

# **ENVIRONMENTAL, AGRICULTURAL, AND CULTURAL PRESERVATION COMMITTEE**

**Council of the County of Maui**

## **MINUTES**

**June 2, 2020**

**Online Only Via BlueJeans**

**CONVENE:** 1:34 p.m.

**PRESENT:** VOTING MEMBERS:

Councilmember Shane M. Sinenci, Chair  
Councilmember Tasha Kama, Vice-Chair  
Councilmember Kelly Takaya King (in 1:48 p.m.)  
Councilmember Alice L. Lee  
Councilmember Michael J. Molina (in 1:40 p.m.)  
Councilmember Tamara Paltin  
Councilmember Yuki Lei K. Sugimura

NON-VOTING MEMBER:

Councilmember Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez

**STAFF:**

Kasie Apo Takayama, Legislative Analyst  
Alison Stewart, Legislative Analyst  
Nicole Siegel, Legislative Analyst  
David Raatz, Supervising Legislative Attorney  
James Forrest, Legislative Attorney  
Richard Mitchell, Legislative Attorney  
Clarita Balala, Committee Secretary  
Lenora Dineen, Council Services Assistant Clerk  
Jean Pokipala, Council Services Assistant Clerk

Christi Keliikoa, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Tamara Paltin  
Gina Flammer, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Shane M. Sinenci  
Lei Kama Sickels, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Tasha Kama  
Kate Griffiths, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Kelly Takaya King  
Sarah Pajimola, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Keani N.W.  
Rawlins-Fernandez

**ADMIN.:**

Richelle Thomson, First Deputy Corporation Counsel, Department of the  
Corporation Counsel  
Stephanie Chen, Deputy Corporation Counsel, Department of the Corporation  
Counsel  
Sandy Baz, Managing Director, Department of Management, Office of the Mayor

**OTHERS:**

Noelani Ahia  
Priscilla Kalani Holokai, Maui District Health Office, State of Hawaii

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Ross Higashi, Deputy Director of Airports, Department of Transportation, State of Hawaii  
Kamana Beamer, Associate Professor of Hawaiian Studies, University of Hawaii at Manoa  
Dr. Scott Miscovich, President and Founder, Premier Medical Group Hawaii  
Dr. Lorrin Pang, Maui District Health Office, State of Hawaii  
Others (2)

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

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CHAIR SINENCI:   ...*(gavel)*... Aloha, everybody and welcome to the Environmental, Agricultural, and Cultural Preservation Committee meeting. It's Tuesday, June 2<sup>nd</sup> at 1:34 in the afternoon. I'm Shane Sinenci, your Committee Chair. So before we begin, I'd like to first ask that everyone silence their cell phones before we begin. Thank you. For general introductions today, our Committee Members we have Committee Vice-Chair Tasha Kama. Welcome.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Good afternoon, Chair.

CHAIR SINENCI: Good afternoon. Aloha. We have Councilmember Yuki Lei Sugimura. Welcome.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Good afternoon.

CHAIR SINENCI: Good afternoon. Next we have Councilmember Tamara Paltin. Tamara, you're muted. Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Aloha.

CHAIR SINENCI: Aloha. Thanks for being here.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Kakou mai...

CHAIR SINENCI: Ae`o. We're also waiting on Members Kelly King and I don't see Mike yet. Those are the two we're waiting on, and we also have Council Chair Alice Lee. Welcome, Chair Lee.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Mr. Chair, as they say in Japan, they say aloha in Japan, they say konnichiwa.

CHAIR SINENCI: Konnichiwa. And also it looks like we have non-voting Committee Member, Council Vice-Chair Keani Rawlins-Fernandez. Thanks for joining us today.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aloha auinala, mai Molokai e nui ahi`na.

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CHAIR SINENCI: Ae`o. Aloha auinala. Today for the Administration, we have Managing Director Sandy Baz, and we're not sure who's joining us --

MR. BAZ: Good morning, everybody.

CHAIR SINENCI: --from Corporation...aloha, Sandy. Thanks for being here. I don't know if we have either Ms. Thomson or Ms. Chen representing Corporation Counsel. I see Ms. Chen. Thank you for joining us. Our guests today on the panel, we have Dr. Scott Miscovich, President and founder of the Premier Medical Group Hawaii. We have Mr. Ross Higashi, Deputy Director of Airports, State of Hawaii, Department of Transportation. We have Dr. Lorrin Pang, Maui District Health Office, State of Hawaii. And we also have Dr. Kamana Beamer, Associate Professor of Hawaiian Studies at the University of Hawaii at Manoa. Staff, our essential workers, we have Kasie Apo Takayama, Alison Stewart, Nicole Siegel, Ms. Clarita Balala, Lei Dineen, Jean Pokipala, and Mr. James Forrest. So, welcome everybody. Today, we have EACP-45, the Effects of the Coronavirus Pandemic. So, I'll go to Ms. Apo Takayama if we have any testifiers.

MS. APO TAKAYAMA: Chair, currently we have one testifier, Noelani Ahia.

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay, so I guess I'll read the...for testimony, let's begin with public testimony. Oral testimony via phone or teleconference will be accepted. Testifiers wanting to provide video testimony should have joined the online meeting via the BlueJeans meeting link as noted on today's agenda. Testifiers wanting to provide audio testimony should have participated via phone conference by dialing 1-408-915-6290, entering meeting code 840 546 502, also noted on today's agenda. Written testimony is highly encouraged by sending our comments...your comments to [eacp.committee@mauicounty.us](mailto:eacp.committee@mauicounty.us). Oral testimony is limited to three minutes per item. If you are still testifying beyond that time, I'll kindly ask you to complete your testimony. When testifying please state your name. If you're testifying on behalf of any organization or any paid lobbyist, please inform the Committee. Please be mindful of the use of chat during the meeting. Chat should not be used to provide testimony or chat with other testifiers. If you are here to provide testimony, please be courteous to others by turning off your video and muting your microphone while waiting for your turn to testify. Participants who wish to view the meeting only without providing testimony can view the live cablecast on *Akaku* Channel 53. You can also visit [mauicounty.us/agendas](http://mauicounty.us/agendas) to access the live and archived meeting videos. Remind Committee Members, Administration, and the public to please be patient as we...if we run into technical issues. So, Members, I'd like to proceed with oral testimony. Staff, go ahead and call the first testifier, the only testifier.

MS. APO TAKAYAMA: Chair, the first testifier is Noelani Ahia.

CHAIR SINENCI: Aloha, Ms. Ahia.

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**. . . BEGIN PUBLIC TESTIMONY . . .**

MS. AHIA: Aloha, Council. Can you hear me?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yes.

CHAIR SINENCI: Ae.

MS. AHIA: Aloha. Actually, I wasn't planning to testify, I just wanted to listen into the meeting. But since I...since my name was called I figure I'll say something real quick. You know when we're looking at the world events right now from this pandemic and we're looking at the racial...how do I even say it...the white supremacy that is at the root of America's system that we've been under for 100 and...almost 130 years, the imperialism, the colonialism. These structures have kept people across the world oppressed, and we have this unique opportunity right now to rethink how we want to move forward to redesign or even to look backwards into our history at things that worked for us that were value based, that were aina based. You know he alii ka aina; he kauwa ke kanaka, that is the value of our people and that is the value of our place, and I feel like when we're having these conversations going forward when we're talking about how to rebalance after COVID, I think we're looking at rebalancing more than just COVID, we're looking at rebalancing back to where it's pono, back to where it's taking care of our aina, taking care of our ohana. You know even on the continent with all the struggles that are going on, the beauty of what's going on is you see communities coming together to take care of each other. You see people coming together to feed each other, to help each other, to house each other. And this was my experience at the mauna, spending eight months on the mauna. The thing that will make a community go forward is the community, it's the people and the relationships that we build and how we aloha each other. So, just keeping in mind as we have these conversations, how can we center aloha aina, how can we center our values and our relationship to the land and our community. So, that is all. Mahalo nui. Thank you for this opportunity.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mahalo, Ms. Ahia, for your testimony. Members, you have any clarification questions of the testifier? Seeing none, thanks for being here or hang out with us for the rest of the meeting. Did I address Member Sugimura? I did? Okay. Okay, Ms. Apo Takayama, call the next testifier.

MS. APO TAKAYAMA: Chair, there's no further individuals signed up to testify.

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay, Members, are there any objections to receiving written testimony into the record?

COUNCILMEMBERS: No objections.

CHAIR SINENCI: Thank you. And if there are no objections, I will now close public testimony.

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COUNCILMEMBERS: No objections.

CHAIR SINENCI: Thank you, Members. Okay, great.

**. . . END OF PUBLIC TESTIMONY . . .**

**EACP-45        EFFECTS OF THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC (CC 20-211)**

CHAIR SINENCI: So, today we have EACP-45, Effects of the Coronavirus Pandemic. So, the Committee is in receipt of County Communication 20-211, from the Council Chair, requesting the matter relating to legislation and discussion on the effects of the coronavirus pandemic and related issues be placed on the agenda of the Environmental, Agricultural, and Cultural Preservation Committee. The Committee may receive presentations, discuss the matter relating to the effects of the Coronavirus pandemic on Maui County's environment, agriculture, and culture, including visitor impacts, food security, and other related matters. So, for today, Members, in light of the County beginning to open up businesses and eventually hotels and eventually schools, we wanted to dedicate another meeting to asking pertinent questions of our local doctors, health professional staff. Our office continues to receive questions about what is allowed and what is not allowed, and so getting the correct information out to our residents will be an important course to navigate during this transitional time. So again, we've had...we've invited some panelists that wanted to come and share some manao with you as well as our constituents. So, again, we did say we had Director Baz, Dr. Scott Miscovich, Mr. Ross Higashi, Dr. Kamana Beamer, and Dr. Lorrin Pang. So, we wanted to take them out of order. It looks like Mr. Higashi has a two o'clock meeting so if there are no objections from the other panelists...go ahead and unmute you.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: I'm sure they don't object.

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay, thank you, Chair. I'll go ahead and...okay, I see Member Mike Molina. I would like to welcome him to the meeting.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Thank you very much, Chair. My apologies to you and my colleagues for my being tardy, and thank you and looking forward to a very spirited discussion on this matter. Thank you.

CHAIR SINENCI: Thank you for being here. Okay, so I've just unmuted Mr. Higashi. Ross, are you there?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: He look like he's still muted though.

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay, you might have to unmute...oh, okay. You might have to unmute yourself on your end. Staff, did somebody else mute him?

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MS. APO TAKAYAMA: Chair, on our end he's unmuted. Oh, I think he just unmuted himself.

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay, go ahead.

