference to the re-entry maps because of what Member Paltin described? Or are you saying that whatever a person applies for on December 31st will be the qualifying decision? Is that how you say...go ahead, Member Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I think we should still keep the zones maybe, the reference to November 15th possibly because it...it could change from the time, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. as of November 15th. When I asked Mr. Krueger, he said that he got that date from Finance though. But given that things could change depending on Phase 2, it's...it's difficult to say, going forward...like if it was green on November 15th, will it still be green on January 30th while Phase 2 is going on? For the Cannery, maybe, I don't know...I mean I...if I could predict the future I mean.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, we should leave it then. Director Teruya?

MR. TERUYA: Chair, I just offer a suggestion that maybe if you reference the November date, that it be used for the retro. And then moving forward every January 1, the Department will use that data to the best that they find it to be the date of for the assessment like everything else.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: I like that.

MR. TERUYA: Everything is as of January 1 of a calendar year, it's not--except for the wildfire. If we never had the wildfire--for an example, if a house burnt down on January 2nd, we're still assessed as of January 1. That's Statewide, everybody does that.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh.

MR. TERUYA: It's...it's a date in time. Everything as of January 1 stays for that entire...entire calendar or the fiscal year. So...but for this situation, let's just use the existing data right now as the...as the, I guess, going back. But moving forward, every January 1 will establish with the...that assessment here. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, I like that. You like that? That's...that's what you're talking about; right? Okay. So, Mr. Krueger, you got that? Because you're going to have to read back this motion when we get to it.

MR. KRUEGER: Chair, so I guess for Staff's information, we're not sure what sort of language should be included or...or added to the Chair's ASF in order to effectuate that portion of it about reassessing. Perhaps the body could have a discussion on that.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, you're talking about the January 1 date, the calendar date

**BUDGET, FINANCE, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui**

November 21, 2023

that Director Teruya just spoke of. So, he's adding that to...I know, Section C., right? Okay. So, that plus what Ms. Martin said. You know what? I'm going to call a five-minute recess, this...this...turn the wheels here. I'm going to get back. Calling a recess...

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Chair? Chair...Chair...Chair...Chair?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yes...yes.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Is your plan to like wrap this up in the next 15-20 minutes, or recess for lunch and come back?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, Alice is...is happening...something of importance is, Member Paltin has a HSAC meeting. So, if...if we could do this, she's going to leave at 1:30. Members, I will have you decide what you want to do, but I would like...

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: But because I still want to ask more questions about conversions from short-term to long-term because it's such a dire need. We need about 700 of them tomorrow. So, how are we going to get the word out, and how do we give the...the incentives? You know, that's a concern of mine.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Direct mailer would be the way to get the word out, but I don't know who would do that. Direct mailer to all the Minatoya STRs, as well as nonowner-occupied maybe in Tier 1 of West Maui would be my preference.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: And maybe the Department is doing that already. Okay. So, Members...

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: No, but the deadline is January 31st. So, you know, that...to get --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: That's not much time.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: -- the stuff, the information out, you know, is going to take some time.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Right.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: So...and getting a response back is going to get...take some time.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: So, I'm going to take a five-minute recess and come back at 11:00...oh, 12...12:00 noon if you don't mind. And then we'll come back and we'll

BUDGET, FINANCE, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

November 21, 2023

read all these revisions that we just heard. And my goal is, I hope we can pass this bill so that we can get a Committee report done for it by this Friday, so we can send it to your Council, Chair Lee, and be on your agenda for December 1. So, that's the ambitious goal. I think we talked about this from the very beginning because of the Department's request to get this done so that they can do exactly what you're saying. So, that's another discussion, and sounds like we're going to need a budget for that, but...so, meeting is in recess until 12:01. . . .(gavel). . .

RECESS: 11:55 a.m.

RECONVENE: 12:26 a.m. (Excused: TK)

CHAIR SUGIMURA: . . .(gavel). . . Thank you, everybody. Welcome back to the Budget, Finance, Economic Development Committee. Sorry for this extending recess because we were...we wanted to get the verbiage down for the discussion that we just had. So, do you...maybe we'll get--if, James, you could read it to everybody, is that what you want to do, and maybe put it in chat?

MR. KRUEGER: Chair. So, we're thinking procedurally right now...so what the language that...that Chair has...that's been developed, it's an amendment to your ASF.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, okay. So, we should take this...

