

# HEALTHY FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE

Council of the County of Maui

## MINUTES

December 19, 2019

Council Chamber, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor

**CONVENE:** 1:31 p.m.

**PRESENT:** Councilmember Yuki Lei K. Sugimura, Vice-Chair  
Councilmember Tasha Kama  
Councilmember Michael J. Molina  
Councilmember Tamara Paltin

NON-VOTING MEMBER:

Councilmember Alice L. Lee (in 1:55 p.m., out 2:13 p.m.)

**EXCUSED:** Councilmember Riki Hokama, Chair  
Councilmember Kelly Takaya King  
Councilmember Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez

**STAFF:** Wesley Crile, Legislative Analyst  
Chester Carson, Legislative Analyst  
Lesley Milner, Legislative Analyst  
Rayna Yap, Committee Secretary  
Zhantell Lindo, Council Aide, Molokai Council Office (via telephone conference bridge)  
Denise Fernandez, Council Aide, Lanai Council Office (via telephone conference bridge)  
Mavis Oliveira-Medeiros, Council Aide, Hana Council Office (via telephone conference bridge)

**ADMIN.:** Karla Peters, Director, Department of Parks and Recreation  
Todd Allen, Golf Course Superintendent, Department of Parks and Recreation  
David Yamashita, Planner VI, Department of Parks and Recreation  
Herman Andaya, Emergency Management Administrator, Maui Emergency Management Agency  
Andrea Finkelstein, Civil Defense Plans and Operations Officer, Maui Emergency Management Agency  
Charnan Carroll, Civil Defense Staff Specialist III, Maui Emergency Management Agency  
Anthony Joyce, Civil Defense Staff Specialist I, Maui Emergency Management Agency  
Edward Kushi, First Deputy Corporation Counsel, Department of the Corporation Counsel

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

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VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: . . .*(gavel)*. . . Good afternoon, everyone. Welcome to the Healthy Families and Communities Committee. Today is December 19, and it is now 1:31 p.m. I am the Vice-Chair and I get to chair this meeting today. Mr. Hokama is not feeling well. So welcome, everybody. Thank you, Members, for being here. We have Mr. Molina from Upcountry.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Good afternoon, Madam Chair.

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: Good afternoon. Tamara Paltin from the West Side.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Aloha ‘auinala, Chair.

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: Aloha. And Tasha Kama from Kahului.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Good afternoon, Chair.

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: Good afternoon. Thank you, everybody, for being here. It’s almost Christmas. And we look forward to having a great meeting today. Thank you, Department, for being here for the first item, Waiehu Municipal Golf Course Maintenance and Improvements. We have Karla Peters, David Yamashita, and Todd—your last name, sorry, is?—Allen, our Golf Course Superintendent. Sorry about that. Thank you for being here. From Corp. Counsel we have Mr. Kushi. Thank you. And in the audience we have Herman Andaya to talk about the second item which involves Parks and Emergency Management. And if you have other members of your team, you can introduce them to me when we take the second item up. Thank you, Mr. Andaya, for being here. In the District Offices, we have all of them present. Mavis Oliveira-Medeiros from Hana; Zhantell Lindo from Molokai; Denise...I’m sorry, from, yeah, Molokai...and Denise Fernandez from Lanai. Thank you, everybody, for being here. Mr. Hokama wanted presentations on the two items that are on the agenda. And before we...do we have any testifiers? None. Okay. Do we have any testifiers in the District Office. Mavis Oliveira-Medeiros?

MS. OLIVEIRA-MEDEIROS: Aloha, Chair, there are no testifiers in Hana.

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. Merry Christmas.

MS. OLIVEIRA-MEDEIROS: Merry Christmas.

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: Merry Christmas. Zhantell Lindo from Molokai, do you have any testifiers? Oh, we can’t get Molokai. Okay. No testifiers? Okay. Denise Fernandez from Lanai, any testifiers?

MS. FERNANDEZ: Aloha, Chair, there are no testifiers at the Lanai Office.

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. From our Staff, today is the last Committee meeting that Wes is going to be...so thank you for being here and good luck in your new

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endeavor. Rayna is the Secretary. And we have Lesley Milner. And you're going to be the person taking over possibly?

MS. MILNER: We don't know.

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, okay. As a analyst. And Chester Carson, you may be taking over, too. So, these are relatively new analysts that are joining our OCS Staff. So, thank you, everybody, for being here. Did I miss anybody? We have no testifiers, so I'm going to close public testimony, Members.

COUNCILMEMBERS: No objection.

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. So, today we have two items on our agenda. And Mr. Hokama, like I said earlier, wanted to have presentations primarily around the Parks Department.

### **ITEM HFC-14: WAIEHU MUNICIPAL GOLF COURSE MAINTENANCE AND IMPROVEMENTS (CC 19-88)**

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: The first item is HFC-14, Waiehu Municipal Golf Course Maintenance and Improvements. And we have here the Department to do a presentation. But before I turn it over to them, I just want to say that I'm so proud that our golf course was nice enough, I mean really to make a national golf magazine, everybody. And the pictures here are so beautiful and, you know, we forget that we're surrounded by the ocean. I mean that picture is just fabulous. I did go to the Waiehu Golf Course when the back nine opened and it was astonishing different. The front nine which was still not done and the back nine it looked like two separate golf courses. So, Todd, you have done an exceptional, amazing job considering I know we didn't give you enough money to do it and you had to do your best under the circumstances. So, thank you very much. But these pictures in this magazine hopefully we'll get a lot of people who want to, you know, golf at our beautiful golf course. So, thank you for that. At this time then, Department, do you want to do a presentation on the status of the golf course? Thank you.

MS. PETERS: Thank you, Chair. Yeah, I just wanted to touch briefly too on some other updates for the golf course. So, we're finally in the contract process for the new operations system and we hope to go live in March 2020. This new system is a comprehensive golf course application that will provide an operations and reservations system utilizing a website for online booking, reporting, and marketing throughout the entire facility. Also, our restaurant is still not in operation. The Waiehu Golf Course grease interceptor replacement is required prior to the opening of the restaurant. So, we're currently in the permitting process for that project, and we anticipate construction to begin on the replacement interceptor in May of 2020. Our Parks construction and maintenance staff will be working on the interior repairs and painting and doing some improvements within the restaurant. That'll begin in January 2020, next month. And we'll also then do the required procurement to secure

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a concessionaire for the restaurant. With that, I'll turn it over to Todd for the greens renovation.