MR. HIGASHI: Sorry, you guys using one different technology. So anyway, nice to meet all of you guys. My name is Ross Higashi, I'm the Deputy Director for the Airports Division. Hi everybody. Just a little bit background before I speak. I've been with the Airports Division for a little over 30 years, and I was in more, focused more on the finance side of the house. But for the last six years under the Ige Administration, for about six months under the Abercrombie Administration, so it's been a whirlwind, especially in the last nine weeks. But I was going to have the other mayor...Marvin Moniz call in as well, I figured that maybe I should call him, because I have...based on the questions I think, you know, he's more operational and as we move forward I wanted to share some information with you folks. And thank you for letting me go first. I got a kind of important meeting at two o'clock as a result of yesterday's announcement by the Governor to open up interisland travel or to eliminate or get rid of the 14-day quarantine for interisland travel. As we know, everything started about nine weeks ago and it felt like about nine months ago, but again we're trying to do our best here at the airport as far as making sure that we contain the virus as best we can. So, what is the envision or what do we envision for the COVID-19 pandemic in Hawaii as we begin to open up the State? So what...I can only share with you what we do here at the airport. What we're doing at the airport is we are expediting the use of a camera system, a thermal camera system here. Right now we got basically the National Guard...let me go through the assembly line. We have the National Guard, they do an actual thermal scan or temperature scan for fever. Then you go to a next station within the airport system or the assembly line, and what they do is they will make you fill out or make sure you fill out this travel declaration form. And then the next stop is to fill out the order for quarantine. And then the final stop, they check the information on the order for quarantine to make sure that information is all accurate and your travel declaration form is all accurate by either calling up the place of quarantine, calling up the resident place of quarantine, wherever you're going to plan to stay. The whole premise behind it is to make sure that we have information for law enforcement and so that they can do the checks and balances on these passengers that should be, being quarantined for 14 days. Now as a result of yesterday's lift of the interisland quarantine, things are changing. So, I want to go into the phase of what happens next. So, it's going to be more of a health screening type process. So, we're going to check some...ask a lot of questions related to health. So, what's really happening now is that the form is being developed by the Department of Health, and also a lot of the checks and balances will be performed also by the Department of Health. So, the Department of Health is now going to be taking over this process of the form itself, and then we're developing an app, an application so that you have real-time information utilizing a digitized travel declaration form, health screening form that will go into a system so that County officials are able to trace and follow up on the passengers. Now, the new norm as we get out of...lift the quarantine on

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CONUS which means continental US and also international passengers, we're going to be relying on this temperature screening equipment. And from there, there's a health form that will be filled out. So, I'm working with the Department of Health on this kind of transitional process to have them take over. As to what they want to...information that they need for contract tracing, that's something that I'm talking to them, because I don't want to see all these long lines in the airport and, you know, we want people to come back into traveling to Hawaii and have that experience, we don't want them staying in the hold rooms for, you know, two or three hours, just trying to get out to their destination. So, that's something that we need to work on. As far as working with the visitor industry, I've been working closely with the airlines, I've been working closely with the rent-a-car agencies. As far as hotels, not much with the hotels, that's more for the Hawaii Tourism Association. And we are planning based on the numbers that I've seen from our State Economist, we're looking for 2021 to be approximately weighted average 50 percent of traffic which was back in 2019. So back in 2019, we had a total of about 37 million passengers flow through our airport system. So, we're looking at about half of that. So as you know, we rely on airport revenues, airlines revenues, and concession revenues. So, there is some issues that we have, luckily the airport received 133.4 million from the CARES Act, and so we're using that as well to keep our system going. There was another question about the flight crews, the airports being monitored, and what kind of safety precautions are being taken. Everybody gets screened as they come off a continental US flight, and should you want to go and try to sneak and go to say an interisland flight, you will be have to...you will have to fill out another form should that be the case. So, there are checks and balances. And to be clear with you folks, right now we're trying to get a digitized system so that the real-time information can be shared with the counties, especially the neighbor islands so that as soon as a passenger comes off from a continental US or an international traffic destination, we have that information readily available to check up on these visitors that come to visit us. Again we don't want to be...we don't want to profile people, you know, it's, it could be a mainland visitor, it could be our own coming back from college or whatever it is that they need to do 14-day quarantine. One of the questions is what if say August 15<sup>th</sup> is the day of the continental US lift. Well, if you were away and you were coming back from vacation, you're still going to have to do your 14-day quarantine. So, whatever day the Governor decides as the date that we would lift the continental US and international traffic 14-day quarantine, it all depends on that date, and then you have to still...if it happens before that date, you're still going to have to do your 14-day quarantine. I wanted to share some very interesting stories, probably more amusing than anything else. We had a couple travelers that...and I think somebody mentioned earlier about the George Floyd situation on the mainland, actually we had one passenger that came over and said that he's here on travel, he had no place to stay, he said I want...I don't mind going to jail because it's safer here than in say Seattle or wherever he came from. And it's kind of interesting because he said it's safer to be there, rather stay in jail, but the next day he decided to go back. So, there's this thing called the VASH Program where the Hawaii Tourism Association put in I think about 25 or 30,000 into a community pot so that it could be used to send travelers back if they decide...or they have no place to stay in Hawaii. There was some talks about

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homeless people being sent over and using this program as well, that's not true. What's happening is we've been...there's a lot of homeless that comes to the airport and it takes a lot of manpower for us to sanitize areas that they sit on, they touch, whatnot. So, we've been calling the counties and telling them if they can remove them from our airport because of the fact that takes a lot of time to sanitize our airports as well. One interesting and this whole system with this 14-day quarantine, this is kind of interesting where we had a traveler that came here, and he said hey, you know what, I don't mind going to jail and he stayed in jail for 14 days and on the 15<sup>th</sup> day he was released and guess what, he passed the 14-day quarantine. So, there's all these little holes that we have in our system that I wanted to share with you. And I've been on, you know, with the Senate COVID Committee here in Honolulu, they had a lot of questions for what's going on. But I going be very truthful with you guys that it's been a whirlwind of trying to fill holes. Any time you have a self-quarantine-type system, when you use the word self-quarantine it's very difficult. There's a lot of ways that the travelers are going to try and beat the system. But I think we've filled most of the pukas as best as we can and I think we can see that. And for us or what I tell staff is look at the numbers, knock on wood, we don't want to jinx our self but, you know, it's been in the one to three mostly, maybe at four at most positive results lately and yesterday 'cause yesterday I think was at zero. So, that's kind of what I wanted to share with you. What's moving forward again is we're going to be one of its kind in the United States, I think what we want to do is provide some kind of other tool or to make it more comfortable for the traveling public to come to Hawaii. Again, we're going to have a thermal camera, thermal scanning system that will automatically detect travelers when they come right off the gate to see if they have a fever. From there if they have a fever then we're going to offer them a swab test right there and then like Dr. Miscovich has been doing all across our State. But that's where we're going to again, you know, try to stop the virus from spreading as soon as they come off the plane and get some kind of testing going there. As far as those, the assembly line that I spoke to you folks about, about all the forms and everything that needs to be turned in and verified, that's something to me that somehow, someday needs to be eliminated because of the fact that we want to make sure that our travelers come in through the airport don't have to be there for like four or three hours to get vetted.

CHAIR SINENCI: Ross?

MR. HIGASHI: Yes?

CHAIR SINENCI: I know you have to leave but I wanted to get in a couple questions from the Members --

MR. HIGASHI: Sure.

CHAIR SINENCI: --before you had to take off.

MR. HIGASHI: Sure, I've been rambling on, go ahead.



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CHAIR SINENCI: Okay. Well, thank you. Before I do, I wanted to recognize Member King, welcome to the meeting.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Thank you, Chair. Sorry I got to the meeting late.

CHAIR SINENCI: Yeah, you got it. And then I did want to go ahead and designate our panelists as resource persons pursuant to 18(A) of the Rules of the Council if there are no objections?

COUNCILMEMBERS: No objections.

CHAIR SINENCI: Thank you. So, anybody had any questions for Mr. Higashi? Member Kama?

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Thank you, Chair. So, Mr. Higashi, you know, before COVID they would tell you, you have to go to the airport at least two hours prior to check-in.

MR. HIGASHI: Yes.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: And now that you have almost sounds like an extensive process, how...what is the length of that process and how long...how much more earlier do we have to get to the airport before we can actually get to the gate?

MR. HIGASHI: That's a good question. It all depends on how much traffic we got coming back to the airport. Right now it's...there's not really much of a wait. If it comes back to...you know what, I...what I've been telling people is I'll be happy to have that kind of a problem, because I'm crossing my fingers that the travel, the traffic comes back as soon as possible. Right now as far as going outbound, we do have the interisland check and balance right now, but one step of that will be eliminated is the order for quarantine because we lifted the 14-day quarantine. So, basically it's a temperature check and also the travel declaration form and health form that will be implemented on June 16. Right now, we got just the travel declaration form with a whole bunch of questions that went through about ten iterations. So, right now Mondays, construction Mondays we call that, about 5:30 to 6:00, 7 o'clock, it gets really busy with about 400 construction workers trying to get to the neighbor islands. That's a good question. I would say right now should travel come back and we still have this kind of testing going on, I would say probably it's going to add at least an hour, maybe two hours to the process. But again, if we can somehow come up with other screening processes that can be digitized or somehow, you know, increase the speed of getting processed with the Department of Health, I think that would help. But again, all of this was a knee-jerk reaction, first of its kind. So, yeah, I'm thinking one to two hours in addition to the two hours that you need to be here in advance, possibly three hours, four hours.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: I like BlueJeans. Thank you for being here. Thank you, Chair.

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MR. HIGASHI: But again, that's just, I'm just throwing that out right, because if we do the temperature screening coming off the plane and not going on the plane, then really it's just about, more about information on health information for the Department of Health. And I do have a call with them, I do have some questions about contact tracing, 'cause as you folks know contract tracing will be...start from where they get, you know, detected with COVID-19. So, they say they go to a clinic, from there they got to go back from the origination date from whenever they came here. So, to me it's not only checking at the airport of information of at the airport providing all this information, but whoever does the contact tracing for Department of Health would have to go to Zippy's, they would have to go to XYZ Health Club, wherever they went within the last seven days and Dr. Miscovich probably knows all about that kind of information on contract tracing. So, I'm kind of wondering if you want to put all this emphasis all at the airport and yet, you know, we gotta deal with the long lines coming off a plane on an inbound flight. So, I think you spoke more about the outbound flight where you gotta, after that you gotta go through TSA as well. So, I'm just saying that I think if you came late and the line was very long, probably at least an hour that you would add to the normal wait time, but that's a guess.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Thank you.

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay, we...

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SINENCI: We have one more question from Chair Lee, then Member Sugimura, if you can take a couple.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Thank you.

MR. HIGASHI: Sure.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Mr. Higashi, you mentioned earlier that in 2019, we had 37 million passengers go through the airport and that the goal is 50 percent. On what are you basing that 50 percent, like 18 million?

MR. HIGASHI: Good question. So, DBEDT or the State Economist provided information so as soon as they open up travel to the continental US, we're looking at about a 25 percent increase. Then you're going to see a gradual increase to June of 2021 which you're looking at about 70 to 75 percent return. So, if you take the weighted average of 25 and 75 throughout Fiscal Year '21, we're on a June 30<sup>th</sup> yearend, you're looking at about a weighted average of about 50 percent.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay. So, the other question I had is that would you consider perhaps a note from a doctor, an official note from a doctor that, yeah, that you are, you know, that you're cleared physically and you don't have the virus? Because it's almost the same as showing a driver's license and, you know, that screening is not all

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that accurate. Because my understanding is a lot of people don't have a fever and still have the virus.

MR. HIGASHI: Exactly. Exactly. So, let me just compare it to one airport that I know of that is accepting that is Alaska. So, if you took the virus test three days before and you were negative, they will let you basically sail right through their system into Alaska. I know the...and Dr. Miscovich I know that he can attest to this. I mean I could take the test today and my flight is three days from now, I could be negative, but I could go out and say hey everybody I'm going to go to Hawaii, I'm going to have a good time and I bump into all these people that might be positive and then all of a sudden I'm sitting on a beach three or four days later and I'm going I feel kind of sick, I gotta go to see Dr. Miscovich and I get a positive result. So, that's the kind of situation where the health officials have reservations for allowing that kind of test to go through. So again, this is going to be more of a DOH-type program moving forward. It was more of a law enforcement situation for the last nine weeks. So yeah, that is not --

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Thank you.

MR. HIGASHI: --something that...

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Thank you.

MR. HIGASHI: Yeah. Anyway, I think I answered your question. Yeah, go ahead. And there's one more.

CHAIR SINENCI: Yeah, we had a question from...

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Yeah, thank you very much, Mr. Higashi. I was going to ask you about the, about your calculations of the number of visitors you expect back and Ms. Lee asked you that question. So, I know you have to run, I just want to tell you that I agree that Marvin Moniz is like the mayor of the airport over here on Maui.

MR. HIGASHI: He is.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: He does a super good job.

MR. HIGASHI: Definitely, yeah. Yeah, he's --

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Yeah, he's like...

MR. HIGASHI: --right on, he's spot on. He's very passionate about his job.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: He really is. Yeah.

MR. HIGASHI: One last thing that I wanted to share with you guys is a four-letter word and it's spelled R-I-S-K. I think at some point, you know, there's a balance to all of this,

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right, I mean at some point we got to open up our economy because our tourism industry is suffocating as we know. And if you talk to Peter Ingram the President of Hawaiian Airlines he will tell you the same thing. So, at some point we gotta get back on our feet and start opening up and take some risks, but we take some educated health risks and moving forward. So again, thank you and I'm so happy to have met all of you folks. One day when I am able to travel to Maui, I'll tell Marvin to take me around and meet all of you guys one day.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mr. Higashi, we have one more Member wanted to sneak in a quick question. Member Molina?

MR. HIGASHI: By all means. By all means.

