

MINUTES

of the

PUBLIC HEARING HELD ON

APRIL 17, 2019

THE COUNCIL OF THE COUNTY OF MAUI, STATE OF HAWAII, CONVENED A PUBLIC HEARING ON WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17, 2019 AT 6:01 P.M., IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, KALANA O MAUI BUILDING, WAILUKU, HAWAII, WITH CHAIR KELLY KING PRESIDING, FOR THE PURPOSE OF RECEIVING TESTIMONY ON THE PROPOSED OPERATING BUDGET AND CAPITAL PROGRAM FOR THE FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2019 TO JUNE 30, 2020 (FY 2020).

CHAIR KING: Hello. Okay, we're here, we're on. Alright, thank you Councilmembers for coming back in your seats. I think we've got quorum but I'm going to let the Deputy Clerk take roll call.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: COUNCILMEMBERS SHANE M. SINENCI, MICHAEL J. MOLINA, ALICE L. LEE, TAMARA A.M. PALTIN, YUKI LEI K. SUGIMURA, NATALIE A. KAMA, VICE-CHAIR KEANI N.W. RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ AND CHAIR KELLY T. KING.

EXCUSED: COUNCILMEMBER G. RIKI HOKAMA.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK MARGARET C. CLARK: Madam Chair, there are eight Members present and one Member excused. A quorum is present to conduct the business of the Council.

CHAIR KING: Okay, thank you. The meeting was called to order at 6:00, and this is the Maui County Council Public Hearing on the Operations and CIP for the 2020 Budget.

Deputy Clerk.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Madam Chair, the Notice of Public Hearing on the Mayor's Proposed Budget and Capital Program was published in the April 3, 2019 and April 9, 2019 editions of the Maui News.

In accordance with Section 9-4, of the Revised Charter of the County of Maui, the public is invited to provide testimony before the Council regarding the Mayor's Proposed Budget for the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2020 and Proposed Capital Program.

We have established limited interactive communication that enables individuals from Hana, Lanai, and Molokai to provide testimony from our District Offices. Individuals who wish to offer testimony from the District Offices should now sign up with staff. Individuals who wish to offer testimony in the chamber please sign up at the desk located in the eighth-floor lobby just outside the chamber door.

When testifying, please state your name and the name of any organization you represent. Please also identify to the Council if you are a paid lobbyist.

CHAIR KING: Thank you, Deputy Clerk.

I just want to thank everybody for coming out to testify and help us determine how to use your tax dollars. And before we proceed on the agenda, may I please request that everyone silence their cell phones or any other noise making devices that you have out of courtesy.

Also, because of the, we have 80 testifiers signed up so far and because we actually still have work to get to after this, I know it's difficult for people to have to wait for a long time, so we are going to limit testimony to three minutes and when the light turns yellow, you'll have 30 seconds left to conclude. So please be aware of that, just out of courtesy to the many people who are coming after you.

For those of you who are standing, we do have seats up here if you want to come in, there's some, first and second rows has several seats. So, please make yourself at home, especially if you're number 50 or later.

And we will probably take our first break at about 10 minutes to eight for 10 minutes and then come back after that, just to let you all know what the protocol is for Councilmembers and their breaks.

So, Madam Deputy Clerk.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Madam Chair.

CHAIR KING: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Thank you, Madam Chair. Just, I totally, you know, support you and what, how you want to run tonight's meeting. Just as a reminder, please police us because we have 80 plus testifiers and we want to hear from everyone as much as possible. Because I've had some people tell me from all of our other hearings they got frustrated in waiting. And partly in part of ourselves asking a lot of questions to the testifiers, so if we can all police ourselves. If we have to ask any of our testifiers to clarify their testimony, so be it, but not get, you know, side tracked with other issues that may not relate to the agenda item. And we certainly don't want to get in trouble with the Sunshine Law police, if you will, so please police us on that and I'll make sure I do my part. So, this way everybody can be heard tonight.

CHAIR KING: Thank you, Councilmember Molina.

I will certainly do that. And, also Councilmembers, I'm going to kind of go from one testifier to the next, so I'm not going to stop in between and ask if you have, if you have questions, please raise your hand and catch my attention. So I will look, but I'm just not going to ask every time because it actually takes up a lot of time doing that too.

So, I think we're checking in with Lanai first. Ms. Deputy Clerk.

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Lanai Office, please identify yourself and introduce any testifiers.

CHAIR KING: Denise? Hello?

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Question, Chair.

CHAIR KING: Councilmember Kama.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you, Chair.

I was just thinking about all the young students that we have with us tonight that may want to bear testimony and yet I think it might be a school night on top of that, too. So, for consideration.

CHAIR KING: Okay, yeah, I just, I have a stack of testifiers and I can't tell from this, who's a student and who's not. So, if we have any groups of students that would like to come and testify all together? We have any groups that would come with one group, I can take you first? And let me know what name you're under. I'm happy to do that, if you can all come with one message together. Did we get, did we check in with Lanai, yet? Or they--

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Yes. Madam Chair, we've been notified from the Lanai Office that they do not have any testifiers.

CHAIR KING: Okay. Thank you. And is Molokai and Hana in yet?

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: We have not been notified of any testimony from those offices, either.

CHAIR KING: Okay. And, are they there?

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: I believe so.

CHAIR KING: Okay. We were waiting for them to be there earlier. Okay, if we have the group of students that wants to come up, I'll take you first if you're all together. If you have one testifier with all of you. That's the criteria today. Okay, if you have individual testimony then we'll just, we'll wait. Okay, we'll just go through the names.

Okay, first we're going to go ahead and start. First testifier is June Davis, second testifier, she'll be followed by Sanoë Kaaihue. Please, just announce your name again and what organization you're with and announce if you're a paid lobbyist. Aloha.

PRESENTATION OF TESTIMONY

MS. JUNE DAVIS:

Hi. Good evening, everybody. It's nice to see you guys. My name is June Davis. I belong to the MILC group, and so the Maui Wheelers and the MILC, Nani Watanabe is the leader. But thank you very much for, for helping us and . . . really very happy to see new Members and thank you, thank you so much, thank you.

CHAIR KING: Thank you. Thank you very much for your testimony. Are you three together? Okay.

MS. PENNY DAVIS:

Aloha ahiāhi. I'm Auntie Penny Davis. And, it's so wonderful to see the new Council Chair and Members of the Council. Lots of new faces, some not too new faces, but lots of new faces. You all look great.

And thank you for the wonderful job that you have been doing so far. I would also like to be, I am in support of MILC, Maui Independent Living Center, which you graciously gave to your budget. I think it was started last year, so that MILC could have an office and we have a director, a person that is in charge of us and she lets us be, what it is, independent living at home. And we call her, we can call her anytime of the day, night, or whenever and ask her and we have done that in the past, and she has answered all of our questions and helped us, without getting paid for it.

But finally, this year through the year, then Nani Watanabe is the person and she has helped us. And we have people that come in and help us to decide what kind of things that we can do to be able to live at home, independently. So, we had the people, like at the Fire Department, and the people that help, to help us know what to do with wound care and transportation.

My sister and I both use a power chair, and now we have the independence of getting from point A and B. And then we have with the bus system, also run by MEO that takes us to A, B and C and around. And I would like to also thank you for that. Right now the Maui Independent Living Center, I believe has 45 clients, it doesn't seem like a lot, but it's for, right now the people that are using it, it's because we now have an office that they can contact and Nani can help us. And, the people here on the Tri-Isle, Maui County, I believe that the people on Lanai and Molokai, right now cannot receive services, they have to be here to do that, because of funds or I'm not sure what. But I would like to thank you for--

CHAIR KING: Aunty Penny, can you please conclude.

MS. DAVIS: Oh, okay. I would like to thank you for supporting MILC and MEO and I would like you also, invite you to maybe come someday to a MILC meeting or Maui Wheelers meeting and then we can tell you all about what we do. Mahalo.

CHAIR KING: Thank you for your testimony. Councilmember Sugi, Councilmember Kama, you have a question? Oh.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: My lights on. Sorry.

CHAIR KING: Okay. Our next testifier is Sanoë Kaaihue, followed by, oh Penny Davis, you just testified. Followed by Debbie Cabebe.

MS. SANOE KAAIHUE, WOMEN HELPING WOMEN:

Hopefully, this is low enough. Good evening, Madam Chair and all County Councilmembers. My name is Sanoe Kaaihue, I'm the Executive Director for Women Helping Women. I would first like to express my gratitude for allowing non-profits, such as ours to speak to the needs of our growing community and the challenges we continue to face.

I'm privileged enough to work with 27 dedicated, passionate advocates across Maui and Lanai. Many of my fellow non-profit directors can relate, so of course judging by the gallery full of people.

Over the past year, Women Helping Women has supported over 1,000 men, women and children with emergency shelter, temporary restraining orders, court advocacy, transitional housing support group and individual support and client assistance. This number doesn't even begin to reflect the countless people that call our 24-hour hotline.

Last year we held 42 trainings and presentations for resort staff, medical professionals, college students, department stores and other professionals. Without your support, vital services would not reach the Lanai and Hana communities.

One of the biggest highlights for 2018, for myself and my Deputy Director Pili Kanenau, was actually teaching 450 high school students and faculty from Kamehameha Schools Maui, about teen dating violence and the importance of healthy relationships. Actually, we did that twice, right. Yeah.

Without your support, we would not be able to bring awareness events to our community throughout the year. Domestic violence still remains a big problem and the statistics haven't changed much. Twenty people per minute are physically abused by an intimate partner. One in four women and one in nine men, experience severe intimate partner physical violence. And the presence of a gun in a domestic violence situation increases the risk of homicide by 500%. While these statistics are alarming, there is still hope.

Maui County is fortunate in that we non-profits, first responders, judiciary all work together to solve problems. When issues arise, we come together at the table. Egos are definitely checked at the door, and we come up with solutions. I know most of us get asked often by other counties, how it is that we can work all together? The answer is simple, it's less of "I" and more of "we". The ultimate goal is always, is and always will be to end domestic violence, not just for our County, but the State and our world.

So, thank you for being, for having a seat at the table with us, and the non-profits and Maui County and I are grateful for your continued support. Thank you.

CHAIR KING: Thank you for your work and for your testimony.

Okay, next testifier is Debbie Cabebe, followed by Hokuao Pellegrino.

MS. DEBBIE CABEBE, MAUI ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY:

Aloha, Chair and Members. My name is Debbie Cabebe, I'm the CEO of Maui Economic Opportunity and this is some of our directors here to support our testimony.

MEO is a designated community action agency for Maui County, dedicated to serving those in poverty with programs designed with a major goal of self-sufficiency. Community action agencies are locally led, and build locally driven partnerships that engage private and public sector leaders and engage local residents in a deliberate effort to understand the obstacles to prosperity unique to the specific community.

MEO operates under five departments: MEO Business Development Center; MEO Community Services; Early Childhood Services; Transportation Services; and Youth Services

Within these departments we administer about forty different programs that respond to specific needs in this community. In the last fiscal year, we helped more, nearly 18,000 individuals with services such as, obtaining and maintaining employment; increasing income; creating jobs and earning a living wage; entrepreneurs and small businesses start-up and development counseling; achieving academic, social, and other school success; improving their home environment; improving their ability to meet their basic needs and overall financial well-being; secure and maintain safe and affordable housing; reduce their energy burden; access to fresh fruits and vegetables; demonstrate improved mental health and well-being; maintain an independent living situation; no recidivating; increase knowledge, skills and abilities to enable them to improve conditions in their community and enhance their ability to engage. And we provided specialized transportation providing more than 407,000 rides throughout Maui County.

In the last fiscal year, MEO leveraged more than \$4.5 million from Federal, State and County governments, private foundations and grants, through fundraising. And this is all to supplement our County funding.

MEO is committed to making Maui County a better place to live, to work, to raise a family, to run a business and insuring that people with low incomes are engaged and active in building opportunities in the community. Thank you for your support.

CHAIR KING: Thank you so much, Debbie. Any questions, thank you so much.

Okay, next testifier is Hokuao Pellegrino, followed by Brayden Kitagawa. Whoever's out there if you could change to a pen, it's really hard to read pencil on purple. Aloha.

MR. HOKUAO PELLEGRINO, HUI O NA WAI EHA:

Aloha mai kakou. Aloha, Chair and Councilmembers. My name is Hokuao Pellegrino and I'm testifying on behalf of the organization, Hui o Na Wai Eha and also in regards, I'm testifying in regard to the acquisition of Wailuku Water Company's Watershed/Conservation Land, Stream Diversions and Delivery Systems situated on approximately 8,900 acres.

Hui o Na Wai Eha has been involved in this process of the County inquiring Wailuku Water Company dating all the way back to 2007. We strongly believe the reasoning for not gaining traction over the last decade on this issue was the lack in communication between Administration and past Councils, as well as, the Administration's misconceptions over management - maintenance and overall use of the water system.

We strongly believe that our public trust resources such as water and water sheds and this system, should be held in the trust of the public, such as the County of Maui, which is why we have supported the idea of this acquisition from the get go. This time around, however, we strongly advise that both the Council and Administration genuinely engage with our, our organization as a major stakeholder, as well as the key details and concerns that we have ultimately helped deal, for this deal to come to fruition.

We'd like to see the conditions in this purchase agreement with Wailuku Water Company that ensures the development of a community-based stream management plan along with a number of other key components that would ensure this public trust resource is protected for generations to come.

What benefits does this acquisition come with and what does it not come with? The acquisition of Wailuku Water Company absolutely does not come with additional water for the Maui County, any more water than has been allocated by the State Commission on Water Resource Management from our contested case in the Water Use Permit application process. By acquiring the system, it does not give the County the power to

begin charging kuleana kalo farmers in Na Wai Eha for the water that they are using, even when the water is, would potentially be delivered by the County.

If you look at one of the copies that I sent out from our contested case, most recent contested case hearing, Conclusion, Facts and Finding of Law, it shows that Hui o Na Wai Eha has supported the request of the County in their water use permit to draw additional water from the Wailuku River via the Iao-Waikapu Ditch System for future growth. The County's existing use and capacity through the old treatment facility of 1.784 million gallons per day. The County facility in Iao, to manage the increase capacity being requested so therefore, Hui o Na Wai Eha supported this increase of 1.416 million gallons and still stands by that decision. The County's total use of surface water with the additional request would set, be set at 3.2 million gallons. The report shows extensive detail in the County water use from both surface and ground water in Na Wai Eha, along with research that supports this population growth all the way to 2030.

And now that I see that my time up, I yeah, you have my written testimony. So.

CHAIR KING: Oh, we have some questions.

Councilmember Lee.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Good evening, Hokuao. So we realize that this is an important step to, to purchase this very significant piece of land. What would you think could happen if we didn't, if the County didn't move forward to purchase the Wailuku Water Company?

MR. PELLEGRINO: I can tell you exactly what would happen. It would continue to stay in private hands, an outside investor could come and purchase the watershed. As they, a French water company tried to, was interested in acquiring this system a little over a decade ago, at least that's what the rumors was told. So, I mean we could have a situation like that where we're no better off, or it could be worse than the situation that we currently are in.

So, I think there's a lot of details that needs to be worked out in this process, but we, we support the overall concept with the intent to, to collaborate on the nitty-gritty details. Because there is a lot of details in, in this process that I feel, and our organization has felt over the last 15 years that both past Administration and past Council have not addressed head on. Which is why I really don't think it got any traction over the last 10 years or, you know, so on since 2007. We received a bond for \$7 million back in 2008 for the purchase and then it disappeared with the new Administration at that time.

COUNCIL MEMBER LEE: One last question, this Council is very serious about making the commitment to purchase the Wailuku Water Company. Would Na Wai Eha be interested in collaborating with the management of the watershed?

MR. PELLEGRINO: Absolutely, you find in the detailed testimony, I absolutely believe that, you know, we are in a different era now, where, you know, plantation doesn't exist anymore. Whereby, we rely on a few ditch men to take care of, you know, a system that, that feeds a multitude of people. And if we look at the traditional concepts and practices that our kupuna have done in ahuapa`a resource management, you know, from the konohiki, all the way down to the ho'a'ina process, I really and truly believe that we can, we can recreate that and move towards that again.

Do I think that Hui o Na Wai Eha has the capacity to manage the entire system? Absolutely not. But a good portion of the system especially in Waiehu and Waihee, the majority users from those streams are kuleana kalo farmers and I think that allowing that independence for those taro farmers to once again be able to access those systems, to access the valley for traditional and customary practices and gathering rights and so on, and so on. I think, I think this is the time, and last--

CHAIR KING: Mr. Pellegrino, I need to--

MR. PELLEGRINO: Sorry.

CHAIR KING: Did you get the answer to your question?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Thank you very much.

CHAIR KING: I just, I have one question for you.

MR. PELLEGRINO: Sure.

CHAIR KING: Have you looked into eminent domain?

MR. PELLEGRINO: So.

CHAIR KING: You can say yes or no--

MR. PELLEGRINO: Absolutely.

CHAIR KING: --and we can have a meeting about it later.

MR. PELLEGRINO: No, I'll just say that, past Administrations that was definitely something that was on the table that we discussed with former Mayor, so I would--

CHAIR KING: Okay, great. Thank you. We have one more question from Councilmember Kama.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Aloha, Hokuao

MR. PELLEGRINO: Aloha.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: And thank you for coming.

MR. PELLEGRINO: Mahalo.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: So, I just want to be clear with what I heard you say was that the water that we're talking about is not actually going to be used for housing, but it's actually for the traditional purposes for which it was intended?

MR. PELLEGRINO: If I could clarify that?

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Yeah.

MR. PELLEGRINO: Mahalo, Councilmember Kama. So, the lao system, part of, so this acquisition would only be for Wailuku, Waiehu, and Waihee Valleys. The Waikapu Watershed was already purchased by Mike Atherton and therefore the lao system, the only real user of the lao system is the County.

That water through lao-Waikapu Ditch goes to the water treatment facility, therefore the additional water that was asked by the County through the water use permit application, we supported which would increase the 3.2 mgd. And the studies that I've shared with you show very clearly that this insures water through the year 2030 and for the increase of population in the central, those utilizing the Central Maui system.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR KING: Okay, thank you so much for your testimony.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Chair.

CHAIR KING: Oh, one more question?

Councilmember Sugimura.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Yeah, so thank you very much for being here Hokuao. And I just wanted to know, then, are you saying there is no additional source of water, like we are at maximum capacity with all the users that are there today?

MR. PELLEGRINO: So, right now, the County actually is not using the 3.2 mgd, and the reason why they're not using that increased amount that they requested is because of the develop, the building of that new treatment facility in Iao. When that is on-line, I'm not sure if it's on-line yet, it will have the capacity to treat that additional amount of water. When that happens, and the County utilizes, if they so choose to utilize the 3.2 mgd, that should suffice for the population growth through 2030 of the Central Maui area and system. Does that kind of make sense. So that would include, you know, further use which could be tied to obviously, development, housing and so on and so on.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you.

CHAIR KING: Okay, thank you. I assume you will be available later on for, as a resource to the Water--

MR. PELLEGRINO: Absolutely.

CHAIR KING: Okay, thank you so much.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Real quick, Chair.

CHAIR KING: Oh, you have one more--

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Quick question, real quick.

CHAIR KING: Okay.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. So, you mentioned earlier in your testimony that there was negotiations for the system, including the Waikapu Aquifer, and I'm sorry I don't have your written testimony in front of me, so I don't know if it includes this information, so, um, and that the negotiations at that time was for \$7 million and it included the Waikapu Aquifer.

MR. PELLEGRINO: Yes, good point. So, I believe that one of the proposals is \$9.5 million for the acquisition of now three components of the four. At the time that we were looking at it in 2007 and through about 2009, we had secured a \$7 million bond and yeah, yeah. Good point.

CHAIR KING: Thank you.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo.

MR PELLEGRINO: Mahalo.

CHAIR KING: Okay, next testifier is Brayden Kitagawa, who is a student, followed by Pono Hodges, also a student. Staff, can somebody help? There you go. Did it all by himself?

BRAYDEN KITAGAWA, MEDB STEMWORKS:

Good afternoon, Committee Chair and Members. My name is Brayden Kitagawa and I am a fourth grader at Pukalani Elementary School. I am here today to testify in support of continued funding for the STEMworks Program at Maui Economic Development Board.

For the past year, I have been a member of my school's Stem Imagineers Robotics Team and Research Team. Being a part of this team has been the best part of my school year. Through the program, I've learned about teamwork, science, engineering, leadership and writing.

This year, we did a research project on aquaponics and how it could be used to increase Maui's food production, so we are not as dependent on outside food sources. We researched, designed, and we continue to maintain an aquaponic system at our school. We won first place at Maui VEX Tournament among Elementary and Middle School teams. In addition, we traveled to Iowa for National VEX Tournament and won first place at national level.

I am so grateful for my teachers, team members, and STEMworks Program for giving me these opportunity to participate in this great program and for teaching me something that may also help my community and the island of Maui in the future.

I invite you to come to our school to watch our system at work. Please continue to fund great programs like this. Thank you.

CHAIR KING: Mahalo. Great testimony. Okay, can you hand the mic to the next person, to Pono Hodges and followed by Blake Yatsushiro.

PONO HODGES, MEDB STEMWORKS:

Good evening, Ms. King and Maui County Council. My name is Pono Hodges, I'm in fourth grade and I go to Pukalani Elementary School. I'm speaking to you today to ask for continuing funding of the STEMworks AFTERSchool Program. I have been in STEMworks AFTERSchool Programs since the first grade. STEMworks has taught me about robotics, technology, computer coding, the earth, and protecting the environment.

This year, our team went to the CREATE 2019 Robotics National Championship in Iowa. It felt so amazing to be there with my teammates representing Maui. We won first place for our STEM research project about aquaponics. We chose aquaponics as our research project because STEMworks has taught us about food security and environmental responsibility. STEMworks is important because it can change kids' lives in many different ways, such as learning to be responsible, loving science, and finding ways to help our community.

Please continue giving money to the STEMworks Program. It is so important for our Maui kids and the future of Maui. Mahalo for your consideration.

CHAIR KING: Mahalo. Thank you for your testimony. Next testifier is Blake Yatsushiro, followed by Lydia Jackson.

BLAKE YATSUSHIRO, MEDB STEMWORKS:

Aloha Council Chair and Members. My name is Blake Yatsushiro. I am a fourth grader at Pukalani Elementary School. Thank you for allowing me to speak in support of the MEDB STEMworks AFTERSchool Program.

Strong work ethics and teamwork are important life skills that I've learned through working at STEMworks AFTERSchool. When I was in the second grade, I took the second-grade coding and robotics class. It was the first time I learned how to write code and it took a lot of perseverance and grit.

Last year, in the third grade, I took the movie making class. It showed me that a great job isn't the fastest. Taking your time and doing quality work is more important than rushing and not doing your best.

This year, I got into the STEM Robotics Advanced class, the team, and team. Being on the team has shown me the big importance of teamwork. In Robotics, I was a part of the STEM Research Team. Our group had the job of researching a way to help Hawaii become more sustainable, so we did a whole bunch of research on aquaponics and spoke to some experts in Hawaii. We submitted our video to the competition, the judges watched it and they liked it and we won first place at the national championship. But our winning project didn't come without a lot of hard work.

Without STEMworks AFTERSchool Program, I would not have experienced any of the great learning opportunities. Please continue to support our STEMworks AFTERSchool Program. Thank you.

CHAIR KING: Mahalo. Alright. Thank you, Blake.

Okay, next testifier is Lydia Jackson, followed by Jennifer Suzuki.

LYDIA JACKSON, MEDB STEMWORKS:

Aloha, County Chair and Members. I am a fifth grader at Pukalani Elementary School. I am here to support the MEDB STEMworks AFTERSchool Program.

I made it into robotics for fifth grade, but in fourth grade I tried my best and never make it. I am so grateful that I made it to robotics, I had a great time and fun. We went to Oahu and we won first place. We went to Iowa too, and we won first place for our STEM Research Award. We had a great time and I'm so happy to be with my friends and new members.

First, STEMworks helps you get to know other people and get to know them. Second, STEMworks helps with lifetime skills like science, technology and engineering, math. Third, it helps you learn more cooperating skills that can help you. I can conclude that STEMworks should still be allowed, because STEMworks can help. I wouldn't be here without STEMworks.

CHAIR KING: Okay, thank you Lydia.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Chair. Chair. Question, Chair. Can I ask a question, Chair?

CHAIR KING: Oh, Ms. Jackson, we have a question for you?

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Lydia, Lydia, down here.

CHAIR KING: If you can answer one question?

Councilmember Kama.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: So, Lydia can you tell me what do you want to be when you grow up?

LYDIA: What I want to be when I grow up is a scientist.

CHAIR KING: Awesome.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you.

CHAIR KING: Okay. Thank you very much for your testimony.

And now we have your teacher, Jennifer Suzuki. Not their teacher, somebody else's teacher.

VICE CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Chair, real quickly. I just wanted to commend the four students from the Pukalani Robotics team. Not only are you learning STEM, but you're learning excellent speaking skills, amazing, so impressive. Mahalo, Chair.

CHAIR KING: Okay, thank you. And followed by Zoe Zane.

MS. JENNIFER SUZUKI, MEDB STEMWORKS:

They are a tough act to follow. Good evening, Honorable Councilmembers. My name is Jennifer Suzuki and I'm the technology teacher and advisor at the STEMworks AFTERSchool Program at Maui Waena Intermediate School.

I'm here to testify on behalf of the Maui Economic Development Board's STEMworks Program. MEDB has given so much to my students and to my program. Basically, through their 21st Century Grant, they obtained, we were able to run a full-fledged STEMworks AFTERSchool Program. Unfortunately, that grant has come to the end, so we're without funding for next year.

We have over a hundred students enrolled and they're able to participate in real life STEM activities on a daily basis. They run a 20-minute news show, which is really not easy to do, that airs weekly on our closed circuit. They create computer games, animations, commercials, build robots. They learn electronics, they work in CAD and

they do 3-D printing. None of this would have been possible without the support of Maui Economic Development Board.

But really, the most important thing that MEDB does for my students is give them confidence. Confidence to compete on a national level and win, the opportunity to learn from industry experts and it exposes them to jobs that they would never know about.

So, um, my students are capable, brilliant, hard-working and amazing, and because of MEDB, they're given a chance to show it. So, I'd really appreciate you to continue or to fund this program, because without funding, they won't have the program.

CHAIR KING: Thank you so much for your testimony and congratulations to all the students who won at the national level, that's really awesome.

Okay, Zoe Zane, student, followed by Kamri Cruz.

ZOE ZANE, MEDB STEMWORKS:

Good evening, Honorable Councilmembers. My name is Zoe Zane and I'm a seventh grader at Maui Waena Intermediate School and I attend the STEMworks AFTERSchool Club. I'm here to support, I'm here to testify on behalf of the Maui Economic Development Board of the STEMworks AFTERSchool Program, also known as MEDB.

MEDB has been really helpful to our STEMworks Program in many, many ways. They help our selected group of students be able to attend an annual convention called Student Television Network, which is a national video competition open to all middle schools and high schools. This year it was held in Seattle, Washington.

We were able to compete in different competitions for different categories. I competed in the anchor team. Overall our group won three second places, and two honorable mentions. Being able to go gave me so much opportunities and new experiences. I never would imagine me doing this have not been joining the STEMworks Club. We got to experience the joy, the stress, and the tears of being able to participate in the amazing convention. We also got to do community service, visit two amazing colleges and sightsee and learn about Seattle.

Another wonderful experience I attend was our many robotics trips. Our robotics team has attended nine competitions all together. From competitions here, to Oahu and Hilo. We all experience working together, getting through hardships, and working hard to get our robot to succeed. And over the course of our competition, we won seven

awards for VEX IQ. We won the Inspire award, two robotics field champions awards, three teamwork champion awards, and the design award.

We were able to compete in states for both VEX and VEX IQ, but without your funding none of this would have been possible. I would not be able to attend these wonderful opportunities and experiences. I am very grateful and proud to be part of this amazing club and with your help, we can achieve this. Mahalo for your time and attention.

CHAIR KING: Mahalo. It's great to hear young people say, I got to do community service.

Thank you for appreciating that. Next testifier is Kamri Cruz, followed by Jazmyne Viloria.

KAMRI CRUZ, MEDB STEMWORKS:

Good evening, Honorable Councilmembers. My name is Kamri Cruz, and I am a seventh-grade student at Maui Waena Intermediate School. I'm here to testify on behalf of the Maui Economic Development Board, also known as MEDB. I'm part of the Maui Waena STEMworks Program. Our club has been very fortunate and privileged to receive funding from MEDB.

I have had the opportunity to attend multiple workshops and conferences. For example, I attended STEM Conference last year, and I am going this year. During STEM Conference, I took many classes and was able to learn many things about After Effects, editing, photography and videography. I have also made many very valuable friendships.

I am planning on going to the 2020 Student Television Network Convention in Washington, D.C. In the past, the MEDB has provided the club with the money to travel and get the equipment we need to attend STN. I'm hoping that this will continue in the future. We have won many awards in the past and I am excited for what next year's Media and STN has instore for me. Without the MEDB, these trips would have never happened.

The MEDB has given me many learning opportunities and life experiences. I am very grateful for what the MEDB have given to us. Thank you for your time and attention.

CHAIR KING: Mahalo. Any questions? Thank you for your testimony.

Next is Jazmyne Viloria, followed by Holden Suzuki.

JAZMYNE VILORIA, MEDB STEMWORKS:

Aloha, Chair and Councilmembers. My name is Jazmyne Vioria, and I'm an eight-grader attending Maui Waena Intermediate School. I am here to testify on behalf of the Maui Economic Development Board. MEDB has been supportive of our Media Club, thanks to the Ke Alahele grant. With the grant, it helped us achieve many and fulfill our goals.

For instance, with the media program it guided me into finding my true passion, story-telling. Because of this club, I get to work with PBS news hour student report labs or SRL. I am given the opportunity to report on local things happening in our community, but also, I get to report on stories outside my community.

For example, this summer I am attending the 2019 SRL Academy in Washington, D.C., I was one of the few selected. However, this is not my first time traveling. Because of media, I attended the 2018 and 2019 Student Television Network Convention. A convention where student video producers from all over the nation compete in video competitions.