MR. ALLEN (*PowerPoint Presentation*): Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Council. Before we get started, I'd just like to wish everybody a happy holidays and hopefully you'll be safe and spend it with your loved ones, family and loved ones. So, we've done a lot of work over the last year at Waiehu Golf Course and it's definitely shown in the revenue and the uptick in residents and seniors as well. I had...this originally was a video with the waves crashing over into the bunker but it's...we've got a PDF. So, this is hole number six, one of the holes that borders directly on the ocean and has a rock revetment in front of it. This is a picture of the greens, the front nine greens in March 2019 and then December 2019. So, the back nine and the front nine, the putting green all were similar to the one on the left. That's a combination of two or three different types of Bermuda grass, three or four different types of weeds, mostly goosegrass, and then you can see disease, a lot of disease kind of off in the foreground in the rusty-brown spots. So, when the Bermuda grass would die out from the disease then the goosegrass or other weeds could take over. This is hole number six again. This is a combination of the golf course maintenance crew and the beautification crew. I think there were a total of 16 guys actually working together, 20 total, and different areas of support that renovated two-and-a-quarter acres of greens, collars, and approaches on Waiehu Golf Course. Outstanding work that these gentlemen did. I can't give them enough kudos for all their efforts. This is hole number one. Don't get fazed, I don't have every hole on here, I just did some of them where I had similar shots, photos that I had taken. This is hole number one green before, again this is March/April timeframe before we got started. This is hole number one after. And the...it's all natural lighting. Some of the photos I actually had to try to tune down a little bit because they were too green, but depending on the cloud cover and the sunshine that's what's changing the picture. All taken with an iPhone. This is hole number two green before, you've got the maintenance yard in the background and the irrigation lake and the pump station. There's a few darker green spots right off the collar which were...was paspalum that we had planted to do some experiments to see which one would provide the best putting surface. And this is two green afterwards. Two green collar and approach. Number four green, again, this is March/April timeframe, 2019, and that is typically what our Bermuda grass looked like. There is quite a bit of disease on the green and that's not saying that paspalum doesn't get disease because it does get disease as well. When you're mowing turf grass at an eighth of an inch every single day and then you have 150 to 250 golfers on it, it does take a toll on the playing surface. This is four green afterwards. Four green collar and approach was what was done. Hole number five, it's our, kind of our favorite hole. It's a long par three. That's five green afterwards in December. Ocean hole, six green before. That's typically what it looked like. In the far left-hand corner between kind of by the flag, you can see a few dark-green spots right on the edge of the green. Those were a couple of different paspalums that we planted as well to see which one would do the best. And then this is six green afterwards. Six green collar and approach. So, not only did we do the putting surface but we did...tried to do the 8 to 12 feet around the green, and then we also did the approach down into the fairway which is where a lot of shots land and bounce up or roll up onto the green. Number nine green, our finishing

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hole on the front nine. You got all the weeds in the foreground right there, and then same thing, condition of the green. And then this is nine green afterwards and you can see we've been treating a lot of the weeds in the rough and the fairways and/or perimeter of the greens. And that's basically my presentation on the front nine renovation. Very similar to the back nine. We had a lot more challenges on the front nine than we did the back primarily because it's right along the ocean so it does get a lot of wind. There were times when we were trying to irrigate the new sprigs that we had put out and there were kite surfers going along the ocean so they had 25, 30-mile-an-hour winds which doesn't work well with overhead irrigation. But we made it work and it's outstanding. Thank you.

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: That's amazing. I mean the difference before and after is amazing. So, our computer system is all working and in place so that people can now charge online. Is that the system you're talking about?

MS. PETERS: Chair --

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: So, online booking.

MS. PETERS: --so that we're in the contract process now with the vendor and then we'll be doing a go-live hopefully March 2020.

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay, very good. And the day you open up your restaurant and get that going, people are not going to be able to get any green times. It's so beautiful. Congratulations. Thank you for working hard at this time. Amazing. All right, anybody else would like to go ooh and ah? This was an amazing presentation. Mr. Molina?

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Thank you, Madam Chair. Good afternoon, Ms. Peters and Mr. Allen. Thank you. It's just a picture's worth a thousand words as they say yeah. What is the maintenance schedule at this point so to ensure that this, you know, the greens don't go back to, you know, the condition that we were in? I guess you guys are doing...how shall I put it, I'm trying to think of the word for it, but anyway, go ahead.

MR. ALLEN: Yes, Chair. Councilmember, thank you. We're doing normal routine maintenance, just staying on an agronomic program. We're mowing the greens every day.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: What's the secret besides water? Good, really good fertilizer?

MR. ALLEN: Really good fertilizer and just a lot of TLC. We've...I've been working very hard to train our staff to help out, and I've got a great team that's starting to establish. A lot of folks are absorbing the information and that they're taking off and I'm empowering them to do what needs to be done. But it's just routine maintenance, staying on top of your program. We do use some really good fertilizer. It's every two weeks we're using liquid fertilizer. We do put out a wetting agent once a month to help

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out with the localized dry spots because it is all dune sand. We do need to push water through to flush some of the sodium. Just the routine stuff. When we do have insects, it's a best management practice that we use. So, we wait until there's at least 30 to 35 percent damage, maybe even 40 percent damage with any kind of insects or fungus as far as disease goes and then we'll eventually treat for it. But when we do treat, we make sure that everyone's aware of it and they stay safe and we have time to get the job done before golfers get out.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: And the cost for the repairs, I know the Council we recently increased the fee rates and everything. Was that enough to cover or...and you folks...

MR. ALLEN: Well, this whole project, the front nine and the back nine, the only additional...other than equipment, the only additional funds that we requested was \$60,000 for sand and sprigs and some fertilizer. The rest of the project we, the money we covered was within our budget, you know, forecasting and thinking the project through and trying to make it all work.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Okay.

MR. ALLEN: So, this really is a pretty expensive ordeal, especially if you're going to contract it outside, but for us doing it in-house with the labor that we already had that's already accounted for, I think it ended up being 96 cents a square foot or 92 cents a square foot for four-and-a-half acres.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Well, it's definitely money well spent and, you know, even though we had...we increased the rates but at least the public can say hey, you know, it was well worth it. Any reaction to the rate increases from the public?

MR. ALLEN: Yes. We have seen...as far as local residents which is what we're here for, right, it's a municipality and we're here for safe, fun, recreational, affordable golf. They're enjoying it tremendously, the seniors, the local residents. As far as resident play, that has picked up 46 percent from last year. Retiree play has picked up 12 percent. Our non-resident has gone down 11 percent. Our Hawaii State has gone down 62 percent from last year. And then weekend and holiday play, our resident weekend and holiday play we were losing, throughout the period of almost five years since I've been there, we were losing 1,100 to 2,000 golfers a year in certain categories. Resident play has picked up on weekends and holidays 45 percent.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Wow, that's great.

MR. ALLEN: Retirees on weekends and holidays has picked up 1 percent, so it stayed really steady for the retirees and with a small increase. And then non-resident during weekends and holidays is down 22 percent, and Hawaii State weekends and holidays is down 78 percent.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Wow.

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MR. ALLEN: Because those two rates are just too high for our golf course. When you take into consideration that you still have to pay \$21 for a golf cart, we are not apples to apples with Maui Nui, Maui Lani --

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Okay.

MR. ALLEN: --Maui Country Club, Wailea, some of those places. So, we are losing some...

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Something may to look at...reexamine I guess during the budget process yeah, so.

MR. ALLEN: Yes, and students --

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Okay.

MR. ALLEN: --have picked up 22 percent.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Well, I guess the real good news at least our residents here are really benefitting and making good use of the golf course.

MR. ALLEN: Absolutely.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Excellent, it's a tradeoff.