CHAIR SINENCI: Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Thank you, Mr. Higashi. And really wish you could stay longer 'cause a lot of great interesting information. So, you know, I'm one of those that, you know, like to go holoholo and patronize the ninth island if you know which state I'm talking about. Great museums and restaurants.

MR. HIGASHI: Roger that.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: And I think...are you in coordination with the visitor industry? I guess this is a universal to alert travelers that you're going to have an additional wait time no matter where you're going to go? And on interisland flights is there going to be a big difference in wait time going interisland and versus to the mainland? And if you know what that wait time difference could be?

MR. HIGASHI: I see an additional wait time for interisland right now because of that...the situation that we have, we opened up the, we lifted the 14-day quarantine. For mainland travel though I don't see...we don't test passengers going on the outbound but we test them on the inbound. So, there's no really delay on the outbound for CONUS or international passengers. But on the inbound is where I do have a lot of concerns and that's where I'm going to bring it up in my two o'clock meeting this afternoon with my EOC, because right now we got maybe between 1,000 to 1,400 passengers coming in Statewide, and when you have multiple flights coming in at the same time, let me tell you, I've been out there, it's like a logjam and we cannot...I mean if you're pro-tourism, we cannot deal with that kind of logjam because it's going to really irritate the traveling public into Hawaii and, you know, it's a first and last impression and it's going to put a bad taste in their mouth coming here from the mainland. So for me if I had my way, I would actually make those that need to fill out the form that get a positive hit from the thermal scanning equipment. So, if you get a positive hit or you have positive...you have fever, then you got to fill out this form because it's going to help contact tracing. But as far as contact tracing, you know, if seven days later you get fever and you're diagnosed with COVID-19, to me what should happen is from there, they do the contact tracing all the way back to the

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airport. Then they're going to ask the guy what is your itinerary, when did you come in? I came in flight number two from Hawaiian Airlines seven days ago so then you can go back and the airlines will check to see who was sitting around that individual. That is what contact tracing would be about and so you find out who...contact these people and ask them hey, how you feel? So, I kind of want to be reasonable.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Okay, thank you.

MR. HIGASHI: Yeah. Anyway, thanks, yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Appreciate the responses. Mahalo, Mr. Higashi.

MR. HIGASHI: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

MR. HIGASHI: You got it.

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay, thank you, Member Molina. Hey, thank you, Mr. Higashi, for being here and for your flexibility. We'll let you go. Mahalo again.

MR. HIGASHI: And then if you guys want an update later on, I'm more than willing to in your next meeting.

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay, thank you.

MR. HIGASHI: Yeah.

CHAIR SINENCI: Thank you for that offer.

MR. HIGASHI: Aloha. Okay.

CHAIR SINENCI: Aloha.

MR. HIGASHI: Aloha. I'm ending the call. Thank you.

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay. Okay, Members, so thank you for being flexible. So, did you guys want to take just some opening remarks from the rest of our panel and then ask questions of all of them? Would you rather have that? Okay. That said, so next we're going to go to Dr. Miscovich, if he can come and just say some opening remarks.

MR. MISCOVICH: Hi, everybody. Can you hear me?

CHAIR SINENCI: We can hear you.

MR. MISCOVICH: Hello? Okay, hi.

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CHAIR SINENCI: And you want to go ahead and...okay, there you are.

MR. MISCOVICH: Okay. Hi, everybody. Thanks for having me and it's actually been an honor for me and my group to be over on Maui helping everyone. So, it's been a great experience. And again, the thing that separates what we do with a lot of other processes is we have the great opportunity to be face to face with all the citizens of Maui, you know, because our screening is face to face. And I've been there as well as my staff and, you know, I think we've tested almost 40-50 percent of all the tests that were done. But a couple comments, I know we're moving forward to try to reopen, and I followed closely the comments that were going on. I am being asked numerous times in different ways of how do we look at opening up travel? And, you know, one of the things...I totally agree with what you did you say, Chair, but I still believe that when we open up broad travel to the mainland, we're going to want to have a test done at least two to three days prior to arrival. It's not perfect and but it...but that would speed it up. I mean to think that we're going to be able to queue people in line to test them on arrival is probably not practical. And then if you really look at mitigating the risk and I know I've been getting some pushback when I'm talking in the different scenarios of other leadership, you would want a second test a week later from the original test. If you would get that, you're now going to have reduced the risk that this person is positive. Everybody is correct to understand thermal screening is very limited in what it's going to do. It's a...it is necessary, I agree with it. It's another piece of the risk containment, but it is not going to catch everyone. Same thing with the paper forms that we're going to fill out asking about their history, et cetera. Those, you know, are only as good as what the person is writing on that form at that time. So, pre-arrival testing will be key and it has to be a validated test. There are many tests available and in the medical field we understand that many tests are the gold standard that we could, you know, trust our family's health on and the risk that we would have. And then there are other tests which are not valid. So, we will have to mandate that. I came out with something and this is due to talking now to many of the employers. I'm working with hotels, employers, unions on advising them on how to reopen, and I called some, the consensus that I'd like to just drop to everyone here and I think you'll understand. I'm recommending we keep the bar high because I wrote something that said that right now we are practically the safest place on earth and that is not an overstatement. There are very few places that could say what we have in our data. And as we open tourism, I believe that people are going to seek this out, that we need to rebrand our self as being safe. And to do that we are then going to be able to attract people who are seeking that. So, if people are afraid to get tested, maybe this isn't the right place for them. But I think we're going to find that we're going to be able to be one of a kind where people can come and feel a little more relaxed knowing that everyone is safe. So, I could talk to you all for probably about three days, but I'll just start with that and see what kind of questions you have.

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay, thank you, Mister...Dr. Miscovich. And next we're going to go to, we have Dr. Kamana Beamer for some opening comments. Let me go ahead and unmute him. Kamana, you...

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MR. BEAMER: Yeah. Okay. Yeah, noted. Aloha mai kakou. Can you guys hear me? Great.

CHAIR SINENCI: Hi.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aloha.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Maika'i.

MR. BEAMER: Aloha. Yeah, mahalo. Really appreciate the chance to talk story with you folks and also truthfully want to thank you. I feel like Maui nui and Maui County has been a significant leader in our islands in many critical issues, and you guys have been at the forefront of things around culture and environment and agriculture issues and wai. So, have deep respect for you folks' work and commitment. You know, Chair, would you like me...so I put together some slides, would you like me to go through those slides now?

CHAIR SINENCI: Sure. Members, no objections for Dr. Beamer to share his screen?

COUNCILMEMBERS: No objections.

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay, you can share your screen.

MR. BEAMER: Okay, I'm going to try that. It's my first time. I've worn blue jeans before but never done this application. So, I going try click the share screen and let's see what happens. Can you guys...

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Nice.

MR. BEAMER: Can you see my...

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Nice.

MR. BEAMER: It's showing? Okay.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Yeah.

MR. BEAMER: Okay. So, let me just try to get this to be full screen then.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Yeah.

MR. BEAMER: Okay. So, real quick --

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Wow.

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MR. BEAMER: --I'll kind of go through these slides. So, I was asked, you know, coming out of COVID thinking about the, you know, the ways that Hawaii can adapt on issues, you know, to protect our environment and economy. So, I'll be presenting on these two sort of concepts, one that we're very familiar with I think here in Hawaii on aloha aina and another one on circular economies. And, you know, I've been doing some work with my colleagues in Germany for about the past six years so I want to thank them. Dr. Axel Tuma here is in the middle, he's become a good friend and trusted colleague. But we met about six, seven years ago and then, you know, I started going to Germany and they started coming here and been working on this kind of synthesis of aloha aina and circular economies. So, I think we're all fairly...and I appreciate, you know, the doctor's comments and comments about opening up our airports. I mean, you know, the balance of keeping our islands safe and also knowing that, you know, we need meaningful work and livable wages for our people is really critical. And this is kind of one image that I thought really shocked me was, you know, this is Aloha Stadium with all the rent-a-cars, yeah. So, in the midst of the shutdown, just to give us a scale of the impact just of, you know, our carbon footprint just on one of our islands. But I think what I'd like in this presentation is to suggest that yeah, this crisis is also an opportunity, you know, to rethink and to reshape our economy. There's a, you know, the famous quote by Lao Tzu, if you don't change direction, you end up where you're heading. And even before COVID we, you know, you folks started to adapt your economies and support organic agriculture and these other things knowing that, you know, we need more food security with the impending crisis that's coming with climate change and then we're already experiencing now. So, what is a circular economy? It's funny, when I first told it to a friend of mine about seven years ago, he said oh, no mean we going in one circle yeah, like we gotta go somewhere. But actually that is the concept is, you know, all across the EU in Europe, they're transitioning from what I'll explain is a linear economy to a circular economy. And so, there's some key aspects of what a circular economy are. We want the economy to be regenerative and equitable. So, we want it to, you know, support...we want to turn waste into resource, and then we want the economic system as a whole to be more equitable across, you know, the many and not just the few. The goal of a circular economy is really to decouple economic growth from environmental degradation. And basically what that means is, you know, we want jobs but we want to mitigate climate change. You know we don't want to harm our environment and mother earth, some people might say, while getting jobs. We want meaningful work while rejuvenating the environment. And one of the key aspects in doing this is to try to keep materials and resources in the economy for as long as possible, about preserving their value. And ultimately, you know, the idea is that waste is really...we can design out waste if we rethink our economy. So, I'll show us kind of some examples. So, here's an example of the linear economy. The metaphors we use are take, make, and waste or take, make, and dispose, right. So, you know, if we think about a flat screen TV, many of us probably have those. You know I was a kid, still had the TV antenna I had to move for my grandparents, you know, to walk up and turn the dial, never have remote control, but nowadays everybody has a flat screen TV. And so, how is it produced? Well, you mine resources probably somewhere in the world, you pay labor, probably the least amount as possible, likely you're degrading the environment at some place.



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And then you get that flat screen TV, you produce it, and the company makes it profit. And what becomes of that product after is really someone else's problem, right. I hang it on my wall, hopefully it lasts a couple years, but as we've all known, we have to replace these products often and where do they end up, they end up in a landfill and the company really isn't responsible for that waste. And so, if you take that philosophy and basically you multiply it to everything that has been produced in this economy, you can see how it's brought our world, you know, to this crisis with climate change. So, the idea then is how do you make that entire process not linear but circular, and I'm going to show you guys some examples of that. With my colleagues in Germany they have these things they call the blue and the green loop. And so, the blue loop is really focused on things that we manufacture and that we produce. So, some of the key strategies are, you know, to prolong, to share. We've sort of seen this already with like car sharing in Hawaii, right, maybe like in the last three years, it's become more possible where some companies, you know, you don't own a car but you sort of share it. So, you can utilize it for a few hours, you pay a fee, and that actually overall a car is something that depends on what island, but in many cases if you live in a city for instance it sits, you know, 85 percent of the time. So, that's like something you can rethink. Other items, they want to repair, reuse, redistribute. I think many of this, you know, just the two generations ago was real familiar. I had my uncles always bought cars they could work on and fix and keep as long as possible. So, it's kind of going back to some of those older strategies. And then the green loops are really about, you know, farming and the production of energy where we can follow and utilize, you know, the natural cycles. And real quick, let me see if this works. I wanted to show you, this is a short video, you know, it's like three minutes but I think it describes the concepts of circular economies really well. And I'm...let me make sure you folks can hear it is going to be only the trick here. I'm going to disconnect. Okay, can you just let me know if you folks can hear this?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER (from video): In the living world there's no landfill...around for a few billion years and will be around for many more. In the living world there's no landfill. Instead, materials flow. One species' waste is another's food. Energy is provided by the sun, things grow, then die, and nutrients return to the soil safely. And...

CHAIR SINENCI: We can't see the screen.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER (from video): Yet as humans we've adopted a linear approach.

MR. BEAMER: Oh, I'm sorry. You cannot see the screen?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER (from video): We take, we make, and we dispose.

MR. BEAMER: Shoot.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER (from video): A new phone comes out so we...