Luckily, this club teaches us more than video skills, but life skills. This club guided me into finding my voice. When I started in sixth grade, I was so scared to speak to almost anyone. I would only speak to two close friends and would never dare to speak in front of the camera, however, as I kept attending I became more comfortable speaking in front of people or a camera. For instance, this March, I was a host to a HIKI NO episode which got shown to the whole State of Hawaii.

Thanks to this club, it has given me so many unforgettable and amazing opportunities I will always be grateful for. And without the funding from MEDB, there would be no after school program. So please find it in your hearts and budget to fund MEDB.

CHAIR KING: Mahalo. Okay, next testifier is Holden Suzuki, followed by Jacelyn Yun.

HOLDEN SUZUKI, MEDB STEMWORKS:

Sorry. Hi, my name is Holden Suzuki and well, I've been at this program for a while, ever since I was really young, around two, because as you could assume from my name, I am the son of Ms. Suzuki. So I've been here for a while.

I've seen many students go pass through this entire thing, and pass through from sixth grade to eighth grades, even beyond that. I've seen people grow out of phases

where they were super shy, and they couldn't even talk in front of cameras. I've seen people who, I would have never expected to grow out of anything. We've seen people, I've seen people who went from people who were really irresponsible to people who led and captained teams, to people who brought together communities. We've, such as, John Fabella, he recently hosted an entire tournament for VEX, by himself, very impressive. He went through this entire program, and we, the first year nobody thought he would do much, because he was very irresponsible with his time and he wouldn't exactly show up all the time.

CHAIR KING: This is on tape, you know.

HOLDEN: Yeah. But as the years rolled on, he went from that to somebody who we go and see, and we're so proud of. He's done so much. He's doing so much for his community right now, too. He's just an amazing person who's brought himself so far through this program.

And I feel like many more people could go through this program and just keep doing this, keep growing as people, keep, keeping this kind of community going. Because I feel like this kind of ties together a lot of people in middle school. I know for a fact that it helped me get through a lot struggles in currently where I am, as a sixth grader, I mean, it's helped me get through a lot.

This entire program has helped me get through many things. It helped me have a community around me. It's helped me have friends. It's helped me see that so many people have so many skills that you would never see beyond the surface. Many people just, are so impressive. So many people like Leif, have graduated Harvard from this program, so it's an amazing kind of process to just seeing them grow from people that were so different from how they are now.

And I hope that you can find it within your hearts to fund our program, through all of this. The 21st Century grant gave us so much to do with our, to do. We had so much equipment that we didn't know how to use, but as we've gone forward, we've learned how to use all that equipment. And we've used it to the best of our ability winning over five awards this past STN. So I hope you can find it in your hearts to keep funding us.

CHAIR KING: Thank you, Mr. Suzuki.

HOLDEN: Have a very day.

CHAIR KING: Perfect timing. Okay, next testifier is Jacelyn Yun, followed by Sienna Racoma.

JACELYN YUN, MEDB STEMWORKS:

Good evening, Honorable Councilmembers. My name is Jacelyn Yun and I'm a seventh grader. I am a seventh-grade student at Maui Waena Intermediate School. I am part of the Maui Waena STEMworks Program and I am here to support the MEDB, known as the Maui Economic Development Board.

Thank you, Maui Economic Development Board for supporting our program with your funds so we could be able to travel and try new equipment. I really enjoyed this program because it taught me how to use a camera, like a Canon or a Lumex, and also this program taught me how to make a poster on photo shop. This STEMworks Program impact me, because it taught me to be more social and I have made new friends over the past two years because of this program.

Last year, I had an experience to speak in front of professionals at the STEM Conference in Oahu. The STEM Conference was so much fun because I got to discover new STEMwork tools, STEM tools like Piper, Bloxels, or SketchUp. I also got to take classes on how to make an animation of a local on After Effects. The STEM Conference really taught us STEM in a fun way and I am so excited to come back this year.

In March, my STEM club members and I went to Seattle for a competition called Student Television Network, known as STN. We got to compete against other schools in the mainland and Maui Waena won five awards out of 32 awards that was won by Hawaii schools. It was an informational experience for me, because we also took classes on how to tell a story outside or inside of school. I am planning on going to STN in 2020 and the conference will be held in Washington D.C. STN was a memorable journey to me and I will never forget this experience.

Hopefully the MEDB funds our program in the future so we can provide this new experiences and equipment to the next generations. Thank you MEDB for providing us this program. Thank you for listening to this testimony.

CHAIR KING: Thank you for your testimony. Okay, I see no questions. Next testifier is Sienna Racoma, followed by Julia Paulman.

SIENNA RACOMA, MEDB STEMWORKS:

Good evening, Honorable Councilmembers. My name is Sienna Jolie Racoma and I am a seventh grader at Maui Waena Intermediate School, and I am in the STEMworks AFTERSchool Program.

I'm here to support the Maui Economic Development Board. The MEDB has been so helpful and beneficial to our program in so many ways. They helped us be able to attend our annual Student Television Network convention this year which was in Seattle, Washington. Going on this trip gave me so many new experiences, which I would not have been able to do if I haven't been in this program. We did community service, visit colleges, and learned more about the city. I competed in spot feature which got an honorable mention, in fact, we won three 2nd places and two honorable mentions.

Another wonderful experience I'd like to share is when I went to Oahu for the STEM Conference in sixth grade. At STEM Conference I learned so much, like how to manage my time and I even got to present in front of judges. I'm very proud to be on an award-winning team and without your funding, none of this would be possible. Thank you.

CHAIR KING: Mahalo. Any questions? Thank you for your testimony. Okay, Julia Paulman, followed by Cailyn Omuro.

JULIA PAULMAN, MEDB STEMWORKS:

Good evening, Honorable Councilmembers and Ms. Chair. My name is Julia Paulman and I'm an eighth grader at Maui Waena and I participate in the STEMworks AFTERSchool activity. I'm here to testify on behalf of the Maui Economic Development Board. MEDB is a very supportive and, is a very supportive and instrumental part of Media Club and the kids, and kid's lives who participate . . . the club.

The funding we receive has made it possible to keep the club running for every child interested in joining it. Although I've only been part of the club for a small bit, since I just recently moved from Colorado, I've been greatly impacted by it in numerous ways. I have learned a lot thanks to MEDB, and now have a community behind me to back me up whenever I need it.

In Media AFTERSchool Club, I've learned a lot including using many editing tools, like After Effects, Final Cut Pro, and more. These new-found skills will last with me forever, my whole life.

I will also be fortunate enough to attend the STEM Conference in Oahu at the end of this month. Everything my peers and I have been able to accomplish and achieve is thanks to, in great part, MEDB and would not be possible without the constant and undying support we receive from them.

With your support, we can continue to receive much needed funding to keep a wonderful part of Maui schools alive for generations to come. Thank you.

CHAIR KING: Thank you for your testimony. Okay, next we have Cailyn Omuro, is that right? Why don't you say it, cause I can't read--

CAILYN OMURO, MEDB STEMWORKS:

Cailyn Omuro.

CHAIR KING: Omuro. Okay, that's not what it says on here. Thank you. Go ahead.

CAILYN: Good evening, Honorable Chair and Councilmembers. My name is Cailyn Omuro and I'm an eighth-grader attending Maui Waena Intermediate School. I'm here to testify on behalf of the Maui Economic Development Board. All of my other peers have talked about the big and amazing trips we were able to take. We have an AFTERSchool program, that's just as important. This club has given me and many others a home and there's no way that I can express just how much this club means to me. I even consider it like a second family.

It gives us a place to be safe and learn and express ourselves. Every day that I walk into the media room, I feel happy and ready to do anything, whether it be filming a video or making graphics. We get to learn so much in this club and this club helps us figure out what we want to do in the future, even if it's not STEM related. It helps us find our likes and dislikes and now thanks to MEDB, I know that I want to go into graphic design.

I've learned so much from the STEM experience and I would like to recommend you to support MEDB with funding for my club. Thank you and mahalo for your consideration.

CHAIR KING: Thank you very much for your testimony. Okay, the next testifier, and this is a beautiful name but I'm not sure if I'm going to pronounce it correctly, Gee-eel Tolention *[sic]*.

MS. GIEL MARIE TOLENTINO, MEDB STEMWORKS:

Aloha, Maui County Councilmembers. My name is Giel Marie Tolentino and I am here to testify for Maui Economic Development Board's STEMworks Program, that I've been a part of for over nine years.

I'm a first-generation college student and the STEMworks Program has given me numerous opportunities during my middle and high school years alone. I attended many of their student workshops and learned about software, like Adobe Dreamweaver during middle school. I got to compete with talented students across the State at the Hawaii STEM Conference.

A common aspect that employers are looking for when hiring someone is work experience. It's difficult to gain hands-on and real-world experience when you're still in high school, however, the STEMworks summer internship presents students the opportunity to do just that. Participating in the STEMworks summer internship program gave me the resources to the field I wanted to explore and also head start in finding colleges, how to fill out scholarships, and even grading my resume. Who knew there was such a thing?

The internships also gave me a deeper understanding of Hawaii's history that our classrooms cover just the surface of. The summer before my freshman year of high school, I got the amazing experience to intern with a team to produce a video for the 125th Anniversary of Haleakala Ranch. The summer of 2012 was an incredible summer, because I got to learn about the rich history from the family members themselves and even got to experience different parts of the ranch.

The summer of 2018, I experienced the countless hours and dedication that goes into creating a vigorous program like the STEMworks internship. The STEMworks team makes the events and workshops look fun and inviting, but the past summer gave me a glimpse of the dedication they put into this program and it gave me a greater appreciation for them.

... golden opportunities is great, but the best part of my journey with the STEMworks is being able to do my part by giving back to the program and all of the students it reaches out to.

I am currently a STEMworks AFTERSchool entrepreneurship instructor at Pukalani Elementary School. I help introduce Hawaii's young generation in the world of STEM through Photoshop and entrepreneurial projects. Some of the projects that my students help their community with was creating TEDEX pamphlets. Each project takes a month to perfect, but the students learn to value drafting, meeting deadlines, and receiving feedback.

I would like to thank MEDB for all their support and resources available to Hawaii students like me. Please continue to support MEDB STEMworks Program and our future STEM leaders. Mahalo for your time.

CHAIR KING: Thank you, Giel. Any questions? No questions?

Thank you so much. Our next testifier is Caroline, looks like Kilar *[sic]*, I'm not sure if that's the right one, followed by Shannon Hoekstra. If you could pronounce your last name for me, I can't read it off this form.

MS. CAROLINE KILLHOUR, HUI NO'EAU:

Caroline Killhour.

CHAIR KING: Killhour, okay.

MS. KILLHOUR: Good evening, Council Chair, Vice Chair and Councilmembers. My name is Caroline Killhour. I'm the Executive Director of Hui No'eau and a practicing artist. Thank you for providing the opportunity to speak in support of the funding for Hui's youth outreach programs and Art with Aloha programs. The Hui believes that every individual carries the potential to benefit from a life engaged in the visual arts. To that end, the Hui has been devoted to making the arts accessible in our community since the Hui was established in 1934.

The County's support will help the Hui to continue its programs for our keiki and for the Arts with Aloha program, which provides classes in Hawaiian art and craft forms, as well as a place for authentic exchange between practitioners, artist, teachers and students of all ages. The Hui yearly serves over 2,000 Maui youth, ages 2 to 18 years through its visual arts programs, keiki art camps, field trips, and outreach opportunities with local schools.

In 2019, a total of 1,115 low income children received financial assistance to attend classes, camps, workshops, and art opportunities. Even more children are impacted every year by our programs, as we offer free teach the teachers and professional

development classes to local teachers at the Hui. Na Keiki No'eau and our field trip programs are the most meaningful programs we've offered.

We bring vital education, vital arts education, creative self-expression to children who would otherwise be waiting in their school cafeterias to go home. For working families, transportation and cost are major obstacles to providing enriching afterschool activities. Na Keiki No'eau removes these barriers and enables Hui teaching artist to go with, go work with children weekly, year after year to support their continued growth, development, creativity and well-being.

Additionally our Art with Aloha program, recognizes the importance of learning traditional craft from a kumu and the importance and wisdom learned through shared practices at the Hui and as a Hui. Traditional and craft continue through hands and more hands down through generations in hopes that these practices and these crafts will not be lost again.

Funding by the County is recognition of the Hui's importance to the community and is a great help in securing other funding by individuals and foundations to continue our program. As always, these are leveraged eight to one, and I humbly ask for your support of our programs. Thank you.

CHAIR KING: Thank you, Ms. Killhour. Any questions? No questions.

Next testifier is Shannon Hoekstra, followed by Ashley Hestedal, close enough.

MS. SHANNON HOEKSTRA, HUI NO'EAU:

Aloha, Councilmembers and Chair. My name is Shannon Hoekstra, I am currently the President of the Board of Directors for the Hui No'eau. I've been a volunteer for the Hui for 15 years. As a mother, the youth outreach programs, in particular, the Hui No'eau's, Na Keiki No'eau programs have had a deep impact on me that art education is important to children's development both at home and in the community. There are many other mothers out there that were not able to join us tonight, during this dinner time meeting so I would like to speak on their behalf and read some of their words. I also want to thank the Councilmembers and their families who are at home, right now, for spending your meal time listening to our testimony so that we can share our passion for our programs.

(Councilmember Paltin was excused from the meeting at 7:02 p.m.)

MS. HOEKSTRA: Again, I'd like to share a few of their comments, the parents of the students of Na Keiki No'eau Afterschool Art Program.

- First, "My daughter's favorite part of school is to attend this art program";
- "Awesome projects align with art standards";
- "Providing art opportunities makes for well-rounded students";
- "Thank you for teaching our children about art";
- "Less screen time in their world, and more creative play and thinking";
- "Absolute wonderful program, only suggestion, more art days";
- "My son wouldn't want to go home when I picked him up, because he wanted more art";
- "My son likes bringing home his art to share with us, it is posted on our art wall which makes him happy and proud";
- "The staff has been so supportive of our child, he is excited about art, creation and we attribute this to his terrific instruction"; and
- "Keep on doing the honest and great work".

Again, that's just a sample of the comments and responses that the community has to our youth programs.

In conclusion, the Hui No'eau's art afterschool programs, in local Title I Public Schools give students vital access to the arts. Youth express joy and pride in their work and gain confidence and creative skills that will help them in school, at home, and in their future careers. Mahalo for your time and continued support of our programs. Thank you.

CHAIR KING: Mahalo nui for your testimony.

Next testifier is Ashley Hesteral, followed by Kaili Moikeha.

MS. ASHLEY HESJEDAL, HUI NO'EAU:

It's the pencil on purple.

CHAIR KING: It is. It's hard to read. How do you pronounce your last name?

MS. HESJEDAL: Hesjedal.

CHAIR KING: Oh, it's a--

MS. HESJEDAL: Good evening, Chair and Councilmembers. My name's Ashley Hesjedal, part of the dedicated Hui No'eau team. We're a non-profit visual arts education center. Seventy-five-year-old organization and this is the first time we have been proposed in the Mayor's budget this way, so I just want to point that out.

I'm here tonight on behalf of our two programs, Art with Aloha and our youth and outreach which are in the proposed budget. I ask all of you for your support in the funding of these programs that are a treasure in our community. We appreciate your time and consideration for the County of Maui.

At the Hui, we have a team of professional teaching artists who work with the youth of Maui County and afterschool programs, field trips, classes and camps. They couldn't all be here tonight, so I'm just going to read a few comments that they have asked me to share with you.

- Julie Matheis says, "We provide these children with a variety of professional art supplies, fun concepts, a glimpse of art history and stories and images from the world that surrounds us. As they participate in these programs, they get to express creativity, gain self-confidence, analyze concepts, and strengthen their sense of community through the journey of making art. While they work, their projects often open conversations and friendships between students. We create a classroom environment where children can explore their own ideas. It's okay to get a little messy and they can just enjoy the moment. Our society has become used to doing things quickly and exactly as we're told. Having a chance to think outside the box and appreciate unique ideas that often get stifled is too rare for our keiki. I feel so blessed to be part of this program where I get to see the amazement, pride, and self-confidence these kids find through their artistic accomplishments. Hopefully these keiki will be inspired to continue using outside of the box, abstract thoughts to create innovations and science, sustainability, technology, and to make the world a more beautiful place through art and design."
- Susan Harper, from the Makawao Elementary School, she says, "The value of our programs for the students goes beyond the art they produce. For many students who struggle academically or socially, they have found a time and place where they can thrive. Working with peers from outside their regular classrooms has broadened their social circles. Students who initially were reluctant to participant are now working with enthusiasm. What I have found most rewarding is that some of our students are inspired to write about their projects. Early in the school year, students did not, did print making and were encouraged to title their work. The results were creative and often amusing. Other projects led to students incorporating their art and short stories in their

own classrooms. Each week the students demonstrate greater sense of color and design, and a higher level of expression and individuality. They erase less and embellish with greater abandon."

And I think, for the record, all the speakers that came before me are a great example of these types of programs. Thank you all for your time and consideration.

CHAIR KING: Thank you for your testimony.

Next testifier is Kaili Moikeha, followed by Ipolani and I can't tell if this is Pit or Rit?

MS. KAILI MOIKEHA, HAWAIIAN CANOE CLUB:

Aloha, Council Chair, Councilmembers. My name is Kaili Moikeha, I'm the club manager at Hawaiian Canoe Club. And I'm here tonight to thank you for your continued support of our Kamali'i program. Every summer we host a, average 150 kids, ages 10 to 18, where they come and they learn more about the Hawaiian culture and its ties to canoe paddling. This last summer they were able to take a trip to Kahoolawe, they paddled there. They were able to help restore part of the island and we will plan to, continue to go back every year, as many times as we possibly can.

I'm here to express our gratitude and our mahalo for your continued support. Our program is what it is because of the support of the County. And on behalf of Hawaiian Canoe Club, we just want to send our mahalo. Thank you.

CHAIR KING: Mahalo for your testimony.

Okay, next testifier is Ipolani, I'm not going to say your last name, followed by Oiwi Gormley.

MS. IPOLANI PU, BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF MAUI, PAUKUKALO:

Okay. Aunty Mary Kawena Pukui once wrote, "'A`ohe pau ka `ike i ka halau ho`okahi". "All knowledge is not learned in just one school. One can learn from many sources."

Aloha, my name is Ipolani Pu and I am the current Unit Director for the Paukukalo Clubhouse of the Boys and Girls Club of Maui. I am here today to thank you for your continued support of our clubhouse, our programs, and most importantly, our keiki.

Paukukalo Clubhouse is a second home to many of our club members. We provide a safe and fun environment for our keiki to learn, grow, and contribute to their communities. We average 150 youth members a day, this includes our youngest keiki of 6-years old through our oldest of 18. Our youth members are engaged in programs that focus on academics, character development, indoor and outdoor recreation, community service, and cultural education and experiences that include, mele, Hawaiian games, hula and Hawaiian values that focus on teamwork, family, and respect.

Our keiki are extremely blessed to have the continued support of the County of Maui and we are here to give our many thanks. Our keiki would not be able to learn and share these experiences with each other without your support. I've been working with these keiki for almost four years now and have been able to witness their growth and willingness to learn and take an active role in our programs, our clubhouse and even in the community.

Amongst our older keiki, they are always excited to learn more and use that knowledge in areas outside of the club. Our most recent example of this is our youth of the year candidate, Tahiti Ahsam, who was able to take the cultural lessons from the club and apply it to her senior project.

I am happy to be standing here today to testify on behalf of the Boys and Girls Club, Paukukalo Clubhouse and want to thank you all, once again for your continued support and dedication to our keiki. Mahalo.

CHAIR KING: Mahalo nui. Okay, thank you and next testifier is Oiwi Gormley, followed by Ho'okupa'a Kekona.

MS. OIWI GORMLEY, BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF MAUI, PAUKUKALO:

Aloha mai kakou.

(Spoke in Hawaiian.)

Aloha, my name is Oiwi Gormley, I am 16-years old and a sophomore at King Kekaulike High School. I am also a member at the Boys and Girls Club of Maui, Paukukalo Clubhouse. The club is like my second home and my second family. I enjoy hanging out with my friends, playing sports, and helping the staff members as leader in training.

I just want to say, thank you so much for supporting our Paukukalo Club and the Boys and Girls Club of Maui. Mahalo.

CHAIR KING: Mahalo. Okay, next testifier is Ho`okupa`a Kekona, followed by Keneke Kekona.

HO`OKUPA`A KEKONA, BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF MAUI, PAUKUKALO:

(Spoke in Hawaiian.)

INTERPRETOR: Watch, observe, help others and accept help, that is the family way.

HO`OKUPA`A: *(Spoke in Hawaiian.)*

INTERPRETOR: I'm just going to translate for him.

Aloha mai kakou. I am Ho`okupa`a, I am nine years old and I go to Kula Kaiapuni o Paia. I attend the Boys and Girls Club of Maui, ma Paukukalo. I like coming to club because of the staff members, helping with my homework, playing with my friends, and the different types of food.

Thank you so much for your supporting of our club. Mahalo.

CHAIR KING: Thank you for your testimony. It was wonderful. Okay, next testifier is Keneke Kekona.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Chair.

CHAIR KING: Oh, sorry, we have a question?

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Hele mai.

CHAIR KING: We have a question for you.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: *(Spoke in Hawaiian.)*

HO`OKUPA`A: *(Spoke in Hawaiian.)*

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: *(Spoke in Hawaiian.)*

Mahalo.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Chair.

CHAIR KING: Okay, thank you.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: His favorite thing to do is his homework.

CHAIR KING: Okay, next testifier is Keneke Kekona, followed by Rachelle Peterson.

MR. KENEKE KEKONA, BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF MAUI, PAUKUKALO:

Aloha mai kakou. Keneke Kekona, kala mai, that's my son. Small kine waterworks, I know.

But, yeah, they gave me a call today to come over to speak about Boys and Girls. Cannot say nothing bad about them. Like they said, second home, only bummer thing about the second home, gotta pick 'em up at five. I usually leave 'em till like 4:59, but yeah, no, the support, the support is unreal. The field trips that they get to go to, you know, a lot them at the, some of them at the kalo farms, they went up to the heiau couple months ago. You know, the friends, the family that also support Boys and Girls with their ohana, that come over sometimes, you know the kids like go already, but we get meetings outside, you know union meetings of the parents.

But volunteers, unreal. You get Kelly over here, Ipo. I like mahalo all of them and all of you folks. Thank you very much.

CHAIR KING: Mahalo. Okay, next testifier is Rachelle Peterson, followed by Brianna Timmins.

MS. JAMEE PALOMIQUE, BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF MAUI:

Good evening, Councilmembers. My name is Jamee Palomique and I am the Club Director for the Boys & Girls Clubs of Maui, Central Clubhouse.

CHAIR KING: I'm sorry, Miss. Are you exchanging with Rachelle Peterson?

MS. PALOMIQUE: No. She actually had to leave.

CHAIR KING: Oh, okay. Are you signed up?

MS. PALOMIQUE: Yes. My name is Jamee Palomique.

CHAIR KING: Okay, let me see. Okay, I got yours, right here. Thank you. Go ahead.

MS. PALOMIQUE: Okay. Alright, first, I would like to say thank you for the opportunity to talk about the wonderful things that we do at the club.

Our afterschool program charges only \$5 a year and we provide a safe and fun environment for our Maui youth. What is it that we do at the club? Besides running our core programs, sports, education, character and leadership, arts and healthy lifestyles, we provide structure and opportunities, important factors for our youth to succeed.

When members walk through our door's afterschool, they can expect a friendly staff to greet them and ask them how their day went. Once 3:00 p.m. hits, they honor that time for homework. After completing homework, they're free to choose a fun activity to participate in. At a young age, they learn about setting priorities, finishing tasks, and maintaining balance all because of the structured environment they experience at the club. Instead of being out in the streets making trouble or doing drugs, they are in the club developing good habits that teach them to be responsible, caring, and productive citizens.

At the club, we also provide opportunities for growth. When you give people the opportunity to serve, you would be amazed at what they can do. I am in awe each day at how many kids come up to me and ask me what they can do to give back to the club. At a young age, they know that they do not want things handed to them. They want to be productive, they want to earn things, and in the process, they learn to become good stewards of resources and funding from the community.

Thank you for your continuous support and know that your funding is an investment on our youth that yields the highest return. Thanks.

CHAIR KING: Mahalo. Next testifier is Brianna Timmins, followed by Sharisse Pinheiro-Jones.

BRIANNA TIMMINS, BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF MAUI:

Aloha, my name is Bri. I'm going to talk about the Boys and Girls Club. I'm here today to tell you how grateful I am for have an opportunity to be part of such a phenomenal organization. The Boys and Girls Club to me represents a safe space that allows children to be free with no worries. To me, Boys and Girls Club is my home away from home and I'm pretty sure everyone else feels that way to. Club is a safe, healthy and clean place, I love clean. I thought the kids were going to be the ones I would hang

out with, but if the staff weren't so busy keeping us safe and the club clean, I would rather hang out with them.

I'm not sure if the Boys and Girls Club understand how important they are. I have to wonder where we would all be instead of the Boys and Girls Club. All I know is it would be boring.

Having us all in one spot, allowing us freedom to be kids, is such a blessing and it doesn't burden any family financially. It is so much awesome, it's, I can't put into words for you.

I've met kids that, I don't know why I'm telling, making this speech other than to tell you what you guys already know. But I've met kids that attended Boys and Girls club from ages 9 to 17 and they all say the same thing, "Boys and Girls Club is awesome", either playing ping pong, pool, they almost always have to go into great detail.

My name is Brianna Timmins and I hope you enjoyed my speech. Have a wonderful night.

CHAIR KING: Thank you, for your testimony. Thank you, our next testifier is Sharisse Pinheiro-Jones, followed by Kaiyle Ikada.

SHARISSE PINHEIRO-JONES, BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF MAUI:

Aloha, everyone. My name is Sharisse Pinheiro-Jones and I am a proud member of the Boys and Girls Club of Maui, Central Clubhouse. The clubhouse has been a second home for me. I've been in the program for 12 years. The club has offered me a safe place to hang out after school. In all, the club provides me with everything that I need to succeed, be successful.

One of the programs, that has really helped me is the Keystone Club. It helped me to develop leadership skills by planning events and doing community service. This has taught me the most important thing to give back to the community. The care, support and encouragement I receive, not only from my club members but from the staff as well, as it helped me to realize, I have a moral support from my peers and that I can count on them when I need to. Thank you for your continued support to make our club better.

CHAIR KING: Mahalo. Next testifier is Kaiyle Ikada *[sic]*, followed by Christy Inda. Kaiyle. Okay. Did I pronounce your first name correctly?

MS. KAIYLE OKADA, MEO YOUTH SERVICES:

Good evening, County Councilmembers. My name is Kaiyle Okada and I am representing MEO Youth Services. I'm a senior at Maui High School and I've been in MEO Youth Services for seven years now, since I was in sixth grade and I have enjoyed every moment of it.

MEO stands for so many positive things. I can honestly say that I don't know another program that gives back to the community as much as MEO Youth Services. Giving back to the community is definitely a passion of mine and I wouldn't have discovered that if it wasn't for MEO. Working with MEO means making the community a better place and giving us an opportunity for our voices to be heard. Through MEO, we've worked with many community members and coalitions. I've helped with the 24-hour alcohol sale repeal and passed the smoke free car with keiki bill. Knowing that my testimony made a difference has given me great pride and encourages me to continue trying to make a difference.

I'm glad to say that I am also the president of Maui Kanactions, our leadership group. Maui standing for Making an Unforgettable Impact. In our leadership group, we learn how to be effective leaders and create prevention campaigns for the community. Just last week, I spent three days at the Prevent Suicide Hawaii statewide conference on Oahu. Through this conference I was able to learn about risk factors, protective factors, and warning signs of suicide, and also how to connect youth to the right resources for help. Now, I'm a certified connect trainer in youth suicide prevention and I'm very confident that I could reach other youth who may be struggling.

But most importantly, MEO Youth Services is more than just a program, we're a family. Everyone is always so welcoming and friendly. My MEO family knows more about me than my real family. I can be weird around them, talkative around them, and simply just be myself around them. We have gone through hardships, but just like any family, we always come back together. Through MEO, I have met my best friend, my best friend. She's always been by my side whenever I needed her and I'm always there for her when she needs me. I wouldn't have met her if there wasn't a program like this that let us be ourselves. MEO helps youth blossom into family.

Thank you for your time and consideration and just remember that by continuing to fund MEO Youth Services, you're not just developing friendships, but you're continuing the development of the next generation of leaders on Maui. Thank you.

CHAIR KING: Mahalo. Good timing. Are all of you folks together? Thanks for coming down together. Good testimony.

Okay, next testifier is Christy Inda, followed by Jennifer Oberg.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Chair. I just was wondering, cause it's getting late after these guys, we can let the rest of the kids go first and then they can go home, go sleep.

CHAIR KING: Do we have any other kids? Are they together?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Some kids, right here.

CHAIR KING: Let me, I'll ask and make sure there's no objections after this one. Thank you. Aloha.

MS. CHRISTY INDA, FARM APPRENTICE MENTORING PROGRAM:

Aloha. Good evening. And mahalo for allowing me to speak in support of the Farm Apprentice Mentoring Program, also known as FAM.

My name is Christy Inda, I was born and raised on Maui and I'm a lifelong Hawaii resident. I'm a registered dietician licensed in the State of Hawaii and for nearly 20 years I've been working in communities where high disease burden exists. I feel that my job is important in these communities to help inform, educate, and hopefully motivate people to unhealthy eating practices and healthy lifestyles to prevent or delay chronic disease.

But I've come to realize that my work means nothing if we cannot sustain the production of healthy foods here in our community, in our County, and our State. We cannot sustain the production of healthy foods if we don't have enough farmers. And we've heard earlier about some awesome programs at MEDB, like the Aquaponics programs, but for those of us who didn't have these programs growing up or who simply missed the boat, there's FAM. FAM is growing farmers and I am a FAM apprentice and an aspiring farmer. I want to do more to help the health of my community by learning how to grow the healthy food right here in my community.

Having worked for most of my career in non-profit community agencies, I understand the nature of grant funded programs. And some of them, as great as they may be don't last. And I didn't want to miss out on this amazing grant funded opportunity if it ever lost its funding, which I hope it never does. And which is why I'm here tonight to convey why I feel this program is important.