MR. KRUEGER: So...so, perhaps...perhaps we can discuss it when the body wants to amend your ASF at that time.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, next then is a...the next step, so that we can get to that language is to amend the main motion by accepting the ASF that was...amends Section 3.48.230, Maui County Code, to exempt certain properties from real property taxation through June 30th, 2025, right.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: So moved.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you, Member Sinenci. And second by --

COUNCILMEMBER U'U-HODGINS: Second.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: -- Member U'u-Hodgins. Okay. So, the motion is to amend Bill 95 CD1 2023 attached to the correspondence dated November 8, 2023, from the Real Property Tax Assessment Administrator. And then you have the ASF, so any more discussion on that, we'll vote on the amendment, and then we'll get the amendment language...amended language.

MR. KRUEGER: Chair, perhaps the body can discuss your ASF at this time, but since our language is like an amendment to what your ASF is proposing, we can also

BUDGET, FINANCE, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

November 21, 2023

accept the amendment to the amendment at this time --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

MR. KRUEGER: -- to make that change.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, we can then amend the amendment to then propose the ASF. You want to read that so we can vote on both...and it's in Granicus?

MR. KRUEGER: Chair, we don't have anything in Granicus at this time. We will post the language in...in chat now, and then I can read it out for the body.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay, very good. We need a motion for this additional amendment, no, right?

MR. KRUEGER: Chair, yes, the body will need a motion.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

MR. KRUEGER: Perhaps I should read out the language first, and then the body can make --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

MR. KRUEGER: -- . . .*(inaudible)*. . . the motion.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. And then we can do the amendment to the amendment. Go ahead.

MR. KRUEGER: So, Chair, the...what the amendment would be, would be to amend what's in the ASF by replacing the current proposed Section C. by inserting a new Section C. and D. So, Section...Section C. would read as follows: Real property classified as owner-occupied or long-term rental for the January 1st, 2023 assessment located in a red or a yellow re-entry zone in Lāhainā as established by the County following the August 2023 Maui wildfires in its re-entry map of impacted areas, or for which local access was only allowed from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. as of November 15th, 2023, are exempt from Real Property Taxes July 1st, 2023 through December 31st, 2023. And then there would also be inserted a new Section D., which would read as follows: Real property classified as owner-occupied or long-term rental for the January 1st, 2023, assessment located in a red or yellow re-entry zone in Lāhainā as established by the County following the August 2023 Maui wildfires in its re-entry map of impacted areas, or for which local access was only allowed from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. as determined by the Director on January 1st, are exempt from Real Property Taxes January 1st, 2024 through June 30th, 2025.

BUDGET, FINANCE, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

November 21, 2023

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. We have questions? It's in...it's in chat. Director Teruya, you have your hand up?

MR. TERUYA: Chair, thank you. Just one point that I didn't hear, is this section exempt from the minimum tax or not?

MR. KRUEGER: Chair, we currently don't have included in this language anything relating to the minimum tax. So, if the body is agreeable one way or another, that language could be added on as part of this amendment.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Is the Department recommending we clear that up?

MR. TERUYA: I...I don't have any recommendation, Chair. I just...just want to be clear so that we...however we carry it out that there's somewhere in here that's says what...what the intent was. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Chair Lee, your hand was up.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Yeah, I had that in my ASF to exempt the minimum tax as well.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Okay, exempt the minimum tax as well. Ms. Martin, was your...was your hand up?

MS. MARTIN: Thank you, Chair. So, I wanted to clarify, under C., it said July 1, '23 through December 30...31, so that'd be June 30, '24?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, in Section C., it's where the...so you said are exempt from Real Property Taxes July 1, '23 through December 31st, 2023. And what is your question, Ms. Martin? Oh I see, Ms. Toshikiyo just popped up.

MS. TOSHIKIYO: Oh, yes. Thank you, Chair. That was actually my question as well. Because the...the retroactive for this November 15th date would be for the Fiscal Year '24, which would run into the end of June 30th, 2024. And for Subsection D., the real property tax is January 1st, 2024 through June 30th, 2025. That would take the second half of Fiscal Year '24 and June...the Fiscal Year of 2025 where Fiscal Year 2025, the date of the valuations is January 1st. So, I think that to make it clear and easier for the Department to implement, I would, in Section C., say June 1st to the following June 30th, and...I'm sorry July 1st to the following June 30th, which is one fiscal year. And then in Subsection D., say the same, you know, following the fiscal year.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, the...you're saying the --

MS. TOSHIKIYO: Does that make sense?

BUDGET, FINANCE, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

November 21, 2023

CHAIR SUGIMURA: -- last sentence of D.--last sentence of D. would be consistent with the last...well, not sentence, but the last statements, I guess, in Fiscal C. to be July 1...