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MR. BEAMER: Okay, let me see. You know what I'll do, I'll send you folks the, maybe the link in the chat, and then you guys can kind of...will be able to see it that way. Maybe that'll be better. Sorry, I'm not good with this BlueJeans. I've had to get really on it with Zoom lately. But let me jump then back into my presentation and I'll just describe it to you folks. So, the basic idea of a circular economy is, you know, is essentially just like natural systems, our planet has survived for a millennia right, because everything in the natural world, you know, you take a seed, it becomes a tree, you know, produces leaves, it falls down and eventually becomes soil. My body here, you know, I'm talking to you folks now, but yeah, 200 years from now, my body breaks down and is soil as well. It's really only the last 200 years that through manufacturing we've developed this linear model. And I think, you know, probably if we could go back, we might have rethought it then. But there's this opportunity now to redesign and to make things be regenerative in our existing economies. And so, I'll send you guys the link and that's just a fun little video you can see. But the important part is that these circular economies are happening all across the world. These aren't conceptual. And in fact in Europe the EU recently passed a circular economy action plan. It's one of the key strategies. You know they invested 750 billion euros towards COVID recovery. And here's what parts of that plan says. You know the EU needs to accelerate the transition towards a regenerative growth model that gives back to the planet more than it takes, advance towards keeping its resource consumption within planetary boundaries, and therefore strive to reduce its consumption footprint and double its circular material use rate in the coming decade. And they also see this, you know, again this isn't about jobs versus the environment, it's actually a real opportunity to create new jobs. And so, they say this progressive yet irreversible transition to a sustainable economic system is an indispensable part of the new EU industrial strategy. A recent study estimates that applying circular economy principles across the EU economy has the potential to increase EU GDP by an additional, you know, .5 percent by 2030 creating around 700,000 new jobs. And so, that's all across the EU. Even small municipalities and cities have adopted circular economy strategies and so this is one that I wanted to highlight to you folks. It's coming from Amsterdam which is, you know, largely a...formerly a tourist-based economy, but coming out of COVID they're rethinking their strategies. And so, here's some, you know, simple goals that they've kind of placed out in their circular strategy around food and organic waste, you know, to create short food chain supplies and a robust sustainable food system, high quality processing of organic waste. They have some goals around consumer goods and the built environment, just as some examples for you folks to see and think about at the County level. So, the question really is, you know, knowing that this happening all around the world and, you know, it's a little new in Hawaii, I think a little new in the US as well. But the idea is instead of take, make, waste, right, and we can think about all the products that come into our islands, how do we reshape the model and utilize, you know, our own value system and set to do this. So, with aloha aina, you know, we came up with this, instead of take, make, waste, it's kind of like give, take, rejuvenate. We know, you go talk to all the fishermen and farmers, you know, they go hanai the fish before they harvest, right, I mean that's a key thing. And then that relationship is really about rejuvenating that natural system together. So, we want to try to create a more circular

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system. And if I go back to my colleague, you know, many, many miles away. When I first started to present on aloha aina and some of our strategies for producing food from, you know, the connectivity of loi and loko ia for instance, you know, he was so struck. And I remember he said this thing, this aloha aina can help to save the world. So, bridging circular economies and aloha aina is, you know, is at least in Europe they see it as an opportunity. And I think we are familiar with what aloha aina is about, it's about living and recognizing our ancestor relationships through our lands and resources. It's about caring and loving that which feeds us. And, you know, it's about bringing closer this, you know, our social and cultural systems with our natural world and environment. I think there's some principles that you guys can utilize, you know, in the County and already are that, you know, come from ancestral principles and values. You know our ahupuaa was this land management system that actualized aloha aina. It was both a geographical and political division that often extends into the ocean. And so, it provided resources, you know, for people all across mauka to makai, you know, and it created, you know, government had certain responsibilities but people were empowered. There was a balance of community leadership and even authority, right, over resources and then how they would be shared amongst the community. And I think that's an important thing that we should think about is, you know, empowering the community as well as having, you know, boundaries and limits and lines of authority. Also, when we think about aloha aina, this is really important work, it comes from Dr. Natalie Kurashima, a good friend of mine. You know she went and looked at our ancestral agricultural systems, and what she found was, you know, using only 6 percent of the lands, you know, that are kind of highlighted here, just that small footprint our ancestors were able to produce enough food to support about 86 percent of the population of Hawaii today. So, really remarkable. Today, agriculture uses about, you know, four times as much land and it only produces about 13 percent of the food we consume. And so, the opportunity though here is Hawaii has changed a lot since, you know, the 1700s for sure, but she also found that 71 percent of the lands used for ancestral agriculture remain undeveloped today. So, there is this real opportunity to utilize our ancestral knowledge systems to rejuvenate food. And then this is almost counter intuitive 'cause I think we think of ourselves as modern today, but ancestor agriculture is actually far more efficient than conventional agriculture and it's more climate resilient according to her work. You know coming out of COVID, I think these ideas are being, you know, grappled with and taken up by the community. Recently, you know, there was a group formed this aina aloha economic futures declaration. I think some of...I know some of your County Councilmembers signed on as well as I think the Mayor of Maui. And, you know, this group is trying to create this collective process to think about how we utilize our ancestral values and global best practices, you know, to come out of COVID with a new economy that works better for the many and not the few. So, that's also something you folks can look into. Here's the website, [ainaalohafutures.com](http://ainaalohafutures.com), would love to have your participants and constituents offer manao. And lastly, you know, it's kind of like a short story, you know, as we rebuild, this is an image that comes from Heeia Fishpond on Oahu, one of my good friends Kelii Kotubetey who works there, and Hiilei who are leaders there got this to me. And this is an image of the makaha which is essentially the veins of the loko ia, you know, it dictates, you now, with the tide

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when the water flows in and, you know, brings in fresh, you know, cold water from the outside and nutrient rich that brings the ia to come to gather and then vice versa when it goes out and you collect the pua and it comes in. But this was a grate that they had, you know, a long time ago they put together, it was a fiberglass gate and it worked pretty well. You know a few people could grab it and take it out, but, you know, over time when they thought about what they should recreate, eventually, you know, they put together this whole gathering, 2,000-plus people, you know, they built a brand new makaha. This one takes I think like Kelii said maybe seven guys to carry and to take out. But if we think about it, you know, it really rebuilds the community as well. So, think about all of the things that this economic system is providing as, you know, it's food, there's opportunity for profit, you know, and production of fish. But you're also restoring, you know, the health and well-being and pride of an entire community while you're doing this. So, I think these are part of the issues that, you know, your folks' County can think about when we're coming out of this COVID crisis. And, you know, I think all indicators are, you know, even as we do open up tourism and be as safe as we can as possible, we really have to look local, you know, to rejuvenate our economy. So, I think there's a lot of opportunities for you folks. And that's it, I can take any questions after.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mahalo, Dr. Beamer. And then so you'll...you can hang around a little while for questions, Dr. Beamer?

MR. BEAMER: Yes, no problem.

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay. All right, thank you. Next, Members, we have Dr. Lorrin Pang. Dr. Pang, provide us some...

MR. PANG: Okay. I just want to make a couple comments on the two previous speakers. First of all, I agree with Scott Mischovich. The current way of screening incoming people from overseas will miss a lot of people. They have to hit that window where you have a fever, some guys never have fever, some guys never have illness. So, it gives you a false sense of security and it's a lot of work. And then that's...it's a lot of work for missing so many people. So, his idea is to get a legitimate test from a legitimate doctor before they come. Fine. If you want to add on to that once they come in 'cause we know where they're staying, we ask them some screening questions and if need be we'll do a second test or we'll automatically do a second test. Fine. They do one test, we do one test. That's fair. Now, how many tests would we have to do? Well, every time you see an overseas arrival, you gotta do a test. Whoa, whoa, whoa, that's a lot of tests. Or maybe after time we will learn gee, we don't have to do all of them, just the ones who have these illnesses or these symptoms. But we interview them by phone, they're not plugging up the airport trying to figure out who's what, where. That's the overseas people coming in. Well, including returning residents, fine. But our local people interisland we shouldn't have to...if you have a clean group, you can travel within it pretty well. Well, why do we screen the interisland people so much? First, we had the 14-day quarantine but now we screen. Because the overseas guys, they still come and it is a small number and you don't want to be racist about it, it's

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just not racist, they're coming from infected places that never got cleaned up. In fact, they're getting worse. So, when they come in and have the tendency to infect our own local interisland travel, well then I guess we gotta screen the interisland travelers. And you know this real well what DOT didn't quite say, yeah. Okay, let's take it slow. A guy comes in, comes in from the mainland, California, and he has the 14-day quarantine still on him. Fine. He comes through Oahu to Maui, right. Where does he get screened on arrival to Maui? He gets screened in Maui, not in Oahu, not in Oahu. Fine. We pick 'em off in Oahu where his departure point is. My daughter she's coming interisland from Honolulu to Maui, she rides that same flight. She never came from overseas but just riding the flight puts her at risk and puts every other person on that interisland link at risk, because you had a guy who wasn't picked off or screened till he came to Maui. Now, if Scott's position is correct, he at least had a previous PCR test within three days before he came. We can watch him carefully. If he needs, I'll give him another PCR test and I'll then...if he's positive 'cause you missed him on the first test, I'll notify everybody on his flight interisland or not, including my daughter, you are truly exposed. Time to, you know, go away from society for 14 days. Now, that's what I wanted to say about Dr. Miscovich. I agree with him, it's just a question of how complete and comprehensive do you want to be. Well, how bad can these things spread? Real badly. Half of them are even asymptomatic, oh wow. So, it's better to have them commit, get a test there, and if need be we'll get a second one here. It's better to do that because the interisland people there'll be so much traffic that you have to keep them from being infected. Now, I wanted to make a couple comments just general, it seems a little bit I'm outside my lane about what Dr. Beamer said. Okay, how's our economy? Well, we seem to be okay but how long can we last? We need some outside money here. So, outside money is going to come from tourism, okay, maybe not so much. It can come from the military. They come to Hawaii, they move here, they spend outside money. It can come from retirees from say Illinois or something, they're on their pension, that's Illinois money being saved, spent here, so that's outside money. All right. Is that our options? Can't we just grow some stuff, concierge chocolate and send it to San Francisco? That's outside money. Well, wait, wait, whoa, whoa. I think what Dr. Beamer was saying, let's before we figure out outside money, let's try to be...he calls it circular, I call it self-sufficient. Okay. Everything we do here, as much as we can, starting with our food, we feed ourselves. And everything involved in that food, fertilizer, pesticide, whatever, you produce on island. You know I'm against pesticides, I'm even against the ones that have to be imported because when the shutdown comes, when the pollution in China says this pesticide is too much, stop making it, then Hawaii can't buy it. Then it's got to be shipped. So, whatever you make, fertilizer, pesticide for your crop, make sure you can do it on island or islands and it's self-sufficient, it's circular. What else? You know your products that you grow here, well let's try to feed ourselves first. Why? Why can't I make concierge coffee and enter the niche market in New York, because just like the macadamia nuts, the world market collapsed in macadamia nuts because Brazil came on the market and we couldn't sell our macadamia nuts. Do not depend on an overseas market. That's part of self-sufficiency right? So, he calls it circular, I call it self-sufficient. It is a misnomer or misleading to call it sustainable. Oh, what's wrong with calling it sustainable? Well, let's say that I grow mac nuts and I sell it in

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San Francisco forever and I get pesticides to spray my mac nuts. It's coming from China forever. That's sustainable, it's just not self-sufficient. I do not like depending on "sustainable markets" external to Hawaii, sustainable imports external to Hawaii. That's not self-sufficient. Now, it's nice if your self-sufficient is also sustainable, but we'll give...we'll aim to that. But for all means let's get this going here. And now I'll tie it back to COVID for you. The COVID people, who gets the sickest besides elderly? All the guys with underlying diseases, the diabetes, the hypertension, the overweight. Even without a diagnosis of Type 2 diabetes overweight, you're at risk for COVID. Okay. So, how are you going to tie this together, Dr. Pang? Well, you know, the CDC pushed fruits and vegetables, and I don't know about you but I gotta have my starch man. My father said until I get my rice I just haven't eaten. Well, God smiles on us. All...now this is strange, all the mainland starches, potato, wheat in the form of bread or pasta and rice, that's what they call hyperglycemic, that's low-fiber carbs and that leads, I think there's no question, I know Dr. Miscovich will agree with me, hey, you may as well eat sugar because the stuff is converted, and that is the source of our Type 2 diabetes, where all the third-world people, Pacific islands are very prone to that, but God smiled on us. The starches that we can grow on island, kalo, uala, the sweet potato, you know, 40 varieties, ulu, and then I have adopted because they're not Hawaiian but this is the only thing I can grow, plantains and cassava, manioc. But our Pacific islanders who stay here they love, you know, so we exchange recipes. All the starches you can grow are high fiber, they're very protective, very protective against type what...Type 2 diabetes, the underlying issue of obesity. So, if we're going to go to the, whatever, the circular economy, the self-sustaining one, by all means let's grow our own food and let's start with the starches, because I don't feel like I ate until I ate my starch. Yes, we can do vegetables and fruits, that's fine, I'll do the mango, somebody else grow the starch and we'll trade. In my scenario you feed ourselves first, and I always include Oahu, yeah, I include shipping to Oahu. That's...they're not going to collapse and cut us off because they're importing from somewhere else. And I mean thank God, neighbor islands got land and water. And so, it's like a Statewide system, okay. Self-sufficient starting with high-fiber carbohydrates. Okay. If you get extra, I guess we could feed animals, animal feed, you know, pigs, raise pigs.