Our FAM mentors have a wealth of firsthand knowledge of what it takes to successfully grow healthy foods right here on Maui. The immersion component of this program allows us to work side by side with our mentors on their farms learning what they learned on soil that we will be growing our food on. This immersion component helps solidify the skills and concepts we learn in the classroom and our FAM mentors teach us how to care for and tend the land, so the land can care for us for generations to come.

FAM is growing local farmers, farmers are producing locally grown food and increasing its availability in the community. Consumption of more locally grown food can help increase our food security and food self-sufficiency, creating healthier communities and a healthier Hawaii.

I thank you for your support in maintaining this program and allowing me to share this evening.

CHAIR KING: Okay, thank you for your testimony. Okay, Councilmembers are there any objections to bringing, are all these students together? You want to come down together? Good, you all have the same shirts on, so. I assume it's one program.

Okay, let me see. I can't tell from the, why don't you come down and say your name and then I'll look for the testimony sign-up.

MR. LAWAI'A WALSH, HO'OULU NA KAMALI'I:

Lawai'a Walsh.

CHAIR KING: Okay, what program are you with?

LAWAI'A: Ho'o Na Kamali'i.

CHAIR KING: --his submittal. Oh, here we go, Kamaha'o Akana? Is that what you said?

LAWAI'A: Ho'oulu Na Kamali'i.

CHAIR KING: Okay, let me take the, the students in order that I have the cards. So, I have a student Kamaha'o Akana. Would you want to come down and testify.

KAMAHA`O AKANA, MEDB STEMWORKS:

Hi, my name is Kamaha`o Tanaka-Akana and I'm here to testify for MEDB or known as the Maui Economic Development Board and for the Maui Fire Department.

MEDB has given Pukalani Elementary School students so many opportunities to interact with current technologies such as robotics, electronics, film making, computer science, and many more STEM related classes. It has made a positive impact on our community by educating students. I was so blessed to have learned 3-D printing and VexIQ Robotics. Through VexIQ we are taught to work as a team with other printing, with other schools from all over the world. We're also challenged to, by creating a STEM Project.

Last year my project was chosen by my peers, and we came up with a rescue drone to warn hikers that a flash flood is coming, so they can get to higher ground, and we won the 2018 STEM awards at nationals. It has been a passionate project of mine ever since.

I have talked to the Fire Chief Thyne and the Mayor Victorino. They both agreed that we need drones. As the Junior Coordinator of the drone project, the drone will have an infrared camera and a siren. If hikers get lost, the firefighters will have a better idea where the missing hikers are with the infrared camera and the GIS mapping. This project can save lives and money, so that is why you should give the firefighters funds to buy drones for the County of Maui and give funds to MEDB so that we can help the community. Thank you very much for your time.

CHAIR KING: Thank you for your testimony. Okay, I'm going, is there the, is this the Ho`oulu Na Kamali'i? Okay. I'm going to go, take these in order that I have them. Mykana Purdy.

MYKANA PURDY, HO`OULU NA KAMALI'I:

Good evening, Councils. My name is Mykana Purdy, I am 10-years old and I'm from Kula School. The reason I like Ho`oulu Na Kamali'i, is that mostly every afternoon we get to learn about agriculture. Auntie Leslie has taught me about teamwork and now, and how to work together as a ohana. She also taught us to never give up and to keep trying. We also wave signs about bullying and to, and to spread awareness. Last time we waved signs, we got more than 489 honks. We also, we also went to the Bailey House museum, which was a all girls' school, we played games like ulu maika.

I want to thank you for supporting us and have a good night.

CHAIR KING: Thank you. Great testimony. Okay, next we have Christian Magalianes.

CHRISTIAN MAGALIANES, HO'OULU NA KAMALI'I:

Aloha, Councilmembers. My name is Christian Magalianes, I am in third grade from Kula School. I love the Ho'oulu Na Kamali'i program because we do work in a fun way. We get to help our community. We learn how to plant our own food like banana trees, coconut trees, avocado trees, mango trees, peaches, plums, and pears. Even if it's going to take years to grow the fruits, probably after I graduate high school. It's called sustainability.

When we had spring break, we learned how to do CPR. CPR is super important because it saves lives. We also learned how to save people if they are having, are struggling in a deep pool. The instructor's name was Stacy, and she was the head lifeguard in Kihei Pool.

Please continue to support our program because we, because there are, is, there is kids out there who need it. Mahalo for your, for your support and good night and mahalo.

CHAIR KING: Mahalo, for your testimony.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Chair, I have a question?

CHAIR KING: Next testifier, I'm sorry, someone has a question?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I just was wondering--

CHAIR KING: You have a question for the testifier, Ms. Paltin?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: --where you planting the trees at?

CHRISTIAN: Haiku farm. Haiku near Giggle Hill.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Not at a school?

CHRISTIAN: No.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Oh, okay. Thank you.

CHAIR KING: Thank you, Ms. Paltin.

Okay, next testifier is Blayze Baisa.

BLAYZE BAISA, HO`OULU NA KAMALI`I:

Hello, Councilmembers. My name is Blayze, I live in Haiku and go to Makawao School. I love going to Ho`oulu Na Kamali`i to help our community and spread love throughout the world. We did sign waving to show bullying and child abuse is bad. We also did farming at the farm. We planted fruit trees all around the farm.

When the program went to the Bailey House Museum, our instructors told us the history of Mr. Bailey and his home and artifacts of Hawaiian culture. For example, one of our instructors showed us weapons that Hawaiians used. I really enjoyed going to the Bailey House Museum and learning about him. Mahalo for your support for the program. Mahalo.

CHAIR KING: Mahalo, for your testimony. Okay, next testifier is Lawai`a Walsh. Thanks for your patience.

LAWAI`A WALSH, HO`OULU NA KAMALI`I:

Aloha, my name is Lawai`a, which stands for fisherman. My last name is Walsh. I go to Kula Elementary School.

I have something to tell you about this amazing program that, that's called Ho`oulu Na Kamali`i. We like to do agriculture such as, planting, watering, and digging. I learned how not to plant a tree upside down and bury it. During spring break, we went to the pool in Kihei and practiced how to do CPR.

I like our afterschool program because it's fun when we go to the farm. First, we do our homework and have snack, then we go take care of our plants. When we are done, we do our project, then we are working on our child abuse prevention posters or flyers to spread awareness of loving hands instead of abused hands. Mahalo for taking the time to listen to my speech.

CHAIR KING: Mahalo. Nice testimony.

LAWAI`A: Questions or comments?

CHAIR KING: Do you have any questions, Councilmembers?

Okay, that's all the students I have now, okay, great. Thank you. Thank you and have a good night.

Okay, we're going to go back to the adults now, and the next testifier was Jennifer Oberg, followed by Kekai Brown.

MS. JENNIFER OBERG:

Aloha, Madam Chair and Honorable Councilmembers. My name is Jennifer Oberg, and I'm the Board Member of the King Kekaulike Foundation for the Performing Arts. Thank you for the opportunity to speak. My husband and I live in Haiku, we have two teenagers who are at King Kekaulike, the younger one will be a freshman next year. I'm a dressmaker with a shop in Makawao, my husband is a concept designer for film and games.

I'm here to testify on behalf of the proposed grant in the budget for King Kekaulike Performing Arts Center. I have some professional experience related to the subject. Throughout the 1990's, I've worked in costuming for theater, for film and television. And when I compare this center to other theaters I've worked in, it stands up to the best of them. It's a beautiful theater with a full rigging and fly system, scene shop, costume shop, the works.

It's just fabulous and not only is the center amazing, but the performing arts program at the high school is fantastic. Theater Director, Chris Kepler and Music Director, Casey Nagata are just terrific and professional, and they bring out the best in the kids. I hope you were able to see their recent production of Annie. It was fantastic, and I believe it sold out every show, and I can't stop singing all the songs and the sun will come out tomorrow, it's in my head all the time.

So, there's plans in the works to develop a technical theater academy within the high school, which is awesome. The students would be learning lighting, sound, rigging, set-design, construction and costume design and construction. It's terrific for the students and it also has the ability to be terrific for the community. The school has been inundated with requests from hula halaus, theater, music, dance organizations to use the center. But at the moment, it's not possible because there's not a full-time technical director to oversee this, expanding the use of the facility to the community.

So, and the center has also added a lot more responsibilities to the school staff and teachers. It's very technical, it has complicated equipment that requires special

maintenance and cleaning, and this is not in the school's budget. So the staff and even the students are trying to keep the building clean and running. But, they really need help for this on-going operational support.

So, part of our mission at the Foundation is to find funding for these needs, which is why we've made the request of this grant. I'm also a former development director and I know that many funders what to know they're not the only ones being asked, so I want to assure the County that we are asking other funders and private donors for funding, I have a list. However, it takes time to write those grants and so this grant would be a great kick start for the Performing Arts Center. Thank you.

CHAIR KING: Okay, thank you for your testimony.

MS. OBERG: Thank you.

CHAIR KING: Alright, next testifier is Kekai Brown, followed by Michael Ritter.

MS. KEKAI BROWN:

Aloha, Council. My name is Kekai Brown, I'm the Training Captain for the Department of Fire and Public Safety, Ocean Safety Bureau. I'm here in support of Tamara Paltin's proposal. With this being said, I'd like to say that yes, we definitely need additional positions. Within the 23 years that I've been working, all I saw was growth. Growth in tourism and growth in ocean activities. Why aren't we growing and keeping up with the times?

We only have ocean safety on nine beaches that are understaffed and unappreciated. It doesn't matter who the victim is or where they're from, we're going to help and ensure public safety. After all, it's in the name of our department. I don't think these positions should be denied until you actually see for yourselves what we go through. High surf, high winds, constant hazards every day in an uncontrolled environment.

I train our ocean safety officers, having two people minimum. You should never be alone. High performance CPR has increased survival rates and takes four to six people. Spinal immobilization, as well as, rescue skills all take two. I can't even conduct our annual requirement recertifications because of our staff shortage.

Also, in Tam's proposal for additional positions is my training lieutenant. I need this person bad. What I'm doing by myself every year is unreal. So, from the training stand point, I recertify over the staff of 60 people, in CPR, USLA, which is consisting of three days for every employee and coordinate EMR. I have to instruct each training

13 times each, so all of our staff is clear. And at times, I fit in a recruit class that's six weeks long or a ski class that's two weeks long. In addition to CPR recerts, I also have to make sure that 18 . . . CPR instructors are taught two times a year before they expire every two years. I also instruct boating courses and need to coordinate ATV, UTV courses which all training we need because of the equipment we have.

I also am Ocean Safety's Education and Prevention Department. In 2017, I have reached out to and came in contact with 15,109 people and attended 35 public events and public/private schools. In 2018, I reached 14,668 people and attended 26 events and now currently in 2019, I'm up to 10,373 people, at 16 public events, public/private schools. These people range from preschoolers to senior citizens and event schools range but not limited to many.

I got to talk fast. In conclusion, I also coordinate the Junior Lifeguard Program and I talk to 225 parents, taking registration forms, creating group emails and everything with the Junior Lifeguard Program. And I also order all the uniforms and equipment for our ocean safety officers, order what is needed, issue and take care of their payments. I also keep track of the expiration's dates of my skis, trailers and truck. I need this person. That's all I got to say.

Police and Fire get one public, get prevention, education department and get a training department. I don't see their captain training all of 'em.

CHAIR KING: Can you please conclude?

MS. BROWN: Coordinating all of them. Mahalo.

CHAIR KING: Thank you, so much. Okay, the next testifier is Michael Ritter and then we'll take one testifier after and then we'll take our break. Okay, ten-minute break. Followed by Charlotte O'Brien.

MR. MICHAEL RITTER:

Aloha, Council. Thank you for meeting with us this evening. My name is Michael Ritter. I'm an ocean safety officer. I'm the Lieutenant over at Hanako'o Beach over on the westside known as Canoe Beach.

I'd like to be here to support Tamara Paltin's proposed budget. We as ocean safety officers, you know, we protect our residents and visitors alike, regardless of locality, regardless of County, regardless of State, regardless of Federal. There's been comments in the past where ocean safety is funded by the County and there are other

objects of the State that should be funding us. This needs to be funded because we're here. This is our County, and we need to be funding it from the County in order to go forward to help protect everyone, our residents and visitors alike.

We're extremely short staffed at ocean safety so we haven't had any increase of position since we've been put on that 911 system years ago. We're extremely short staffed in a way that we respond to such a large area. Myself, at Canoe Beach, we respond everywhere from the tunnel, upwards to S turns. Which takes us about 20 minutes to get all the way down to Thousand Peaks for a rescue on our jet skis. And during that time, being short staffed, we leave Canoe Beach short-handed because we have to respond on our jet ski to save someone down there.

Short staffed increases the higher stress on all of the individuals and on our machinery, our jet skis, our trucks, all the machinery that we have on the beach. All of that increases possible injury and possible break down. That in turn increases the possibility of not responding appropriately. So, you know by being short staffed it's just a domino effect. You know, we're saving people, we're saving everyone here has family that goes into the ocean. We're saving your families, we're saving our locals that come into the water, we're saving our visitors that come in and support our economy. You know, it's just one thing after another that just dominoes down. And just by supporting Tamara Paltin's proposal, that will help us out immensely. It's not everything but it is going forward and going to help us out. So, thank you very much.

CHAIR KING: Okay, thank you for your testimony.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Chair, I just wanted to--

CHAIR KING: Excuse me, Mr. Ritter, we have. You have a question?

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Mr. Ritter, thank you very much for helping--

CHAIR KING: Can you wait to be recognized? So, I call on you, because if everyone is kind of yelling out questions.

Councilmember Sugimura.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: I'm sorry. Alright.

Mr. Ritter.

MR. RITTER: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Tex, right.

MR. RITTER: Uh huh.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: You helped me with the milk carton regatta years ago at Hanako'o Beach Park and you are still in my cell phone. But thank you for your good work and yeah--

MR. RITTER: Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: --I do agree to support Tamara. Thank you.

MR. RITTER: That's just another thing that we help out with the community besides, you know, being their life saving.

CHAIR KING: Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Yup. Wonderful work.

CHAIR KING: Next testifier is Charlotte O'Brien, and then we'll go into our ten-minute break.

MS. CHARLOTTE O'BRIEN:

Madam Chair.

CHAIR KING: Aloha.

MS. O'BRIEN: Hardworking Councilmembers. I'm really impressed with the attention you are, I'm really impressed with the attention you are paying to every speaker after such a long day. I know this is going to be a 14-hour day for you and that is amazing.

So, my name is Charlotte O'Brien, I am the Executive Director of Food Security Hawaii. We have a proposal we handed to you tonight to assess and address the obstacles to food security for the County of Maui. To address this issue, the County of Maui officials need information. What is currently being shipped into Maui? What portion of that food could be grown here? What are the barriers to more local food production, and how can we overcome those barriers?

With money no longer going to the big ag, what sort of State and Federal money can we utilize to help increase our local food production. Among other things our project objectives are:

- To identify leverage points that will affect the development of a sustainable local food production system.
- To design community action programs that will increase neighborhood food availability in the event of an emergency.

There are many things we can do besides just growing more farmers. So, the impact of our proposal are:

- Decision-making guidance for the County of Maui officials.
- Design action plans for future community engagements around food security.
- Information for County of Maui to lobby State for more money to support local food, local agriculture.
- An analysis of what the next steps are needed to increase food security on Maui.
- Lastly political will.

As the County of Maui shows it's political will by funding projects is political will by funding projects on food security, a signal will be sent to the various foundations and agencies that will be more inclined to further support Maui based projects and groups.

Our goal is to develop a small army of staff and volunteers to work on this important issue. Mahalo.

CHAIR KING: Mahalo. Okay, seeing no questions. Thank you for your testimony, Ms. O'Brien.

Okay, Members, we're going to take a ten-minute break. At the end of the, I'm going to recess and at the end of ten minutes, at 8:00 our Chair, Economic Development and Budget Chair Keani Rawlins-Fernandez is going to recess back in and then recess back out so that we can continue on with testimony. And then we'll, so be back in your seats if you can at 8:00.

And the next two testifiers are Rob Parsons and Nicole Carbonell. Alright we are in a ten-minute recess.

(THE PUBLIC HEARING WAS RECESSED BY THE CHAIR AT 7:51 P.M., AND WAS RECONVENED AT 8:03 P.M., WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT; EXCEPT COUNCILMEMBER HOKAMA EXCUSED.)

CHAIR KING: Aloha, we are reconvening the April 17, Public Hearing on our 2020 Budget and we are in the middle of public testimony. We on #43 out of 77. The next testifier is Rob Parsons, followed by Stacey Moniz.

MR. ROB PARSONS:

Good evening, Chair, Members. My name is Rob Parsons, I'm a resident of Makawao and resident of Maui community for many years.

I'd like to pick up where the previous testifier, Charlotte O'Brien left off and she presented to each of you a proposal for a \$100,000 study to help us address and assess food security for Maui Nui. I'm not, this is a little late to the game, I will acknowledge that, but I don't want to miss the opportunity to focus on something that I really don't see anywhere in the budget.

And we've got a nice handout and a lot of pie charts but you're not going to see anywhere where it says agriculture or food in any of these pie charts, and I think that's an oversight. And I don't, I don't want to get, you know, all doomsday and all of that, but we are very food insecure.

While I was sitting here, I pulled up a National Geographic article from a few years ago, that was looking at how food self-sufficient different countries are. And they used Hawaii as an example of the least self-sufficient and it said 92%, sometimes you hear 85 or 90, it said 92%. How can this be? We have such abundant agricultural lands, we have year-round growing climate. I've heard lots of people mention lots of obstacles, "oh we can't compete with the mainland prices for water, labor, land or other countries". We got to get over that.

And I think that this study, which I have reviewed, I'm here in large part because I have great appreciation and respect for Charlotte O'Brien and the kind of work that she is doing ongoing and the affiliations and organizations that she is a part of and has founded in some cases. And I think, I know that whether or not you find allocation in this year's budget or in the coming year's budget for this kind of a study, I know that she will be working on these one way or another.

But I think it is important for this body and for this County to demonstrate what she called the political will. And if we want to attract other funding, from you know, the State and Federal and organizations and foundations, we've got to say, we here at Maui County believe that this is something that we have just overlooked far too long.

And, you know, we had, we had fourth graders talking about their project and nationally winning project where they said we were addressing food security and so we, you know, we chose aquaponics. And you know we talked about the farm mentoring program here, I know you'll hear more testimony about that.

These are piece meal things but we need to come up with something like Hawaii County did in 2007 when they contracted the Kohala Center, work with Rocky Mountain Institute. They came up with a hundred best recommendations to invigorate agriculture and food production on that island and I think that what you have is just an outline at this point. I hope you'll find a place to tuck it in the budget. I think there are places in the existing budget, whatever it takes. I hope that you will see the need for this focus. Thank you very much.

CHAIR KING: Thank you, Mr. Parsons. I actually have a question for you. Do you have an outline with the scope of this that you are proposing and how the budget would be used for the study?

MR. PARSONS: Well, as you know, any such proposal would, would go probably out to procurement rather than just to a specific entity. So, the outline that's been given to you is, I think, a very good draft for starters. I don't know if you have a copy in front of you, but I know that Charlotte turned in 15 copies and it was also, I think she'll be talking with individual Councilmembers as well. I think that's a good start.

CHAIR KING: Okay. Thank you.

MR. PARSONS: Thank you.

CHAIR KING: Okay, next testifier is Stacey Moniz, followed by William--

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Chair, I have a question, too.

CHAIR KING: I'm sorry.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I had a questions too.

CHAIR KING: To, the previous testifier?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Yeah.

CHAIR KING: Okay. Are you ready, are you ready to answer it.

Okay, Councilmember Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I was just wondering, I was looking through your handout and just was wondering if you laid the ground work for any of this during your last 12 years as the environmental coordinator?

MR. PARSONS: I did to the extent possible. And I love the third or fourth grader who, you know, defined sustainability for us when he was talking about their tree planting program, he said it's called sustainability.

So, I've worked with Hawaii Green Growth. I've been the, you know, de-facto sustainability liaison. We finally do have someone with that title, the Environmental Protection Sustainability Manager is Tamara Farnsworth. I know that she's asked for more funding and more positions, so that's something that we're slowly building, and it's been agonizing for me to see how slowly we have, you know, that we're taking baby steps towards something that the other counties, frankly, are getting there more quickly and have dedicated positions and dedicated funding. So, I hope that answered your question.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Have you heard of the ESG program at all?

MR. PARSONS: What does that stand for?

CHAIR KING: Councilmember Paltin, we need to keep our questions to what the testifier talked about.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. They might, they might be the kind of investor you're looking for.

CHAIR KING: You can have that conversation after, thank you.

MR. PARSONS: Okay.

CHAIR KING: Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Parsons.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Chair, question for the testifier.

CHAIR KING: Councilmember Kama, you have a question for the testifier?

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Yes, please. Thank you. So, Rob, I noticed in this handout, you have a six-month timeline here. Is that correct?

MR. PARSONS: It is, but remember what we handing you is just a draft.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Yeah.

MR. PARSONS: It's just for you to consider.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: But it, but if, but if, let's for example, if it did actually happen and you did get it, you guys could do it in six months?

MR. PARSONS: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Okay, thank you.

MR. PARSONS: And I believe there's that kind of urgency.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Yeah.

MR. PARSONS: You know, as I've said, I don't want to be all doomsday, but we're in kind of this climate roulette mode and we've seen it in our lifetimes that the predictions that scientists have made are coming true around the globe, and even here in the Hawaiian Islands. So, I think it's imperative that we address this.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR KING: Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Parsons.

MR. PARSONS: Thank you.

CHAIR KING: Okay, now we have Stacey Moniz, followed by William Millross.

MS. STACEY MONIZ, THE MAUI FARM:

Aloha and good evening. My name is Stacey Moniz, I'm the Executive Director at the Maui Farm. And I put a, I gave them a brochure. Some of you are probably familiar with the Maui Farm, but just in case you're not, we do appreciate the County's support. We have a line item funding that pays for our family strengthening program and a community partnership grant that pays for our stipend program.

So, in a nutshell, the Maui Farm provides farm based transitional housing for women and their children who are in transition from things like domestic violence, substance abuse, homelessness, and all kinds of issues that bring them there. And we do an amazing array of services that are based on the farm. We have affordable housing and we share a house, we have a big 5-bedroom, 3-bath houses where the women share one home together. And then we do the stipend program which the County also funds which is a job readiness, employment preparedness where they get a stipend, they get paid a little bit of money.

So, maybe a good way to explain this is to talk about the kinds of partnerships and tell you one woman's story who came to the farm from Malama Family Recovery, it's a program at Aloha House. She had been in Family Court, Drug Court, also in Malama Treatment Center, also with Women Helping Women. Came to the Farm with her two little children and began working on the stipend program which made her eligible to participate in another program through MEO, which is the National Farm Workers Program, which made her eligible for financial support to go back to college. And so she thought something quick, maybe I'll go get my commercial driver's license, but what her heart's desire really was, was to become a sobriety coach to go into human services, because so many agencies and so many people had helped her along the way that she wanted to be that person herself.

And so, she's in her second semester at UH Maui College. I have chicken skin to my feet because I'm really, really proud of her. She got her HUD certificate, she moved into her own place. Her words that stick with me is that the Maui Farm, because they can stay there for about a year, was the safe place for her to integrate all the things she had learned from Women Helping Women to Family Court, Drug Court to Malama Family Recovery. She was able to integrate it all, stabilize her children and then move on.

So, I would love to invite you all to come and visit the Farm. We have community work day, the last Saturday of the month from 9 to 11, just two hours and it's a really fun way to get your hands in the dirt. Mahalo.

CHAIR KING: Thank you, Ms. Moniz. Thank you for your testimony.

Next testifier is William Millross, followed by Kehau Filimoeatu, I always butcher your last name. I'm sorry, Kehau.

MR. WILLIAM MILLROSS, MEO BEST PROGRAM:

Hi, my name is William Millross. I'm here on behalf of the Maui MEO BEST Program. I'm here to give testimony of how it worked for me. About two years ago, I just got out of jail and I really didn't have any direction, no money, no nothing, so it's easy to go re-offend when you don't have any hope and the BEST program gave me hope. They gave me a bus pass, so I could go out and look for work. They gave me clothes, which made me feel more productive. They got me a foot up on, on, you know, getting going again, the productive way.

And here it is, two years later, I have my own place, I do volunteer work at the Lao Theater. I've spoke to two eighth grade classes over at the Lao Intermediate Schools on choices they make in life. I spoke to the juveniles over on Wells Street. I've been productive, I love to give back, I'm involved in the community. I live on Market Street, I help people and it just feels good to give back, you know, cause they helped me. And it's a program that works.

I got three years in college, I got to go back but I got three years, I'm a 3.0 grade average, a B student and I was studying for drug and alcohol classes, to be a counselor. And a lot of people that I was in school with now are in the Drug Court, they're counselors, and you know, that gives me hope to go back and get that degree, so I can get my CSAC.

And I've been asked to go work at Aloha House, so it just makes me feel good that, that they were there to help me, and they didn't turn me away. They gave me a case worker, they stuck with me, they stuck through it. And I didn't have anywhere to go, you know, I didn't have anybody to talk to. You know, when I got out of jail, I got, came out to the road, I looked down this way and looked that way and had nowhere to go. Somebody said, try the BEST Program, and I did, and it works.

And I thank Gerry and Bishop Pahia, he's another one in the program that helps people. And they just made me feel like somebody, and I'm glad, I mean I'm glad I'm here to speak for them. Makes me feel good. Thank you all for listening.

CHAIR KING: Thank you, Mr. Millross. Thank you for your testimony.

Next testifier is Kehau Filimoeatu and followed by Su-Lyne Kaihewalu.

MS. KEHAU FILIMOEATU:

Wow, that's a hard act to follow. And I don't know about you all, but I've had the sense as coming forward and seeing just, and witnessing all of this. So, I give you a lot of kudos. You are certainly attentive to every single speaker and it was wonderful to feel the warmth of the kids, rambunctious and all of that stuff. So, like I said, this is a hard act to follow.

So, but, I am here to testify in support of the Maui ESG Initiative Conference in the Mayor's Economic Development Program on page 407, I think. And this actually aligns with an op-ed that I did about two years ago, and four years, two years ago, four months after I returned, after I turned, I was becoming a retiree. So, we'll start with that.

My name Kehau Filimoeatu and I recently, two years ago, retired after serving in Maui County's 911 Emergency Dispatch Center at the Maui Police Department. So appreciate, brother there who has gotten his worth and I appreciate a lot of the other things that happened.

I was civil servant for almost a quarter of a century. I've experienced relative or relief after retiring and a sense of achievement and an awkward blessing of great retirement expectations. My retirement benefits like thousand of my fellow County and public employee retirees in Hawaii, depend largely on investments of our Hawaii Employee's Retirement System, or what we call ERS. With 15 billion in assets, the ERS shares a lot more than, or they have shares in a lot more than 800 companies, which means they own a slice of the entire economy as a pension fund. And as a pension fund it owns a piece of nearly everything that can be sustainably managed, and we see it like a Hawaiian ahupua'a recognizing that improper diversion of water or wai, upstream will result in a loss in the lo'i kalo wet lands, taro field downstream.

Because Hawaiians recognized that water is the source of life, waiwai is our word for wealth and a ahupua'a approach to investment understands that when waiwai is excessively diverted, or misused, the overall economy withers and stagnates.

CHAIR KING: Could you conclude your testimony?

MS. FILIMOEATU: You have a copy of my op-ed and I think that will suffice if you have any further questions. But what I am here for is, we want to participate in such an ESG Conference going forward as ERS part of the pension fund and as an investment in its retirees.

CHAIR KING: Mahalo.

MS. FILIMOEATU: Thank you.

CHAIR KING: Okay. Thank you so much for your testimony.

It's nice to see you twice today, Kehau. Okay, next testifier is Su-Lyne Kaihewalu, followed by Anita Hernois.

MS. SU-LYNE KAIHEWALU, MEO HEADSTART:

Aloha mai kakou.

CHAIR KING: Aloha.

MS. KAIHEWALU: So, I'm here to testify on behalf of MEO Headstart Program. My son's been involved with this program for two years and during the duration of this time, he has learned, he has learned a lot. And I'm very thankful for the support that we get and the teachers that he has at Wailuku B. Their program is really good, he learns how to do Zoo-phonics. So, he comes home and he sings all these songs to remember his alphabets better. They teach him things that I had a hard time to try and get him to grasp and understand, but they have a lot of hands there and a lot of availability for each teacher and I really appreciate that.

Without this program, I don't think my son or I would be able to just move forward. I'm currently in school right now as well, and without the help of our case manager, Evelyn, I probably wouldn't have been able to put that foot forward.

So MEO has really helped us in, by utilizing their resources it helped us to advance in ways that I never would have imagined. I would have never thought that I would have been this far, during two years. So, thank you.

CHAIR KING: Alright, thank you for your testimony.

Next testifier is Anita Hermios, followed by Wanda Moniz.

MS. ANITA HERMIOS, MEO HEADSTART:

Hi, and good evening, everyone. My name is Anita Hermios. I'm here to speak on behalf of MEO Headstart. I'm really thankful for the funding MEO Headstart is receiving and would love for you to continue funding the program. Reason being is my family has benefit from, a lot from MEO Headstart in many ways. Like one is, I'm able to work, I'm employed by MEO Headstart and has, MEO Headstart has provided me an opportunity to work as an aid in the classroom with my son. So, my son has gained social skills, learned more English and other things.

So please continue to fund MEO Headstart so that the service are offered after 12 pm and during summer school program. Thank you so much.

CHAIR KING: Alright, thank you for being here. Appreciate your testimony.

Next testifier is Wanda Moniz, followed by Stan Franco.

MS. WANDA MONIZ, MEO HEADSTART:

Hello, good evening. This is my grandson Joshua, he attends Wailuku A MEO Headstart. My name is Wanda Moniz and I am speaking on behalf of the MEO Headstart Program.

First, I would like to thank you all, the Council of the County for funding the MEO Headstart. Without your continued funding, I would not be able to provide for my grandson or be able to return back to work. I signed him up two years ago, he just turned four. The first year was kind of hard for me cause I had to struggle and look for daycare or childcare and that costs a lot, I only work part-time. So, I was very grateful that the doors opened up this year for him to attend school. And that has helped me return back to work at Wailuku Elementary School.