MR. ALLEN: The revenue is up 8 percent for this time last year so July through December, our revenue is up 8 percent. And the rounds are up total 9.25 percent.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Wow. Nice numbers. Well, thank you again for all your hard work, appreciate it.

MR. ALLEN: Absolutely. Thank you. We're trying to work towards sustainability on the golf course in all aspects, and we're definitely going in the right direction so we have more projects that are slated and we want to get started on them.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Awesome.

MR. ALLEN: Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Great, thank you. Thank you, Madam Chair.

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah, good questions, and thank you for coming prepared, Todd. You knew we were going to talk about money. But I just wondered, it might be something that will be covered in budget, yeah, appropriately and maybe you and Mr. Hokama can take it up at another time. Because of the, you now have data to back up the rates that maybe we put it up too high based on the market and maybe you could come back another time and talk to us about that.

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MR. ALLEN: Correct, Chair. Yes, definitely.

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah.

MR. ALLEN: We, our goal was to try to remain flat with our rates so that we'd have a good comparison, but we'll make adjustments and --

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah.

MR. ALLEN: --get it figured out for sure.

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah, great. Tamara Paltin and...oh, Ms. Tasha Kama.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: So, I was...I...when you were talking about a grease interceptor, does...is that similar to like a grease trap? And then did they not, the restaurant not have a grease trap before?

MS. PETERS: Chair? Thank you, Member Paltin. Yes, that is a grease trap, it's also called a grease interceptor and there is currently one now, it's just it's failing, it's not in good condition. It needs to be replaced and upsized for the proper use of the restaurant.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. And then I was wondering what is the water source that you guys are using, is it reclaimed water, ditch water, where is it coming from?

MR. ALLEN: Councilmember, no, currently we're using well water.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Oh.

MR. ALLEN: We have a capped well water that we use coming out of the aquifer right on the western, I guess it would be western side of the property close to the Hawaiian Homes side.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: So, it's well water but not potable?

MR. ALLEN: Correct, well water but not potable. That's correct.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And what are you guys doing with your green waste?

MR. ALLEN: The green waste that we have as far as grass clippings and trees, we have a huge compost pile. The green waste that we collect on greens and trees we're just scattering it out onto the turf and the edges. And then as far as the trees and brush and shrubbery that we remove, we have a pile in the back that we're using to try to compost.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And if the County parks were all to transition away from like Roundup, would that be an issue for you folks?



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MR. ALLEN: Currently, no, Roundup is not an issue for me. We don't use Roundup on the golf course. We use other products per law and safely, because we have, you know, I'm a licensed applicator and then I have another licensed applicator, and we're required by law to stay up to date on the laws and educated. So, there are different products that we use, but there's site-specific for certain issues. It's not like one thing, blast 'em all, kill 'em all kind of thing, right, which is what Roundup, most people think Roundup is.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And then that high-quality fertilizer you were speaking of, is it petroleum based?

MR. ALLEN: I have a combination of all of them, natural, synthetic, and some of 'em could be petroleum based. We could do a little more resource on that...research on that, yes.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay, thank you.

MR. ALLEN: Yeah.

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. Ms. Kama?

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you, Chair. So, how many staff do you have working at the golf course?

MR. ALLEN: Currently, we have 20½, we have 2 vacant positions, and 4½ of those employees work in the starter's booth so they actually work indoors making the tee times, reservations, and then patrol the golf course as a marshal/ranger aspect. And then so that would mean that we have 16 laborers or 16 guys on the maintenance side.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: So, do you have anyone on your side that teaches people how to golf?

MR. ALLEN: We do not. No, that's Art Rego, the concessionaire and the pro shop, Art Rego is our PGA pro who leases the pro shop and does the cart rentals and clubs for the golf course itself. We had talked about some...trying to create a youth program and we've worked with PALS in the past and brought PALS out but utilized Art Rego as a teaching aide to help out.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: So, the golf carts and everything are not the County's, it belongs to a vendor?

MR. ALLEN: Correct, that is correct, yes.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Okay. So, is...so are...is the revenues that's being derived through the golfing and the golf course, is it sustaining?

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MR. ALLEN: The...

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Is it self-sustaining, the golf course?

MR. ALLEN: The revenue for the golf course, just the golf fees, no, it is not self-sustaining.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: So, you have any ideas how it can be? Is that what we're going to hear at the next time that you all report back?

MR. ALLEN: Well, that's...no, that's one of the reasons that we are trying to transition into the General Fund and try to straighten out the budget that we had. It can get to a sustainable model. Currently, it's not and it wasn't, definitely wasn't last year or five years ago. It's just the cost of doing business and because we're a municipality, right, municipal golf is like the cornerstone of your community. It's the first golf course that Maui had, it opened up in 1930, and it's derived...it's designed just for the residents, right, to enjoy it. And if we're charging 40, 50, \$60 for people to play golf, for residents to play golf, they're not going to be able to afford that. I can't afford that. So, we do need to draw the line --

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Figure out something.

MR. ALLEN: --in the sand and figure out are we --

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Yeah.

MR. ALLEN: --trying to make money or are we just trying to provide an excellent recreational facility --

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Good one.

MR. ALLEN: --for the County.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Good. I think Ms. Peters is going to --

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, Ms. Peters.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: --wants to respond.

MS. PETERS: Thank you, Chair. Just to touch some more on that, Councilmember Kama. So, in...with working on our concessions and sponsorship admin rules is where we're going to be looking at revenue generation for the Department. Where there is the ordinance that it will give that...the revenue will then come back to the Department for maintenance and operations of our facilities.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Okay, good. That's kind of like where I was going. But thank you very much for your answer. Thank you, Chair.

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MR. ALLEN: Thank you.

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: Ms. Paltin? Wait, before...sorry. Welcome, Ms. Lee.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Thank you.

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: She's a golfer so it's kind of important.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I just had a question with the resident play being up that percentage and the out-of-state and Hawaii state play being down, did it even out or is it...like can your course handle more traffic?

MR. ALLEN: That's a great question. Yes, our course can handle more traffic because we still have vacant tee times that are sitting so that's basically money that we could be making that we're not. And just as a reminder, we're the only Parks facility that collects revenue other than the permits department. And so, to answer your question, the resident play, the increase, the 46 percent increase in resident play on the weekdays and the 45 percent increase of resident play on the weekends and holidays, that does not cover the loss for the non-residents. The non-residents are typically four times...we charge them four times the cost of a resident.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And are you tracking the trend of tee times that are open, and like could there be a sliding scale in the future on the less desirable times being more...less cost and the more desirable times being a more cost?

MR. ALLEN: That is something that we have addressed. The difficulty in that is that you folks, the Councilmembers, you set the fee that we charge. So, your sliding scale, you would have to set it a whole year in advance and you would have to try to anticipate what would work. Currently, what we do have though is at two o'clock...we have the ability to change our twilight time from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. anywhere in there we want. So, our twilight fee starts at 2:00 p.m. now which is half the cost of the normal rate. We do fill up after that point. Typically, we lose rounds or revenue between 10:30, 11 o'clock, and up until 2:00 p.m. So, we're looking at maybe changing that to 1:00 p.m. in the wintertime and then maybe making it 3:00 p.m. in the summertime to coordinate play with the day lengths.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And do you keep track of like wind and rain condition as part of the reason why --

MR. ALLEN: Correct, yes.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: --things don't happen?