CHAIR SINENCI: Did we lose Dr. Pang? Okay, we're going to go, Members, until he gets back we've got one more presentation from Director Baz. If Director Baz is...unmute yourself, Mr. Baz. Dr. Pang, we'll come back to you.

MR. PANG: Okay.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mr. Baz? I know he was on another BlueJeans meeting but he was...he wanted to come on and give a presentation.

MS. APO TAKAYAMA: Chair, I can give him a call and then I'll let you know.

MR. BAZ: I, oh, I'm here, sorry, hold on.

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay.

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MR. BAZ: Hi, everybody. Apologize. I'm multitasking multi-meetings here. So...

CHAIR SINENCI: Thanks for being with us. Go ahead.

MR. BAZ: Sure. So, I'm not quite sure what you'd like to discuss. I think Staff had mentioned the coordination and collaboration between the County and other agencies so I can talk about that. How long opening remarks did you want me to provide?

CHAIR SINENCI: Couple minutes. As we move towards opening up businesses and moving towards hotels, eventually schools, what are some of the precautions that the Administration is taking, particularly in this transitional time as we move from stay-at-home to now slowly opening up. Is there anything that the Administration --

MR. BAZ: Right, right.

CHAIR SINENCI: --can share with us?

MR. BAZ: Yeah, so officially the Governor put us in an act with care stage. So, if you've been following the Governor's different stages, that's the one that basically almost everything is open or allowed to be open, and the Mayor decided to allow for generally everything in that act with care. I don't have any slides prepared but that act with care section to be able to open up with a lot of restrictions. So, if you go to [mauicounty.gov/covid19](http://mauicounty.gov/covid19), we do have the Mayor's rules as effective on May 26 and those are...so there's guidance in there for specific businesses as you've heard like hotel and restaurants have, you know, certain guidelines they have to follow, hair, nail salons, other personal services like masseuse, aestheticians, and tattoo have to follow certain guidelines. Golf courses and, you know, other things have to follow certain guidelines. But if there's no specific guidance provided, everybody has to follow what's in the rules as rule number five which is about distancing, it's about wearing masks, about hygiene, sanitation, you know, all of those kind of things. And that's something that we, you know, so we've put into place. Businesses that want to open have to follow those specific rules. We've gotten a lot of good feedback. There's a lot of businesses that have not opened yet even though they are eligible to be opened. They've decided that they need to prepare better, or there's some other factors that they're evaluating to be able to prepare them for opening. So, that's something that, you know, we've been in contact with the different businesses on. We have some guidance as far as health determinants. As we move forward in opening and as you heard from previous discussion about the airports being...well, the interisland travel no longer being required to be quarantined, you know, that's going to be one of the next big factors to evaluate. If cases start to increase, you know, we have certain factors that we look at to determine whether or not we should continue the open economy that we have or if we need to tighten things back down again to restrict any spread if it starts to balloon up. So, those are the kind of things that we are evaluating as we move forward. We do have meetings with the Governor, the other four mayors every Monday, Wednesday, Friday, leadership discussions. We have a

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meeting with...Hawaii Emergency Management Agency leads an emergency operations briefing every Monday, Wednesday, Friday as well. That's, you know, with HIEMA, the State Department of Health, you know, with Bruce Anderson and Sarah Park, you've heard on TV and things. Governor, Lieutenant Governor, all the four mayors, all the different agencies and emergency service functions, they have different branches that basically provide different support to this emergency operation. And each one of them provides updates and discussion topics. We also have meetings three times a week with Hawaii Army National Guard that's based on Maui, the colonel that's here, as well as MPD chiefs, and our Airports District Manager to talk about the different issues that we have with public safety and also the opening of the airports and things that we're doing with screening, that kind of stuff. The branches that we have in our emergency management...emergency operations center also meet on a regular basis. We have like VOAD, they're volunteers...Volunteer [sic] Organizations Aiding [sic] in Disaster. They are activated to be able to assist with food distribution, things like that. We're also preparing as we get into the hurricane season which started yesterday, to be able to organize and deal with if we have issues, how to deal with them from an emergency standpoint as well. Sheltering if required, those kind of things. And, you know, a real big piece of it is this is really a joint effort, kind of a new thing for us. Emergency Management generally manages if there's a disaster, fire, you know, hurricane, those kind of things, but because this is a pandemic, Department of Health at the State level but also on Maui is very coordinated. So, we have a joint meeting, leadership meeting between Dr. Pang, our Emergency Management Officer Herman Andaya and myself, as well as the rest of our team every week to be able to discuss objectives and priorities and where we have coordinated efforts to make sure that we're doing the best job that we can for our people. So, I hope that was a decent briefing and I can answer questions if we have any. Thank you.

CHAIR SINENCI: Thank you. Thank you, Director Baz. Are you here to...can you hang out a little bit and field some questions from the Members?

MR. BAZ: Yeah. I can hang out. Thank you.

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay, Members, we'll go ahead and do our round robin starting with Member Kama. And I guess we have all our panel, panelists here to answer any of your questions. So, three minutes, Committee Chair Kama.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Thank you, Chair. So, I just wanted to see if the presentations that were given, I think Dr. Beamer gave a presentation and he had the film, if he could send that on to the Committee, can send it on to us.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mr. Beamer? Dr. Beamer?

MR. BEAMER: Yes, I'm here. It says my...oh, there we go. So, I shared it and I'm happy to share. I'm not sure how...what the process is but that PDF, you folks feel free to utilize and there's a few links in there you can visit also. Yeah.



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VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Okay.

MS. APO TAKAYAMA: Chair?

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Okay, okay. Okay, thank you, Chair. That's all the questions I have --

MS. APO TAKAYAMA: The presentation is also...

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: --for now.

CHAIR SINENCI: Kasie?

MS. APO TAKAYAMA: Sorry, the presentation is also available on Granicus.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Thank you.

CHAIR SINENCI: Thank you. Thank you, Member Kama. Next we'll go to Member Sugimura for any questions. Please unmute.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you, Chair. Thanks for putting together, it's very interesting having great minds kind of all contributing to this big problem we have. I'm just wondering, I agree I would love to have the shots [sic] or, you know, before a person...three days before you get on a flight, I think this is...and as well as when they get here, just to make sure. And I wonder how much this all costs. I mean how much does it cost to have, you know, that covered or who pays for it? And...

CHAIR SINENCI: Director Baz, would you like to take that question?

MR. BAZ: So, you wanted to do testing like prior to arrival?

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Prior to and then when they get here. I'm curious of what the cost is to do all these thoughts or, you know, just to check.

MR. BAZ: Maybe...yeah, Dr. Miscovich can probably talk better with, about cost. But the...yeah, I mean I can't answer that question. It's going to be a policy-based issue. You know it...my personal opinion is that it should be borne onto the traveler. If they want to travel to Hawaii, then that's just part of the cost they have to incur. If you look at your...the itemized plane ticket you have now, if you go to the mainland or wherever, there's a TSA fee that's along with your airplane ticket now. So, I can imagine that being borne by the actual traveler itself. But cost-wise, maybe Dr. Miscovich if he could answer.

MR. MISCOVICH: Yeah, I could give you some pretty good answers for that. Can everybody hear me?

CHAIR SINENCI: Yes, we can hear you.

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MR. MISCOVICH: Okay. Well, basically with COVID we are now far enough along that capitalism is alive and well, and so what's happening across the country and across the world then we are basically seeing that the price points for that testing is going down. Right now if you get a standard PCR test it is at the Medicare rate is about 100 to \$110 for a PCR test. That's the gold standard, it goes in the nose. But we are now approaching where there's another testing option coming out that may go down as low as \$30 and that actually will be a little bit quicker. So, I'm guessing as we go on, the answer to that question will change probably almost monthly if not more quickly that you will be able to get that down to...I'm guessing it's fair to say by the time we open to international/national travelers, sub \$50.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you. That sounds like a business opportunity. But I agree that we need to have testing done on both ends that you suggested. Thank you.

MR. MISCOVICH: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you very much. Appreciate you being here.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mahalo, Member Sugimura. Next we have Member Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. I just wanted to thank you for putting together this panel. I'm a big fan of all of our speakers. I think you guys should run the world. My question is, you know, I agree with the things and the concerns raised by Dr. Pang, and if we did run the world, then we wouldn't have the intermingling of CONUS or those outside-of-Hawaii travelers mingling with the interisland travelers and we wouldn't be opening up before we're ready. And we could have the...keep the destination as one of the...keep the reputation as one of the safest destinations in the world. But it seems like that is not within our control at the County level or at the State level, and given that we don't have the final say on that to make our borders as safe as possible then what is your recommendation? We just wait for another outbreak and then we shut down again?

CHAIR SINENCI: Dr. Miscovich?

MR. MISCOVICH: Boy, no, I don't. That's the, I believe that's the last thing we want to do. To think that we're going to have another outbreak that's going to threaten our families and the residents and to think that economically we could survive another outbreak, that's why, you know, I've been working with also our Federal legislators to really try to push them to make some type of exemption. Because let's face it, we're Hawaii, we are not Omaha, Nebraska. You know we have a difference for the way we could be treated and what can happen. And, you know, I just think we need to stand our ground that people are either going to get tested three days before they come in or they're going to have to quarantine. And I know we can quarantine at every level, at every island, at every county level. But, you know, I think if we hold our ground, we're

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going to be able to do...have the best of both worlds. We still will have occasional cluster, but we do not want to go back and open up again. So, we're going to have to hold our ground and test and I still believe three days before, two to three days before followed by another seven days and then welcome to safety. So, we have to maintain.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Please keep us informed in whatever way that we can provide support or help to push that forward.

MR. MISCOVICH: Sure.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SINENCI: Thank you, Member Paltin.

MR. PANG: I have a comment.

CHAIR SINENCI: Oh, go ahead, Dr. Pang.

MR. PANG: Yes. Just to support what Dr. Miscovich says. If it's an economic thing, people want this for economic reasons, for the travel agencies have to help bit, and the receiving hotel has to help --

MR. MISCOVICH: Yeah.

MR. PANG: --you know, pay for and make sure we can find the follow-up. And the traveler will like it because we don't bog you down at the airport doing all these things which probably missed it in the first place. So, that seems mean, I can only travel to Hawaii if I go through a travel agency. I'm sorry, but you're asking for the high-end traveler. And, you know, just to balance it off with what Dr. Beamer said, at one time we were pushing local produce and the hotels long ago said no, it's so variable because, you know, like we might have uala, we might not. Well, I'm sorry but that's not true nowadays. The restaurants and the hotels for the visitors, they, all they put is fruit in season, vegetable in season, and I'm asking them to put starch in season. We will diversify, there won't be starch all, at the same kind all the time, but I guarantee you from my wife's cooking and my eating we can make any of these high-fiber starch locally grown very palatable, very attractive, and probably the reason for coming here. Thank you.

CHAIR SINENCI: Thank you, Dr. Pang. Next we have Member Lee and then Member King.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay. Dr. Miscovich, you touched on this but I just wanted to ask you again, you talked about, you know, working toward preventing or suppressing or reducing a flare-up, but seeing what's happening on the mainland with many, many massive crowds taking the streets without social distancing, and these are the very ones to come to Hawaii to visit with the cheap tickets. What do you think is going to happen as a result of this new phenomena?