I would like to, my grandson has learned a lot at Headstart. He had made friends. They helped me potty train him and I don't have to chase him around the house anymore to brush his teeth. They do it in school too, twice. So now he's grabbing the toothbrush and toothpaste by himself, compared to me, several months ago chasing him just to get his teeth brushed. It's just automatic, and that's a big help for me.

I'm a single mom and now I have my grandson to take care of also. So the MEO program has helped me and I'm sure many families in Maui, so that some of them can go to work and some of us can go to work.

So, I would appreciate continued funding for the MEO Headstart Program. And my grandson's going to be going to Utah next year, but because I only work part-time, I would also help donate my time to MEO Headstart Programs. I go and volunteer a lot at the class when I'm not at work. So, thank you to continue your funding for the MEO Headstart. Thank you.

CHAIR KING: Okay, thank you for your testimony.

MS. MONIZ: You want to say thank you? Mahalo. Say thank you--

CHAIR KING: Time to go brush your teeth. Okay, next testifier is Stan Franco, followed by Phyllis Robinson.

MR. STAN FRANCO:

Chair Kelly and Members. My favorite subject, housing. I am Stan Franco and I'm speaking as an individual. The kids that were here, our young people, is why I'm passionate about building shelters for their families, so they can stay here, and we got some bright kids that testified. I would be stuttering, I still stutter being up here. But that's why we do it.

We have an important decision to make on the issue most of our people's, on our people's mind. A home that they can afford to buy or rent, does not cost more than 30% of their family's household income. So, how do we do this?

About this time in 2017 FACE Maui made a proposal to the Maui County Council to create an affordable housing plan. The plan was to build a thousand housing units each year over the next ten years.

Maui Council, Maui County Council decided to go in a different direction and we got a plan, or somewhat of a plan from SMS Hawaii, but it was not complete. In their update SMS Hawaii concluded themselves that Maui County needs an affordable housing plan, okay. Housing and Human Concerns Director, Lori Tsuhako said at her confirmation hearing that she would create an affordable housing plan by June 30, 2019.

This past Monday, I had a conversation with Lori and I told her of two concerns regarding the plan production. First, not adequately addressing all the issues to make a comprehensive plan; and second not having community participation to vet the plan and the use of their money. This is about the people of Maui. They should be part of this plan. We have to have them part of the plan. We stopped Nimby thing, you know, it's all the things that we struggle with.

So Lori's plan is, she said that she would be willing to listen to ideas and she and Deputy Linda Munsell will work with us in trying to create a better plan. Another issue of concern is the need for highly qualified plan implementor, we call it the housing advocate. Plan implementation, sorry about that, should be done by an individual company who has experience with planning, financing, and building homes with a preference to a Hawaiian entity that understands our regulatory system.

So, we have financial, possibly financial obligations for this budget if we need to set aside money for the community meetings and for the RFP process to hire the housing advocate. So, I ask you to consider that and thank you for listening.

CHAIR KING: Thank you, Mr. Franco. Seeing no questions. Appreciate you coming down.

Our next testifier is Phyllis Robinson, followed by William Ricks.

MS. PHYLLIS ROBINSON:

Aloha, Chair King, Councilmembers. Thank you so much for your time and these long hours that you spend. I'm in awe and here you are still listening to all of us. I was so inspired tonight by the testimony, especially these children. Oh, my goodness, don't get me started. I'm very grateful for the on-going support that the County has given to our Farm Apprentice Mentoring program. I just finished writing a grant to the USDA with amazing partners; The Hawaii Farmers Union Foundation, UH Maui College and the MEDB Women in Technology STEM Program.

This grant is going to bring FAM over three years into all of the County's high schools teaching regenerative and Hawaiian practices of agriculture. Now, we know that these already exist in these high schools, so we're not going to come in and just say, you know, we're going to do it, but we are going to work directly with the faculty of all the high schools.

We got a beautiful letter of support from the principal of Lahainaluna High School. I think all of you know her, Lynn, and I'm going to attempt to say her name, go ahead Shane. Kahooalahala. And Sol, was of course one of our County Councilmembers. So, she wrote a beautiful letter of support as did MEDB and the County.

So, I'm actually wanting to talk to you tonight about two issues before you that impact our local farmers. I'm relieved that an entity like the Food Security Hawaii, with colleagues Alike Atay, Susan Titon, Charlotte O'Brien and Rob Parsons are requesting funding that will address a vital set of questions for the County and our community and our farmers. How can we assure food security for our islands? They are requesting an analysis for what are our next steps to be increasing local food production. I highly suggest that you take that very seriously because it affects our community and it affects our farmers.

I have one other issue I would like to address and that is the proposed tax on biofuels. I am strongly against the tax on biofuels, if for no other reason then the fact that it is addressing climate change and it gives our farmers an alternative to diesel fuel for their farming equipment. Thank you very much.

CHAIR KING: Thank you, Ms. Robinson. I actually have a question for you about the FAM program. Can you give me the exact amount that you are seeking for the FAM

program? I know, there was, on top of that it was 45,000 to expand it to Lanai and Molokai.

MS. ROBINSON: It was 218,183.

CHAIR KING: 218?

MS. ROBINSON: Yes. 183. I just, I actually sent you, Susan, the, the proposal, the original proposal. And we approached the Mayor and we requested that amount. And we went in with the Hawaii Farmer's Union, their request for their chapters and also for the convention. So, the amount that's in the budget right now, I believe, is for 210 or 215?

CHAIR KING: It's 210 with the, is the total. So, how much of that is for FAM?

MS. ROBINSON: 145. So, we actually wanted, when we went in to the Mayor 218,183.

So, I did send all of you, or gave all of you a hand-out the last time I testified that breaks that down. I'm happy to resend it if it's important.

CHAIR KING: Okay. Thank you. I think that's what I was looking for, is that figure.

MS. ROBINSON: Okay.

CHAIR KING: Okay, thank you for your testimony.

MS. ROBINSON: Thank you. Good night.

CHAIR KING: You'll be asleep before we are.

Okay, Mr. William Ricks is the next testifier, followed by Roxanne Kehus.

MR. WILLIAM RICKS, FARM APPRENTICE MENTORING PROGRAM:

Thank you and good evening, Council Chair and Councilmembers. My name is William Ricks and I am the fourth cohort of the Hawaii Farmers Union United Apprenticeship Mentor Program. I few years ago after decades of a long career in computer science and digital media, I made some pinnacle life changes that set the stage for a sustainable path from one that was consumer base and egocentric. My initiation into this new life and community was kanaka living with Uncle Francis Sinenci, building hale. That serendipitous experience gave course and momentum to become a farmer and further alignment to sustain in our culture and community.

Seeing my place as a provider in the bigger picture was rapidly evident in the, after years of mirror . . . material endeavors which rarely felt rewarding. Now being only two-thirds of my way through this FAM immersion, and with only very little prior farm experience, I recently began a professional multi-year project beautifying, restoring the soil, and cultivating produce at 22 acres in Kihei at the Maui Solar Farm and Research Development area. This feed is only possible from a strong and ever-growing network of peers sharing knowledge, expertise and practicing laulima.

In addition to this amazing scenario, I was also granted by the owner, access to land for my own personal experimentation for school projects. These . . . of labor in Kihei complement my FAM internship in Waikapu with Uncle Bobby . . . and his team, working on regenerative farming and sugar cane field restoration. At this site, several like-minded farms, commercial kalo and Hawaiian agro-forestry with emphasis on microbiological applications, re-claimed earth structures. Communal machinery and commercial kitchen is one of many farm sites available to apprentices' island wide by mentors who some were, are alumni of the FAM program.

My journey's milestones, even before my graduation in late June, gives me great confidence in developing my own farm cultivating Hawaiian and Polynesian endemic trees and crops in the very near future. I'm very excited for the decades to come, when I find myself an elder and a steward of the land mentoring ways of apprentice farmers as I once was. I hope that the support of the HFUU FAM program will perpetuate adults in the learning process, but the program will also implement in our school systems. I'm grateful and blessed and to have this experience. Thank you very much.

CHAIR KING: Thank you. No questions. Thank you for your testimony and our next testifier is Roxann, is it Ke-has or Ke-hus? Kehus, followed by Kathy Collins.

MS. ROXANN KEHUS:

Aloha, Chair and Councilmembers. My name is Roxann Kehus and I'm with the State Council on Developmental Disabilities and I'm a member of the Maui Disability Alliance.

As an alliance member, the Maui Disability Alliance members, we met with many of you Councilmembers to talk about and requesting reinstating the paratransit bus pass, monthly bus pass because it was a, last year it discontinued. I was looking at the Mayor's budget and I noticed that in his proposed budget there are four bus passes. There's a \$45 general boarding commuter route, there's a \$25 bus pass for people 55 years and older on fixed routes, a \$30 bus pass for 55-year-old paratransit and a \$45 for students on the fixed route and paratransit.

You know, my passion has been working with individuals with developmental disabilities for, well I'll say, 35 years and nowhere in any of these bus passes does it address allowing people who are on Medicaid and have maybe low-income, transportation in our community. So I'm well over 55, I can afford daily routes. So, just because you're over 45 doesn't, 55 doesn't mean you need a monthly bus pass. So, what I'm recommending is maybe an income eligible bus pass for people with disabilities, just make it simple so it doesn't matter your age. If you're a senior and you're income eligible, you get a bus pass. If you're a person with a disability and you're income eligible, there's a bus pass, monthly bus pass that allows you the opportunity to access your community. Yeah, that's all I have to say, so thank you.

CHAIR KING: Wow, thank you. That's a great idea. No questions. Okay, thanks for your testimony.

Next testifier is Kathy Collins, followed by Myrna Ah Hee.

MS. KATHY COLLINS, MAUI ACADEMY OF PERFORMING ARTS:

Aloha, Madam Chair, Councilmembers. My name is Kathy Collins and I'm here to testify on behalf of the Maui Academy of Performing Arts or MAPA. I am not a MAPA employee, but I have been commissioned by MAPA as a playwright and performer and in addition I have been a donor and volunteer with the organization for many years.

So, I thank you for the opportunity to speak tonight about the educational theater tour which has for more than 20 years now gone into preschools and elementary schools throughout Maui County providing high quality professional productions which always come with lessons of various kinds. The group has dealt with bullying, littering, sustainability and so forth. We have reached probably close to 150,000 students in those 20 years and for many of them, the educational theater tour is their very first exposure to live theater and for most of them it's an experience they'll never forget the rest of their lives. Because it's not like watching something on tv, gaming on your phone, and it's not just about entertaining children, it's about engaging them, educating them, enlightening them and empowering them.

I could rattle off statistics and studies that attest to the great importance of arts education for children at this age, early childhood, but I would rather share just a little bit of anecdotal evidence with you. The last two school years, I have written and performed the educational tours show. This year's play was called "The Magic of Kamishibai". We did 46 performances to more than 6,000 children and it introduced

these youngsters to a forgotten Japanese art of storytelling utilizing illustrations. Told through the story of a young local girl who learns about the values, local values.

The impact that it makes on the kids is just, not a week goes by that I don't have a child come up to me and say, "You came to my school. I really liked the part where the little girl stopped being mean and gave her grandma a hug and I love my grandma too in that way". Continuing to fund this educational theater tour will hopefully allow us to continue to reinforce family values, local values, and maybe give a little bit magic into the lives of these young children. So I thank you for your consideration and your time. Mahalo.

CHAIR KING: Thank you, Ms. Collins.

Okay, next testifier in Myrna Ah Hee, followed by Gwen Arkin.

MS. MYRNA AH HEE:

Hello.

CHAIR KING: Hello.

MS. AH HEE: Good evening, Honorable Chair Kelly King, and esteemed Councilmembers. My name is Myrna Ah Hee, I am born and raised on Maui and I've lived in Lahaina my entire life. I volunteer for Kihei Fourth Friday, as a board member and I also chair the events and craft retail vendors. I've been volunteering with this event since the beginning. Our event consists of retail craft area, our food court area, and a keiki zone. I'm so appreciative of all the financial support over the past years from the County, MEDB, and MVB who has helped us with our entertainment this year.

The success, sorry I'm so nervous. The success of the event would be difficult without it. Our expenses are, you know, 7 to 9,000 a month and then, which is like 84 to a 100,000 a year, and we get from MVB, 25,000 and from MEDB 35 so that's 60,000. We always try to get more from the vendors, and I've seen many small businesses grow and survive economically on Maui in part from participating and exposure from Kihei Fourth Friday. We built a wonderful town party and thank everyone for supporting it. We have many vendors who have participated since the first year. We are growing and need your continued support to thrive. Thank you for your time. Mahalo.

CHAIR KING: Mahalo, Ms. Ah Hee. Thank you for your work on Fourth Friday, it's a great event.

Next testifier is Gwen Arkin, followed by Tamara, Sherrill.

MS. GWEN ARKIN, MAUI NUI BOTANICAL GARDENS:

Good evening. My name is Gwen Arkin and I'm so happy to be here to offer my testimony in support of Maui Nui Botanical Gardens.

I'm an art lecturer at UH Maui College. One of the classes I teach is photographer, and I'm constantly searching for locations where my students can go to practice their craft. Maui Nui Botanical Gardens is literally walking distance from the campus and its central location makes it an ideal place for a field trip. However, it's not simply a garden that is near the campus, but a garden whose diversity allows students to fully understand the importance of caring for Maui's fragile coastal vegetation that has found refuge in this special place. The friendly staff welcomes my classes every semester, gives us a fantastic tour for free.

Students learn the difference between endemic, indigenous, and Polynesian introduced plants. And through observation and study of the flora, they gain a deep understanding of how critical it is that these plants remain cared for, protected, and propagated. This knowledge lends context to their art. It allows them to create imagery that is thoughtful, deliberate, and impactful.

Please continue funding this valuable resource that demonstrates for our keiki, students, and community in a tangible way, what it means to malama aina. Thank you.

CHAIR KING: Thank you very much for your testimony.

Next testifier is Tamara Sherrill, followed by Courtney Ikawa.

MS. TAMARA SHERRILL, MAUI NUI BOTANICAL GARDENS:

Aloha mai ka kou, Chairwoman King and Members of the Council. I'm Tamara Sherrill, the Director of Maui Nui Botanical Gardens and standing with me here are some of the hardworking people who do the work of the organization.

I'm here to ask for your support of our line item grant with OED. We do have a lease with the Department of Parks and Recreation, and Parks has been a wonderful partner. I want to particularly thank Karla Peters and Grant Coordinator Roxanne Teshima. These kinds of partnerships do save Maui County money. As you well know, we're a non-profit, we leverage that County grant into more than twice the amount through matching grants and fundraising.

Our mission is to foster an appreciation and understanding of Maui Nui's native and canoe plants and their role in Hawaiian cultural expression. We promote Maui's unique agricultural and natural history by maintaining this six-acre public botanical garden in Kahului that features nearly all the remaining heritage Hawaiian crop varieties, endangered coastal species, and Maui County plants that are the basis of many, many Hawaiian arts. And I know each of you are familiar with how Hawaiian plants are important for things like kapa making and la'au lapa'au and you know that native plants are the basis of the environment that supports our island economy. But most visitor's and new residents don't know.

I just heard this morning on the radio that the trees that provided some of the wood that burned in Notre Dame in Paris no longer grow in France. And you know in Hawaii, this is not going to be our story. You guys know that native plants and native trees are unique. And one small example, Maui Nui Botanical Gardens works with land managers, watershed partnerships to store Maui County Ohia Lehua seeds. We have seed bank managers across the state, just in the event of the introduction of Rapid Ohia Death.

And on a new event, La `Ulu or Breadfruit Day, was inspired by events that was training sponsored by the Office of Economic Development. That festival showcases all the different foods and products that can be made with ulu and gets more ulu trees on the island, so.

Last year we hosted more than 1,000 students in 50 tours and hands-on activities. This year we've already hosted 1,400 students in 60 visits. So, we're growing, and we are training new volunteer docents to help us out.

So mahalo for the difficult and important work that you do. And I hope you'll take some time this year to come see for yourself what your funding and support over the years has, has done for this site. Mahalo.

CHAIR KING: Thank you very much, Ms. Sherrill. Any questions? Okay. Thank you for your testimony.

Next testifier is Courtney Ikawa, followed by Larry Stevens.

MS. COURTNEY IKAWA, BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS OF MAUI:

Good evening, Council Chair King and Councilmembers.

CHAIR KING: Good evening.

MS. IKAWA: My name is Courtney Ikawa and I'm the Regional Director for Big Brothers Big Sisters of Maui.

All of us have experienced some kind of challenge in our life and I think it just takes that one person to believe in you and help you push through it and know that it's going to be okay.

At Big Brothers Big Sisters, we believe all youth already have the potential inside and we're just there to give them the extra boost they need to empower them and then get out of their way and let them, let them know that we're just standing beside them cheering them on. We currently serve over 150 Maui youth through our three programs. Our data proves by matching a child one on one with a positive role model, we create a positive change in the community by helping them, helping children avoid risky behavior, achieve educational success, and develop higher aspirations. Our program helps children develop resiliency to overcome the variety of challenges they might face.

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Maui receive 39% of public funding and 61% of private funding. This includes the County of Maui, as well as our Big Brothers Big Sisters Foundation who has a partnership with Savers Stores. Other monies are leveraged through our annual fundraisers, like our signature event Bowl for Kids' Sake and charity of choice events as well.

Our goal is to plant a seed of what we hope will become lifelong friendships for both our Littles and our Bigs. In fact, we find majority of our Bigs feel their lives have been enriched and impact greatly by their Littles.

This past January we asked our Bigs to tell us what being a mentor meant to them and so I have a statement here from our sophomore big sister who's volunteered with us the last two school years. She says "I think a mentor is important for everybody. Mentors can teach little or big things that will be used in the future with or without them knowing. Habits can be taught by anybody from any age. Being a mentor has taught me to have open ended conversations and to keep it going. I am very grateful to mentor Littles and hopefully my little can become a mentor in the future." I've been able to visit

this particular program site pretty often and I've seen this big in action and she's grown just as much as her little sister which is super awesome.

So, as you can see, building these mentoring relationships have a ripple effect on the community and so, I just want to thank you all for your continued support and your time this evening.

CHAIR KING: Thank you, Ms. Ikawa.

We have a question for you, if you don't mind. Councilmember Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you. Thank you for being here and the work you do. Does this program have to do with landfill diversion, at all?

MS. IKAWA: So, that would be the Big Brothers Big Sisters Foundation probably. They're probably working on something to keep all the clothing that we collect out of the landfill, and so they're looking for support with that. But that's a separate entity than ours.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay, thanks.

CHAIR KING: Okay, thank you. Thank you for your testimony. One more time, Larry Stevens. I don't see Larry here, so I think he might have left.

Next testifier is Keolamau Tengan, otherwise known as Michael, and followed by Brandon Shim. Aloha.

MR. KEOLAMAU TENGAN, KA'EHU:

Aloha. Wow, this is pretty cool. Good evening, Chair and esteemed Councilmembers.

I'm here to first ask a question on, "What does 10,000 pounds of trash, 64 acres of coastal wetlands, 41 culturally historic sites, 18 families served, 16 community partners, 5 visionary board members, 3 rare species of native birds, and 1 unifying vision have in common?"

CHAIR KING: I'm going to guess they're all at Ka'ehu.

MR. TENGAN: Hey, hey, hey, hey, hey, yah. Wow, you got it.

So, I am here this evening to testify on behalf of an organization known as Ka'ehu. Now, Ka'ehu is a non-profit organization that I have had the privilege of stepping into

a program manager position in the last three weeks and I'm here to share a little bit about Ka`ehu, the great work that they are doing. It is located in Paukukalo/Waiehu area, 64 acres of coastal wetlands that runs the entire length. Now I grew up in Waiehu, right up the road, I'm literally a two minutes' walk from my mother's house down to one of the areas in Waiehu/Ka`ehu Bay, and I had never known anything about it.

You wouldn't know unless you knew because there's a thick branch of hao trees that line the entire area. Now, the 10,000 pounds of trash in the three weeks that I have been there have been collected, and this is by community partners, those 16 community partners. And it has been an amazing experience because of the services that this place offers. Really dedicated to revitalizing the la`hui by providing a place to gather and really doing that through work in malama aina and there is a lot of aina to malama.

And only in the past three weeks have I really stepped in yet from that, from that in the last three weeks we've done everything from in the lo`i kalo to cutting back some of the hao trees to open up the wai. We've done things in terms of the coast line to clear the trash and garbage so that the keiki as well as the turtles who come to the shoreline have a place to be and present themselves.

So, I'm here this evening just to come and to testify on behalf because right now it is very skeleton crew that we're working with and could definitely use some support in terms of the County, well a little late in terms of the fiscal budget for 2020, I want to bring this place to your attention and also invite you to our next beach cleanup which is going to be at the end of this month, Saturday, April 27. Mahalo.

CHAIR KING: Mahalo. So, I have a quick question, are you, you're not in this year's budget?

MR. TENGAN: We are not, no. But the Executive Director has been busy with grants up until now and I figure that it was a good time, since I'm just stepping in to go ahead and bring the attention of what's happening there and more planning for 2021, but--

CHAIR KING: Okay.

MR. TENGAN: Yeah.

CHAIR KING: We have one question for you, Council Vice Chair Keani Rawlins-Fernandez.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aloha, Mr. Tengan.

MR. TENGAN: Aloha.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: What would it be that Ka'ehu would need funding for?

MR. TENGAN: Thank you for the question. There is a lot, but primarily it would be just to maintain some of the current programs that we have right now.

That would be, roughly saying, probably something around 75,000 to maintain the ohana programs, the conservation and the preservation pieces. Those are the three biggest part, parts and pieces. One piece of that is having a full-time coordinator position, another part is a lot of the work that's being done right now is being done by hand as well as by power tools that the board members and myself just bring with us. And so, we could also use a lot in terms of gardening and landscape materials. Yeah.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo.

MR. TENGAN: Thank you.

CHAIR KING: Thank you. We have one more question.

Councilmember Sugimura.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Nice to see you, Michael.

MR. TENGAN: You too.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: So, is this the project that Dukie, Duke Sevilla.

MR. TENGAN: Sevilla.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Sevilla. This is the one, oh, okay, so he's no longer a part of this project then?

MR. TENGAN: He is. He sits on the board. So he's, yeah, so there's, there's five board members, Duke Sevilla is part of the board, though he's also very much participatory in the programs.

I facilitate a program with the Maui Police Department called the Kalo program which is a family enrichment program, and he works on both Saturdays that I work with Kalo with the poi program. And that's the progressive outcome intervention program with juvenile youth.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: So last year, this is my last I guess question, when this item came up with budget there were community members who were, who came about this. I wonder if you're in touch with them?

MR. TENGAN: I have. Actually, there's a number of things happening with some of the community members. I really just stepped in, however some of the community members are actually relatives, so, I am planning on speaking with them and seeing, from my own personal vision is being able to work with this entity and the community to be able to find a better way forward.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you.

MR. TENGAN: Yeah. Okay.

CHAIR KING: Thank you so much for coming.

MR. TENGAN: Mahalo.

CHAIR KING: Good to see you.

MR. TENGAN: Thank you for all your hard work.

CHAIR KING: Okay, next testifier Brandon Shim, are you in the house? From the Farm Bureau? No. Okay, followed by Blaine Apo, from Maui Crisps. Blaine, are you here? No. Next testifier is Liana Jensen, followed by Cranston Kapree, I'm sorry, Cranston Kapoi.

MS. LIANA JENSEN, MEO HEADSTART:

Good evening, County Council Members. My name is Liana Jensen and our daughter Alyssa, she attends UHMC Headstart. We can't tell you how grateful we are to be second year participants as Alyssa's birthday is a little late and it missed the cut off for kindergarten.

Last year, I told you that my daughter has grown a lot socially and intellectually. But this year she not only has built upon that, but she has also discovered character. Through the interactions with her peers and teaching staff, Alyssa has learned important values of honesty and trustworthiness. For a five-year-old she has shared with me many different stories of what she understands as to be right and wrong. In addition to that I believe Alyssa has developed a healthy relationship with her teachers whom she trusts and is, tries to be like.

As the future of all of us, these values are key elements in making good people who will in turn do great things. UHMC Center provides a quality learning experience from 7:30 to 3:00, allowing Alyssa's dad and I to work full-time and attend college classes. Although Alyssa will be transitioning into kindergarten, we want this for the keiki and their families who will come after her and us. Please include the funding in the 2020 budget. I thank you, very much.

CHAIR KING: Thank you. Thanks for being here and for sticking it out.

Next testifier is Cranston Kapoi, followed by Serena Kaldi.

MR. CRANSTON KAPOI:

Good evening, Council Chair, Councilmembers. My name's Cranston Kapoi and I'm from Maui, graduated Baldwin High School. Went to Oahu as a carpenter, was with the carpenters union. Came back to Maui started a little business and I did renovating work and I did a few disability places. And retired a year ago, and now I'm just helping the commission, board, Commission for Disabilities, Person with Disabilities and I'm here representing them today and I have this letter, the last time I read a letter, this time it's a letter addressed to Chair Rawlins-Fernandez and this is regarding reinstatement of monthly paratransit bus passes and closed captioning of County meetings on Akaku.

Aloha Chair Rawlins-Fernandez,

The Commission on Persons with Disabilities is respectfully requesting your consideration to reinstate the monthly paratransit bus pass. From the feedback that we have received at our recent Commission of Persons with Disabilities meetings, the current program presents a potential financial hardship for paratransit riders that rely on fixed incomes. The previous monthly pass was \$45, but the current fee policy could potentially cost a paratransit rider \$120 a month. Your time and consideration on this matter is much needed, and any assistance to lower the current fee would be greatly appreciated.

Additionally, we are also requesting closed captioning on Akaku for County meetings. This is not only a necessity for people who are deaf, but also useful for people who cannot hear as well as our older population.

We greatly appreciate you, and thank you for your time and consideration on these concerns.

Mahalo,
Kimberly West, Chair
Maui County Commission on Persons
with Disabilities.

And, I just wanted to say that the last time I shared about my cousin that is disabled, he's a disabled vet from Vietnam. And I just wanted to say how, you know, the one thing I have noticed that every time I take care of him, he wants to go someplace every day. They want to go out and I guess they're so contained at home they want to get out of the house.

And so, I ask that you consider them and also closed captioning for our seniors, yeah and I'm one of them, it's getting, we start losing our sight and our hearing. Thank you very much for your time. Aloha.

CHAIR KING: Thank you, Mr. Kapoi. And I just want you to know that I am working on trying to do a survey on the closed captioning. So, I'm hoping to get to work with the Maui Disability Alliance on that.

MR. KAPOI: Thank you.

CHAIR KING: We have one question, Mr. Kapoi. Mr. Kapoi, we have one question.

Vice-Chair Rawlins-Fernandez has a question.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aloha, Mr. Kapoi.

MR. KAPOI: Aloha.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Nice to see you again. So Ms. Kehus testified on creating a pass that would, I guess, based on low-income and Medicaid. Is that something that you would support?

MR. KAPOI: Yes.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, and then, for the closed captioning, the last time you came before us we talked about the need for it, and from what I understood the commission actually had information on the need. And I was hoping that--

MR. KAPOI: They had different devices and one of those devices they have to, somebody's going to come back and they're going to try it, because of Hawaiian words, the translation is pretty, pretty hard so they're going to do a test and then, but it's a better price than the \$150,000.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: So, my question wasn't about the device, my question was about the need in the community. How many people would benefit.

MR. KAPOI: Would benefit. You know, I know quite a bit of people that in my church, and I'm a mentor under James, Dr. James Morocco and I mentor men and a lot of the men, and they're retired just like myself, they're very hard of hearing, yeah.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Right. I know there's a lot of anecdotal evidence for the need, but I was just, I was hoping that, from what I understood the commission actually had statistics, so data that would show the need.

MR. KAPOI: Yeah. Okay.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: So, if maybe you can ask Ms. West if she could send that information that would be really helpful.

MR. KAPOI: Give you some data?

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yes, yeah.

MR. KAPOI: Okay.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo, Mr. Kapoi.

MR. KAPOI: Thank you.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aloha.

MR. KAPOI: Aloha.

CHAIR KING: Thank you very much for your testimony.

Next testifier is Serena Kaldi, I'm sorry, Serena Kaldi. Followed by Christine Kapiioho.

MS. SERENA KALDI, FARM APPRENTICE MENTORSHIP PROGRAM:

Aloha mai ka kou, Councilmembers and Chair. Mahalo for your time to listen to my testimony in support of the Farm Apprentice Mentorship Program or FAM. My name is Serena Kaldi and I've been a member of the FAM program's fourth cohort since December of 2018. This program was created in 2015 by the Hawaii Farmers Union United to help create future farmers in Hawaii. It has graduated 40 participants so far, with 26 more to graduate this June.

Although our professional careers are in the Maui conservation field, my partner and I are also devoted to continuing his family's legacy of now four generations of farming in Kula.

(Councilmember Kama was excused from the meeting at 9:09 p.m.)

MS. KALDI: We have been fortunate to not only receive the generational knowledge passed down from his ohana, but to also be accepted into the FAM ohana as well. This program contains a robust curriculum that explores the foundations of organic farming, along with a plethora, along with how to create a successful agricultural business on Maui. Members are exposed to a plethora of farmers through classroom sessions and hands-on farm visits, broadening our knowledge of current agriculture practices on Maui and giving us tools to add to our own farming kit.

My partner and I are currently starting our own farming venture, with chicken, ducks, goats and pigs. We're also expanding our gardens with over 50 varieties of heirloom fruits and vegetables along with native plants xeriscaping. The FAM program has given us the tools and methods to apply to our practices through the farmers themselves. From learning about Hawaiian agriculture practice with Kyle Nakanelua in Wailuanui, to composting with Gerry Ross in Kula, understanding Hawaiian moonphases and planting with Kaipō Kekona in Ku'ia, and organically controlling pests with Susie Mastroianni at UH Maui College. The FAM program has left us filled not only with knowledge, but inspiration from the people who continue to farm today.

This program is a key step to us continuing our ohana's farming legacy. Provided to our community free of charge, FAM not only offers rich mentor support and encyclopedic knowledge of organic farming practices, but financial support for its members through paid farm mentorship immersion hours and a professional development certificate and stipend upon graduation so that we can start our own farming ventures.