MR. ALLEN: Yes, correct. That's correct.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay, thank you.

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MR. ALLEN: Absolutely.

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. So, Ms. Lee, do you have any questions or comments?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: I'm sorry, I missed the part about were you discussing fees, green fees?

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: We were earlier. Yeah, we were earlier.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: About dropping them, raising them, what, just asking questions?

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: So, we're...basically this is really an update about the greens. So, anything to do with rates and fees has to be and that is properly agendized...properly, but he did kind of educate us on what we did budget-wise and our guesses were not that accurate. So, I think they lost revenue, but go ahead since you're a golfer.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Oh yeah, we lost revenue when the course was being repaired, and what we're doing now is trying to get the people back to play because the course is in excellent condition. I mean really excellent. So, Director, are you doing anything in particular to, I don't know, advertise or get the word out that the course is back in shape and, you know, people can come back and play?

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: Ms. Peters?

MS. PETERS: So, in the beginning of the meeting, Todd had given out...the course is in the golf course magazine that's nationwide. We're also finally getting our contract, it's in process with the vendor to get the new operations software which will allow for online reservations and a dedicated website for the course for updating improvements, they can put in all of the pictures and just have that more of a presence, online presence. So, and we'll be looking at more marketing strategies. The thought was to wait until we can...we got the course, the greens renovation completed and then get our restaurant up to par. So, once we get that grease trap installed, we're hoping to get the concessionaire in there hopefully by July 1, 2020. And then...

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: How much will that generate a month?

MS. PETERS: I think the last one was about 2,300, the lease agreement was 2,300 a month.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: A month, oh.

MS. PETERS: So, it goes on an upset bid and we put it out via procurement as a request for proposals. We're going to be changing that a lot too. Todd and I have been talking about it for a while and ensuring that we have the right concessionaire in there who would tailor to the golfers first and foremost.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Well, I just want to commend all of you for doing an outstanding job on the greens. It's, you know, I've been golfing there for like 30 years, and actually

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we used to like it sometimes when it was in bad shape because the ball would go farther, but now it's like a real golf course. So, thank you. Thank you for all you do on that. I do have a concern, now that people...well, not people but there seems to be a growing trend to eliminate the use of pesticides on the golf course. How have you been dealing with that? Because I know it's...would be much more costly to go with the natural type, organic type.

MR. ALLEN: That is correct. That's still in the works and there are a few departments still talking about that. It would be vastly more expensive for the golf course to maintain, and we would need several additional staff labor-wise and equipment to handle that change. Right now, we're still utilizing safe practices and sustainable ideas that are beneficial for the soil and helping the golf course look the way it does. And thank you for your comments. I know that the health of the golf course has improved based on my soil sampling and the test results and the products that we're using. And I can also see it in the happiness and the thriving golfer population that's back again. And specifically more with the wildlife that we have that's being attracted to the golf course. We have owls, we have hawks, we have --

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Mongoose.

MR. ALLEN: --the Nenes come in occasionally every other week or so. And we have a ton of other water fowl and stuff that are coming in and hanging out, visiting, and it's just, it's a thriving ecosystem at this point.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Did you recently add sand in the bunkers?

MR. ALLEN: We actually have tried to dig a little deeper in the bunkers to pull some sand up and loosen it. So, that we've had some complaints. We will need to add sand to the bunkers, yes, and that's a costly venture as well.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Unless of course you just trim the top, the edges, then you can putt out.

MR. ALLEN: We've been trimming that down.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Yeah. You've been doing that too?

MR. ALLEN: We've been trimming the top. Yes, we've been edging the bunkers and we have also been raking the bunkers a little bit deeper, trying to till up the existing sand and loosen it up so that it is more playable. That was one of the comments that we've dealt with for a long time.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Thank you so much, appreciate it.

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: Great presentation. You have one more?

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MS. PETERS: So, actually we wanted to give you guys a little bit of an update on the new clubhouse, the master plan, and so we have David Yamashita here.

MS. YAMASHITA: Yes 'cause...

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: I was just going to ask if he wanted to say anything.

MS. YAMASHITA: This will be brief. But I will say that Todd has done such a great job with the golf course, this is not the first time I've I think come to Council and had people rave about what he's done. So, he's raised the bar so high that for those of us working on the clubhouse project we feel a lot more pressure to do a much, yeah, to do as good a job as Todd has done. But where we are now is we're revising an original concept in response to I think some of the...we had other questions and once we started the project so we're going back and having the design team come up with another concept that we'll present or we'll have probably in a couple of months. And then once that's done then we'll start the financial feasibility which gets at some of your questions as well, because we need to look at what we provide as part of the facility and think about how it's going to be used by the community but also for tournaments 'cause Todd's talked about that. And so, those are some of the things we're thinking of, but we also have...one of the issues is that to get to the clubhouse you have to go through a neighborhood so we are trying to be very mindful of the impacts of how many people would be accessing that clubhouse through the neighborhood. So, it's a combination of things but I think we're excited about this new concept that I think we're going to be working on. And so, I feel like we can, we'll be...match up to what the work that Todd has done.

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you, Mr. Yamashita. I believe Mr. Hokama will probably have that as an item so that you could present appropriately and maybe, you know, once you're further along. Ms. Kama?

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: I just had a question. You know the clubhouse that's down there has been there for like, I don't know, years, yeah. So, it's always been in that neighborhood 'cause the neighborhood looks like it's always been there. So, what were the mitigating factors back then? I mean I assume...did the community mind that people were going back there and using the clubhouse or anything like that? Do you remember that? I...

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: Anybody have a...any comments regarding complaints from the neighbors?

MS. PETERS: We didn't get any. If you're talking...are you talking about the old clubhouse that was next --

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Yeah.

MS. PETERS: --to the park there?

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COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Yes.

MS. PETERS: The old Saint Anthony Clubhouse they called it?

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Yeah.

MS. PETERS: So, that actually went through the other neighborhood coming off of Waiehu Beach Road. This one is going to be...

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Oh, Leisure Estates.

MS. PETERS: Yeah, so this is going to...the entrance into the golf course is through that neighborhood next to the Waihee Park.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Okay.

MS. PETERS: The Richard Caldito Park.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: This is brand new yeah? Oh, okay. Too bad. That's okay. It'll be good. But I'll wait for that time we can --

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: --have a good presentation on that. Thank you.

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: So, if...Mr. Kushi goes golfing there and he has divots. How do you fix that?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Ban him from the course.

MR. KUSHI: I'm sorry, Madam Chair, what was the question? Fix what?

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: I'm just trying to talk about that you golf, if there are divots and how does the golf course remedy divots? You don't have any?

MR. KUSHI: How is it going to be what?

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: Remedied.

MR. KUSHI: Oh it's fine now, it's like I agree with Councilmember Lee, it's the best shape that it's ever been.

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: It's really nice yeah.

MR. KUSHI: Hopefully the people come back. The locals are coming back but the tourists and the, maybe the off-island people not yet.