MS. TOSHIKIYO: Yes. So, just...yeah, just clear on when the payment for taxes are due.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

MS. TOSHIKIYO: And then also, Chair, if I may also ask regarding the Finance Director's question regarding minimum tax. I guess my question would be the same for Subsection...the new Subsection D. as well.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So, we should...we should include that. Keani Rawlins-Fernandez has a thought. Ms. Fernandez?

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: I was just...I'm clarifying what Ms. Toshikiyo was saying for the dates, to follow the fiscal year month, and not the calendar year.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah. Very good. And where would you add in, exempt from minimum tax?

MR. KRUEGER: Chair?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Go ahead.

MR. KRUEGER: If...if you wanted to change the amendment to include an exemption from the minimum...minimum tax, perhaps it could just be added to the end of each Section C. and D., it could just be, are exempt from Real Property Taxes, including the minimum tax, July 1, '23 through June 30th, '24--and then we make the same thing for Section D.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Chair Lee, are you fine with that?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Yes.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. How about Department? Director, Ms. Martin?

MR. TERUYA: Chair, I'm okay with that. It's...it's hard . . .*(inaudible)*. . . but I know there's a section of...called minimum tax, and I'm not sure if it just references that section that's omitted. Like, I'm not sure if Ms. Martin has the Code with her, I didn't remember it...remind.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Ms. Martin, do you have a...

BUDGET, FINANCE, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

November 21, 2023

MR. TERUYA: Minimum tax is a section, and it may exempt portions of it. I'm not sure how it reads though off hand.

MS. MARTIN: Chair, because this is a...a tax waiver, and a one time, I think being specific in this section will suffice, as opposed to putting it in the more permanent sections of the Code.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Okay. So, we'll just add that then, Mr. Cross [sic].

MR. KRUEGER: Yes, Chair. We can include --

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Mister who?

MR. KRUEGER: -- that.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

MR. KRUEGER: The...well, did you...did the body want us to include the Code reference of the minimum tax in the proposed Section C. and D.--no?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: They didn't say that. Department, did you want to...okay, no. Okay, so we got it. Hi, Ms. Paltin...Councilmember Paltin. You're fine. Okay. And Ms. Rawlins-Fernandez, Councilmember Rawlins-Fernandez, are you fine with this?

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yeah, I'm supportive I just put the minimum tax section from the Code in there --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: -- in the chat --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: -- for reference.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

MR. KRUEGER: So, Chair, at this time if...if the language is sufficient, the body will need to make a motion to amend your amendment to...to replace with this language --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

MR. KRUEGER: -- the Sections C. and D.

**BUDGET, FINANCE, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui**

November 21, 2023

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Oh, that was a late vote.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, late vote.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Or late hand.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: I'm on the phone and hear everything.

**VOTE: AYES: Chair Sugimura, Councilmembers Cook,
Johnson, Lee, Paltin, Rawlins-Fernandez,
Sinenci, and U'u-Hodgins.**

NOES: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: None.

EXC.: Vice-Chair Kama.

MOTION CARRIED.

**ACTION: FIRST READING of BILL 95, CD1 (2023); and FILING of
BILL 91 (2023) and BILL 102 (2023).**

CHAIR SUGIMURA: All right. So, we're at...so, thank you very much, everybody. A really important discussion, and appreciate your hard work because this is...this took us several meetings to complete, but I think it was really important. And I believe that Department...Department's concern of...of getting this done so that they can communicate with the public. Now, Chair Lee's question, which is above and beyond this bill, which is communication. You can ask your question again.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: So, Marcy, do you have a plan to...to accelerate in...in promoting this, you know, getting the information out, the education, the information to all with regard to especially conversion? Do you folks have a plan for that? Or...or you just going to work Saturdays and Sundays, huh, calling 7,000 people? What's the plan?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Ms. Martin, or Director?