Councilmembers, we live on the most isolated land mass on Earth. This aina once supported a population near our current one today, without the need for outside resources. During last year's hurricane season, we witnessed the impact of what one day of not receiving our shipping containers resulted in. The store shelves are bare, but our farmers' fields were full. Our future as an island people depends on the need to build and retain our own food sovereignty. But before we can expand our farms, we first need to grow our farmers. The FAM program is an essential step to not only accomplish this, but to contribute to our community in one of the most impactful ways possible. The need to feed our people. That's why, I, Serena Kaldi, ask for you to please continue your support of the Farmers Apprentice Mentorship Program. Mahalo.

CHAIR KING: Alright. Mahalo. Thank you for your testimony.

Next testifier is Christine Kapiioho, followed by Madeline Desjardins.

MS. CHRISTINE KAPIIOHO, MAUI AIDS FOUNDATION:

Aloha, County Council and Chair. My name is Christine Kapiioho, I'm the Director of Client Services at Maui AIDS Foundation. I want to thank each of you for your consideration in the budget for our agency.

Maui AIDS Foundation has been serving the community for over 30 years and we want to continue doing so with funding through the County. We serve 150 plus individuals living with HIV at our agency, as well as testing 49 individuals per quarter for HIV & Hepatitis C, and 30 for syphilis. With funding through the County, we're able to help our, help keep our community healthy and aware of their sexual health.

Thanks to the County of Maui, Maui AIDS Foundation can provide effective programs such as Empower'd and LGBTQI and Allies Youth Group for those between the ages of 13 – 26. The goal of the Empower'd is to create a safe, comfortable, fun and educational space for group members to develop self-empowerment and discovery through activities and discussions.

Our S.I.S.T.A.H. Program/Project is an empowerment program for women teaching on topics of self-identity, sexual health, assertiveness and emotional and relational health. This project has been approved by the CDC and has been tailored to meet the needs of Maui's local female community. The S.I.S.T.A.H. Project gives women the opportunity to safely express themselves, share with each other, learn from each other and feel good about themselves in order to help them make healthier life decisions.

Lastly, our Bradda Groups were inspired by our S.I.S.T.A.H. Program and it is an HIV, Hepatitis C, STI prevention/intervention program conducted at MCCC to not only help the inmates after release, but also help project, protect our community as far as healthy, sexual education.

Thank you again for your time, commitment and support to allow funding to be allocated to our agency. Aloha and mahalo.

(Councilmember Lee was excused from the meeting at 9:13 p.m.)

CHAIR KING: Mahalo, for your testimony.

The next testifier is Madeline Desjardins, followed by Joe Finney. Is Joe Finney in the house? He'll be up next.

MS. MADELINE DESJARDINS, FARM APPRENTICE MENTORSHIP PROGRAM:

Thank you for your time, Council Chair and Councilmembers. My name is Madeline Desjardins. I live in Kula and I am currently an apprentice in the fourth cohort of the Farm Apprentice Mentorship Program or FAM.

The FAM program has given me an amazing opportunity to learn from and work with Maui's farmers. I have learned so much in the classes and I'm currently loving my immersion experience. Through the FAM program I have learned about soil health, integrated pest management, the sustainable farming methods used on this very island in the past and much more. This program has helped me to transition out of a restaurant job and into my dream career path. I couldn't have done that without the FAM program. The last person who spoke, mentioned that its free and we also get a stipend and are paid to do an immersion, which I wasn't in a financial position to take these classes, so when I saw that that was an option for me I was really excited.

(Councilmember Kama returned to the meeting at 9:14 p.m.)

MS. DESJARDINS: I think that this program is important because our future as an island and as a planet depends on our recommitment to sustainable farming practices at the local level. And this program educates and empowers people like me with the dream to be a part of the solution. I tell everyone I know about this program and encourage those with an interest to enroll. Small farms do not just provide food for the community, they restore and revitalize the land so that future generations can sustain themselves on it as well. And thank you and good night.

CHAIR KING: Thank you so much for your testimony.

Okay, next testifier is Joe Finney, followed by Annie M. Alvarado.

MR. JOE FINNEY:

Hello, my name is Joe Finney and first of all, thank everyone for your time and your patience.

I got here around 6:00 and was fortunate to hear most everyone's testimony. And I tell you, my empathy just was going off constantly, I don't know how you all do what you do, it's amazing.

I volunteer for Feed My Sheep, which you guys have blessed by funding it, funding part of it. And the reason why I came is just to let you know that it not only helps the community at large, but it also helps the volunteers. I often have challenged people that if you come and you help us at Feed My Sheep, you cannot leave there having given more than you get because the love, the appreciation, I mean they're not just people, they're our friends, and they're our family, they're our ohana.

To be able to look in the eyes of those that are struggling and to give them an encouraging smile, to welcome them every week is so enriching that I would encourage anyone to come and help us serve the way we all should. I love the fact that I live in Hawaii and that the word ohana has such a deep meaning, I think it means so much more than just family. The expression of love in that word, we're able to demonstrate to a hurting people. So with that in mind, please continue to give. Thanks.

CHAIR KING: Thank you, Mr. Finney. Thank you for your patience as well.

Next testifier is Annie Alvarado, followed by Mike Sparling.

MS. ANNIE ALVARADO:

Good evening, everyone, Councilmembers. And thank you so much for being here at such late hours, we really do appreciate all the extra hours you put in and we thank you for all your wonderful opinions and we elected you to do it anyway, right?

I'm here to support Maui Economic Development Board and I just have a list of things that I think that they do is very important to the community. I believe that it's important

to support the local entrepreneurs, building local business capacity including strategies for prioritizing local business success. Development and cultivation of new technologies to support job creation and a living wage. Technical assistance for small business development and expansion. Youth programs that build financial capacity. The testimony earlier was just so heartwarming, it was amazing. Leveraging private sector investment with public sector priorities including community involvement and transparency. Supporting thoughtful projects to protect the environment. And support research and development and utilizing the UH system. Brief discussion of programs which were affordable to local participants with potential local and global impacts.

One program that I was particularly involved with was the Startup Weekend. I think that a lot of people have really wonderful ideas about businesses such as myself and that training was really pretty amazing. It was very intense, very useful and I think it helps to encourage locals to prosper through understanding how to run a business and what it takes. So, I thank you for your kindness and have a good evening.

CHAIR KING: Thank you. Have a good evening yourself. Thanks for your testimony.

Next testifier is Mike Sparling, followed by Zach Edlao.

MR. MIKE SPARLING:

Good evening.

CHAIR KING: Good evening.

MR. SPARLING: I'm Mike Sparling. Thanks for staying here late, I know it's late for me, but especially for you guys.

CHAIR KING: Can you move the microphone a little bit closer to you? Thank you.

MR. SPARLING: Yeah, sure. So, I'm an ocean safety officer. I'm here just to let you guys know, we're, we're really struggling. I've been in the department for 17 years, 15 years as a jet ski operator. These days right now, I'm a TA captain for the south shore and we've got a lot of vacancy problems. We have just shortages really.

You know as Kekai was up here before you guys, she mentioned all the trainings that she has to organize for everybody and, you know, she carries her weight and then some. And you know we have probably six or seven different trainings per year that we have to get through, all certifications we can't get around them, we have to get through them. Each one of those requires pulling 60 people off the beach, each one

of them. So, if you have seven of those, you know, you do the math, that's 420 times we have to pull people off the beach.

This is CPR training, this is USLA training standards, all this extra training that we need. You know, it's not every day you get CPR, you know, or CPR case, so you need to practice. There's always updates, you know we went from CPR training where it was, "oh, you just need two people", and now we're doing high performance CPR, where it's you need three to four to get it done.

We now have, we were supposed to have a staff of two jet ski operators every day at every beach that has a jet ski. Most of the times we have one and you know, I don't know how to explain it to you, but you know, going to calls on jet skis, if you have someone floating face down, whatever the case is, you really wish you had that other guy, and it really hurts our ability to, to help the community, you know, to help other first responders do their job.

You know, I'll give you a quick example, like I said I'm like the, one of the TA captains for Kihei and on a daily basis we're always moving people around, juggling people around just to keep our coverage. So, if there is a case at Kam II and your partner's at lunch, we're abandoning other beaches, leaving beaches empty without lifeguards, to go help the lifeguard that's in need.

And you know, I don't even want to know what the liability is with that. You know, our lifeguards are stressed already with the amount of hours they have to work to make up with and you know, you know, just a couple of years ago we lost, you know, that limited liability as well, so. And I see the red button.

CHAIR KING: Oh, okay.

MR. SPARLING: But, yeah, we're worrying a lot and, you know, we could really use the help.

CHAIR KING: Thank you. Appreciate it. And we do have Councilmember Paltin join HSAC, so she can help us work on that tort liability issue. But thank you for coming out here, appreciate the testimony.

MR. SPARLING: Okay, thank you.

CHAIR KING: Next testifier is Zach Edlao. Thank you for staying for so long.

MR. ZACH EDLAO:

Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Councilmembers for this late evening. My name is Zach Edlao, I'm the Ocean Safety Captain for the Maui Fire Department, Ocean Safety Bureau.

Councilmembers, we need your help now to better serve the public. You know, we've been like Mike said, we've been struggling a long time. In the next, one to ten years we're going to have a lot of guys retiring so there's going to be a lot of changes. And as far as I can remember there was no expansion positions, our guys are getting burnt. We probably have a high, I don't know what the stats is with other departments, but as far as work comp. injuries, there's never been a time in my career, I think, haven't, we had to clear somebody not on work comp. Our job is physically demanding so these positions that Councilmember Paltin putting forward, we need these men. Guys are getting hurt.

You know, our job, there's no stretch out do yoga before you make a rescue, it's a full blast sprint. Unique different from firefighter and police, you know, they'll get dispatched, they know what the call is going to. Ours one, is a full blast sprint. You don't know when going happen, you don't know what going happen, and we have a lot of guys getting hurt. We put our lives on the line for people that we don't even know, but that's our job and we do it, you know, we're happy to come work.

Some days, the surf are big, we don't even take lunch, we don't even have chance for lunch, cause you no like leave your partner around by himself, around by himself with 20-foot surf and thousand people. We have no span of control, one lifeguard, you get a thousand people in the water.

And our equipment, we need equipment. The equipment we get is, I don't know how long they going last, especially by the ocean, but its valuable to life saving. It cuts down the life saving time, the better we can get to them, the quicker we can get them to the ER, the better chance of surviving that person can have.

And you know, I'd like to thank Victor Fontanilla, the lead mechanic the Fire Department. The amount of work they put in with our equipment, him and the rest of his crew, without them our equipment would have gone downhill faster. Those guys are amazing, the fire mechanics that we got. And they got an extra work load of our stuff on their hand now, even they're hurting now by absorbing us with this merger.

But, we need your guys help to fund these positions. Really take a look now, you guys, you guys have the chance now to look at what we do, we're saving lives, we're trying

to minimize injuries. You know, these tourists they're dying to come to Maui, they shouldn't be coming to Maui to die. So let's help protect our visitors and beach goers over here, really take a look at it this time, please. We need you guys support, we need you guys support badly. But, um, thank you, thank you very much.

CHAIR KING: Thank you for coming out, Mr. Edlao.

MR. EDLAO: Thank you.

CHAIR KING: And for staying till the end.

MR. EDLAO: Thank you. Okay, good night.

(Councilmember Lee returned to the meeting at 9:27 p.m.)

CHAIR KING: Okay. We have, I'm just going to go through these names of the people that didn't answer earlier: So we had Rachelle Peterson, Larry Stevens, Brandon Shim, and Blaine Apo. Looks like none of those folks are here.

Did we get, Ms. Deputy Clerk did we get more testifiers in our satellite offices?

DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK: Madam Chair, there are no other individuals signed up in the District Offices to testify.

CHAIR KING: Okay, and no one else signed up for the chambers? Okay, Members is there any objection to receiving written testimony into the record?

MEMBERS VOICED NO OBJECTION.

THERE BEING NO OBJECTION, WRITTEN TESTIMONY
RECEIVED FROM THE FOLLOWING WERE MADE A PART OF
THE RECORD OF THIS PUBLIC HEARING:

1. Maui Independent Living Center;
2. Debbie Cabebe, Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc.;
3. Hokuao Pellegrino, Hui O Na Wai Eha;
4. Giel Marie Tolentino;
5. Charlotte O'Brien, Food Security Hawaii;
6. Stacey Moniz, The Maui Farm;
7. Tamara Sherrill, Maui Nui Botanical Gardens;
8. Kimberly West, Maui County Commission on Persons with Disabilities;
9. Serena P. Kaldi, Farm Apprenticeship Mentorship Program;

10. Christine Kapiioho, Maui Aids Foundation;
11. Jeff McCallum;
12. Murray Clay, Ulupono Initiative;
13. Britney Bautista, Best Buddies;
14. Sarah Man, Best Buddies Hawaii;
15. Jerleen Bryant, Maui Humane Society;
16. Donna Clayton, Pukalani Community Association;
17. Jayson Robert Mizula;
18. Janelle Baoy;
19. Alike Seki;
20. Gloria Adlawan;
21. Wanda Larson;
22. Pat Bily;
23. Teresa Cartwright;
24. M. Verdine Kong;
25. Martha E. Martin;
26. Geary S. Mizuno;
27. Courtney Turner;
28. Marlene Belschner;
29. Tiara Matsui;
30. Serina Juda;
31. Alton Jesse;
32. Jesse Jesse;
33. Russell Frendo-Recopuerto;
34. Nani Watanabe;
35. Dakota Aguino;
36. Lyndon Braxton Manlapao;
37. Star Gonzalez;
38. Betty-La Nakila;
39. Nainoa Ripani;
40. Cassidy Rosete;
41. Jaelen Shimabuku;
42. Xynalynne Sonis;
43. Haley Taibemal;
44. Jaden Takushi;
45. Kylie Lynn Takushi;
46. Hina Wells;
47. La'akea Wells; and
48. Kassen Yamashita.

CHAIR KING: Okay, and is there any objections to closing public testimony?

MEMBERS VOICED NO OBJECTION.

CHAIR KING: Alright, public testimony is closed. And at 9:27 p.m., if there are no objections, we will, actually do we have a motion to adjourn with public hearing?

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA:

...

COUNCILMEMBER LEE:

SECOND.

CHAIR KING: Moved by Councilmember Molina, seconded very loudly by Councilmember Lee. All those in favor say "aye":

AYES: COUNCILMEMBERS KAMA, LEE, MOLINA,
PALTIN, SINENCI, SUGIMURA, VICE-CHAIR
RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ, AND CHAIR KING.

CHAIR KING: None opposed?

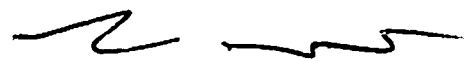
NOES: NONE.

EXCUSED: COUNCILMEMBER HOKAMA.

CHAIR KING: Okay, the meeting is adjourned at 9:28 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

The public hearing of *APRIL 17, 2019*, was adjourned by the Chair at 9:28 p.m.



JOSIAH K. NISHITA, COUNTY CLERK
COUNTY OF MAUI, STATE OF HAWAII

~~DISABILITY~~



MILC has a mission to ensure that persons with disabilities are full social, civic, and economic partners, both within their families and in a fully accessible community. Creating access and choice.

Goal

To maximize individual independence, dignity, choice and flexibility

Objective

To have the same civil rights, option, and control over choices in their own lives as others in the community.

This program is financed by the County of Maui and operated by MEO.

If you or someone you care for needs help for to be more Independent, take the first step and call MILC



Contact MILC Program Coordinator

Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc.

99 Mahalani Street
Wailuku, Hawaii 96793

Phone: (808)-249-2990

Fax: (808)-249-2991

Website: www.meoinc.org

MILC is registered under the Maui Economic Opportunity with the IRS as a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Contributions made to MEO can be specifically designated to MILC and is tax deductible to the extent permitted by law.



MILC

Maui Independent Living Center



*Empowering people
with disabilities to seek
independence*



Helping People. Changing Lives.

Programs and Services

Information Referrals

Peer Support

Independent Living Skills & Training

Advocacy

Housing

Transportation

Benefits

Education

Deaf Outreach



Independent living not only means equal rights, but also equal responsibility for citizens. Independence implies managing success as well as coping with failure.

Edward Roberts and his advocacy—
“Father of Independent Living”

Eligibility

Any person with a disability or older adult who may benefit from MILC services or program is eligible regardless of disability, race, color, religion, sex or national origin.

Application

A call or visit to the local MILC office located at 99 Mahalani Street, Wailuku

MEO Family Center or download application at: www.meoinc.org

Service Program

Service needs are determined by clients themselves. Service plans will be developed accordingly. For services beyond the scope of MILC, clients are referred to appropriate resources.

Client Evaluation

We solicit clients feedback each year.

The client has an opportunity to evaluate the quality of services. New programs may arise from client suggestions.

Support Groups

Maui Wheelers

A bi-monthly meeting for persons who use wheelchairs, scooters, walkers, or other assistive mobility devices, for their `ohana (family), friends and caregivers.

We are self-advocates and self-determined individuals!

Maui Deaf Friends

Meetings for persons who are deaf and hard of hearing, for their `ohana (family), friends and interpreters.



*Support groups are open to all
Individuals who benefit from MILC
services*

Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc. (MEO)

MEO operates under five departments:

- MEO BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER
- COMMUNITY SERVICES
- EARLY CHILDHOOD SERVICES
- TRANSPORTATION SERVICES
- YOUTH SERVICES

MEO administers more than 40 programs that respond to specific needs expressed by the community.

In the past fiscal year MEO assisted:

- 193 individuals obtain and maintain employment, increase income, create 65 jobs and earn a living wage,
- 554 entrepreneurs with small business start-up and development counseling,
- 1,166 children and youth achieve academic, social, and other school success skills,
- more than 150 parents/caregivers improve their home environments,
- more than 130 individuals improve their ability to meet their basic needs and overall financial well-being,
- 166 individuals secure and maintain safe and affordable housing,
- 1,600 individuals reduce their energy burden,
- 1,077 seniors access fresh fruits and vegetables,
- 517 individuals demonstrate improved mental health and well-being,
- 2,190 seniors and individuals with disabilities maintain an independent living situation,
- 44 individuals with no recidivating,
- 2,173 individuals increase knowledge, skills and abilities to enable them to improve conditions in their community and enhance their ability to engage,
- 7,921 individuals with specialized transportation, providing more than 407,000 rides throughout Maui County.

MEO leveraged 4.5 million dollars from the federal and state government, private foundations and grants, and fundraising to supplement county funding.



Hui o Nā Wai 'Ehā

Ola i kapa wai WWW.HUIONAWAIEHA.ORG

County of Maui Testimony on FY19-20 Budget Hearing regarding Maui County allocation of funds for purchase of Wailuku Water Company Watershed Lands, Ditch and Delivery systems.

Aloha Chair & Council Members,

I am hear on behalf of Hui o Nā Wai 'Ehā testifying in regards to a proposed budget request of \$9.5 Million by Council Member Alice Lee for the acquisition of Wailuku Water Company's Watershed / Conservation Lands, Stream Diversion and Delivery Systems situated on approximately 8,911 acres.

Hui o Nā Wai 'Ehā has been involved in this process of the County acquiring Wailuku Water Company dating all the way back to 2007. The County Council secured a \$7 million bond under the first administration of former Mayor Arakawa, later to be taken away by former Mayor Charmain Tavares. In 2017, Mayor Arakawa attempted once again to execute a purchase agreement but failed. We strongly believe the reasoning for not gaining traction over the last decade on this issue was the lack in communication between Administration and past Councils as well as the administration's misconceptions over management-maintenance and overall use of the water from the system. In addition, we feel that none of the last 3 Administrations pursued a transparent process which engaged both community and Hui o Nā Wai 'Ehā, both of which are one of the largest and most important stakeholders.

We strongly believe that our public trust resources such as water and watersheds, should be held in the trust of the public such as the County of Maui, which is why we have supported the idea of this acquisition from the get go. This time around, however, we strongly advise both the Council and Administration to genuinely engage with the Hui regarding key details and concerns that will ultimately help this deal come to fruition. We would like to see conditions in this purchase agreement with WWC that ensures the development of a community-based stream management plan along with a number of other key components that will ensure this public trust resource is protected for generations to come.

Let's get right into some of the misconceptions which has held this process back. What benefits does this acquisition come with and what does it not come with. Let me start off by saying that the acquisition of Wailuku Water Company, absolutely does not give the County any more water than it has been allocated by the State CWRM through our Contested Case Hearing and WUPA Process. By acquiring the system, it does not give the County the power to begin charging kuleana kalo farmers in Nā Wai 'Ehā for the water that they are using, even when the water is being delivered by the County. This was the biggest misconception from past Administrations. I will say this though, if you look at the copy of the Contested Case Hearing Officer's Proposed Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Decision and Order, Hui o Nā Wai 'Ehā supported the request by the County in their WUPA to draw additional water from Wailuku River via the 'Īao-Waikapū Ditch System for future growth. The County's existing use and capacity through the old treatment facility is 1.784 mgd. The County requested to double that amount as they had plans to build a new multimillion dollar water treatment facility in 'Īao to manage the increase capacity being requested. Hui o Nā Wai 'Ehā supported this increase of 1.416 mgd and still stands by that decision. The County's total use of surface water with the additional request would be set at 3.2 mgd. The report shows extensive detail into the County water uses from both surface and ground water in Nā Wai 'Ehā along with research that clearly supports the population growth data for the Central Maui system through 2030. Therefore, we don't believe the County needs additional water from Nā Wai 'Ehā and shouldn't feel compelled to undermine the last

Hui o Nā Wai 'Ehā (Board Members)

Hōkūao Pellegrino
(President)

Koa Hewahewa
(Vice President)

Lani Eckart-Dodd
(Treasurer)

Lucienne de Naie
(Secretary)

Duke Sevilla
(Board Member)

Miki'ala Pua'a-
Freitas
(Board Member)

Ikaika Nakahashi
(Board Member)

Kōnane Awo
DelaNux
(Board Member)

Mariana Löwy-
Gerstmar
(Board Member)

Ka'apuni Aiwohi
(Board Member)

Kamalani Uehara
(Board Member)

Maui Tomorrow
(Collaborator)

Albert Perez
(Executive Director)

University of
Hawai'i
Richardson School
of Law
(Collaborator)

Kapua Sproat
(Director of Ka Huli
Ao: Native Hawaiian
Law Center)

Legal Counsel

Isaac Moriwake
(Earthjustice)

Pam Bunn
(Alston Hunt Floyd
& Ing)

Hui o Nā Wai 'Ehā (501c3) • 213 West Waikō Road, Wailuku, Maui, Hawaii 96793

(808) 430-4534 • Huionawai4@gmail.com • www.huionawaieha.org •  

The Mission of Hui o Nā Wai 'Ehā is to advocate for the restoration and stewardship of mauka to makai streamflow in Waikapū, Wailuku, Waiehu, Waihe'e Streams (Nā Wai 'Ehā), to protect cultural and natural resources related to traditional and customary practices of Native Hawaiians and to engage the Maui community through water resources management education outreach programs and initiatives.

15+ years of work that Hui o Nā Wai 'Ehā and the Maui community has done to establish mauka to makai stream flow in all 4 streams.

Questions you should be asking yourself in regards to this potential acquisition should be around maintenance and management costs, current revenue streams and how the County will sustain these lands and systems for those dependent upon it. If Maui County were to acquire Wailuku Water Company, you will be in the business of providing and managing surface water delivery systems to over 50 users. It may not sound like much, but the systems are complex and dilapidated, while the users, most of which are Native Hawaiian subsistence kuleana farmers who depend on having these systems flowing continuously. The service areas and customers would be kuleana kalo farmers, ag / nursery businesses, Wailuku Country Estates, golf courses and even residential users of kuleana water like those living right around the County building.

Another area that needs to be looked at is the public trust use of the lands acquired. These lands have been locked and guarded for decades not allowing many Native Hawaiian families access into the watershed lands for traditional and customary gathering and other practices. How will the County address these protected practices under our State Constitution?

Part of the 'Īao acquisition includes some of Maui's most important cultural resources, even beyond the iconic Kaka'e Moku or "'Īao Needle". Our highest ranking ali'i from Hawai'i Island to Kaua'i were interred in the upper reaches of 'Īao both in caves above and below the streams. How are we going to ensure that the sanctity of that region will be protected and preserved? In the lower reaches of 'Īao, there are former kuleana lands that would be included in this deal, lands that once sustained vast acreage of lo'i kalo. Hui o Nā Wai 'Ehā would like to work with the County on creating a plan of to restore those sites, with the possibility of co-managing these areas. To date, there are no lo'i kalo in production in above Mokuahau Road in 'Īao Valley. These fertile lands can play a major role in our goal to increase our local food security while supporting traditional Hawaiian practices in Nā Wai 'Ehā.

Speaking of co-management, the question will be if it hasn't already, what department will be managing the intricate diversion and ditch systems? As part of this deal, Hui o Nā Wai 'Ehā strongly believes in the development of a first ever community-based stream management plan whereby we re-empower our communities in each of the ahupua'a to help co-manage what they once managed before in the ahupua'a network system. There are community members in each of the four ahupua'a who have generational knowledge of how the kuleana water systems run, along with the capacity to move towards being independent of the plantation ditch systems that currently feed their kuleana farm lands. Hui o Nā Wai 'Ehā does not want another 140 year repeat, in which a former plantation entity manages these irrigation systems. I believe that between the County, Hui o Nā Wai 'Ehā and community leaders in each of the four ahupua'a, we can create an management plan that is sustainable, innovative and a model for other communities throughout Hawai'i that are moving in this direction.

In closing, it is our hope that Hui o Nā Wai 'Ehā can work together throughout this entire process and provide a clear roadmap for the Administration that is transparent and concise as to the true purpose and intent behind this acquisition and purchase agreement of Wailuku Water Co.

I have been involved with the Hui from the very beginning back in 2004 and have the authority to address any of your questions and or concerns in explicit detail. Furthermore, I would like to humbly request that the Hui have the opportunity to conduct a formal presentation to County Council Members and Administration in the very near future, to learn more about the work we have been doing for the last 15+ years. Mahalo nui!

- 1 c. Haleakala had claimed appurtenant rights and had been provisionally approved.
2 d. Haleakala claimed that his land has been in his 'ohana "since time immemorial,"
3 and had no indication that its appurtenant rights have been extinguished.
4 e. However, Haleakala claimed that his land was granted to Ka'awa by LCA 3488,
5 confirmed by R.P. 5289, but provisional approval referred to LCAs 3387 and 3294-B:1,
6 M:1, and that LCA 3387 was shared by the properties of Haleakala, the Britos, and
7 Mendoza. Gary Brito confirmed that all three properties were part of LCA 3387.
8 f. Haleakala did not submit written testimony and did not participate in the CCH.
9 g. No action is taken on Haleakala's request for appurtenant rights.
10 h. His request for a permit of 600 gpd is denied. He may file for recognition of
11 domestic use of 600 gpd, which would be exempt from the permit requirements.
12

13 281. SWUPAs 2256/2257N—Kenneth Mendoza (FOF 402)

- 14 a. On April 23, 2009, Kenneth Mendoza filed existing- and new-use SWUPAs for
15 TMK No. (2) 3-2-002:025 ("Parcel 25"), for whom Gerald Mendoza was to testify.
16 b. The Commission had provisionally recognized appurtenant rights.
17 c. Although Gerald Mendoza submitted written testimony, he did not appear for the
18 CCH.
19 d. No action is taken on the appurtenant rights request.
20 e. No action is taken on the permit requests.
21

22 c. 'Īao-Waikapū Ditch

23
24 282. SWUPAs 2178/2179N—Maui County Department of Water Supply (FOF 403)

- 25 a. On April 3, 2009, Maui County Department of Water Supply ("MDWS") filed
26 SWUPAs for 1.784 gpd of existing use and 1.416 gpd of proposed new use, for a total 3.2
27 mgd.
28 b. Water from Wailuku River is diverted by WWC into the 'Īao-Waikapū Ditch and
29 delivered to MDWS's 'Īao Water Treatment Plant ("Īao WTP"), where it is treated and
30 distributed throughout the Central Maui System. The Central Maui System receives water
31 from a variety of sources, including the Īao WTP and Kepaniwai Well, Īao Tunnel,

1 Mokuahau Wells 1 and 3, Waiehu Heights Wells 1 and 2, Waihe'e Wells 1, 2 and 3, North
2 Waihe'e Wells 1 and 2, Kanoa Wells 1 and 2, and Maui Lani Wells 5, 6, and 7.

3 1. The North Waihe'e Wells 1 and 2 and the Kanoa Wells 1 and 2 draw 4.00
4 mgd from the Waihe'e Aquifer, the recommended limit by CWRM.

5 2. The Maui Lani Wells 1, 2, and 3 draw 2.00 mgd from the Kahului
6 Aquifer, the recommended limit by CWRM.

7 3. The other sources have water-use permits from CWRM for the High-Level
8 Diked or Basal 'Iao Aquifer.

9 c. The Central Maui System is the largest water system in the County and serves the
10 communities of Kuau, Paia, Sprecklesville, Kahului, Puunene, Kihei, Wailea, Makena,
11 Waikapū, Wailuku, Waiehi, and Waihe'e as well as the Hawaiian Homelands at
12 Paukukalo and Waiehu Kou.

13 d. The population served by the Central Maui System was approximately 101,525 as
14 of 2015 and expected to grow by 24,464 through 2030 to approximately 125,789.

15 e. Currently, the Central Maui System's total peak available source is 25.696 mgd,
16 with an average daily use of 20.5 mgd. By 2030, the growth of the population is projected
17 to increase the demand between 7.7 mgd and 19.4 mgd, with a baseline of 13.6 mgd used
18 for water-planning purposes. While the current peak available source of 25.696 mgd can
19 meet the needs of the Central Maui population, MDWS will need to develop new sources
20 of water to meet future needs.

21 f. Single- and multi-families represent the highest percentage of current and
22 projected water use at 63-64 percent, with agriculture and private irrigation at only 2
23 percent, and most of the remainder used by commercial (11-12 percent), hotels (8-9
24 percent), government (9 percent), and industrial (4 percent).

25 g. Efficiency and conservation are increased by:

26 1. Supply side: increased staffing for leak detection and repair,
27 preventative and predictive maintenance of the system, and back-up sources.