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MR. MISCOVICH: That's...boy, you nailed it. I completely concur with you that that's another exclamation point of why we need testing prior to arrival, because you can look and we have what, 20-some states who still have increased numbers of cases that are going on, that they don't take it seriously. They've opened up prematurely. They haven't suffered like we have as Hawaii. Think about our residents, we followed the guidelines, we've stayed in our homes, we've social distanced. The people of Hawaii shouldn't have to suffer for the people who didn't do it on the mainland. So, I agree with you completely and that's why, you know, one of the things we talked about and has been bantered about is looking at other countries perhaps who are being more responsible with lower disease rates and having a little more of an open-door policy with those countries. But I still am very concerned about most areas maybe short of Alaska, Wyoming, and maybe Montana, but short of Alaska I'm very concerned about right now to open up our State. Even with the recent protests it's even more concerning. And the thing I would say to the Council is this is going to be a very fluid situation. You know we will have to watch with the recent events and the recent protests, we may have clusters in some of these big cities that are going to be just mind boggling. There's a big change right there again, right?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Thank you, doctor. Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Chair, you're muted.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Oh, that's 'cause I'm done.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: No, no, I'm talking about Shane. Shane was talking but he's muted.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: With Shane, oh.

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay, thank you. Go ahead, Member King.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay, thank you. Thanks for asking one of my questions, Member Lee. But, you know, I've been...I keep hearing, you know, concern about inconvenience and, you know, people are going to have this bad experience. But then on the other hand, if we're going to market ourselves, especially Maui as the safest place on earth, we have to keep these stringent, you know, these processes in place; otherwise, we're not going to be the safest. So, I see this as sort of the same thing what's happening with the environment is that, you know, on the one hand we had all these environmental things happening, on the other hand we're trying to market ourselves as the most environmental place on earth. So, there needs to be a balance of our processes and our strictness in some of these in order to keep that ability to market. So, do you see that balance happening? I mean do you see that willingness to limit ourselves to a lower level of tourism? I know we were talking about maybe just 50 percent that we're expecting, but are we willing to diversify our economy to do the other things and a lot of things that Dr. Beamer talked about bringing in agriculture

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and maybe technology and energy and all these other things so that we don't have to rely on tourism so much. But the tourism that's here can be regulated so that we keep that reputation and we keep the wonderful things about Maui we're trying to keep. Is there like an effort to balance all these things off against each other? I don't know who can answer that best but...

MR. BAZ: I can take a stab at it.

CHAIR SINENCI: Dr. Beamer?

MR. BEAMER: Sure. Yeah. I think that's exactly what we have to do, you know, is we have to...I mean we've been talking about diversifying our economy, you know, probably before I was born I think in Hawaii. But COVID has really made, you know, it absolutely clear how fragile our situation is and how important it is to have a local food system, you know, diversified economy.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Do you think that with COVID we're actually going to get to the point where we can start taking action and doing something about...

MR. BEAMER: Well, so we have over 800 individuals and organizations that have signed on to this declaration that are going through a process to essentially come up with very concrete proposals on how we're going to address these issues. One simple one that I could give, you know, immediately. So, in Germany they passed a law and they said all power companies have to buy back power from anyone that produces it, and they passed that law about 30 years ago. And they set a rate that the power companies have to buy it back at, and what you had was a whole bunch of innovation. Small community groups diversifying their energy systems, putting up PV panels, developing biogas generators, rethinking the way they interacted with their cattle so they could use the methane, and you had all this innovation. A simple policy change like that. In the midst of COVID with everything else shutting down, everybody is still paying for power right now. Now, if communities were regenerating a little bit of their own power and the companies had to buy it back, everyone would be a little bit safer. You know so there's some very simple policy shifts that we can look to in other places in the world I think to make this happen.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay, thank you. And are you talking about, when you were talking about people signing on, you were talking about the alohaainafutures.com [sic] projects?

MR. BEAMER: Yes, ainaalohafutures.com, if you go on to the website.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Oh, I...

MR. BEAMER: Yeah. And there's a whole action agenda that the community has developed and will be working on having actually online working sessions to develop these proposals. Sorry, Chair.

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COUNCILMEMBER KING: Thank you so much. And thank you to all of you for being here, it's been...it's a great conversation we're having.

MR. BAZ: Chair, if I can add to that?

CHAIR SINENCI: Go ahead, Mr. Baz.

MR. BAZ: So yes, the County is going to be participating and signing on with the same declaration. We think that's a very good way for us to move forward. Part of that proposal if you remember from the CARES Act funding was really directed towards trying to figure out this new economy, you know, and supporting farmers financially by buying product from them, to be able to support our local community through food distributions so as to promote, you know, agriculture during this time. And then we're looking at different industry research and also job training technologies so that we can help people find careers if they're not able to return to the tourist economy. So, we want to make sure that the workforce is prepared as well. You know this is probably the biggest transition of any . . . *(inaudible)* . . . from, since really Hawaii in the '60s transitioned, you know, from agriculture, a dying-off kind of agriculture where, you know, mass exodus of our population to tourism, and now we've grown and supported that for decades. Now, we're going to have this other I think another mass transition in our economy. So, as a government we're, we need to make...help to facilitate that as much as possible and provide the opportunities and the ability for people to transition as well. So, that's kind of where we're at with some of the CARES Act funding as we mentioned in our written presentation as well. Thank you, Chair.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Thank you. Thank you so much, Sandy.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mahalo, Mr. Baz.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: I'd love to work with you on that for a resolution for the Council as well, we could collaborate on the aina aloha futures project.

CHAIR SINENCI: Thank you. Next we have Member Molina and then Member Rawlins-Fernandez.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Thank you very much, Mr. Chair. First of all, very quickly to Dr. Beamer, thank you that presentation, and I don't know if you've already done so but maybe try to implement those economic concepts on the circular economy into the lower levels in our public schools. 'Cause, you know, the whole point is just to educate the young as much as possible from, you know, fourth grade on up or even kindergarten, so I think those are some wonderful concepts to teach the young as to look at this form of economics in the future. My question for first Dr. Miscovich, you know, that statement you made about now we're getting this reputation of being a very safe place. It's good to hear but at the same time it's sort of a double-edge sword. I'm guessing we may see an uptick on residents wanting to move here from the mainland

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or elsewhere to become full-time residents. And Dr. Pang made a comment about retirees from the mainland coming here to Hawaii and possibly if there...some funding can be extracted from them. And I believe Hawaii is one of the few states that do not tax outside, out-of-state pensions. So, I'd just like to get further comment from you Dr. Miscovich and Dr. Pang, as well.

MR. MISCOVICH: I think that's actually a very good idea and, you know, I think, what, was it today or yesterday there was a notice from one of the economists that we may be losing 30, 40, 50,000 people due to this that will be moving. And I think being...taking a much more favorable look looking at retirees because of our safety, that's a great question because you see what I'm looking at. We have an opportunity to be a safe place. We know how beautiful it is and, you know, probably, hopefully our cost of living will be going down a little bit when it comes to cost of housing, et cetera. But I think that's a wonderful idea to reach out to those people and market it. I think we should be marketing this to everyone. Along those lines I will mention some of the things that we do that will require us to really continue to beef up our healthcare system because retirees are going to need continued access to quality healthcare and, you know, we've been a little bit short with the number of providers. So, we're going to have to make sure we parallel that at the same time, but I think it's an excellent idea.

MR. PANG: I want to make a comment that I know some sentiments like hey, look all these rich outsiders coming in. Don't forget some of them are returning residents who tried to make it in Las Vegas, but if their economy collapses, you have returning residents who are elderly who want to come home. That's number one. Number two, I think Dr. Beamer was talking about the shared car. When you're old enough and shouldn't be driving if we can share a car, driverless car with ushers to help doorstep to doorstep. Now, you know, you get it right, you get it's the elderly population we share cars and it drives around taking to the elderly to their social functions. And I think that's a wonderful idea. We could do it small scales on the islands, neighbor islands first. And I, personally I'm spooked by 5G, but with 5G to help driverless cars for the elderly to get them out and about so that they're not stuck at home, I think that one the risk is worth...the bang is worth the buck. We have to look into that. But when it's targeted like that, you know, with its concept in mind. I want to tell you one more thing, when we move to this new economy, self-sustainable and growing things and bringing in these people, you watch, the minute they get a vaccine against COVID-19, oh, that's like we're back in old times. Well, I will make a statement now, yeah, what about COVID-21, 22, 23, 24? So, it's so easy when you get the old vaccine to just turn it like it was before. No. This thing will come back in variations and it may come back more virulent so not, you know, 1 percent dying but 10 percent just like SARS, 15 percent, 35 percent. So, don't lose track of your vision here, because if you don't learn from COVID-19, you sure will from COVID-21 and 22 and 23.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Okay, thank you --

CHAIR SINENCI: Mahalo, Doctor...

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COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: --very much, Dr. Pang and Dr. Miscovich and Dr. Beamer. So, I guess looking long-term, even like you said if that vaccination is found, we should still continue implementing these screening processes as people come in then, yeah? Okay. All right, thank you. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

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

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair.

CHAIR SINENCI: Any questions?

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yes, mahalo. I wanted to first thank all of our panelists for their presentation and for meeting with us today. My first question will be for Dr. Beamer. I had the good fortune of having Dr. Beamer as a professor when I was in law school so aloha ao le au e ike me a oi. So, you know, I love circular economies, and to me circular economies just describes what, you know, wa kahiko, how Hawaiians lived pre-contact. And so, is there a olelo Hawaii concept word to describe circular economy since that's...circular economy actually describes everything that we did?

MR. BEAMER: Yeah, yeah. Well, that's where I'm using aloha aina because I think it really is that ancestral philosophy that set up our ahupuaa system and our economy that was circular. It really was this idea that plans and natural systems, you know, and people are all connected. And, you know, maybe we might, some people might have hard time thinking about at least ancestrally that they're connected. But you can see how that belief system enabled our kupuna to set up, you know, these systems that worked really well for a really long time and stayed as close, you know, to the circles and the environment. So, I think that's where aloha aina, aina aloha really can help us. But that's a great question. I should think, you know, maybe we should think about a translated word or look deeper into it so mahalo for that suggestion.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Dr. Beamer. And then for Pro Temp Kama, I shared the video in chat and then for Member King, I shared the aina aloha declaration in the chat as well for ease of access. And then for my second question is for Dr. Miscovich. Nice to see you, Dr. Miscovich. So, when you're saying...and I guess also for Dr. Pang, 'cause we're talking about testing two to three days prior. Are we assuming that there will be a ten-minute test or, you know, a rapid test that's going to have a high accuracy rate at that point?

MR. MISCOVICH: Well as I said, the capitalism is driving all of these companies to try to develop these tests and equipment, and, you know, all the labs that I do are through Diagnostics or Clinical and they do all the billing and charging for them. And they keep upgrading their machinery. But the, so the answer to your question and my belief is yes, I'm actually waiting right now for a result from a test from Quidel which will be available in less than 15 minutes with mid-90 percent accuracies that can



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produce 30 tests a minute. And so, that's one analyzer that we could use in high volume. So, I again believe and trust that all of the tests, all of the testing that is happening, all the research is happening is driving to that rapid accurate test, but we cannot compromise, we won't compromise. I always use the failsafe of what would I do and trust my family, would I trust that that, you know, that if someone had that test, I would put them in a six-foot distance from my family and I think we need to hold that standard and let the medical professionals make that decision and not be made by the people who are driving the economy. It has to be safety first. But it will be there.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Dr. Miscovich.

MR. MISCOVICH: Good seeing you again by the way.

MR. PANG: What, did you test her on a drive-thru, Scott? Okay. All right.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: No...

MR. MISCOVICH: She was there with us in Molokai when we did our Molokai testing.

MR. PANG: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: I helped to coordinate the drive-thru testing on Molokai.

MR. MISCOVICH: Yeah.

MR. PANG: Okay.

CHAIR SINENCI: Dr. Pang?