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VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

MR. KUSHI: We're looking forward towards a restaurant.

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah.

MR. KUSHI: You can have a little bar over there too.

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: Need spam musubi and some beer, right?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yes.

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay, anybody else have any comments to make? I just want to close out this. I want to thank you very much, Todd, for sticking it out, I know it was super hard to get us to this point and took a lot of patience. And I'm sure we gave you limited amount of funding and creatively you have taken us to this point. So, thank you very much. Members, at this time I'm going to defer this for further discussion and I'm sure Mr. Hokama will bring this back. So, Members, I'm going to defer this.

**COUNCILMEMBERS VOICED NO OBJECTIONS.** (Excused: RH, KK, KRF)

**ACTION: DEFER PENDING FURTHER DISCUSSION.**

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. We'll do a change out to the next. I'm going to call a short recess. . . .(gavel). . .

**RECESS: 2:13 p.m.**

**RECONVENE: 2:15 p.m.**

**ITEM HFC-13(7): PRESENTATION ON THE ROLE OF COUNTY FACILITIES AND PARKS DURING NATURAL DISASTERS AND RECOVERY EFFORTS** (RULE 7B)

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: . . .(gavel). . . I'm calling back to order the Healthy Family [sic] and Communities Committee. It is now 2:15 and we continue on the second item which is a Presentation on the Role of the County Facilities and Parks During Natural Disasters and Recovery Efforts, HFC-13(7). And in accordance with the Rule 7...with 7(B) of the Rules of the Council, the Committee anticipates receiving presentations from the Emergency Management Agency and the Department of Parks and Recreation on the role of the County's facilities and parks during and after natural disasters associated with climate change, including more frequent and intense storms. So, we're going to receive presentations from the Department. Today, we have Herman Andaya here. Can you introduce your members? And then we have Karla Peters here from Parks with Mr. Kushi.



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MR. ANDAYA: Thank you.

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: Mr. Andaya?

MR. ANDAYA (*PowerPoint Presentation*): Thank you, Madam Chair. Good afternoon. I have with me today on my far left our Plans and Operations Officer Andrea Finkelstein. To my left here our Preparedness and Public Affairs --

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Outreach.

MR. ANDAYA: --Outreach, Public Outreach Assistant, Charnan Carroll. I also have in the audience our Hazard Mitigation Specialist, Dr. Anthony Joyce. Thank you for having us here today, Madam Chair, Members. I was told to give a short presentation, a quick overview of our Department and so we'll do that very quickly. Our agency began as a, really a response to foreign attack. It was to prepare the population, yeah, in the event that we were attacked during World War II. Since then, we've...our mission has evolved from hurricanes to tsunamis to active shooter, cybersecurity, and even pandemic-type events. And so, as you can see we've, we now deal with different threats, Maui County. And this is a graph that shows the different kinds of threats, the probability, and the harm they may have to Maui County. That the three biggest ones here is hurricane, tsunami, earthquake, and surprisingly flashflood, we've been seeing a lot of those, and most recently cybersecurity or cyberattacks. We go, we use what's called the incident command system, so just to let you know all throughout the country this is the same system that's being used. It's very helpful, whenever we have help from the mainland they come to Maui County and assist us, we're speaking the same language, using the same concepts, same terminology. This is our staff. I like to show this picture because it shows really how small our staff is. We're lucky we have seven now and thanks to the County Council for adding another person to our staff. And so, we have a Recovery Specialist onboard. And so, you know, we saw that there was a need for someone who would focus just on recovery. And so, we have that person now onboard, and thank you to the Council for providing it to us. When I mention the names, our titles and everything, as you can see there's a lot of ands. As an example, Plans and Operations Officer or in Charnan's case it's Preparedness and Public Outreach. And Dr. Joyce there in the audience, he is the Hazard and Mitigation Specialist. And so, we do multiple jobs all throughout the year. But I just wanted to show, this is our staff. And this is...even though we have a small staff we're very fortunate in that whenever there's an activation, whenever there's an emergency, we have many of our partners that come out. And so, we have our County departments, our State departments, State DOE, DOT, Airports, Harbors, they're all here, DLNR. Our Federal partners, the military. We're very fortunate to have all of them in our EOC. But as you can see our EOC is pretty crowded and I think there's a need for a larger EOC at some point. Councilmember Mike Molina can attest to that. He's been going to our EOC for the past eight years and he's seen how crowded it can get. And so, this is just another picture of our EOC. A lot of times it's standing room only so you can see people standing. This is not too bad. There's times when it's really crowded and you got people out in the hallways and everything. And these are

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all the different agencies that come out during an activation. So, as you can see again County, State, Federal, and also our NGOs, our non-government organizations. So, you have the American Red Cross, Maui Visitors Bureau, Maui Hotel Lodging Association. So at any given time, there's 25 percent of our population is made up of visitors so it's important that we're, we have them at the table and they're a great tremendous help whenever there's emergencies. This is the different phases of an emergency. So, just to let you know, we're not working just during an emergency, we're working all throughout the year. We start off with preparedness and then the response, and that's during the emergency itself, that's when we activate the EOC. After that, it's the recovery and that's what I think we'll be talking a bit more today. And then there's mitigation. Mitigation is doing things to lessen the effects of the threat of the emergency. So, this is just a quick...there's FEMA on the Federal level. On the State level, you have the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency, HIEMA, and then you have, the counties have their agencies as well. Hawaii County is the only that has kept their name, civil defense, so everyone else has changed their name to emergency management. This is our org chart. And so, we go from this to an emergency, we become this. And so, we all have our emergency roles. Even our secretary has an emergency role as well. And so, just to give you an idea. And then this is what happens when there is...when we need to request for assistance. So, first of all we try to...we have to exhaust all of our resources first, our capabilities. Once we've done that, then we move up to the State. We request assistance from the State. And if the State can't provide us that assistance then they go to the Federal government, so just to give you an understanding, that's what happens during an emergency. This is interesting, this is the number of activations we've had over the years. And you can see in 2017 we had eight activations, so this is when we activate the EOC, we call all of our partners into the, into our emergency operation center. Two thousand eighteen we had nine, and in 2019 we had 13, 13 activations. Well, the year is not over yet, but we just had one this past Saturday, the Paia fire. So, we actually activated the EOC for that because we had to evacuate portions of Skill Village. You know there's a lot of...we have what's called Federally declared disasters or presidential, it's declared by the President to be a disaster and these are significant disasters. A lot of managers, emergency managers go throughout, you know, their career without experiencing one, you know, or not...so it's kind of a big deal just to have one presidentially declared disaster. We've had seven, you know, so in the last ten years, we've had seven. So, this gives you an idea that we've seen quite a bit, we've seen a lot just for Maui County. And I know for the other islands in Hawaii it's far less. And this is what goes into your emergency kit. So anyway, that's all I have, Madam Chair.

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you very much, Mr. Andaya. I wanted to bring down in the middle of your presentation--sorry about that--Dr. Joyce, I wanted you to sit down with the team and you were sitting in the Chamber. So, thank you for joining us. And thank you, Rayna, for carrying the chair and bringing it over. I thought that was pretty amazing. So, Parks...so today's meeting is about Emergency Management and Parks and how we come together as a County. So, Parks, do you have a presentation or want to add to this discussion?