28 2. Demand side: water conservation pricing, low-flow fixture distribution,
29 direct fixture retrofits, water auditing, regulations related to water conservation,
30 and public education and outreach activities.

1 3. Watershed partnerships: partnered with and provided funding for
2 seven watershed partnerships on Maui and Molokai to educate the public on water
3 use, as well as to ensure that upland watersheds are fully functioning.

4 h. MDWS has commissioned studies to look at sources of water for the Central
5 Maui System for both current and future demands, including an engineering and cost
6 analysis report and the Maui County Water Use and Development Plan, Central DWS
7 District Plan Update:

8 1. Northward basal groundwater development, adding new wells in the north
9 side of the Waihe'e Aquifer and in the Kahakuloa Aquifer, adding sixteen wells,
10 plus transmission pipelines, storage tanks, and booster pump stations:

- 11 i. the sustainable yield is 4 mgd, which MDWS currently pumps and
12 which CWRM has asked MDWS to limit further withdrawals.
13 ii. USGS has indicated that new wells in the northern portion of the
14 Waihe'e and Kahakuloa Aquifers may not be as productive or cost-
15 effective as hoped.

16 2. Eastward basal groundwater development, with a series of wells at
17 elevation 1000 feet, transmission pipelines, storage tanks, and booster pump
18 stations:

- 19 i. Estimated life cycle costs would be \$604 million.⁴⁹
20 ii. MDWS's ability to utilize this option is restricted by a Consent
21 Decree which was recently used to prevent MDWS from even developing test
22 wells.

23 3. Desalination of brackish groundwater, developing a 5 mgd reverse
24 osmosis desalination facility in the Kahului aquifer and operational costs
25 associated with the high intensity energy needs of the desalination process.

- 26 i. The Īao WTP that treats water from the Īao-Waikapū Ditch is
27 located at an elevation that allows the membrane filtration system to be
28 pressurized without pumping. Electricity costs to pressurize membrane

⁴⁹ Life cycle costs incorporate capital, operating, and maintenance costs over a defined planning period, including inflationary costs. It allows evaluation of different alternatives on an equal basis. It is expressed as the net present value (NPV) of all costs incurred during the planning period or the amount of money that would need to be set aside today at a defined interest (discount) rate to fund the project or strategy. (Exh. 2178-County-11, p. 11.)

1 processes are typically significant if the water must be pumped, but at the
2 Iao WTP, the membranes are pressurized by gravity. In contrast, for
3 desalination, brackish groundwater must be pumped up to the treatment
4 plant, reverse osmosis would remove salt and other minerals to create
5 potable water, and the residual brine liquid must be disposed via deep
6 injection wells into salt water below the source of brackish groundwater.

7 ii. Dependence on imported energy and uncertainty associated with
8 future energy prices adds a significant implementation risk.

9 iii. Estimated life cycle costs of \$598 million.

10 iv. This option, which would use brackish water from the Kahului
11 aquifer, does not address the current withdrawal of 2.00 mgd of potable
12 water from the aquifer, and how the potability of that water might be
13 affected by withdrawing an additional 5 mgd of brackish water.

14 4. Maximization of recycled wastewater and conservation.

15 i. The amount of water that could be replaced by treated water is
16 limited, with an estimated maximum of 0.601 mgd and average annual
17 demand of 0.38 mgd from the Wailuku-Kahului WTP.

18 2. It would require significant capital expenses, including the
19 expansion of existing WTPs, construction of storage tanks, and extended
20 transmission lines. Costs would be \$37.60 million, with \$5.37 million to
21 upgrade the WTP from R-2 to R-1, \$25.94 million to deliver 0.191 mgd to
22 the Maui Lani area, \$4.29 million to deliver 0.225 mgd to Kahului Airport
23 and Kanaha Beach Park, and \$2.00 million to deliver 0.185 mgd to
24 distribute from Queen Kahamanu Center to existing HC&S pipelines
25 formerly used for pineapple cannery wastewater to what was HC&S's seed
26 cane fields, Maui High School, Kahului Community College and Park,
27 Kahului Elementary, and Hale Mahaolu.

28 3. This assessment is limited to current users of MDWS's potable
29 water system. For example, most of the large users in the Maui Lani area
30 currently use brackish groundwater for irrigation, so only 0.191 mgd is
31 projected to replace potable water at a cost of \$25.94 million.

1 4. The total production of the Wailuku-Kahului WTP is 4 mgd, of
2 which only 0.2 mgd is currently used. So the projected estimated
3 maximum of 0.601 mgd and average annual demand of 0.38 mgd reflects
4 current use of potable water that might be replaced by recycled water and
5 not the water that is available.

6 i. USGS had also previously indicated that the Waikapū Aquifer may be a possible
7 source of new water, but the sustainable yield is only 2 mgd, and MDWS expected
8 competition from private landowners for the available water. Waikapu Properties have
9 five (5) wells, three shown to be potable and two in final testing for potability at the time
10 of the CCH.

11 j. MDWS did not claim appurtenant rights nor participate in the provisional
12 approval process.

13 k. MDWS is issued a Category 1 permit for 3.2 mgd: 1.784 gpd for existing use and
14 1.416 gpd for new use. Nearly two-thirds of MDWS's customers are single- or multi-
15 family households, or "domestic uses of the general public," one of the purposes of the
16 water resources trust. Therefore, as with permit applicants with native Hawaiian
17 traditional and customary rights, MDWS's permit falls within Category 1.

18 l. None of the other possible sources of potable water are alternatives to surface
19 water from Wailuku River but are additional sources to meet MDWS's future demands.
20 Even if recycled water from the Wailuku-Kahului WTP could eventually replace a
21 estimated maximum of 0.601 mgd of current potable water use, there will still remain
22 over 3 mgd of the WTP's output of 4 mgd to be available to other, non-MDWS users if
23 the logistics, costs, and apportionment of costs and water among users can be be
24 resolved.

25

26 283. SWUPA 2339—Roger Yamaoka and Kevin Yamaoka (FOF 404)

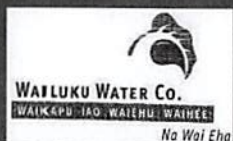
27 a. On April 30, 2009, Roger Yamaoka and Kevin Yamaoka filed an existing-use
28 SWUPA for TMKs No. (2) 3-5-004:038 ("Parcel 38") and No. (2) 3-5-004:039 ("Parcel
29 39"), for 1,950 gpd on 0.89 acre of apple bananas and 0.46 acre of vegetables and fruits.



Nā Wai 'Ehā Water Rights Case Timeline



Involved Parties



- 2003 Hui o Nā Wai 'Ehā Founded
- 2004 Petition to CWRM brought forth by Hui o Nā Wai 'Ehā and Maui Tomorrow to amend the IIFS for Nā Wai 'Ehā Streams
- 2007 Contested Case Hearing begins. Over 50 witnesses and testimonies given. Dr. Lawrence Miike is hearing officer.
- 2007 Hui o Nā Wai 'Ehā petitions CWRM to designate Nā Wai 'Ehā as a Water Management Area.
- 2008 **Water Management Area Designation for Nā Wai 'Ehā by CWRM Approved**
- 2009 Proposed Decision by CWRM hearing officer.
Waikapū: 4 mgd / Wailuku: 13 mgd / Waiehu: 3.5 mgd / Waihe'e: 14 mgd
Final Decision voted upon by CWRM
Waikapū: 0 mgd / Wailuku: 0 mgd / Waiehu: 2.5 mgd / Waihe'e: 10 mgd
- 2010 Hearing officer, Dr. Miike gives dissenting opinion
- 2010 **IIFS Stream Restoration for Waiehu and Waihe'e Streams (8-9-10)**
- 2010 Hui o Nā Wai 'Ehā & Maui Tomorrow appeal to Hawai'i Supreme Court
- 2012 Hawai'i Supreme Court hears the Nā Wai 'Ehā Case (6-6-12)
- 2012 **Hawai'i Supreme Court rules in favor of Hui o Nā Wai 'Ehā and Maui Tomorrow (8-15-12)**
- 2014 Contested Case Remand scheduled. All parties enter into negotiations
- 2014 **All parties reach an agreement and settle on new IIFS for Nā Wai 'Ehā. Settlement is approved by CWRM (May – 2014) Waikapū: 2.9 mgd / Wailuku: 10 mgd / Waiehu: 2.5 mgd / Waihe'e: 10 mgd**
- 2014 **IIFS Stream Restoration for Waikapū & Wailuku Streams (10-13-14)**
- 2014 WWC and HC&S fail to comply with IIFS. 500 Maui community members rally for justice for Nā Wai 'Ehā (10-24-14)
- 2015 CWRM not enforcing WWC & HC&S to comply with IIFS. Maui community members rally asking CWRM to enforce law (2-15-15)
- 2016 WUPA (Water Use Permit App.) and IIFS Contested Case Begins (7-11-16)
- 2016 Complaint filed regarding inconsistent monitoring of Nā Wai 'Ehā streams by CWRM (8-26-16)
- 2017 100 year flood causes major damage at Wailuku River & Waikapū Stream. WWC 'Āo Diversion severely damaged. WWC realigns stream without authorization. (9-13-16)
- 2016 County of Maui (Mayor Arakawa announces plans to purchase Wailuku Water Co. watershed lands, diversions, ditches and delivery agreements (12-2-16)
- 2017 IIFS & WUPA Contested Case Proposed Findings and Facts from CWRM Hearing Officer, Dr. Miike Released. Awaiting Final CWRM Hearing and Decision.
- 2018 CWRM installs 1st Real-Time Measuring Gauge on Waikapū Stream (1-12-18)
- 2018 100 year flood in Waiehu, Waihe'e and Kahakuloa causes major damage (2-18-18)
- 2018 Hana'ula LLC Purchases 5,000 acres of watershed lands from Wailuku Water Co. (4-15-18)
- 2018 Mahi Pono Purchases A&B / HC&S Ag Lands and Water System – 40,000+ acres (12-20-18)



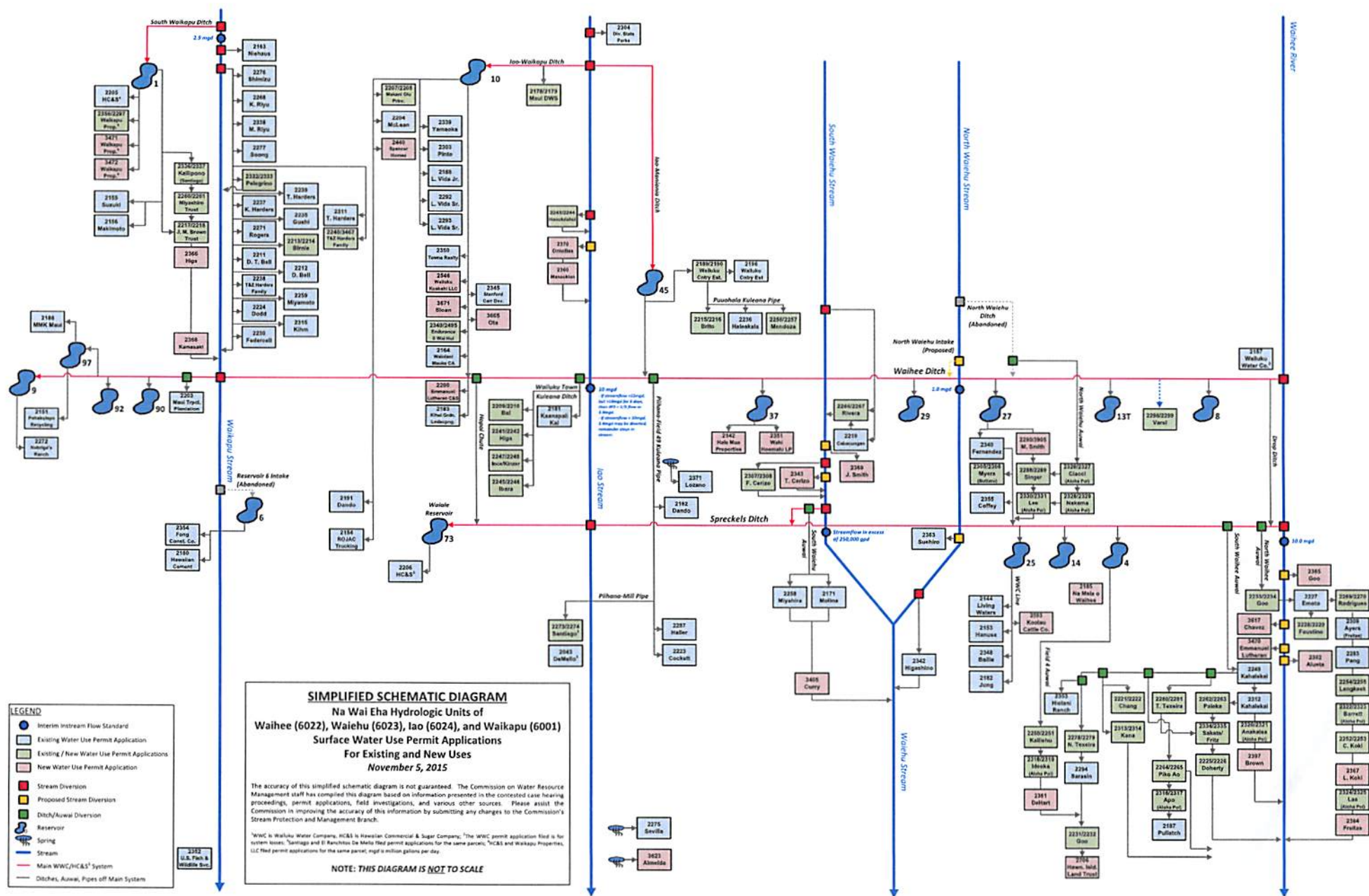
Nā Wai 'Ehā Contested Case Regarding Interim Instream Flow Standards (IIFS)

Stream / River	Prior to IIFS Contested Case (1900-2003)	Hearing Officer Proposal (2009)	HC&S Proposal (2009)	Final CWRM Decision & Order (2010)	Approved Settlement (2014)	Pending IIFS & Appurtenant Rights Case (2016-2019)
Waikapū Stream (Q90: 4 mgd)	0 mgd (below diversion) (no mauka to makai)	4 mgd	*4 mgd*	0 mgd (no restoration)	*2.9 mgd (72%)	
Wailuku River (Q90: 13 mgd)	0 mgd (below diversion) (no mauka to makai)	13 mgd	4 mgd	0 mgd (no restoration)	*10 mgd & 5 mgd (76%)	
Waiehu Stream (Q90: 4 mgd)	0 mgd (below diversion) (no mauka to makai)	3.5 mgd	3.5 mgd	2.5 mgd	2.5 mgd (no change) (62%)	
Waihe'e Stream (Q90: 24 mgd)	0 mgd (below diversion) (no mauka to makai)	14 mgd	5 mgd	10 mgd	10 mgd (no change) (41%)	
TOTAL (Q90: 45 mgd)	0 mgd (no mauka to makai)	34.5 mgd	16.5 mgd	12.5 mgd	25.4 mgd (56%)	

*1. The IIFS for Waikapū Stream would be conditional upon flow reaching Keālia Wetlands within 120 days.

*2. Waikapū Stream will not flow mauka to makai (Keālia Wetlands and Mā'alaea Bay). 100% of water is re-diverted at Waihe'e Ditch crossing at Waikapū.

*3. The IIFS for Wailuku Stream shall be modified when the stream is below 10 mgd for more than 3 days. 5 mgd to be at the mouth in normal flows.



Hello Maui County Council members:

Hi, my name is Giel Marie Tolentino and I began my journey in the STEMworks™ program over nine years ago! I would say I did a 180 being in the STEMworks™ program.

The STEMworks™ program has given me numerous opportunities during my middle and high school years alone. I attended many of their student workshops and learned about software like Adobe Dreamweaver during middle school, and got to compete with talented students across the state at the Hawaii STEM Conference.

A common aspect that employers are looking for when hiring someone is “work experience.” It’s difficult to gain hands-on and real-world experience when you’re still in high school. However, the STEMworks™ Summer Internship presents students the opportunity to do just that! Participating in the STEMworks™ Summer Internship program gave me the resources to the field I wanted to explore and also a head-start in finding colleges, how to fill out scholarships, and even grading my resume! I didn’t even know there was such a thing! The internships also gave me a deeper understanding of Hawaii’s history that our classrooms cover just the surface of. The summer before my freshman year of high school, I got the amazing experience to intern with a team to produce a video for the 125th anniversary of Haleakala Ranch! The summer of 2012 was an incredible summer because I got to learn about the rich history from the family members themselves, and even got to experience different parts of the ranch. The summer of 2018, I experienced the countless hours and dedication that goes into creating a rigorous program like the STEMworks™ Internship. The STEMworks™ team makes the events and workshops look fun and inviting, but the past summer gave me a glimpse of the dedication they put into this program and it gave me a greater appreciation for them! Thank you to the STEMworks™ team for all you do!

Receiving golden opportunities is great, but the best part of my journey with STEMworks™ is being able to do my part by giving back to the program and all the students it reaches out to. I am currently a STEMworks™ AFTERSchool Entrepreneurship instructor at Pukalani Elementary School. I help introduce Hawaii’s young generation in the world of STEM through Photoshop and Entrepreneurial projects. Some of the projects that my students helped their community with was creating TEDx Youth pamphlet covers and creating their school’s *Leader of the Month* bumper stickers and button pins. Each project takes a month to perfect, but the students learn the value of drafting, meeting deadlines, and receiving and using the feedback from others (fellow students, teachers, “clients”). What I enjoy the most about being an instructor is being filled with a sense of accomplishment when my students are overflowing with excitement from seeing their work come to life! It’s remarkable to witness the hard work and dedication the students put into their projects.

I am planning on attending the University of Hawaii Manoa in Fall 2019 and major in Business-Entrepreneurship. My goal is to start-up my own coffee shop or a Photography business.

However, I would love to give back my knowledge back to Hawaii's students in the future like I am now! You can never go wrong with valuable knowledge.

Mahalo for your time



FOOD SECURITY HAWAII 501(c)(3)

Plan to Assess and Address the Obstacles to Food Security for the County of Maui

In these insecure times of increasing climate crisis and political instability it is imperative that the County of Maui take measures to increase its citizen's preparedness for an interruption of incoming food shipments. To address this issue, County of Maui officials need information. What is currently being shipped into Maui? What portion of that could be grown here? And what are the barriers to more local production of food?

The Hawaiian sugar and pineapple industries were preferentially established with County, State and Federal support, at the expense of local food production. With that money no longer going to Big Ag, what sort of support can we utilize to help increase our local food production? How will investment to increase local food production contribute to fortifying our agricultural economy? In order to create effective programs the County of Maui needs information.

Project Objectives:

- Identify the reasons why Maui imports approximately 85-90% of its food
- Define the challenges to increasing local market share
- Identify leverage points that will affect the development of a sustainable local food production system
- Identify business and non-profit opportunities that will activate leverage points
- Assess how the County of Maui can petition the State and other potential funding for capital to support Maui agriculture
- Design community action programs that will increase neighborhood food availability in the event of an emergency
- Calculate economic benefits of increased food production

Proposing Organization:

Food Security Hawaii is a mission-driven, non-profit committed to increasing food security by combining indigenous Hawaiian techniques with the new regenerative ag technologies used to create carbon rich soils for local food production.

Food Security Hawaii is eminently qualified to identify the obstacles to food security here on the island of Maui and to begin the prioritization of solutions. Unlike consultants that simply write reports, Food Security Hawaii is a community action organization dedicated to addressing implementation of the solutions identified. In addition, Food Security Hawaii has expertise in the upcoming global use of verified carbon credits to offset emissions. A visit with the Governor's office as well as Hawaiian Airlines revealed that Hawaiian Airlines is gearing up to use carbon offsets and the ideal supplier of those offsets would be Hawaiian farmers. *Food Security Hawaii* can facilitate the verification process on Maui.

Political Will:

As the County of Maui shows its political will by funding projects on food security a signal will be sent to the various Foundations that will be more inclined to further support Maui based projects and groups.

Timeline:

Draft done in 4 months and Final in 6 months

Budget:

Admin: \$12,000

Research and writing: \$73,000

Printing and layout: \$6,000

Digital Info distribution: \$4,000

Travel to Honolulu to present to State and Fed Representatives: \$2,500

Misc: \$2,500

Total \$100,000

Impact:

Decision-making guidance for County of Maui officials

Foundation for financial planning for local farmers

Design action plans for future community engagement around food security

Action plan for State involvement on Maui to reach the Governor's food security goals

Information for COM to lobby State for more money to support local agriculture

Analysis of what are the next steps needed to increase food security on Maui

Food Security Staff and Consultants that will contribute to this project:**Susan Campbell**

Following a diverse career in real estate, banking and brokerage, Susan committed her life's work to sustainable agriculture and environmental health. As an author, national community organizer, and educator she brought industry and community needs

together to create new models of infrastructure for nutrition education and food distribution. On behalf of Earthsave International, Susan developed an award winning curricula for our nation's schools before moving to Maui in 2006. Since then she produced the 'Chef Teton' brand as a vehicle to inspire health and wellness practices for people of all ages. Since living in the Hawaiian Islands she has played a vital role in inspiring regenerative agriculture methods into the farming and food community. BOD affiliations: Hawaii Farmers Union United, Maui Tomorrow, Maui Food Technology Center, and Slow Food Maui. www.SusanTeton.com

Rob Parsons

Rob Parsons has served for 12 years as Maui County Environmental Coordinator, supporting a myriad of conservation and sustainability initiatives throughout Hawaii and beyond. Since 2012 he has been the Maui County liaison for the Hawaii Green Growth sustainability network and the Aloha + Challenge goals, as well as representative to the Urban Sustainability Directors Network. His recent affiliation with the Mayor's Office of Economic Development included management of Environmental Protection grants with a variety of conservation and community partners.

Parsons serves on the Hawaii Environmental Council, appointed in 2015 by Governor Ige, and chairs the Annual Report Committee. His broad partnerships have included chairing the UH Maui Campus Sustainable Science Management Advisory Group, contributing to the NOAA/ Hawaii Marine Debris Action Plan updates, collaboration with watershed partnerships, the Maui Conservation Alliance, and a campaign to legislate restrictions on the use of polystyrene food-service wares. He was the Maui County delegate to the GlobalClimate Action Summit, held September, 2018 in San Francisco. Parsons is a long-time photo-journalist, eco-author and advocate, with over 170 published articles archived at: www.legacyprojectshawaii.com.

Char O'Brien

Char holds a Bachelor of Science with high honors from Michigan State University, in Agronomy with an additional 2 years of agricultural technical training in Denmark, Norway and Austria. She subsequently farmed organically for 23 years - from 1973 to 1996 specializing in high genetic dairy cattle. Char was COO and VP of Innovation for Bamboo Technologies, Inc. a Maui company with a factory in Vietnam. She played a vital role in acquiring the ICC certification of bamboo as a building material. While working with farmers in NW Vietnam Char witnessed the affects of bamboo in remediating soil and eco-systems that had previously been bombed to obliteration. This experience solidified her commitment to the Regenerative Agriculture Movement as well as to the reversal of Climate Change. In 2008 Char founded Carbon Drawdown Solutions a company that converts waste and other fast-growing biomass feedstock into biochar, heat, and energy. <http://www.carbon-drawdown.com/>

Jenny Pell

Jenny Pell has worked in agriculture consulting, permaculture design and education for more than 20 years. Her career spans different continents and climate zones, with many years of experience in the tropics. She specializes in agroecology and agroforestry as buffering strategies for climate change adaptation. Two and a half years ago, before HC&S announced the end of sugarcane production, Jenny was commissioned by Maui Tomorrow to write the Malama `Āina Report to examine how to transition all of the sugarcane lands to regenerative agriculture. That report jump-started a community-wide conversation on Maui's farming future, and has been instrumental in showcasing what is Possible, Profitable, and Pono. One of her key projects for the last few years is creating a Worker-owned Cooperative Food Hub here on Maui.

Alika Atay

www.alikaatay.com

Contact: Food Security Hawaii - Charlotte O'Brien: Char@AinaFirst.com. 808-344-5339



About Us

The Maui Farm opened its doors in 1993, providing youth residential programs utilizing our 'Ohana Model of family-centered programming and offering farm-based experiential learning. In 2005, The Maui Farm re-focused its residential programs to serve homeless families in need of community support to attain self-sufficient living. In 2011, The Maui Farm began offering farm-based educational programs in order to share the many benefits of our educational farm with the Maui community.

Today, The Maui Farm is unique in integrating residential programs for homeless families and farm-based education for community members. All of our programs offer educational opportunities, hands-on activities and learning through positive experiences with people, plants and animals.



Our Vision

When we invest our resources in strengthening children, youth and families, we invest in the health and well being of our future generations.

Our Mission

The Maui Farm provides farm-based, family-centered programs that teach essential life skills for self-sufficient living. We offer services in a safe neighborhood setting, where individuals and families are nurtured to develop their full potential.



THE MAUI FARM

Empowering Families. Cultivating Lives.

P.O. Box 1776, Makawao HI 96768 • (808) 579-8271
info@themaufarm.org

For more information visit
www.themaufarm.org

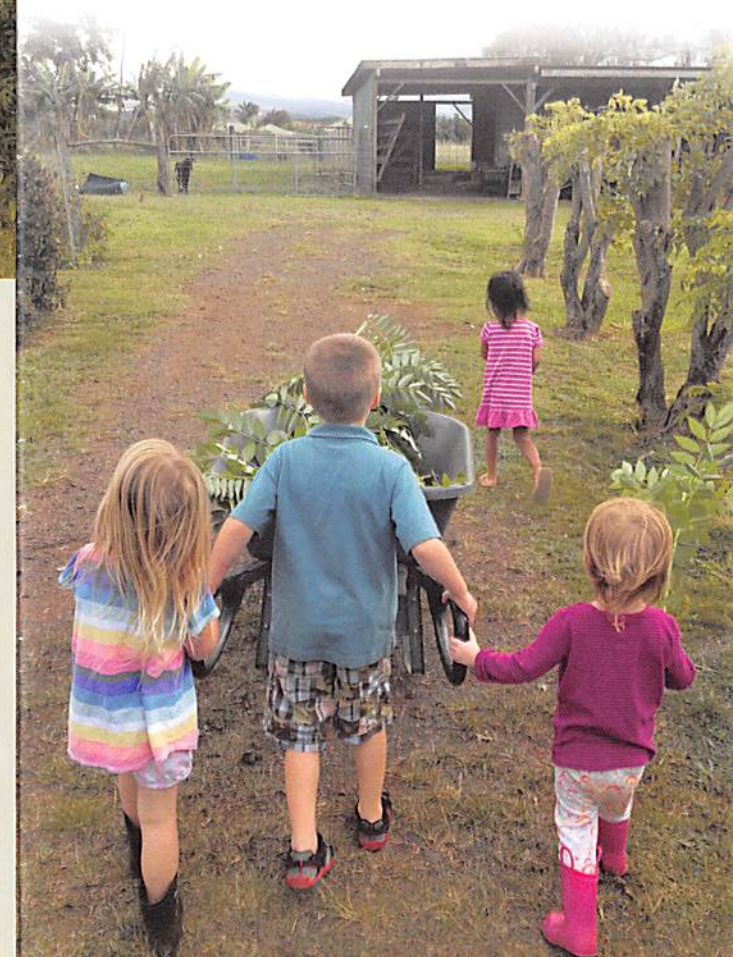
Donations are accepted online at www.themaufarm.org

The Maui Farm, Inc. is exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Contributions are tax deductible.



THE MAUI FARM

Empowering Families. Cultivating Lives.



The Maui Farm... A very special place.

A place where families come to heal.

Where children feel safe and cared for.

Where mothers find support and empowerment.

Where people of all ages discover the delights of exploring gardens, meeting friendly farm animals, and learning about caring for themselves and our natural environment.

Where we are making a difference in our community, one keiki, one family at a time.



Farm-based Educational Programs for the Community

Our two-acre educational farm is a thriving natural environment that offers outdoor classroom areas including gardens, crop fields, plant nursery, composting zone, pens and pastures for animal livestock, and a training hale for classes and workshops. The Maui Farm is a teaching farm to promote biodiversity and natural farming practices, and to inspire community members of all ages to start a garden.

Farm-based programs utilize farming and gardening activities to improve the health and well-being of participants, while helping people rediscover their connection to nature in positive ways that encourage personal growth. Community members learn about appreciating and caring for our natural resources, growing our own healthy food, and understanding the importance of sustainability efforts.



Residential Programs

The **Family Strengthening Program** provides transitional housing and life skills training for families who are homeless or at-risk of homelessness due to domestic violence and economic challenges. The program empowers families to develop the knowledge, attitudes and skills needed for healthy family functioning and self-sufficient living, while strengthening families to remain intact and healthy.



The **Stipend Program** is a job readiness and skills training opportunity for parents who are preparing to re-enter the workforce. Participants receive one-on-one training through supervised work experiences on the farm, and are provided a supportive environment in which to develop the basic skills necessary to seek and obtain gainful employment.



The Maui Farm encourages **School and Community Gardens** by offering field trips, farm tours, and service learning opportunities.

The Maui Farm supports **Employment and Training** and workforce development by offering educational internships in sustainable agriculture, environmental stewardship, and family-centered human services.



Community members have a meaningful opportunity to support our work through our **Friends of The Maui Farm Volunteer Program**. Individuals and groups who provide community service also learn and grow through physical activity, new knowledge, and diverse experiences in an educational farm environment.





MAUI NUI BOTANICAL GARDENS

CONSERVING HAWAIIAN PLANTS & CULTURAL HERITAGE

April 17, 2019
Budget and Finance Committee, Maui County Council
200 S. High Street, 8th Floor
Wailuku, HI 96793

Testimony transcript for April 17, 2019

I'm here to ask for your support of our line item grant with the Office of Economic Development. We have a lease on Department of Parks and Recreation property and Parks has been a wonderful partner to us. I want to particularly thank Director Karla Peters and Grants Coordinator Roxeane Teshima, who manages our lease. These kinds of partnerships save Maui County money, because as a nonprofit we leverage our County grant into more than twice the amount through matching grants and fundraising.