MR. PANG: I want an accurate test because we're trying to protect what we deserve, what we did. I want an accurate test. Now, since it's not bottlenecking at the airport, they get it before, and we'll get it sometime after at their hotel, fine. It can be slow, but I would like the result quick. So, an accurate test but kind of...the result turnaround in a day so we send it to Oahu. We ourselves have a test right now 13 minutes, but it cannot run batches, hundreds at a time, it does 13 minutes then the next guy, then the next guy. So, it can't turn over high numbers, okay. So, that one I can use specially to hunt out really weird situations, you know, somebody has to go to the ER, shall they infect the ER, I'll test it like that. But I would rather have accuracy right now. But I believe like Scott Miscovich the market is driving this to get a quick and dirty not so...nasal NP swab is a little irritating, but they're working on cheek smear and saliva. So, one of those with a quick thing, but by all means keep the damn thing accurate so we don't blow away our, what we've deserved and earned so far.

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COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Dr. Pang. And then I just wanted to make a quick clarifying statement before I thank you for my opportunity is I believe that the protests that Chair Lee was referring to earlier were the anti-mask, open-now, liberate-the-states protests and not the black lives matter revolution that's happening right now.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mahalo, Member Rawlins-Fernandez, for that clarification.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair.

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay, Members, so we've...sorry, we've passed our mid-meeting mark, but I just wanted to get your input. I know some of the panelists we just have them for maybe another 20 minutes. Did you guys want to plow through for a second round? Is that okay? All right. Okay, so we'll start up again. I've been fielding some questions as the meeting goes on. For Dr. Miscovich, mahalo from the East Maui residents. A couple of them has been receiving bills for the testing that we did in Hana. And so, was the testing free or were their insurance cards charged for the testing?

DR. MISCOVICH: It's interesting because I was texted by the president of Diagnostics while on this. The idea...that's why insurance cards were collected is that the billing was generated through the, through their insurance for the test itself and the testing procedure itself. Now, our policy as a group is they will never get a bill from us, and the labs are supposed to not be sending out bills to them at all, that they were supposed to be either collecting what the insurance provided per the CARES Act which said that it was 100 percent covered with no copayment. And I also have an agreement with them that if they did not have any insurance, we did not turn them away, and those individuals there is a process where the Federal government allows the labs and healthcare to directly charge for that. So, I would tell them to hold off and not be chasing down any bills for any PCR because it should not be something that they are responsible for.

CHAIR SINENCI: Thank you, doctor. And then the next question we have is for Dr. Pang. Seeing what's happening at the national scale as far as meat processing facilities, would it be prudent to look into the possibility of moving from a USDA oversight of meat poultry processing facilities to a State of Hawaii oversight in an effort to support our local producers and wholesale processing of meat and poultry products? Also, for the safety reasons as well. Dr. Pang? Let me unmute you. Can you unmute yourself?

MR. PANG: Sorry. Okay, I unmuted myself. Okay. Yes, that's correct. Local processing, there would be small scale yeah, 'cause we're selling to anybody, we're feeding ourselves and the tourists. Protein would be fine. The beautiful part about protein on a small scale is that it sure is less infectious. You get, you diversify. There was a nice discussion, a presentation of raising pigs on a small-scale level and I think we should do that. And I think if you say well, what's the biggest headache that makes protein, meat, pork, chickens and all that not self-sufficient, the food. So, if you're going to

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grow starches for our own consumption, you know, the seconds, the waste, the leftovers, just feed the animals. But feed yourselves first, at least it's decent starches. But we should be able to feed the animals and eat the protein. To me I would start with eggs because I do chickens. Okay, thank you.

CHAIR SINENCI: Thank you, Dr. Pang. And then real quick for Director Baz, are, is there any monies set aside at the Administration for homelessness, to address homelessness if there needs to be testing of COVID for homeless, the unsheltered?

MR. BAZ: Sure. So, well, use of the Emergency Fund, we have already supported and thanks to Dr. Miscovich and Minit Medical and others, they've actually done outreach either in the homeless shelters themselves or on the street or in, you know, at the location where the homeless are. And we would continue that if needed for sure, especially as we get closer to, you know, if we get more cases and we do contact tracing and identify any hot areas that we might want to work on, yeah. You know as Dr. Miscovich mentioned, you know, the funding for it would probably be a CARES Act issue. We definitely could cover any costs of that. We have supported him with some of his lodging and other costs while he's on Maui to be able to support our mass testing as well. So, yeah, definitely support the homeless in that area.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mahalo, Mr. Baz. Okay, next so we're going to go around again, second round. Committee Vice-Chair Tasha Kama, for your second round of questions?

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Thank you, Chair. I don't have any questions, but I just want to compliment our presenters. I'm, I've been reading Dr. Beamer's presentation and I've also been looking at his, the alohaainafuture.com [sic], I'm impressed with that. So, I just want to say thank you. Thank you, Chair.

MR. BEAMER: Mahalo. Thank you.

CHAIR SINENCI: Thank you, Member Kama. Next we have Member Sugimura. Is she available? We can circle back to her. Member Paltin, did you have a second round of questions?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Yes, thank you. My second round is for Dr. Beamer. I was really excited--and I never took a class of yours--to hear your presentation. And I love the idea. The part that I have a question about is, you know, with the COVID-19 and Dr. Pang saying, you know, there may be a COVID-20, 21, 20, 30, whatever it is, the idea of reuse and sharing, or sharing cars and things like that. And the other one is that how we're even communicating right now on cell phones and computers, there is some things that aren't circular that we get from outside and I don't think that people would be super willing to give those up 100 percent. And so, I just was wondering how does that factor into the circular economy? Although I'm not trying to like take away from it, I love the circular economy idea but just --

MR. BEAMER: Yeah, no...

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COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: --how do you get those things to work?

MR. BEAMER: Absolutely. Yeah, thank you for that. No, we have to ask all the hard, you know, the hardest questions, 'cause, you know, it's about, you know, the safety and security of our future. So, we got to think through all those issues. So, a couple things I can say. So, there will be...it's not...the idea of a circular economy is not that everything, you know, we make every single thing in Hawaii for ourselves. I think...so electronics, you know, is a good example. Perhaps, but I'll show you, I'll share some things. So, like Apple for instance is starting to adapt a circular economy model. The capitalist economy itself, some producers are already moving and so now you can actually return your iPhone and they're thinking about mining, you know, the elements, the trace elements that are in the iPhone and putting them back into production. So, that's kind of one way that we can do it is like companies themselves adopt circular economy principles and then we're less polluting the environment as a whole. But I think where we can really adapt in Hawaii is, you know, when we link waste and agriculture and energy. And this is stuff that you folks could really help with at the County level. Again, for instance, yeah, we should make it easier to produce local meats and break down, you know, the, some of the red tape I think for our producers to get that into market. And then, you know, if we couple that with an energy policy that allows...that requires, you know, companies to buy back power from the community then we empower our farmers to diversify. So, they're farming cattle, but they're also using the methane for biogas generation and, you know, they're selling energy and producing food. And this is where Europe has been really, really productive in doing this. And then we take the waste from some products and then, you know, we put them back into organic agriculture and production. So, even the tourist economy, it's not we're going to produce everything, you know, here for tourists, but how do we minimize the kinds of waste that comes in, and the waste that does come in how does it go back into production as a resource in another aspect of our economy? Sorry, went a little long.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Chair.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Chair, you're on mute again. Shane.

CHAIR SINENCI: Thanks, Member King. Okay, next we have, Member Lee, you have any more questions?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: No, just a comment. I wanted to thank you, Mr. Chair and to all the panelists. It was very informative to have all of you here. And to Dr. Beamer, I just have one final question. Was Councilmember Keani Rawlins-Fernandez a good student? Or was she kolohe?

MR. BEAMER: I mean of the best that I've ever had. And we can see her leadership, you know, at the Maui County level and Molokai. I mean oh, if I could have ten of Keani's

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I could retire and be happy with my life achievements, but lucky to have one so she's great.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Thank you. We feel the same way about her. Thank you.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mahalo, Member Lee. Okay, next we have Member King and then Member Molina.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Thank you, Chair. So, I just wanted to follow up on... 'cause one... half of my question was asked earlier about what happens with all this extra stuff we're bringing in here that we can't make here. And Maui County used to have a really robust recycling program that we were really proud of, it's dwindled a lot now. So, I would like to see that built back up. Is that part of the program, like, you know, we do things like cardboard, glass, plastic, we're shipping everything off island now, and we used to ship a lot of that stuff to China, but now China doesn't want it. So, with the understanding that a lot of things are still going to be coming in that we can't... that aren't natural waste products that we can't necessarily recycle into the ground. Has there been a movement with the circular economy to expand recycling in these communities and actually be able to do them in the community? 'Cause it's really troubling to me that we're not recycling very much stuff on island anymore.

MR. BEAMER: It is. So, some of the challenges of recycling is the energy it takes to remanufacture right and to break down the raw material. So, a big principle in circular economy is to try to reuse. So, the products that we do get, how can they be refurbished, the waste materials and put back into production? And there are some industries, you know, that... some startups that are now, you know, try to utilize waste, plastic, other materials, and create new products and new things out of them. So, I think that's one kind of niche. Of course, if you're able to make the production of power cheaper through renewables, then it makes it easier to recycle and to get those materials back into production. So, we might have that small scale here in Hawaii as well.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Yeah, I do think we're getting there and I've been involved in waste agriculture to energy for a long time now with the biodiesel project. But what I was just wondering is if we... 'cause I view reuse as recycling as well. Like if we're reusing --

MR. BEAMER: I see.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: --... *(inaudible)*... and those things. And is that part of the circular economy where we can create businesses... we used to have businesses that did a lot of those things and they've kind of dwindled and gone away, because other big businesses were brought in to usurp them. But my thought is that we should be breaking down the resources so that individual business people can bid on parts of it, and they don't have to bid on the entire landfill worth of stuff. So, I just wondered if that was part of... if that was considered in the circular economy is how to...

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MR. BEAMER: Yes. Yes, it is. There's a ton of research and development on this issue specifically. I think at a policy level, you know, just eliminating...when you guys grant a government contract, you know, the producer doesn't, you know, don't let them use plastic products. You know like if they utilize glass and, you know, aluminum then it provides for jobs for dishwashers and other things and it's eliminating waste. I mean there's all kind of small ways. But the idea of remanufacturing plastics and reuse, there's a whole bunch of research that we can look at with circular economies and how to do that. Whether or not it's at the scale for Hawaii, that's what we gotta adapt to. But you're absolutely right...

COUNCILMEMBER KING: We used to have some of those mandates and one of them was glass, crushed glass was supposed to go into paving material, and somehow that went away so our glass recycler on Maui just stopped, you know, doing that, just stopped recycling glass. So, I've just seen this diminished, diminishing returns, and I'd like to get it back up to...so I was just hoping that's part of this, what the circular economy is about, because I'd really love to get involved in, more involved in that.

MR. BEAMER: Yes, we could use the help. A lot of zero waste...zero waste initiatives are key for circular economies. And that's where if you guys look at that Amsterdam and some of the EU plans, you can see how they're thinking about it there.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Thank you.

MR. BEAMER: But thank you, great questions.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Thank you, Member King. Next we have Member Molina, second round of questioning.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: All right, thank you, Mr. Chairman. Dr. Beamer, again thank you for your presentation and I know with your counterpart from Germany with the whole circular economy concepts. You know what . . . *(inaudible)* . . . just came to mind right now, this past weekend we had the launching of the public-private partnership of Elon Musk and NASA, and in a newscast, they're emphasizing how those booster rockets and the capsule can be reusable. So, I thought that was kind of an interesting...of course whatever reason, I don't know if it really parallels what your concepts regarding circular economics are. But how far along is, for example, Germany and other European countries implementing this concept of circular economics and compared to us or just the whole United States in general?