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MS. PETERS: Chair, no, I don't have a presentation. I just wanted to let you folks know that we are part of the human services branch when the EOC is activated. And so, what we do is we work together with the other partners and we have a great team and we look for sheltering. So, one of our, our newest gymnasium, the South Maui Community Park Gymnasium meets all of the County requirements for enhanced hurricane protection. So, specifically the building is designed for 115 mile per hour minimum peak 3-second gust. So, we did meet that requirement and so we would be utilizing that area now as a shelter, right. And then what we're looking at too is when we're renovating all of the existing gymnasiums, we'll be designing improvements to have these gymnasiums with the requirements for this enhanced hurricane protection so that they can become resiliency hubs during an emergency. And then I'll let Herman, I'll turn it back over to Herman and his staff to maybe talk more about the sheltering.

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: So, before you turn it over, so how many County facilities are actually used during an emergency?

MS. PETERS: So, thank you, Chair. So, we try to use our larger gymnasium, so typically this last Saturday we opened up the War Memorial Gym. And so, for those types where we're just going to be looking for sheltering because people get evacuated, then that facility was adequate and we were lucky there were...no one really needed it. But we work together side by side with the Red Cross and they staff the site.

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: I see, so War Memorial, the new South Maui park, Lahaina Civic Complex I've heard in other meetings.

MS. PETERS: Correct, yes.

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: So, your larger gyms is what we use.

MS. PETERS: Yes.

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Thank you. Mr. Andaya, do you have any more comments before I turn it over to the Members? Any of your staff want to say something? Yeah, go ahead. Introduce yourself please.

MS. CARROLL: All right. Is it on? It is, all right. I'm Charnan Carroll, again I am the Preparedness Specialist and the public outreach person for Maui Emergency Management. One thing that I would like to be sure that everyone is clear is that at this point our community centers have been used mainly for rain and storm type...heavy rain and flooding-type events as well as fire and then also for congregate care shelters following a high-wind event. The reason being that we do not use them for hurricanes or high-wind events is that many of them have a lot of glass and also wide roof expanses that are not fortified against high winds. And so, for that reason we cannot use them during a hurricane or a tropical storm event above a certain miles per hour. So, usually for our hurricanes and such, we are using Department of Education school facilities right now. It is certainly our hope that we will have more

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park facilities that will meet the high wind qualifications. I have not seen the report yet but I know that I'll get it from Karla and then we will be able to at that point make an informed decision and add it to our shelters. Thank you.

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. Anybody else from Emergency Management? Seeing none, okay. So, Members, anybody have any comments, questions regarding this? Ms. Paltin?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. I did have the opportunity to visit the Lahaina shelter during the Kahana fire, and there weren't too many folks there but it was well run. They had folks in the air conditioning and then folks with pets in the amphitheatre part. It was kind of interesting 'cause the amphitheatre part wasn't really well lit so I mean there are some issues there. But my question was, you know, going back to the Hurricane Lane event, I know that initially they were at the school because it was a hurricane and then when it became a fire then everyone had to move to the Civic and all of the folks that evacuated. But is it...was it just because that the current threat was a fire, even though the ongoing threat was a hurricane? Like I mean even though we don't want to use the Civic for hurricanes, we ended up having to use it because of the fire. So, is it like, you know, as the situation evolves you just got to do the best you can?

MS. CARROLL: Yeah, that's exactly right. In that situation, if the fire had not been moving as quickly as it was and heading right at the school, we could have maintained our shelter location there, but because the school was being threatened by the fire, we had to make a very quick change in direction and find the next safest location to shelter our folks.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And then, you know, of course hindsight is 20/20, but when the shelter was closed is when the flashflood watch started and, you know, people were kicked out of the shelter and they had no electricity in their homes. Fourteen families had their homes burnt down and we had an incoming flashflood situation. So, I mean who is accountable in those types of situations when the shelter gets closed down and our residents are just kind of pushed out into the rain?

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yes.

MS. CARROLL: Thank you. Once again, the nature of disaster is that you never know what's going to happen, and that was probably one of the fastest moving and fastest changing events that, at least in my time, I have ever seen. We have a shelter committee within the emergency operations center when we have activated and we know we have an event approaching us or a hazard approaching us that is going to probably require sheltering. Anywhere from two to three days ahead of the onset of the hazard, we begin to meet to discuss our sheltering options for the type of event that we're expecting. Parks sits on that shelter committee, Department of Education, Transportation, Red Cross of course because Red Cross is tasked with managing our shelters in Maui County, Department of Health, Department of Human Services, and MEMA. And so, we discuss pretty thoroughly where are going to be the safest

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locations, when they need to be opened and staffed, when we can allow the public to safely get there prior to being endangered. So, I guess what I'm trying to say is that we really plan to the best of what we know and our experiences and history of our events. Unfortunately, Lane was just one of those that we were scrambling, and we acknowledge that it moved a little faster than we did. And we just kept moving them to a, the best option that we had. We...there was some confusion about moving them out of the Civic, that was not under our direction, but that's another issue completely and that has been handled.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: So, in hindsight if folks' houses are covered in ash and they don't have electricity and there's a flood coming, you would let them stay at the shelter?

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: Andrea?

MS. FINKELSTEIN: Thank you, Chair. So, disaster is terrible, right, I want to make sure that we acknowledge that for the people who went through this situation that this is a horrible thing to have to go through. For us, sometimes we don't have all the information. So, when we're making decisions, we're making decisions based on the best information we have at the moment. And so, you guys as Councilmembers sometimes you guys know a little bit more than us, you know that these people if you had...if you are aware of some of this information, you can always provide it back to us so that we can make sure to reopen the shelter. So, if we had known that there were people at any point that are displaced because of a disaster, we will do our best to get housing option for them as quickly as possible. There's a lot of factors that go into that, you know, like Charnan was saying we have all the people sitting in the room together. As Karla said earlier that the conversation happens about which site is the most effective based on the information we have. So, sometimes we're looking at five homes that have been evacuated and then it turns into 50 homes and then it turns into 200 homes. And so, when we make the initial decision, we're trying to accommodate what we think is going to happen. There is limits to what we have...our capabilities are. And so, once the shelter was...everyone left the shelter, we didn't necessarily...weren't getting the feedback that they still had housing needs. We were being told that there was no more needs for housing at that moment. If the flooding had happened the way that it was being forecast to happen, the shelters would have been reopened immediately. There were people on standby throughout that event to reopen that shelter in case the event did continue to escalate.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And so, what type of training, I mean I know Ms. Peters was not the Director at that time, what type of training do folks have in emergency preparedness to be relaying information? And if the information that they're relaying is not accurate, is there any consequences when it causes harm to our residents?