Our mission is to foster an appreciation and understanding of Maui Nui's native and canoe plants and their role in Hawaiian cultural expression. We promote Maui's unique agricultural and natural history by maintaining a six-acre public botanical garden in Kahului that features nearly all the remaining heritage Hawaiian crop varieties, endangered coastal species, and Maui County plants that are the basis of so many Hawaiian arts. I know each of you are familiar with how Hawaiian plants are important for things like kapa making and Hawaiian medicine, and how native plants are the basis of the environment that supports the island economy. But most visitors and new residents don't know. I heard this morning that the trees that provided the wood that burned in the Notre Dame in Paris no longer grow in France. In Hawaii, this is not going to be our story. We protect our native trees because we understand that they are unique. For example, Maui Nui Botanical Gardens works with land managers to store Maui County 'ōhia lehua seeds with seed bank managers across the state, in the event of the introduction of the disease Rapid 'Ōhia Death. And our new event, Lā 'Ulu or Breadfruit Day, was inspired by events training sponsored by the Office of Economic Development. The festival showcases all the different foods and products that can be made with 'ulu and gets more 'ulu trees growing on island. Last year we hosted more than 1,000 students in 50 tours and hands-on activities; this year we've already hosted 1,400 students in 60 separate visits. So we're growing, and we're training new volunteer docents to help us out.

Mahalo for the difficult and important work you all do. I hope you'll take some time this year to visit us and see for yourself what we do with the funding that you provide.

Sincerely,

Tamara Sherrill

Executive Director, Maui Nui Botanical Gardens



MAUI COUNTY COMMISSION ON PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

J. WALTER CAMERON CENTER • 95 MAHALANI ST., ROOM 20 • WAILUKU, HI 96793 • PHONE (808) 270-7755 • FAX (808) 270-7935

April 11, 2019

Economic Development and Budget Committee
Keani Rawlins-Fernandez, Chair
200 South High Street
Wailuku, HI 96793

Chair:
Kimberly West

Vice-Chair:
Evalina "Nani"
Watanabe

Members:

Faraz Azizoltani

Petrina Castillo

Joseph D'Alessandro

David Courson

Cranston Kapoi

Ricky Sanches

Sheila Villanueva

Kimberly West

RE: Reinstatement of monthly paratransit bus passes and closed captioning of county meetings on AKAKU

Aloha Chair Rawlins-Fernandez:

The Commission on Persons with Disabilities is respectfully requesting your consideration to reinstate the monthly paratransit bus pass. From the feedback that we received at our recent Commission on Persons with Disabilities meetings, the current program presents a potential financial hardship for paratransit riders that rely on fixed incomes. The previous monthly pass was \$45.00, but the current fare policy could potentially cost a paratransit rider \$120.00 per month. Your time and consideration on this matter is much needed, and any assistance to lower the current fee would be greatly appreciated.

Additionally, we are also requesting closed captioning on AKAKU for county meetings. This is not only a necessity for people who are Deaf, but it is also useful for people who cannot hear well such as the older population.

We greatly appreciate you, and thank you for your time and consideration regarding these concerns.

Mahalo,

Kimberly West
Chair

CC: Deborah Stone-Walls, Executive on Aging, Maui County Office on Aging
Lori Tsuhako, Acting Director, Department of Housing and Human Concerns

Councilmember Kelly T. King, Council Chair
Councilmember Keani Rawlins-Fernandez, Council Vice Chair
Maui County Council Members

Serena P. Kaldi
Farm Apprentice Mentorship Program, Member

Wednesday April 17, 2019

SUPPORT FOR CONTINUED FUNDING OF FARM APPRENTICE MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

Aloha mai kākou Councilmembers,

Mahalo for your time to listen to my testimony in support of the Farm Apprentice Mentorship Program, or FAM. My name is Serena Kaldi and I have been a member of the FAM program's fourth cohort since December of 2018. This program was created in 2015 by the Hawai'i Farmers Union United to help create future farmers in Hawai'i, and has graduated 40 participants so far, with 26 more set to graduate this June.

Although our professional careers are in the Maui conservation field, my fiancé and I are also devoted to continuing his family's legacy of now four generations of farming in Kula. We have been fortunate to not only receive the generational knowledge passed down from his 'ohana, but to also be accepted into the FAM 'ohana as well. This program contains a robust curriculum that explores the foundations of organic farming, along with how to create a successful agriculture business on Maui. Members are exposed to a plethora of farmers through classroom sessions and hands on farm visits, broadening our knowledge of current agriculture practices on Maui and giving us tools to add to our own farming kit.

My fiancé and I are currently starting our own farming venture- with chickens, ducks, goats, and pigs, we are also expanding our gardens with over 50 varieties of heirloom fruits and vegetables along with native plant xeriscaping. The FAM program has given us the tools and methods to apply to our practices through the farmers themselves- from learning about Hawaiian agriculture practices with Kyle Nakanelua in Wailuanui, to composting techniques with Gerry Ross Upcountry, understanding Hawaiian moonphases and planting with Kaipo Kekona in Ku'ia, and organically controlling pests with Susie Mastrianni at UH Maui College- the FAM program has left us filled not only with knowledge, but inspiration from the people who continue to farm today.

This program is a key step to us continuing our 'ohana's farming legacy. Provided to our community free of charge, FAM not only offers rich mentor support and encyclopedic knowledge of organic farming practices, but financial support for its members through paid farm mentorship immersion hours and a professional development certificate and stipend upon graduation to begin our own farming ventures.

Councilmembers, we live on the most isolated land mass on Earth. This 'āina once supported a population near our current one today, without the need for outside resources. During last years hurricane season, we witnessed the impact of what one day of not receiving our shipping containers resulted in. The store shelves were bare, but our farmers fields were full. Our future as an island people depends on the need to build and retain our own food soveignty. But before we can expand our farms, we first need to grow our farmers. The FAM program is an essential step to not only accomplish this, but to contribute to our community in one of the most impactful ways possible. The need to feed our people. That is why I, Serena Kaldi, ask you to please continue your support of the Farm Apprentice Mentorship Program.

Mahalo,

Serena Kaldi

FAM Cohort Member, 2018-2019

(808) 256-0203

serenapualei@gmail.com

4.17.19

Aloha County Council and Chair

My name is Christine Kapiioho, Director of Client Services at Maui AIDS Foundation. I want to thank each of you for your consideration in the budget for our agency. MAF has been serving the community for over 30 years and we want to continue doing so with funding through the County. We serve 150+ individuals living with HIV at our agency, as well as, testing 49 individuals per quarter for HIV & Hepatitis C and 30 for syphilis. With funding through the County we're able to help keep our community healthy and aware of their sexual health. Thanks to the County of Maui, Maui AIDS Foundation can provide effective programs such as Empower'd an LGBTQI and Allies youth group for those between the ages of 13-26. The goal of Empower'd is to create a safe, comfortable, fun and educational space for group members to develop self-empowerment and discovery through activities and discussions. Our S.I.S.T.A.H. Project is an empowerment program for women teaching on topics of self-identity, sexual health, assertiveness and emotional & relational health. This project has been approved by the CDC and has been tailored to meet the needs of Maui's local female community. The S.I.S.T.A.H. Project gives women the opportunity to safely express themselves, share with each other, learn from each other and feel good about themselves in order to help them make healthier life decisions. Lastly our Bradda Groups were inspired by the Sistah Program. It is an HIV/HCV/STI prevention intervention program conducted at MCCC to not only help the inmates after release but will help protect our community as far as healthy sexual education. Thank you again for your time, commitment and support to allow funding to be allocated to our agency.

Aloha

RECEIVED
2019 APR 17 AM 7:56
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COUNTY CLERK

County Clerk

From: Jeff McCallum <jeffmccallum@mail.com>
Sent: Friday, April 12, 2019 9:06 AM
To: County Clerk
Subject: Coquis-MISC

Three years ago the coquis were mostly in Maliko Gulch, now they have completely infested many neighborhoods in Haiku. Maui county is quickly losing the opportunity for to stop the invasive spread. Unfortunately, to combat the coquis I'm growing less food, and turning my property into grass, which defeats the concept of a sustainable Maui.

Mahalo

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2019 APR 15 AM 10:34
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COUNTY CLERK



RECEIVED

2019 APR 17 AM 7:54

OFFICE OF THE
COUNTY CLERK

Email: communications@ulupono.com

COUNCIL OF THE COUNTY OF MAUI
Wednesday, April 17, 2019 — 6:00 p.m.

UluPono Initiative Supports the Proposed Operating Budget and Capital Program

Dear Members of the Council:

My name is Murray Clay and I am Managing Partner of UluPono Initiative, a Hawai'i-based impact investment firm that strives to improve the quality of life for the people of Hawai'i by working toward solutions that create more locally produced food; increase affordable, clean, renewable energy; and better manage waste and fresh water resources. UluPono believes that self-sufficiency is essential to our future prosperity and will help shape a future where economic progress and mission-focused impact can work hand in hand.

UluPono supports the proposed operating budget and capital program, which funds Maui County's water reuse program, because it aligns with our goal of preserving Hawai'i's water resources.

Water is the most important natural resource and critical to the survival of the people of Hawai'i. Therefore, water must be protected and managed in a diligent manner. Water reuse is often the most environmentally prudent method of caring for our fresh water supply.

According to the Maui Water Use and Development Plan Draft – March 2019¹, regular trade winds are key in generating rainfall, which helps maintain Maui's water supply. However, a recent study showed that Hawai'i's trade winds have decreased in frequency by approximately thirty percent over the past 37 years, from 291 days per year in 1973 to 210 days per year in 2009. This decrease in the trade winds trend could have serious implications for Hawai'i, including adversely impacting local agriculture, native ecosystems and endangered species, and the state's limited freshwater supply. Various rainfall projections offer multiple possibilities for rainfall:

- Little to no change in precipitation by 2071 – 2099 (Keener et al. 2013)
- Increased rainfall on windward slopes and decreased rainfall on leeward slopes by 2099 (Hamilton 2013)

¹ Maui Island Water Use and Development Plan, <https://www.mauicounty.gov/2051/Maui-Island-Water-Use-Development-Plan>

Investing in a Sustainable Hawai'i

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- Moderate to large decrease in precipitation (Timm et al. 2015):
 - By 2041 – 2071: 16 to 18 percent (wet season), 24 to 32 percent (dry season)
 - By 2071 – 2099: 17 to 25 percent (wet season), 29 to 46 percent (dry season)

While rainfall is likely to decline, water demand will increase as the population of Maui is projected to grow island-wide by 31.7 percent from 157,087 in 2015 to 206,884 in 2035.

The State Water Code requires exercising precautionary principles as part of the public trust, when scientific evidence is uncertain regarding the management of freshwater resources. Investing in building alternative water sources, such as recycled water, is prudent given projected increases in demand combined with uncertainty around water supply going forward.

In the proposed budget, funding for projects such as the West Maui recycled water reuse expansion and Wailuku-Kahului recycled water pump station will help to demonstrate that we can preserve water as a resource for the people of Maui.

As Maui's water issues become increasingly complex and challenging, we appreciate this council's efforts to look at policies that protect our water resources.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Respectfully,

Murray Clay
Managing Partner

Brandon Lee
Senior Associate, Government Affairs
Mobile: 808.721.8041 | Direct: 808.544.8967 | Main: 808.544.8960
999 Bishop Street, Suite 1202 | Honolulu, HI 96813

Britney Bautista, Best Buddies Officer, Maui High School

Testimony before the Maui County Council

April 17, 2019

Hello! My name is Britney Bautista, and I am a senior at Maui High School.

I have been a member of Best Buddies since 2015.

Best Buddies has also helped me make many new friends. It was my friends who helped me the most when I was cyberbullied.

Best Buddies has also given me many opportunities to grow as a leader. I am a member of my chapter's office team. As an officer, I help put on fun activities and post about Best Buddies on social media.

I want to be an elementary school teacher or work in the hospitality field, and Best Buddies helps me work on the skills that I will need in a future job.

I have also spoken at many large events, like the Best Buddies Friendship Jam here on Maui.

I feel empowered to spread my message of inclusion to people throughout Maui. Best Buddies shows that people with and without disabilities have more in common than they know. We are all humans. We should embrace each other's differences. We should all be friends together.

I hope you will continue funding Best Buddies. Thank you very much for your time.

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2019 APR 17 AM 7:55
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RECEIVED

Sarah Man, State Director, Best Buddies Hawaii

2019 APR 17 AM 7: 56

Testimony before the Maui County Council

April 17, 2019

OFFICE OF THE
COUNTY CLERK

Hello. I am Sarah Man, State Director for Best Buddies Hawaii, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that enhances the lives of persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities by providing opportunities for one-to-one friendships with typical peers; competitive, integrated employment; leadership development; and inclusive housing.

I am honored to speak to you on behalf of over 200 middle and high school participants served through our partnership with the County. In addition to the community served by Seabury Hall School, we serve students with IDD and their typical peers, 12-22 years old, within complex areas Baldwin-Kekaulike-Maui and Hana-Lahainaluna-Lanai-Molokai. Six of the eight schools impacted through this project are within the Baldwin-Kekaulike-Maui complex area.

Research shows that physical and social barriers inhibit interactions between students with disabilities and their typical peers in the classroom or during informal situations such as the cafeteria, the library, and at after-school activities. One physical barrier is a separate classroom for special education students, and, in Hawaii, most of students with intellectual disabilities spend less than 40% of their day in a regular classroom.

Our time-tested inclusion programs offer an effective pathway for students with and without disabilities to get to know each other. These increased opportunities have significant short and long-term impacts: participants with disabilities have increased social inclusion in their school or community, have increased involvement in leisure activities with a friend, and demonstrate improved social skills. Additionally, peers without disabilities become more aware that people with disabilities are capable – they can hold jobs in the community and they want to be included. Our Annual Survey also shows a shift in attitude for these typical peers – they now support having neighbors with disabilities and they are willing to work at a company that employs people of all abilities.

Research done on students involved in Best Buddies concluded that adolescents with disabilities in one-to-one friendships through Best Buddies show: “lower frequencies of peer

victimization, better adaptive behavior, higher levels of self-esteem, and fewer psychological symptoms...[Best Buddies' friendships] were similar to friendships with best friends, with additional levels of support, nurturing and 'scaffolding' in skill development." (Prinstein and Aikins, 2005) In 2011, the Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability for the Florida Legislature studied all mentoring groups funded by the Florida Department of Education. That study found, "Best Buddies participants were more likely than peers to have few disciplinary incidents, read at grade level, and complete high school."

We are grateful that Maui County recognizes the need to create schools inclusive for all students and continues to support funding for Best Buddies. Thank you.



RECEIVED

2019 APR 17 AM 9:11

OFFICE OF THE
COUNTY CLERK

Jerleen Bryant
Maui Humane Society
PO Box 1047
Pu'unene, HI 96784
(808) 877-3680 ext. 215
jbryant@mauihumanesociety.org

April 11, 2019

Aloha Budget Chair Rawlins-Fernandez and Finance Committee Members:

My name is Jerleen Bryant, and I am the CEO at the Maui Humane Society. Unfortunately, I am currently off island attending a national Animal Welfare Conference and therefore unable to give my testimonial in person.

The Maui Humane Society is an exceptional organization with the highest animal save rate in the state, and our community can be proud of the work we do. In addition to the many ways we help our Maui ohana, we perform these services as part of the Animal Management Program for Maui County. We are in our 30th year of partnering with Maui County to provide these mandated services. For the vast majority of this time, these services have not been fully funded thereby forcing MHS to supplement the county's responsibility with revenue from private donations. Bridging the county's funding gap in this way is not what our donors intended for their generosity, and we are very thankful to see that this could be the year where the funding gap dramatically decreases. Approving the increase to the Animal Management Program in the Mayor's FY20 Proposed Budget will finally close this gap by two-thirds!

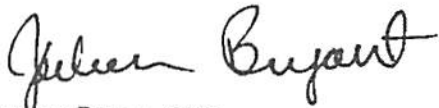
Additionally, in the Mayor's Proposed Budget, funding for one new Humane Enforcement vehicle was approved instead of the two originally requested. The total cost for both trucks is \$120,000. With six very old trucks to replace, two new trucks in FY20 would make a significant difference for our enforcement department and will allow our officers to work more safely and efficiently. These funds are requested from the Animal Management Revolving Fund which currently has an adequate balance to support the purchase of both trucks.

To further our efforts in decreasing the overpopulation of animals on Maui our organization offers high quality spay and neuter services to the public at low or no cost. The Spay & Neuter Grant would allow us to continue offering this critically needed service to the community.

In summary, I respectfully urge this committee to approve:

- A. Increase of \$608,907 to the Animal Management Program as already included in the Mayor's FY20 Proposed Budget
- B. Approve \$120,000 for the purchase of two new Humane Enforcement trucks from the Animal Management Revolving Fund
- C. Approve the \$100,000 Spay & Neuter Grant as included in the Mayor's FY20 Proposed Budget to be awarded to the Maui Humane Society.

Respectfully submitted by,



Jerleen Bryant, CEO
Maui Humane Society



Pictured above is the new Humane Enforcement vehicle purchased in FY19. Two additional trucks are requested in FY20



RECEIVED
2019 APR 17 AM 9:42
OFFICE OF THE
COUNTY CLERK

April 17, 2019

Aloha,

I apologize for not coming before you in person. Our quarterly Pukalani Community Association meeting is this evening and Mayor Victorino and Charlene Shibuya are speaking with us. Our membership will be attending this meeting.

We are requesting your support for the proposed \$15,000 for the 2nd Annual Pukalani Christmas Fair and Electric Golf Cart Parade to be held December 7, 2019. At our first event, we learned a lot including we need much better event lighting, more banners, marketing, programs, etc. to make this a wonderful annual event. It is such a great opportunity for businesses to profit from the craft vendors, food vendors, entertainers, lighting, Teens on Call, porta pottie suppliers, to the Pukalani Country Club, Pukalani Clubhouse, etc. plus it brings pride to our Pukalani residents and a real sense of community. We are excited to move forward with the second event and with County funding assistance we can greatly enhance the experience for all.

Thank you for considering this request from our Pukalani Community Association. We very much appreciate the support of Councilwoman Sugimura who has heard our plea for financial help.

Mahalo,

Donna Clayton, President

RECEIVED

From: soitgoes1984@gn.apc.org
Sent: Sunday, April 14, 2019 8:33 PM
To: bf.committee@mauicounty.us
Subject: Testimony for Maui County budget

2019 APR 18 AM 8:12

OFFICE OF THE
COUNTY CLERK

Dear Maui County Council members,

As a resident of Molokai I wish to offer my support for the Molokai Humane Society. Whatever amount of money they request from this years budget should be granted and to be honest, it is in all likelihood an extremely conservative request and it would be in the best interest of the island to grant the Molokai Humane Society more than they are asking for. The small, extremely dedicated staff go above and beyond the call of duty. From fostering many animals to remodeling the very building they work in, you would be hard-pressed to find another veterinary clinic staffed with such dedicated, loving, caring, and above all, resourceful people. They have done far too much with far too little for far too long.

We are beyond lucky to have Kathy, Mahea, Hoala and Doc (Eric) looking out for the animals of Molokai. With adequate funding they would be able to host more FREE vaccine clinics all over the island & be able to make spay & neuter available and FREE to all island residents. While spay & neuter is cheap here compared to many places, it is still cost prohibitive for many people.

In the few years since euthanasia has (thankfully) ended here, no measures have been taken by those charged with animal control on Molokai to address the rise in unwanted animals. There has been little to no enforcement of already-existing licensing & other animal-related laws.

In my opinion as a resident of Molokai & as someone who helps foster animals for the humane society, the Molokai Humane Society is the best suited organization on the island to properly & HUMANELY oversee animal control. Given the proper support (out of our tax dollars) from you, the county council, the humane society can get the many animal related issues on Molokai under control. Give them all the money they need to do all of the work they need to do.

The humane society shouldn't have to stretch an already tight budget to make up for the negligence of another organization which gets funding for animal control. Of course when you're not euthanizing stray animals or setting aside however much money it might take to spay & neuter them, problems will arise. Cases of parvovirus are skyrocketing and there are far more puppies being born and dumped along the side of the road all over the island than there are people who could possibly adopt them. These puppies either die or grow up to be diseased strays. A few lucky ones get rescued, treated by the humane society, and adopted.

The police department has a lot on their plate already so maybe they just don't have the time to properly manage animal control. Whatever the reason, the job isn't, and hasn't been getting done. That needs to change. Had the old animal control officer been empowered by his department to enforce EXISTING animal laws, perhaps there wouldn't be stray dogs turning up constantly all over the island, and diseases taking the lives of family pets and valuable hunting dogs alike.

Give the Molokai Humane Society every penny they ask for and more. This isn't just an animal issue, it is a public health issue. Education is important. Give the Molokai Humane Society the resources they need to have an ongoing education campaign. The time to learn about parvovirus isn't when your puppy is throwing up and pooping blood. The time to learn about spay and neuter isn't when your dog has a litter of puppies you can't afford to take care of. Whether they are our pets or our hunting dogs, the humane society is tasked with keeping them healthy and caring for them when they are sick or injured. Give them whatever they need to properly do their job.

Respectfully,

Jayson Robert Mizula

From: Janelle Baoy <jbaoy65@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 17, 2019 5:46 PM
To: County Clerk
Subject: Re: Proposed Operating Budget (Fiscal Year July 1, 2019 - June 1, 2020)
Attachments: IMG_20190417_172016991.jpg

RECEIVED
2019 APR 18 AM 8:12

OFFICE OF THE
COUNTY CLERK

To Whom It May Concern,

I dropped off one letter with Mavis Medeiros @ the Hana Council District Office today @ 4:30pm.
I couldn't make the meeting tonight.
Sorry about that, this is all new to me.
I'm hoping that you can take this letter into consideration.

Mahalo,
Janelle Baoy

April 17, 2019

To Whom It May Concern:

As a non-profit organization, it is Na Mamo O Mūolea's goal to perpetuate traditional 'ahupua'a management of Mū'olea by restoring and maintaining its natural resources. However, it is also our intention to educate the community and future generations for their benefit, education, and enjoyment.

With that said, we, Na Mamo O Mūolea, kindly ask the Maui County Council to continue funding our annual event—Hāna Limu Festival. Fortunately, for years we have received aid from the council and other sponsors. If not for all of the kōkua, this public event would not be possible. Therefore, please take this letter in consideration when planning the budget for this year.

Mahalo,


Janelle Baoy

RECEIVED

From: EDB Committee
Sent: Wednesday, April 17, 2019 4:48 PM
To: County Clerk
Subject: FW: Testimony in Support of the Ka'ehu non-profit for the Maui County Council
Attachments: 2019.4.16.alikasekitestimony.docx

2019 APR 18 AM 8:12
CLERK OF THE
COUNTY CLERK

From: Alika Seki <alikaseki@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 17, 2019 3:22 PM
To: EDB Committee <EDB.Committee@mauicounty.us>
Subject: Testimony in Support of the Ka'ehu non-profit for the Maui County Council

Aloha,

I would like to submit my testimony for tonight's meeting with the Maui County Council regarding the Ka'ehu non-profit directly via email. Please see attached.

Mahalo,

Alika

--

Alika Seki, P.E.
(808) 298-5261
186 Mokapu Street
Kahului, HI 96732

Aloha, my name is **Alika Seki** and I am owner of Maui Comics & Collectibles and a board member of the Ka'ehu non-profit (formerly known as Ke Ao I Ka Makani Ho Eha Ili). I am writing to testify on behalf and in support of the non-profit organization Ka'ehu. I ask that the Maui County Council please support by directing \$75,000 of funds to KA'EHU to support existing family and youth programs, cultural classes and education, and community based land restoration and shoreline management activities.

Located in the Paukukalo and Waiehu area, I strongly support Ka'ehu's continued management and expanded county funding for this organization. Ka'ehu is a non-profit organization with the goal to restore the land and perpetuate traditional Hawaiian culture using community-based, inclusive, family-oriented approach to environmental stewardship. From the 'aina that they malama to the support they offer to the community, I believe that Ka'ehu has proven themselves capable and are uniquely able of provide critical services and opportunities to our community.

Since 2017, Ka'ehu has worked to revitalized the 'aina by slowly working upon vital areas on property. From the restoration of the lo'i kalo to the continued work on shoreline clean-ups, from the clearing of the 'auwai to the the clearing of refuse and trash - this benefits us all. One such area is the entry from Lower Waiehu Road which most recently was cleared of 2,400 pounds of trash, 1,500 pounds of scrap metal, 22 tires, 2 derelict vehicles and one dilapidated battery.

Not only has Ka'ehu taken upon the kuleana to care for the land, but also has done much to support our people. Ka'ehu has partnered with many different organizations: non-profit, educational, business-based, and cultural. Ka'ehu continues to support both cultural practitioners by providing them a place to practice and share with our community. From our keiki to kupuna, Ka'ehu works with a broad spectrum of ages and organizations. This space is for our community and it is obvious that Ka'ehu recognizes this important point. In the past 2 years Ka'ehu has worked with organizations such as Kauahea, the Maui Police Department's POI and KALO programs, Hawai'i Wildlife Fund (and more) to facilitate:

-

Organizations that partner with Ka'ehu are:

- a. Culture: Kauahea Inc, Makahiki Athletic Association, Hale Ho'olana
- b. Family: POI (Positive Outreach Intervention), KALO
- c. Education: Kamehameha Schools, 'Iao School, 'Aina First
- d. Community: PIKO (Planning Innovative Kommunities & Opportunities, Kaunoa Senior Services
- e. Conservation: Hawai'i Wildlife Fund, Sharktastics

To do so much with such a small staff is incredible. This is why I support the continued management and increased financial support for Ka'ehu. Thank you for your time and mahalo for your consideration.

760 S. Kihei Road, #201
Kihei, HI 96753
March 29, 2019

Budget and Finance Committee, Maui County Council
Budget Chairwoman, Keani N. W. Rawlins-Fernandez
200 S. High Street, 8th Floor
Wailuku, HI 96793

Honorable Members of the Council:

I am writing to urge your support to Mayor Victorino's FY 2020 Budget Request for Maui Nui Botanical Gardens.

My experience with the Gardens has been serving as a volunteer docent (giving tours to students, visitors/residents) for the past eight years; a weekly volunteer to help maintain the 7.7 acres grounds (weeding, pruning, planting) and propagating native plants in the nursery. The annual free Native Plant Arbor Day Giveaway at the gardens has become a very popular event for the County's residents.

MNBG provides a place for students of botany and Hawaiian culture to learn plant identification and experiment with traditional uses. The gardens host more than 1,500 Maui students each year in educational activities that teach native Hawaiian plants and their uses.

Sincerely,



Gloria Adlawan

Mailed 3/30/19

581 Luahoana Place
Wailuku, HI 96793
March 30, 2019

Maui County Council
Budget and Finance Committee
Budget Chairwoman, Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez
200 South High Street, 8th Floor
Wailuku, HI 96793

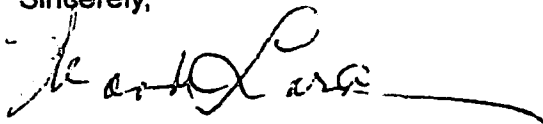
Honorable Members of the Council:

Please support Mayor Victorino's FY2020 Budget Request for Maui Nui Botanical Gardens.

I care about the work the Gardens does with the educational workshops and special events, e.g. kalo, dye making, kapa, u'lu day, plant giveaway, provided for the public to attend. I have attended many of these events and there isn't any garden on Maui that provides workshops like the Gardens does.

Maui Nui Botanical Gardens is also the best place on Maui for students, residents and visitors to learn the cultural history, plant identification and experiment with traditional uses of Maui County's unique plants. Your support for funding to continue the Gardens work is needed and appreciated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Wanda Larson", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Wanda Larson

mailed 3/31/19

TO: Maui County Council EDB Committee
FROM: Pat Bily, 223 Upper Kimo Drive, Kula
RE: continued funding for Maui Nui Botanical Gardens
DATE: April 5, 2019

Welcome new and past Council members to this year's future budget reviews! For decades now the Maui community has had the benefit of an important environmental education center that involves our citizens in hands-on experiences as it relates to Hawaii's native plants and their strong connection to the former and current Hawaiian culture. With their schedule of community events, Maui Nui Botanical Gardens has become a mainstay for our county and serves to educate and entertain our citizens.

If you remember back in the day when this area was a decrepit zoo, it has come light years ahead in terms of providing a respite for those utilizing the nearby park and other attractions in that local area. Of course this is due to prior support from the Maui County administration and council, and I thank you all personally for your past efforts to keep this special oasis viable.

MNBG has helped spread pride to our residents for the unique plants found only in Hawaii, some of those are found only in Maui County. For rare plant conservation, they provide an outlet to keep our most imperiled plants regenerating through their dedicated nursery.

Native Hawaiians benefit greatly from MNBG by attending their special events and workshops that help to perpetuate critical cultural practices that might otherwise be forgotten. The accessibility of the Gardens makes it attractive to our larger community for events like Earth Day, Arbor Day, native plant sales, and other events that can be tied into Hawaiian culture. Students from U.H. Maui College now have an outdoor learning experience just a walk away to enhance their interest and pursuit of Hawaiian natural history and culture.

For us senior citizens, the Gardens provide opportunity to learn and practice skills that were critical to native Hawaiian culture, such as creating useful products from native plants. For our keiki, the Gardens provide a renaissance for ancient Hawaiian games and other activities. Yet MNBG stays current in the pulse of our changing island and very keen to upgrade facilities and displays as needed to accommodate the community.

It's understandable that the Council and Administration are tasked with many financial priorities to compete with funding such an important non-profit educational center, but the net result of better educated citizenry and uplifting disenfranchised native Hawaiian citizens with the pride the Gardens stimulates is a result beyond measure.

Please support the Maui Nui Botanical Gardens in this year's budget allocations.

Mahalo for your consideration!

Pat Bily
pbily29@gmail.com

03/21/2019

Budget and Finance Committee, Maui County Council
Budget Chairwoman, Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez
200 South High St., 8th Floor
Wailuku, HI 96793

Honorable Members of the Council:

I am writing to urge you to support Mayor Victorino's FY2020 budget request for Maui Nui Botanical Gardens.

My experience with the Garden has been that they teach people of all ages how we are connected to nature.

I care about the work the Gardens does because without the knowledge of what grows on Maui we will be lost.