MR. BEAMER: I mean I don't mean to sound mean or crude, but when I first visited Germany and I saw...I visited this place Wildpoldsried. So, it's a small village, it's like 2,000 people and they're producing 500 percent more energy than they consume. And they use way more energy than we use in Hawaii 'cause they gotta heat, you know, they gotta do all these things. And I thought I was in another planet. I couldn't believe how far ahead they were than we are here. So, the community is making over

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100 percent rate of return on their initial investment. You know they got together, they knew power companies had to buy back power, they invested, they bought 12, you know, they have wind farms, they have PV panels on all their barns, they collect the methane. And the farmers are doing way better now, because, you know, farming is a hard industry right, I mean sometimes you lose a crop, something happens, but they're able to subsidize with producing energy. So, Europe is very far ahead on these issues and I think there's a lot that we can learn from them and borrow. And then I think no one's doing it perfect yet. Copenhagen, you know, is, if you go to Denmark they're doing a great job. You can go check it out there. Amsterdam, other cities are adapting. But we have an opportunity in Hawaii to...because we are an island-based system, the closer we get to a circular economy I think we can also attract certain types of tourists, you know, that want to see zero waste, that want to eat local, that want to support culture, right, and the environment. And they don't want to see the linear economy of tourism where you go and you just sit in a resort and, you know, the same thing happens everywhere. So, I think it really opens a lot of opportunities for us. And then like, you know, Councilmember Rawlins-Fernandez was saying it's based off of our ancestral values here in Hawaii so we have a lot that we can build off of that's already worked, you know, with the fishponds, with, you know, traditional starches that we heard about earlier. And Maui, you guys are doing a good job. The ulu pies, Pono Pies, I remember having some of that, that first came out of Maui. So, you guys have a lot of innovation that's happening there. Maybe it's about highlighting it and supporting it as we come out of COVID in this new system.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Okay, fantastic. Mahalo for your comments, Dr. Beamer, and you know, if it weren't for COVID-19 I'd love to go visit one of these counties. Maybe a site visit, yeah, Chair? If that was possible in light of all the travel restrictions. But anyway, but mahalo for your comments, Dr. Beamer.

CHAIR SINENCI: Thank you. Dr. Pang, did you want to comment?

MR. PANG: Yeah. I just wanted to point out that Dr. Beamer showed us stuff about the fish. And, you know, well, we know in Hawaii we're quickly destroying the near reef because of the nitrogen cycle. I don't have to remind this Council, I always keep you updated. UC Berkeley put that prototype system in to compost. It's not classic compost, it's worm composting and it was a system up in Makawao. We will begin...it has stabilized, we'll begin to test the influent and the effluent to show that we do remove the nitrogen. If we cannot remove the nitrogen...but Berkeley it was trying to remove the fecal pathogens. So, then we get to put the nitrogen waste onto the fields where it belongs. So, it's like fertilizer. Okay. So, you kill three birds with one stone. You have your fertilizer. You're putting the water, the gray water back onto the fields, especially in the dry areas of Lahaina, and you quit putting nitrates into our drinking water and the near reef killing the reef. So, that alternative is worth easily, you know, a third of a billion dollars just on Maui let alone the Big Island cesspools that have to be replaced. But that is a bad issue that little bit hidden because we're so busy chasing CO2 that we ignore the nitrogen cycle. Thank you.

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CHAIR SINENCI: Mahalo, Dr. Pang. And then from our, from Hana we have for...is Director Baz still on?

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: He put in chat he had just signed off.

CHAIR SINENCI: He has just signed off. Okay, all right. Member Rawlins, did you have any final questions?

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Sure. I think I just wanted to make one point. We were discussing, you know, circular economies, and I think, you know, for Molokai one of the important points that leaders like Uncle Walter Ritte make is that on Molokai we still have a strong subsistence economy. And so, we have two economies, cash economy, subsistence economy, and we're talking about technology and looking for new sources for deep sea mining of minerals and metals, and they're getting closer and closer to Hawaii. And if they start to do deep sea mining near Hawaii, it could contaminate, you know, our oceans and it would severely impact our ability to subsist from the sea. And so, you know, in that balance of protecting our subsistence economy from the cash economy which, you know, it...so there's a balance there. And I think I was going to...there was one more point that I...did you want to comment on that, Dr. Beamer or Dr. Pang?

MR. BEAMER: Yeah, I can start. So, I think that's where the circular economy principles about, you know, trying to eventually stop mining trace elements from the natural world, right. Like you invest so much energy in doing that and polluting the environment that we got to get a point where we, once we take it out of the earth's core or a seabed, we put it back into production out of, you know, from the iPhone. And in Germany they're really far ahead on this. Like I consulted with one of their master's students and set up a project, but they're looking at photovoltaic panels. So, right now Germany has of the most photovoltaic panels in the world, and they're thinking 25, 30 years from now what becomes of all those trace elements right, because the panels stop working. So, they're already creating technologies and industry to be able to re-mine out of those panels, and eventually, you know, they're seeing themselves as kind of being able to bank some of these trace elements and resources for the world. And so, they did a masters project looking at Hawaii because for a period Hawaii was leading, you know, one of the leading states in PV installation, but, you know, we hadn't been thinking about what happens 25 years from now. We don't want them to go into landfills. So, you're absolutely right. Like part of the goals again of a circular economy is, you know, we shouldn't have to keep mining natural resources out of the earth and polluting the environment. At some point when we take them out, we have to utilize them again. So, I think that's a really, really valid and important point. And I, I don't know if you like Mac products, it's good and bad, but yeah, you know, Apple has adapted now where they have a robot that can actually mine some of these trace elements back out of the iPhone. And they gotta get better at it, but over time I think that's the kind of economy that we're looking at.



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COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Dr. Beamer. And mahalo for not throwing me under the bus when Alice, Chair Lee asked the question about how good of a student I was.

MR. BEAMER: I only tell the truth. I only tell the truth, Keani. No...

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo for that. So, I wanted to with my last few minutes or few seconds I wanted to comment on the, what you shared about Germany implementing those policies and how it sparked a lot of innovation. And one of the things I've been seeing is like, you know, hemp can be used to make anything. And I saw an article of people trying to use hemp to make batteries. And so, you know, that need for deep sea mining for trace minerals would...there would be no need for that if we're growing, you know, hemp to make batteries and a lot of other things like building houses. But I wanted to just close with a reminder that with the aina aloha declarations it contains policies, and I think one of the end goals is to develop specific policies for policymakers like ourselves to pass and to adopt for our County and for the State. And so, I really wanted to thank everyone that's working on that, because I know we can make, you know, broad general statements about the direction that we'd like to go, but it's a lot harder work to develop specifics on what actionable items to take to move us forward in that general direction. So, mahalo for everyone working on it. Mahalo, Chair.

MR. BEAMER: Yes. Mahalo.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, Dr. Beamer.

MR. BEAMER: We're happy to be working on it and we will, you know, be having and we already have some specific agenda items, but there'll be a full action agenda that we can share with you folks. And we're looking for partners to be able to implement them. So, if you folks would be open that would be fantastic.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Dr. Beamer. Mahalo, Chair.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mahalo, Member Rawlins-Fernandez. Did we lose Dr. Miscovich? Oh, he's still here. Member Kama, did you have any last questions?

COUNCILMEMBER KING: You're muted. Tasha, you're muted.

CHAIR SINENCI: You're muted.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Oh, okay. Sorry. Okay. Good? So, I just had a question I wanted to ask Dr. Pang, it just occurred to me as he was speaking. Does our wastewater get...is our wastewater being tested for COVID-19?

MR. PANG: There is a committee to look specifically at our wastewater, but the Department of Health is little bit reluctant to do that because truthfully, they say we have better

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things to do. But who is looking at the wastewater? Holland is, the EU is, and they're finding that there are germs...COVID, but the question is, is it alive and infectious? Okay. And then if it's alive and infectious, they're going say yeah, but isn't a tourist coughing in your face the more bigger risk? Yes. Okay, fine. So, if we could...once we solve the tourist and the transmission from the tourist, we might have the time and interest to go and look at wastewater. Okay. But if you solve the tourist, no matter, then all our wastewater by definition is almost clean right, because we just don't have it here. So, okay.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Yeah. Thank you. Thank you, Chair. Just a question.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: You're muted again, Shane.

CHAIR SINENCI: Thank you. Members, any more questions for our panelists? If not, if they wanted to go...we'll start with Dr. Miscovich for some closing remarks.

MR. MISCOVICH: Thank you again. Hi again. Thank you all for having me and I just want to say that we feel very fortunate and honored to be working with everyone in Maui and we will be here as needed. Sandy and the Mayor and Tyson and team have basically asked us if there was a short-term need, would we be available, and I said absolutely, we're just ready to help. And we've got the testing and the ability to do it down. I'm also just working very closely now with your employers over there, with the hotels, and, you know, there will be...I'm going to leave you with one last question. The question of we are going to have to be looking out for those people on the frontlines, whether it's our first responders, our people working in our airports, TSA, the flight attendants, frontlines in the hotels, to say that there will be some testing that we're going to want to do on a regular basis to prevent disease from spreading in the tourism industry. So, I'm getting asked a lot of questions about that. That frequency of testing will be based on the viral load at the time. But I do want everybody to plant it in mind that testing will be with us, it will be ongoing, and a lot of countries are already looking at preventative testing instead of waiting till the disease hits and spreads. So, that's one of the things I want everybody to be thinking about. We, that's another way we stay ahead of this is testing the people that are going to be potentially contacting those people on the frontlines.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mahalo, Dr. Miscovich, and thank you.

MR. MISCOVICH: Thank you for having me.

CHAIR SINENCI: Next we have Dr. Beamer. Mahalo for being here.

MR. BEAMER: Yes. Just mahalo to everyone. Thanks for a chance to share and then to learn also, and please if there's more that I can help with or in the future, please feel free to reach out. I'm going to continue to work on these issues as long as I'm alive and I'm sure a number of us will. But I think we really have a chance to do something remarkable that will last for our islands. So, mahalo.

**ENVIRONMENTAL, AGRICULTURAL, AND CULTURAL PRESERVATION COMMITTEE**  
**MINUTES**  
**Council of the County of Maui**

**June 2, 2020**

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CHAIR SINENCI: Mahalo, Dr. Beamer, for being here. Dr. Pang, closing remarks?

MR. PANG: Hang on. Okay. I have you all. Yes, I just want to kind of echo both of the previous speakers. This COVID as horrible as it is, it's kind of a wakeup call and gives you a chance to reset tourism. Okay. Maybe not 50 percent, maybe it's even less, but it drives you to an alternative way of living which maybe we should have done long ago, and it's a kick in the pants. And if COVID-19 doesn't kick your pants, I will personally be there to say yeah, well, what about COVID-21, 22, and 23? I mean this is your chance. So, Keani, you know, you're kind of asking about the rare earth mining of the deep ocean. All right, everything's on the table, but remember, part of a self-sufficient economy is your market, so who's buying those rare earth? China. Well, one day they'll discover they don't need that rare earth, and your economy and your marketing and all the pollution it just collapses. Okay. So, I really like it self-sufficient all the way around, all your input, all your export, all your waste. Make it self-sufficient and at least we have a chance to be on the right track now. What a kick in the pants though. Thank you.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mahalo, Dr. Pang. And again, mahalo to our esteemed panelists for being here, sharing your manao and your expertise with us and answering a lot of our questions. So, again, mahalo for being here today. Thank you. And so, Members, if there are no objections, the Chair would like to defer this item.

**COUNCILMEMBERS VOICED NO OBJECTIONS.**

**ACTION: DEFER PENDING FURTHER DISCUSSION.**

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay, so moved. And again, thank you, Members, our resources, for bearing with us. It looks like we're done early, but I know that you guys been here since nine o'clock banging away in the GET, taking a short lunch, and not taking a break this afternoon. So we'll release you early as a reward for your good work. . . .(laughter). . . Okay --

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Thank you.

CHAIR SINENCI: --so today is Tuesday, June 2, 2020, Environmental, Agricultural, and Cultural Preservation Committee meeting is now adjourned. Mahalo. . . .(gavel). . .

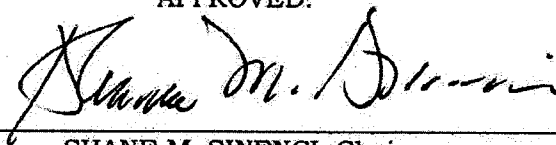
**ADJOURN: 3:52 p.m.**

**ENVIRONMENTAL, AGRICULTURAL, AND CULTURAL PRESERVATION COMMITTEE  
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APPROVED:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Shane M. Sinenci", written over a horizontal line.

SHANE M. SINENCI, Chair  
Environmental, Agricultural, and Cultural  
Preservation Committee

eacp:min:200602:ds

Transcribed by: Daniel Schoenbeck

**ENVIRONMENTAL, AGRICULTURAL, AND CULTURAL PRESERVATION COMMITTEE  
MINUTES**

**Council of the County of Maui**

**June 2, 2020**

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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 25<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2020, in Kula, Hawaii

  
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Daniel Schoenbeck