MS. FINKELSTEIN: So, I can talk a little bit about training aspect of this, and then I'm going to pass it over to Herman to talk about some of the other parts of that question. From a training standpoint, we do train people on emergency operations structure and format which includes a coordination element. With decision making over sheltering,

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one of our staff is part of that decision making at all points in time, to make sure that because our staff just is more focused on emergency management, we have a little more training on it, on field structures and things like that. So, opening the EOC, opening shelters, all of those decisions, those big level, high level decisions has somebody from our staff who participates in it. Because training is limited we are trying to, you know, all of our fantastic partners who come and work in the EOC and assist us during a disaster, during these blue-sky days, they have a lot of stuff they have to do. They have regular jobs and work and it is full-time jobs that they're already working plenty of time towards. We try to provide opportunities to train and to exercise throughout the year. We do...we offer Federal trainings, we bring in trainings, we offer small, short trainings within the County, we offer a high-level, executive-level training for all the directors annually. So, there is training opportunities. To the best of our ability we make those opportunities as enticing as possible for our partners to be able to participate in. So, there is training available. As far as consequences go that I'm going to turn it over to Herman for the rest of the question.

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: Mr. Andaya?

MR. ANDAYA: Well, with respect to training and whatnot, so like for instance last year we had a senior officials workshop. We had...it was required by the Mayor that all of our directors and deputies take part in that workshop. Next year in January, we'll be having our Management 346 class which is a emergency operations center operations class, and again the Mayor has required, has made it mandatory that every director and deputy will take that class. So, there is a lot of training opportunities out there, and this Administration has been especially focused on making sure that our directors and deputies are trained.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: So, the fire started in the middle of the night for Lane and people were not allowed to go back to their homes. Obviously Lahaina Civic was inadequate for all of Lahainaluna Road, Kaanapali, and Launiupoko. And with Hurricane Lane approaching, many of the businesses were closed as well, Lahaina Cannery Mall and the Gateway. People were all over Lahaina without shelter or restrooms. Is there opportunities in the future to open restrooms in our County parks for those types of situations?

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: Ms. Peters?

MS. PETERS: Chair, thank you. Yes, we would be able to do that. So, what we do is we call back staff, and we've done that for this past year for all of the emergencies that we had to provide shelter for. At our community centers, Red Cross typically needs time to get there, they need to organize, so we have our nighttime staff come. And I've been with them at a couple locations, and we've taken in, you know, residents and guests here that could not get back to the west side. So, absolutely, we would be able to open. We also found out in the South Maui fire that it was a good thing to where staff were . . . they were able to go and check other areas. They were at the community center, in fact we had...there was a party going on and the people actually fed everyone there. They were nice enough to share their food from their party for all the

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shelter...people that needed sheltering. And it's found that a lot of people if it's not...if the outside conditions are good, that they'd rather be outside anyway than in the centers or in the gyms. So, yeah, absolutely we would open up restrooms if we needed to.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I was referring specifically to the folks that had evacuated from Launiupoko area when that area was fire and they were still yet cut off from Lahaina. A lot of them went to Launiupoko Park and had to wait there for hours with no restroom. So, would the beach parks, if people are congregating there as a place that is available to them, would we be able to open the beach park restrooms for those folks?

MS. PETERS: Yeah, we would call back staff, if we're made aware of it. So, you know, like Andrea was saying, we would have to have that communicated into the EOC so then we there either, you know, myself or the Deputy Director would then make that call out to staff to go open.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you.

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: So, it's available. Mr. Andaya, you have a comment?

MR. ANDAYA: Madam Chair, just to add to that, yeah, we weren't aware that there were people at Launiupoko Park. If we did then, you know, we would have made efforts to open up bathrooms there. We also didn't know that the Civic Center was filled, that it was overflowing. That was not the information that we received. Had we known, we would have opened another shelter if that was the case. We find that oftentimes people don't go to shelters. There was a study that was done recently, about 20 percent actually go to shelters. And that's kind of true, even for me growing up, I've never been to a shelter. I've gone through a number of hurricanes, but I've never...my family have never gone to a shelter. You know we try to find shelter elsewhere, stay with a family, stay with a friend. And so, it wasn't --

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: In that...

MR. ANDAYA: --our understanding it was overflowing.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: In that situation, a lot of folks had to double evacuate. When they left Lahainaluna Road, they went to a friends at Kaanapali Hillside or whatever, and then by eight o'clock Kaanapali Hillside was evacuating. So, you know, a lot of the hotels then opened up for, you know, their workers and folks like that. But maybe there needs to be better communication throughout from start to finish.

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay, thank you. Anybody else? Mr. Molina?

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Thank you, Madam Chair. With regards to the, letting someone in to the shelters or the school, what are the general rules? Someone who

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may be intoxicated, you don't let them in, you just turn them over to the police? How does that work?

MS. CARROLL: Because Red Cross is tasked with managing our shelters, they have very firm rules about no intoxication, no use of alcohol or drugs, no weapons. If there is untoward behavior, they may call the police and have somebody removed from the shelter.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: And as far as the waivers, do they have to sign waivers to stay in the facility?

MS. CARROLL: Yes, they actually have a very detailed check-in process where people are fully documented insofar as numbers of people, families, et cetera. It doesn't get extremely...it doesn't get into privacy issues, but they...the Red Cross has some wonderful statistics based on how they register people and keep track of people in and out as long as the shelter is open.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Oh, good. And generally the response from the public, you know, I guess we can't please everybody, but have there been any complaints about maybe lack of supplies or the facilities itself?

MS. CARROLL: There is a very common misconception that shelters are going to supply comforts. And especially in a high-wind or hurricane event or tsunami situation where we have minimal time to get volunteers coordinated and to the shelter locations, basically our initial evacuation shelters are going to be space and are meant to be shelters of last resort. Very honestly, when I'm out talking to the public, I encourage them to make plans well before any disaster happens, to talk to a relative or a friend and say hey, if I need to evacuate, I would like...can we come and shelter with you, can we come stay with you, whatever. So, normally, especially for a hurricane, it ends up being about with the guesstimates of the number of people that will decide to utilize an evacuation shelter, the Red Cross estimates that people are going to have about ten square feet of space, and that's about enough room to lay down in. Once the threat has passed and we know where our areas of heavy shelter need, lots of homes destroyed, infrastructure destroyed, et cetera, then the Red Cross in coordination with us and others will begin to mobilize cots if available, food, and water. But we also recommend if people are going to a shelter, they take a three to five-day supply of anything they may need personally which includes food, water, bedding, et cetera.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Oh, good. And we get support I guess from the local military, like the National Guard. I mean do they have...for example if we run out of food, I guess the military they've got like those MREs, those...

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Ready-to-eat meals.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Do they offer anything like that to the County in terms of support for our folks in the shelters?



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MS. FINKELSTEIN: So at this point, the County is not storing any food for the public. In the past, it is something that was done World War II era as a precautionary measure. The problem with storing food is that you have to cycle through it, and we just don't have, you know, you saw our staff up there, we don't have warehouse people or space or the personnel it takes to actually cycle through perishables. There is possibility of those items being delivered here, and in the past when there was threats that were on their way, we've been lucky enough to be able to get supplies on island that we were able to then use. The National Guard also does not store items here, food items, so it would have to be shipped in. We encourage strongly two weeks of supplies to every member of the public and that includes food and water. And it doesn't have to be good food but you should have two weeks' worth of nutrition.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Bring them with you, right.