MNBG is the best place on Maui for visitors and residents to learn the cultural history of Maui County's unique plants.

MNBG provides a place for students of botany and Hawaiian culture to learn plant identification and experiment with traditional uses. They host more than 1,500 Maui students each year in educational activities that teach native Hawaiian plants and their uses.

This organization has consistently more than doubled the funding provided by the County.

Sincerely,

Teresa Cartwright

50 Nohea Kai Drive 3336
Lahaina, Hawaii 96761

**M. Verdine Kong
872 Haunani Place
Wailuku, Hawai'i 96793
(808)268-1414**

April 1, 2019

**Budget and Finance Committee, Maui County Council
Budget Chairwoman, Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez
200 South High St., 8th Floor
Wailuku, HI 96793**

Honorable Members of the Council:

I am writing to urge you to support Mayor Victorino's FY2020 budget request for Maui Nui Botanical Gardens (MNBG).

I go to MNBG at least once a year and I walk a portion of the perimeter of the garden daily. I love the quiet atmosphere of the garden and I appreciate that the plants are identified as Indigenous, Endemic, or Non-Native(including the origins), along with the plant's scientific name.

Learning about our Native plants gives me a better understanding of the history of our land and people. It helps me remember and appreciate the rare plants we have in Hawai'i - some that do not exist anywhere else in the world! It also inspires me to learn more about those who came before us and their use of our plants - including preventing illness, as necessary adornments in our cultural practices, and providing shelter and clothing for our people. Over the years, I have participated in a Kapa-making workshop, a kapa-dyeing workshop, and I have attended a lei-making workshop where we made lei to remember our veterans on Memorial Day with the staff of Kaunoa Senior Center. I have interacted with the staff of MNBG. They are knowledgeable and energetic in perpetuating our culture by sharing with residents and visitors the value of protecting and encouraging the proliferation of Native plants in our fragile environment. Maui Nui Botanical Gardens is a benefit to me as a person born and raised in Hawai'i, as a hula dancer, as a person who likes to create images of our Native plants, and as someone who cares deeply about our environment.

MNBG provides a place for students of botany and Hawaiian culture to learn plant identification and experiment with traditional uses. They host more than 1,500 Maui students each year in educational activities that teach native Hawaiian plants and their uses. Additionally, through its own efforts, MNBG consistently more than doubles the funding provided by the County.

For these many reasons, I strongly urge Council to approve the Mayor's budget request for MNBG.

With aloha,

M. Verdine Kong

Please support the 2020 budget request for Maui Nui Botanical Gardens.

As a Maui resident I value MNBG because it enriches our island.

The native plant exhibits show residents , students, and visitors our unique plants, and help them learn about their Hawaiian cultural importance.

**The MNBG plant nursery grows and distributes a great many plants , so they can multiply elsewhere.
Also the grounds host public events to spread knowlege.**

Sincerely,

Martha E. Martin

40 Kunihi Lane #226

Kahului, HI 96732

Maui County Council Members:

Please approve funding for Maui Nui Botanical Garden, as set forth in the Mayor's proposed budget. If I were on Maui, I would testify in favor of this funding, but I am temporarily on Oahu, and will soon return to Maryland. Of course, you would think, "why should I care about the views of a non-voting individual who is not even a constituent." Some matters, however, transcend local concerns and should be viewed from the light of the greater public good.

I have been supporting Maui Nui Botanical Gardens with substantial financial contributions for at least 15 years now. The Gardens are a tremendous resource for Maui residents of all ages and ethnicities - a place to learn about native Hawaiian plants, Polynesian Hawaiian culture and material history. Whenever I read about the educational programs and special events taking place at Maui Nui Botanical Garden, I cannot help but be excited by the love and energy of the workers and volunteers.

If we are talking about leveraging government monies to obtain the most effective outcomes, surely the Maui County funds appropriated for the Maui Nui Botanical Garden are high on the list of government-sponsored activities with a high level of success. If we are talking about volunteerism and community support, again, Maui Nui Botanical Gardens has a demonstrated history of volunteerism - of individuals contributing their time, effort and money. This is a stark contrast to many requests for government funding, where the individuals are simply accepting government largesse as opposed to giving back to the local community (and in the case of Maui Nui Botanical Gardens - the State of Hawaii and indeed the rest of the planet).

For these reasons, I urge you to approve the full budget for the Maui Nui Botanic Gardens.

Geary S. Mizuno

geary.mizuno@rcn.com

cell: 301-848-9428

until April 28, 2019: 652 Pepeekeo Street, Honolulu HI 96825

after April 28, 2019: 7812 Glenbrook Road, Bethesda MD. 20814

Hi,

I'm emailing in support of Maui Nui Botanical Gardens receiving continued funding from the County of Maui. MNBG does a lot of public education and awareness through their festivals and workshops throughout the year. The Gardens are not just for plant lovers and scholars. Last fall, their Breadfruit Festival drew a lot of families and visitors and highlighted the importance of breadfruit as a local, sustainable food crop. Also, they had some interesting chefs prepare breadfruit recipes that are easy to make for the home cook. They had booths like Blue Zones Hawaii which provided information about staying healthy throughout one's lifetime. At other MNBG festivals, I've participated in pounding kapa, making lei, throwing Hawaiian weapons. MNBG is a good resource for perpetuating Hawaiian culture and making it more accessible to residents here. Also, it's important to keep Hawaiian culture alive in Hawaii, or else Hawaii will become more and more like California.

I recently took a Hawaiian Ethnobotany class at UH Maui with Kumu Ikaika and one of our field trips was to MNBG. We helped plant kalo and learned about Hawaiian rock wall building. He also showed us the traditional Hawaiian hale he helped construct. Even though I grew up in Hawaii and went to public school, at the time, Hawaiian culture wasn't very popular and Hawaiian studies classes were very boring. Through the class, I found out many aspects of Hawaiian culture that I didn't know about. Because the Hawaiians did not have metal or glass or pottery, they made everything out of plants – their medicine, clothing, housing, transportation, musical instruments, tools, weapons... It's a valuable resource to have a garden which is centrally located and offers so many opportunities to learn about Hawaiian culture through their plants.

The Gardens also save native seeds and propagate native plants, helping keep them alive, especially the ones that are more rare or endangered. In short, I recommend that the County continue funding for the MNBG.

Mahalo, Courtney Turner

makena42@yahoo.com

Maui High School

April 4, 2019

Budget and Finance Committee, Maui County Council
Budget Chairwoman, Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez
200 South High St., 8th Floor
Wailuku, HI 96793

Honorable Members of the Council:

I am writing to urge you to support Mayor Victorino's FY2020 budget request for Maui Nui Botanical Gardens.

My experience with the Gardens has been both educational and fun. I work with the Workplace Readiness Program at Maui High School. We have been taking our students to work at the Gardens for a number of years. Everytime we go, the staff at the Gardens has made us and our students feel welcomed and at home. The staff at the Gardens are extraordinary in their knowledge of the Hawaiian and Polynesian plant life contained within the Gardens and in teaching that knowledge to others. I have seen some of our students become more appreciative and understanding of Hawaiian and Polynesian plants and cultural heritage through our gardening experiences. The students also experience and learn about working together as a team on a project versus working independently on a chore or task. As a result of our hard work, we have had the opportunity to experience fresh cane juice - making/extracting it and then drinking it! We have also had opportunities to taste the various banana varieties that grow throughout the Gardens.

I appreciate being able to use the Gardens for my own enjoyment. They offer lots of events, programs, and tours that are fun and educational. I also appreciate having the opportunity to go somewhere on Maui just to relax and maybe take some pictures.

I care about the work the Gardens does because MNBG is the best place on Maui for visitors and residents to learn the cultural history of Maui County's unique plants as well as preserving those plants for future generations.

MNBG provides a place for students of botany and Hawaiian culture to learn plant identification and experiment with traditional uses. They host more than 1,500 Maui students each year in educational activities that teach native Hawaiian plants and their uses.

This organization has consistently more than doubled the funding provided by the County.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Marlene Belschner". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Marlene" being more prominent than the last name "Belschner".

Marlene Belschner
Workplace Readiness
Maui High School

April 2, 2019

Budget and Finance Committee, Maui County Council
Budget Chairwoman, Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez
200 South High St., 8th Floor
Wailuku, HI 96793

Honorable Members of the Council:

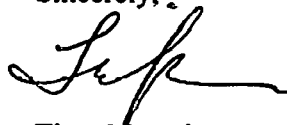
I am writing to urge you to support Mayor Victorino's FY2020 budget request for Maui Nui Botanical Gardens.

My experience with the Garden has been phenomenal for my students. Students are excited to go to the Gardens every week rain or shine. We appreciate being able to use the gardens as a work site for students to gain valuable work experience and learn about native Hawaiian culture. My special needs students assist with maintenance of the grounds such as raking, mulching, planting, composting, disposing, and nursery duties. Students are given real world opportunities to learn about landscaping and Hawaiian plants.

In addition, students are exposed to native Hawaiian plant uses and cultivation. My students especially enjoy working with the various varieties of kalo. They have helped weed, compost, and mulch in the kalo patches learning various methods of organic and traditional Hawaiian growing methods. Students learn the value of agriculture and what it takes to grow food.

My students have enjoyed coming to work at the Gardens for the past 10 years. They learn practical skills that can be useful in pursuing jobs when they transition from high school to the adult world. Without this Garden students would not be able to experience job expectations in a fully functioning garden/nursery. These experiences are critical in the future success of special needs students exiting the public-school system.

Sincerely,



Tiara Matsui
Special Education Teacher
Workplace Readiness Program
Maui High School
660 South Lono Ave., Kahului, HI 96732

Maui High School

April 12, 2019

Budget and Finance Committee, Maui County Council
Budget Chairwoman, Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez
200 South High St., 8th Floor
Wailuku, HI 96793

Honorable Members of the Council:

I am writing to urge you to support Mayor Victorino's FY2020 budget request for Maui Nui Botanical Gardens.

My experience with the Garden has been good because i get to learned about the native plants. My class go to the garden every Tuesday. The jobs we do are rake, pick up leaves, and wash pots. I think that the garden is really beautiful.it is relaxing to work there because it's peaceful. i hope that the garden stays open so people can experience the beauty of the garden.

MNBG is the best place on Maui for visitors and residents to learn the cultural history of Maui County's unique plants.

MNBG provides a place for students of botany and Hawaiian culture to learn plant identification and experiment with traditional uses. They host more than 1,500 Maui students each year in educational activities that teach native Hawaiian plants and their uses.

This organization has consistently more than doubled the funding provided by the County.

Sincerely,

Serina Juda

Serina Juda
Workplace Readiness Program
Maui High School

04/12/2019

Budget and Finance Committee, Maui County Council
Budget Chairwoman, Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez
200 South High St., 8th Floor
Wailuku, HI 96793

Honorable Members of the Council:

I am writing to urge you to support Mayor Victorino's FY2020 budget request for Maui Nui Botanical Gardens.

I care about the work the Gardens does because I learned how to take care of the land. They also teach me how to use different tools like rake and washing plant pots for planting new plants.

MNBG is the best place on Maui because people of maui they can go there and see plants.

Sincerely,



Alton Jesse
Student at Maui High School



4/12/19

Budget and Finance Committee, Maui County Council
Budget Chairwoman, Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez
200 South High St., 8th Floor
Wailuku, HI 96793

Honorable Members of the Council:

I am writing to urge you to support Mayor Victorino's FY2020 budget request for Maui Nui Botanical Gardens.

My experience with the Garden has been good because it is a chance for me to get out and help the community.

We appreciate being able to use the Gardens because I get to use tools I don't usually use, like shovels, wagons, and my favorite the rakes.

MNBG is the best place on Maui for visitors and residents to learn the cultural history of Maui County's unique plants.

MNBG provides a place for students of botany and Hawaiian culture to learn plant identification and experiment with traditional uses. They host more than 1,500 Maui students each year in educational activities that teach native Hawaiian plants and their uses.

This organization has consistently more than doubled the funding provided by the County.

Sincerely,

Jesse Jesse
Maui High School
111 Kahului Beach Road #A220

Maui High School

April 4, 2019

Budget and Finance Committee, Maui County Council
Budget Chairwoman, Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez
200 South High St., 8th Floor
Wailuku, HI 96793

Honorable Members of the Council:

I am writing to urge you to support Mayor Victorino's FY2020 budget request for Maui Nui Botanical Gardens.

My experience with the Garden has been fun and a very good experience to know how to do garden work. I have learned how to do raking, mulching, and putting compost around taro plants. We have wash and sanitized plant pots. After we are done working we get to have some snacks. I enjoy being able to get outdoors to work versus being stuck in a classroom. The staff makes me feel good to be at the Garden. One time when we went to the Garden it was raining hard and it was exciting trying to stay dry. However, we just gave up and got really wet.

MNBG is the best place on Maui for visitors and residents to learn the cultural history of Maui County's unique plants.

MNBG provides a place for students of botany and Hawaiian culture to learn plant identification and experiment with traditional uses. They host more than 1,500 Maui students each year in educational activities that teach native Hawaiian plants and their uses.

This organization has consistently more than doubled the funding provided by the County.

Sincerely,



Russell Frendo-Recopuerto
Workplace Readiness Program
Maui High School

Maui High School

April 4, 2019

Budget and Finance Committee, Maui County Council
Budget Chairwoman, Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez
200 South High St., 8th Floor
Wailuku, HI 96793

Honorable Members of the Council:

I am writing to urge you to support Mayor Victorino's FY2020 budget request for Maui Nui Botanical Gardens.

My experience with the Garden has been fun and a very good experience to know how to do garden work. I have learned how to do raking, mulching, and putting compost around taro plants. We have wash and sanitized plant pots. After we are done working we get to have some snacks. I enjoy being able to get outdoors to work versus being stuck in a classroom. The staff makes me feel good to be at the Garden. One time when we went to the Garden it was raining hard and it was exciting trying to stay dry. However, we just gave up and got really wet.

MNBG is the best place on Maui for visitors and residents to learn the cultural history of Maui County's unique plants.

MNBG provides a place for students of botany and Hawaiian culture to learn plant identification and experiment with traditional uses. They host more than 1,500 Maui students each year in educational activities that teach native Hawaiian plants and their uses.

This organization has consistently more than doubled the funding provided by the County.

Sincerely,


Russell Frendo-Recopuerto
Workplace Readiness Program
Maui High School

Aloha Chair and Council Members:

My name is Nani Watanabe and I am one of the committee members for Festivals of Aloha Maui Nui Style and Lana`i Island Coordinator.

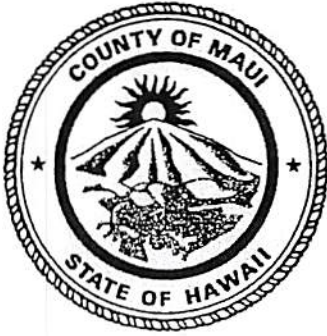
I am representing Festivals of Aloha Maui Nui Style for Maui County.

Festivals of Aloha honors our Hawaiian Culture and celebrates the pageantry of parades, music, and dance. This event allows our communities and visitors alike to learn and reflect on what our Kupuna taught us in the past and to continue this education to the present. We are able to highlight our artisans that continue to preserve our history, culture, and arts and craft such as, lauhala, feather lei making, kapa making and more. These Festivals also supports our Hawaiian Music, and Language through Hula when shared.

Mahalo for all you do for Maui County and I ask for you to continue to support Festivals of Aloha Maui Nui Style now and years to come.

Mahalo and Aloha.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Nani', located below the text 'Mahalo and Aloha.'



COUNTY OF MAUI

Fiscal Year 2020

FOR STAFF USE ONLY	NO.

PLEASE PRINT

Name:

dakota against

Email Address:

Phone:

Mailing Address:

City/Zip:

Kula 96790

I Represent: ☐ Myself

☐ Organization

meo youth services

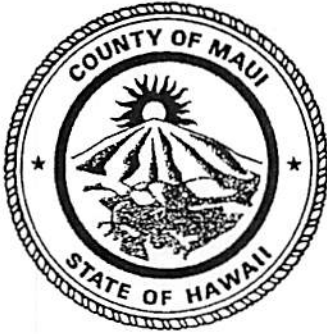
Request/Issue:

Hi I am dakota I represent meo youth services

I started my 6th grade year because I saw
a van with people in it and said Meo on the
back. I started coming because my friends
started. When I started coming I met alot
of new people in the program. We did adopt
a highway. It teaches me social things and
me meeting new friends. I have fun coming to
meo with the people I met and my friends from
school. Thank you!

Responsible County Department:

ITAS



COUNTY OF MAUI

Fiscal Year 2020

FOR STAFF USE ONLY	NO.

PLEASE PRINT

Name: Lyndon-Braxton Manlapao

Email Address: _____ Phone: _____

Mailing Address: _____ City/Zip: Haiiku

I Represent: ☐ Myself

☒ Organization

Meo Youth Services

Request/Issue: I first started coming to the
program last summer & it was so fun.
↳ We learned a lot about the island.
We got to go clean up in parks
↳ swim afterwards. I learned a lot about
how our actions affect the environment
↳ people around me. We also learned
about serious topics like suicide, vaping,
drinking in young people & how we can
help stop it & why we shouldn't do
it. I made a lot of friends in MEO
↳ now can feel like I can make
a difference.

Responsible County Department: ITHS



COUNTY OF MAUI

Fiscal Year 2020

FOR STAFF
USE ONLY NO.

PLEASE PRINT

Name:

Star Gonzalez

Email Address:

Phone:

(808)-264-8682

Mailing Address:

City/Zip:

Wailuku

I Represent: ☐ Myself

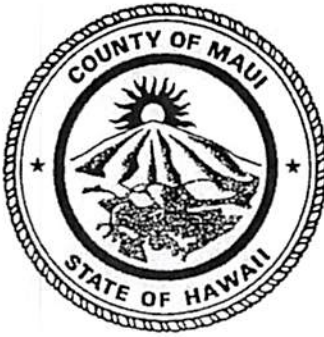
☒ Organization

Meo youth services

Request/Issue: My first time here was in ~~2018~~ 2019. I heard about this through my friends they said it was fun good activities. As well as stop bad things that are happening in Maui I wanted to help ~~and~~ stop smoking, vaping as well as Suasid I think that Suasid is a very big problem in the island of Maui. I think that the activities and the rides all around Maui is amazing it to explore new places. To me ever since I started coming and told my mom about it and it really helped me and my family with all the problems and issues. Thank you for listening.

Responsible County Department:

HHS



COUNTY OF MAUI

Fiscal Year 2020

FOR STAFF
USE ONLY NO.

PLEASE PRINT

Name:

B BETHAN NAKILA

Email Address:

Phone:

Mailing Address:

City/Zip: HAKAWAO 06768

I Represent: ☐ Myself

☒ Organization

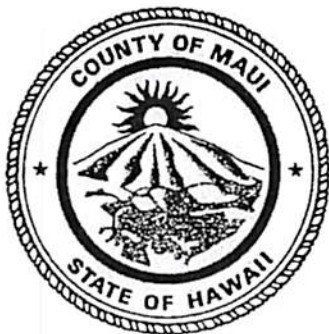
MEC YOUTH SERVICES

Request/Issue:

I BEEN part of Mec for about
4 years and for the past 4 years Mec has
talk us every week we help with the community
we all so want do fun thing after we help
out the community and we like to help
out well I do because I love helping
out with anything like anything but anyways
Mec is the best I love it I
made a lot of friends and meet a
lot of ppl it was fun in the
summer bc we helped out a lot
it was the best time of my life
I hope you keep funding are program
Thx much Love.

Responsible County Department:

HHS



COUNTY OF MAUI

Fiscal Year 2020

FOR STAFF USE ONLY	NO.

PLEASE PRINT

Name:

Nainoa Ripani

Email Address:

Phone:

Mailing Address:

City/Zip:

Kilauea 96790

I Represent: ☐ Myself

☒ Organization

meo Youth Services

Request/Issue:

ive been in meo for about 4

months while i was in meo i was

able to make new friends and help

out with the community

and i was also able to have

fun with my friends i made

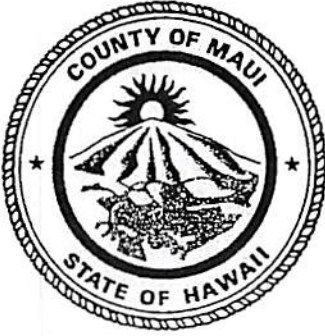
in the meo program. i joined

meo because my teacher told me

i should go. Thy much love's

Responsible County Department:

HHS



COUNTY OF MAUI

Fiscal Year 2020

FOR STAFF USE ONLY	NO.

PLEASE PRINT

Name:

Caeddy Rooste

Email Address:

Phone:

Mailing Address:

City/Zip:

96793

I Represent: ☐ Myself

☒ Organization

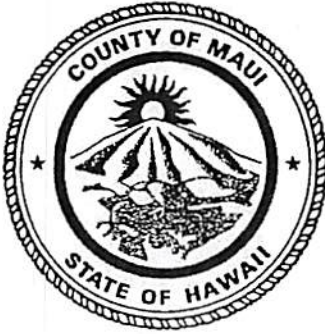
MEO YOUTH SERVICES

Request/Issue:

My name is Caeddy Rooste. I've
been in the MEO Youth Services for
7 years now and I have learned and
accomplished so many through the
years, such as how to cope with
someone if they are talking about
suicide. I have also accomplished
passing smoke free cars, 24 hour liquor
sales and currently working on banning
flavored e-juice. I like coming to MEO
because I enjoy helping the community
and making a difference in the world.

Responsible County Department:

HHC



COUNTY OF MAUI

Fiscal Year 2020

FOR STAFF
USE ONLY NO.

PLEASE PRINT

Name: Jaalen Shimabuku

Email Address: _____

Phone: 686-8888

Mailing Address: _____

City/Zip: Paia 96778

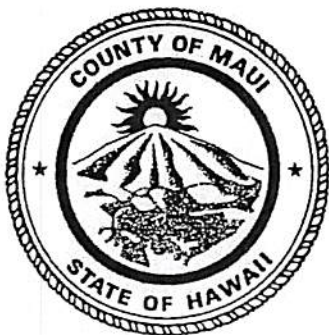
I Represent: ☐ Myself

☒ Organization meo youth services

Request/Issue: I started coming to Meo when I was in 5th grade, I started coming because my big sister was in the program. I like coming to meo to help the community out and ~~help~~ ~~my~~ be with my friends. Since in Meo we have been apart of adopt a highway, smoke free cars, and we worked in the two patches in Keanae to clean, I also made new friends in the past two years. I made a lot of memories with the people I ~~met~~ ~~met~~ met. We also went sober ~~sub~~ super-bowl sign waving by Kaahumanu mall with maui police department, to tell ~~off~~ drives not to drink and drive.

Responsible County Department: HHS





COUNTY OF MAUI

Fiscal Year 2020

FOR STAFF USE ONLY	NO.

PLEASE PRINT

Name: Xynalynne Sonis

Email Address: _____ Phone: _____

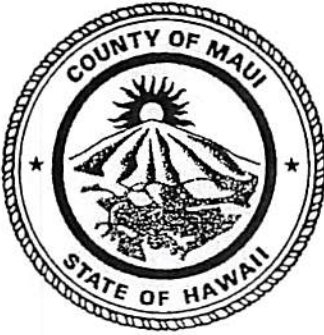
Mailing Address: _____ City/Zip: 96793

I Represent: ☐ Myself

☒ Organization MEO Youth Services

Request/Issue: Aloha my name is Xynalynne Sonis. I have been with MEO Youth Services for 11 months now. What I like about this program is that we do fun things here, learn new things such as underage drinking, teen pregnancy, and many more. I get to get community service hours for my renaissance Program in school. I get to meet new people and make new friends. We can work socially, and we can work physically with each other. Thank you very much for reading this & I hope you continue to fund us.

Responsible County Department: HMC



COUNTY OF MAUI

Fiscal Year 2020

FOR STAFF USE ONLY	NO.

PLEASE PRINT

Name:

HALEY TAIBEMAI

Email Address:

Phone:

Mailing Address:

City/Zip:

96732

I Represent: ☐ Myself

☒ Organization

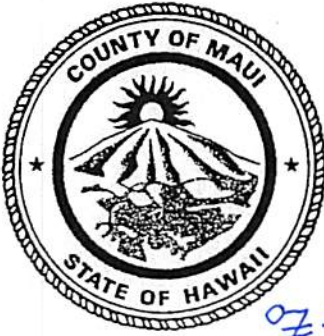
Meo Youth Services

Request/Issue:

Hello my name is Haley and I have been a part of Meo for about 17 months and what I like about it is that I get to learn about underage drinking and other drug use and their dangers and why not to do them also I get to do community service which makes me feel like im doing a good thing for so many people. Also I like that I get to meet so many people and meet new freinds this also helps me get over being socialy awkward. Thank you for reading my ~~reasons~~ writting and I hope you keep funding us.

Responsible County Department:

HHC



COUNTY OF MAUI

Fiscal Year 2020

FOR STAFF USE ONLY	NO.

PLEASE PRINT

Name:

77403# #158 10.8.09

Jaden Takushi

Email Address:

Takushija@Kalamakli2.hi.us

Phone:

Mailing Address:

City/Zip:

Paia 96779

I Represent: ☐ Myself

☒ Organization

MEO youth services

Request/Issue:

I joined MEO 3 years ago & we do

community services & we worked in taro patches, Beach clean ups, Park clean ups, Sign waving, Prevention Events. I joined MEO because of my Big Sister & Brother.

MEO changed my life because it taught me the danger of Drugs and ~~Alcohol~~ Alcohol.

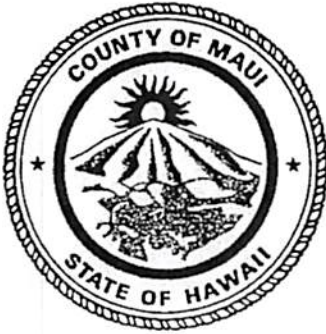
I Like that I get to hangout with friends and being able to help my community.

I can't wait to be a new Leader of MEO so please continue to fund MEO youth services

Thank you for your time

Responsible County Department:

HHS



COUNTY OF MAUI

Fiscal Year 2020

FOR STAFF USE ONLY	NO.

PLEASE PRINT

Name:

Kylie Lynn Takushi

Email Address:

kylie.lynn.takushi2000@gmail.com

Phone:

(808)-298-7708

Mailing Address:

23 Kai Pl

City/Zip:

Paia 96779

I Represent: ☐ Myself

☒ Organization

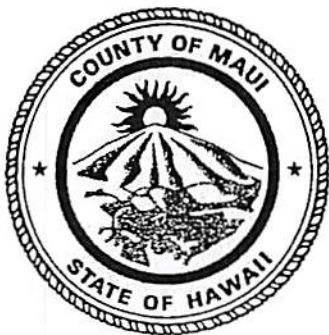
MEO Youth Services

Request/Issue:

Good evening, I'm Kylie Lynn Takushi and I've been in MEO ever since 6th grade and now I'm a senior in high school. So I've been in MEO for 7 years. We hear at MEO youth services help youth and people out in the community. We are like a family here at MEO youth services and welcome any new youth joining us. Our work here at MEO have made an impact here in the community and on the youth in and out of the program. So please continue to support us here at MEO Youth Services.

Responsible County Department:

HHS



COUNTY OF MAUI

Fiscal Year 2020

FOR STAFF USE ONLY	NO.

PLEASE PRINT

Name:

Hina Wells

Email Address:

Phone:

(808) 463-9165

Mailing Address:

City/Zip:

96732

I Represent: ☐ Myself

☐ Organization

MEO YOUTH SERVICES

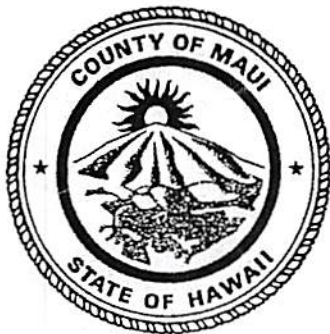
Request/Issue:

I have been a part of MEO Youth Services for only

a couple months now, I'd say about two months. In MEO we have done community services such as adopt a highway which is picking up trash along a highway. We also cleaned up around the MEO mural, the things we did to clean up was pull weeds and pickup trash. Also at the mural cleanup some people made inappropriate things on it so we ended up painting over it. We also protested for banning vape flavors, the reasoning for banning vape flavors was because all the flavors such as cotton candy, and pineapple are made towards children. From MEO I have learned that doing drugs can lead to a bad future.

Responsible County Department:

HHC



COUNTY OF MAUI

Fiscal Year 2020

FOR STAFF USE ONLY	NO.

PLEASE PRINT

Name:

La'akea wells

Email Address:

Laamon@icloud.com

Phone:

(808)-463-9168

Mailing Address:

732 Pomai kai Street

City/Zip:

Kahului

I Represent: ☐ Myself

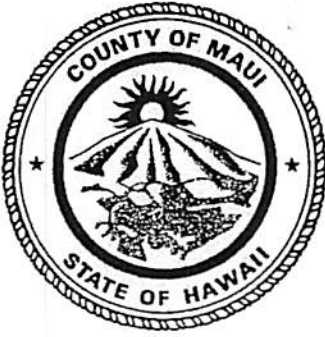
☒ Organization

MEO youth services

Request/Issue:

Over the past 11 months that I have been in MEO youth services I have learned so much about the communities and how bad alcohol and drugs are for you. I truly feel that the best thing about this program is that all the staff are very kind and help me with all my problems, they also help me make smarter decisions with drugs and alcohol.

Responsible County Department: HHC



COUNTY OF MAUI

Fiscal Year 2020

FOR STAFF USE ONLY	NO.

PLEASE PRINT

Name: Kassen Yamashita

Email Address: _____ Phone: _____

Mailing Address: _____ City/Zip: Haiku

I Represent: ☐ Myself

☒ Organization

MEU Youth Series

Request/Issue: My name is Kassen Yamashita, I am a 7th grader @
Kulakaipuni o Maui @ Kulama in madiet. I've been attending the program
for 8 years now and thought the program is meet
Some many new people. I got to go on some many
fun safe trips. I think meo is the best program
for youth. It shows them a alternative
to substance abuse. It a great way to
make new friends. MEU is like a second
family to me and always been there
for me and others. And when we do
wrong the don't punish us the help us me
it right. Please keep MEU open!

Responsible County Department: HHS