MS. MARTIN: Well, Chair, so right now, the...there...there is a plan on...on sending out

BUDGET, FINANCE, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

November 21, 2023

a mass mailer, and...and we're in a partnership with the Mayor's office on, and we'd like to include as much information as far as tax relief that we can in the letter. I think we need to, you know, be reaching out to FEMA, who's going to be the landlord in a lot of these situations. But with that being said, that isn't our expertise. So, whatever help we can get from anybody, including this body, in getting, you know, the word out for the exemptions, you know, we'll...we'll take any help we can get.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Honestly...honestly, Marcy, this is what I heard. Everybody's counting on everybody else to do it, you know, so there is no one particular core group focused on this and aggressively pursuing it. Honestly, people think, oh, so-and-so's doing it, and so-and-so...but so-and-so is not doing it. So, that's my concern, yeah. Before you know it, most people will have to, you know, vacate the hotels. And luckily, we have 800 left, you know, with Kā'anapali Beach and Royal Lāhainā, but the rest of them, where are all the other 2,000 people going? My concern, yeah.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. I see Member Paltin's hand up.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you. I think ...*(inaudible)*... question for Ms. Toshikiyo in response to Ms. Martin's question about helping, that they'll take help from anyone. For Ms. Toshikiyo, could the Realtor's Association of Maui help them? Because I think realtors mail out stuff to folks quite a bit, like asking to buy property or whatever?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Ms. Toshikiyo.

MS. TOSHIKIYO: If I'm understanding your question, Member Paltin, is, can the Realtors Association assist in getting the word out? And I think we would definitely, they can. I...I think I've seen some of them in these meetings as well. So, I'm ...*(inaudible)*... in that they have been monitoring very closely. But yes, absolutely.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: So, maybe like our Committee Secretary could bring it to them, or would it be the Administration to ask, or who...who would be the entity that would be the appropriate person to ask them?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: ...*(inaudible)*... Miss...

MS. TOSHIKIYO: I...I think either body could. In fact, I know that you do press releases on a regular basis, updating the public on the...the work that you're doing, as well as the Administration, you know. And those can be directly sent to the Realtors Association or other, you know, community groups, business organizations that will be able to spread the word very quickly. Yes, I don't think that --

BUDGET, FINANCE, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

November 21, 2023

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

MS. TOSHIKIYO: -- there is anything that hurt it.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I'll inform the Committee Secretary to bring that to the Realtors Association of Maui.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: He's a realtor. So, Members, by first reading we'll ask...work with the Department to find out what the plan is. I know that all of us have our constant eNews or whatever, you know, how we communicate with our communities, and that maybe we could assist in that way, if needed. But, Ms. Martin and Director, can we work with you and find out what the plan is so that this can be answered by first reading, which is December 1? Yes. Okay. And then whatever deadlines you're trying to work towards, I think we all have the same anxiety to...to make sure that people can apply who are eligible, and people are standing by for this. So, okay. So, that's my commitment, that I will find out what the plan is, and then we can ask some of our talented Staff to help us work with the Realtors Association of Maui. I think they're going through a transition right now, but they do have their force in...in themselves. So, anybody else have any other questions? Chair Lee.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: This is little off topic as well, but if everybody, you know, wouldn't mind volunteering some time, we can change our radio ads and, you know, update them so that now...instead of only asking for input like we have been, now we're letting everybody know about getting the information out on taxes and applying for exemptions and all of that. So --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: -- we'll work on a script, and then set up the schedules for all of you...I mean because you folks are still on the radio on a rotation basis, so --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Wow.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: -- we've done thousands of ads, and we can continue doing that.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: If you guys don't mind.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: And then...yeah, I think that's...to help real property tax, as well as I know that you have set up so that each of us could have a press conference. So, maybe at the appropriate time, once we pass this, I wouldn't mind making, you know, this part of what I could assist with, if...if...if possible.

BUDGET, FINANCE, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

November 21, 2023

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah. And if you need somebody to...I'm pretty good at putting stamps on mailers, so if we need help with that, I can do that too --

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: . . .*(laughing)*. . .

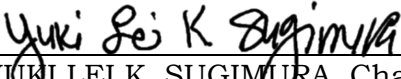
CHAIR SUGIMURA: -- along with Chair Lee. She's volunteering because she laughed. Okay. Members, great meeting, and we're going to get everybody off to go to their next set of meetings. Thank you very much, Department, really appreciate your help, and everybody who's worked days to make this a reality, and thank you very much. Thank you very much, Mr. Teruya, for popping in, helping us. Anything else, Mr. Krueger or Apo Takayama?

MR. KRUEGER: Chair, there's nothing else before the body.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. This meeting is now adjourned. . . .*(gavel)*. . .

ADJOURNED: 12:40 p.m.

APPROVED:



YUKI LEI K. SUGIMURA, Chair
Budget, Finance, and Economic
Development Committee

bfed:min:231121_r:slv:cvk

Transcribed by: Cheryl von Kugler

**BUDGET, FINANCE, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui**

November 21, 2023

CERTIFICATION

I, Cheryl von Kugler, hereby certify that pages 1 through 51 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 2023, in Wailuku, Hawai'i.



Cheryl von Kugler