MS. FINKELSTEIN: Right, so that you're able to...the two week number comes from shipping, that's how long it's going to take us to start shipping supplies in, you know, on a massive scale. So, it's...there's not...as much as we can, we have been encouraging the public not to rely on government to be able to provide. That doesn't mean that we can't or we won't, it means that the...you want to be a part of the solution and not a part of the problem. And if you can't sustain yourself then you won't be able to help others.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Yeah. Good. Yeah, I appreciate what you guys have to do to educate the public, 'cause sometimes folks think oh, when they come to these shelters, they're going to have food and everything else for them, but it's not quite the case yeah. And plus I guess with food, it might be a Department of Health issue 'cause you don't want to store stuff and if you give it out, somebody gets sick and there's too much liability and risk with doing that yeah. So, but anyway, but thanks for all you folks do. Thank you, Madam Chair.

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you, Mr. Molina. Ms. Kama?

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you, Chair. So, the Red Cross manages all of the County shelters in time of activation. So, it doesn't mean that all of the shelters, just certain ones get activated dependent upon where the calamity might be occurring, yeah. So, does Red Cross have enough capacity to do that, all of that?

MS. CARROLL: So far, but we know that if we have something really major hit the County, any volunteer program, there will be shortages, especially because many of the volunteers are going to be affected by the disaster and just will not be available. What does tend to happen, especially if we have something large heading our way, we've seen this and in fact I have deployed out to Florida as a Red Cross volunteer to man shelters there for Hurricane Irma two years ago. Red Cross will try to bring volunteers in ahead of the impact as much as possible to meet our sheltering staffing needs. But there are moments where we probably will be short of shelter staff. We have discussed and there are many complications to this, we have discussed the possibility of training

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County employees as Red Cross shelters; however, there are many moving pieces such as background checks and et cetera, et cetera, that have kind of gotten in the way of really acting on this. But we are constantly trying to jump ahead and figure out before we have something major. Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: So, I was looking also at other community entities besides the County and how we partner with other communities that might have some type of shelter-type thing for like I know Iao Parkside has their little ole thing and then up there at Waiehu Terrace and the disabilities, they have their little ole community centers. But, you know, for whatever, so...oh, do we talk to those communities and are we talking to them about what potential need we might have for usage of that? Such as Upcountry they got the...Hawaiian Homes they have their community center out there, then Paukukalo has one out there. So, are we talking with those communities too as some type...maybe at some point in time in terms of activation?

MS. CARROLL: Absolutely. I know that the Red Cross does work a lot with communities such as church communities. There are a few churches that have been designated by the Red Cross as shelters. Most of those types of shelters will not be managed by Red Cross, it'll be managed by the church. And most of those are also intended for their congregation and the needs. I think it is an ongoing issue that I know Red Cross is constantly talking to outside communities. There is a program that has been developed by State Emergency Management called Hawaiian Hazards and Resilience Program. And what this is it is they reach into communities and have communities develop their own plans for a smaller group of people. They've done fairly well with it on Oahu. We did start a HHARP program on West Maui which has so far not completed the program. Also recently they began working with South Maui community. And I...the program has just started so they're probably discussing hazards and all that. It's about a 12-to-18-month program to where a community can write and develop a plan to sustain themselves in the event of a major disaster.

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: I was just going to say that while that's really nice for West Maui and South Maui, but that still leaves Central wide open and I just get concerned about that. But highly touristed areas, so thank you, Chair, for that. And thank you for your presentation.

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. I guess we're all getting the idea that Emergency Management has a huge job. Not only...I mean this is about public, right, County parks but you're starting to talk about public...private which I'm sure you'll get pulled into that discussion and it's not part of today's agenda but it certainly is part of the total concern. Tamara Paltin, you have one last question?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Yeah, thanks. Kind of going off of Member Molina's, what he was saying about the amenities and stuff. In the Lane fire when folks tried to drop off coolers to the shelter, they weren't allowed except for a small cooler for medicines that needed to be refrigerated. And I was wondering if Red Cross doesn't allow the coolers

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and the food, if the Parks are okay with the coolers and the food to be just left on the parks outside? 'Cause, you know, our west side community and all our Maui community is so awesome that when they see people that need stuff, they just come, you know. Had police officers like standing in the smoke all day and guys cruising by on ATVs handing out waters and stuff like that. And I know that Red Cross has strict rules and it's for health purposes and food handling purposes. But, you know, Kihei Ice donated their ice chest cooler when we were running Waiola as a center, a hub, and the restaurants would come and just fill the freezer up with food for people to take ready-to-made...make foods. And if Red Cross doesn't allow that, I was wondering if the Parks were open to having that be a possibility. If folks come and bring coolers, if they're not allowed inside of the shelter, if they're allowed outside as a distribution type of place. All the folks up and down Lahainaluna Road without electricity, it's a centralized location already that they can come and grab ice or whatever folks are willing to bring out there.

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: Ms. Peters?

MS. PETERS: Thank you. That's a great question. So, we would have to circle up with Emergency Management and find out and maybe even Corporation Counsel on what the liability would be if we would do that. I'm not sure what...

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And maybe, you know, like the different levels if it's just straight ice and not food, is that okay? Or if it's, you know, a restaurant, food from a certified kitchen, is that okay? Like what is the lines that we are and not are...are and are not able to cross?

MS. PETERS: Chair?

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yes?

MS. PETERS: Yeah, so that's something we would definitely be working with Emergency Management to identify the criteria. So, in the...depending on the emergency and the location, what we would be able to safely provide on donated products or food.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you.

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay, thank you. So, Members, any other questions? Seeing none, so I'm going to defer this item so that Mr. Hokama can bring it back. Oh, Mr. Kushi, you want...you have anything to say about this before I defer it? Okay. So, thank you very much, Emergency Management, to come here in force, appreciate your input. A very important part of what's important for the community and we see it every time we see a fire or rain, we think oh they're all in the EOC and we need a bigger one, right, is the problem. But thank you. I'm going to defer this item, Members.

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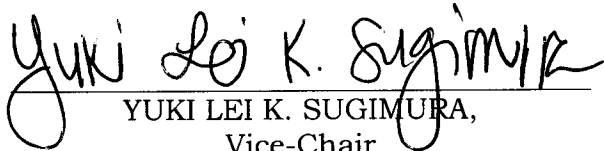
**COUNCILMEMBERS VOICED NO OBJECTIONS.** (Excused: RH, KK, KRF)

**ACTION: DEFER PENDING FURTHER DISCUSSION.**

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you very much for being here. This concludes my meeting. It's now three o'clock on December 19<sup>th</sup>. Healthy Communities meeting is now adjourned. . . .*(gavel)*. . .

**ADJOURN:** 3:00 p.m.

APPROVED:



YUKI LEI K. SUGIMURA,  
Vice-Chair  
Healthy Families and Communities  
Committee

hfc:min:1901219:ds

Transcribed by: Daniel Schoenbeck

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CERTIFICATE

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

DATED the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of January, 2020, in Kula, Hawaii



Daniel Schoenbeck