

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND BUDGET COMMITTEE

Council of the County of Maui

MINUTES

September 24, 2020

Online Only via BlueJeans

CONVENE: 9:04 a.m.

PRESENT: Councilmember Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez, Chair
Councilmember Kelly Takaya King, Vice-Chair
Councilmember Riki Hokama, Member
Councilmember Tasha Kama, Member
Councilmember Alice L. Lee, Member
Councilmember Michael J. Molina, Member
Councilmember Tamara Paltin, Member
Councilmember Shane M. Sinenci, Member
Councilmember Yuki Lei K. Sugimura, Member

STAFF: Lesley Milner, Legislative Analyst
Shelly Espeleta, Legislative Analyst
Richard Mitchell, Legislative Attorney
Yvette Bouthillier, Committee Secretary
Jean Pokipala, Council Services Assistant Clerk

Sarah Pajimola, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez
Trinette Furtado, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez
Kate Griffiths, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Kelly Takaya King
Evan Dust, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Tasha Kama

ADMIN.: Michele Yoshimura, Budget Director
Sananda K. Baz, Managing Director, Department of Management
Scott Teruya, Director, Department of Finance
JoAnn Inamasu, Director, Office of Economic Development
Tracy Bennett, Maui County Film Commissioner, Office of Economic Development
Kristina Toshikiyo, Deputy Corporation Counsel, Department of the Corporation Counsel

OTHERS: Nick Drance, Maui Miracle
Harmonee Williams, Executive Director, Sustainable Moloka`i
Kevin Watkins, III, Eco Sustainable Solutions
Lori Buchanan

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Leslie Wilkins, President and CEO, Maui Economic Development Board
Wesley Lo, CEO, Hale Makua Health Services
Donne Dawson
Leonard Nakoa
Adam Radford, Manager, Maui Invasive Species Committee
Frank Haas, President, Marketing Management, Inc.
Ian Chan Hodges
Ashley Takitani Leahey, Hale Makua

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

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: . . .*(gavel)*. . . Aloha kakahiaka kākou. ‘Ehā minuke i ka hala o ka hola ‘eiwa. Ma iwakāluakumamaha o Kepakemapa i ka makahiki ‘elua . . .*(audio interference)*. . . ‘elua kaukani iwakālua. E ‘olu’olu mai, e ho’omalū ke Komike Ho’omohala Waiwai me Mo’ohelu Kālā. ‘O wai ka po’o o kēia Komike o Keani Rawlins-Fernandez. It is 9:04 on September 24th, 2020. Will the Economic Development and Budget Committee please come to order. I’m your Chair, Keani Rawlins-Fernandez. I keia lā, me ko kākou, kēia Committee Vice-Chair King.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Aloha kakahiaka, Chair. Good to see everybody, and aloha to all of our guests that we who...we can now see on the screen today, with our multiple screens. Thank you for being here, everybody.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, and aloha. And we’ll go to Council Chair Lee, for her greeting from somewhere in the world. Aloha kakahiaka. Oh, you’re muted, Chair Lee. Aloha . . . *(inaudible)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Madam Chair, somewhere in the world is Guam. So, we say Hafa Adai over there. Hafa Adai is like saying aloha. So Hafa Adai is the first half of the day to everyone. Aloha.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aloha and Hafa Adai. And Member Shane Sinenci. Aloha kakahiaka, Hafa Adai.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Aloha kakahiaka, kākou mai Maui hikina, and hau’oli lā hapa . . .*(audio interference)*. . .

AUTOMATED MESSAGE: This meeting is being broadcast on Facebook Live.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: And aloha to everyone in Facebook Land. Okay. Member Mike Molina, aloha under your virtual bridge.

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COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Thank you. Good morning, and aloha to you, Madam Chair, and to my Council colleagues and everyone else. I toast to all of you with a cup of coffee under the virtual bridge here in Makawao.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Salud. Okay. We have...we have Member Riki Hokama.

COUNCILMEMBER HOKAMA: Good morning, Chair. Aloha for the whole day.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aloha for the whole day to you too, Member Hokama. Member Tamara Paltin?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Aloha kakahiaka, mai Old Lahaina Center, and Hafa Adai.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Chair, you're muted.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Member Yuki Lei Sugimura?

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Good morning, everybody, from the County Building. Nice seeing all of you, and looking forward.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Morning. And Pro Tem Tasha Kama.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Aloha kakahiaka, Chair. Hafa Adai to all of you, and it's still a beautiful day in the neighborhood of Kahului.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Beautiful. Aloha kakahiaka and Hafa Adai. We have, from Corporation Counsel, Kristina Toshikiyo, Deputy Corporation Counsel, aloha.

MS. TOSHIKIYO: Aloha, Chair. Aloha, Members.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aloha. Budget Direct...from the Office of the Mayor, Budget Director, Michelle Yoshimura. Aloha.

MS. YOSHIMURA: Good morning.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Good morning. From the Office of Economic Development, Director JoAnn Inamasu.

MS. INAMASU: Hi, good morning, everyone.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Good morning. Our Maui County Film Commissioner, Tracy Bennett. Aloha.

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MR. BENNETT: Aloha, good morning, thanks for having me.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aloha, thank you for joining us. From the Department of Management, Managing Director, Sandy Baz, I think will likely be joining us.

MR. BAZ: Aloha kakahiaka kākou. Yeah. Aloha.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aloha. Okay. From Director...Department of Finance, Director Scott Teruya.

MR. TERUYA: Good morning, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aloha. Good morning. Everyone's on this morning. Okay. And we will have outside resource personnel, President and CEO of Maui Economic Development Board, Leslie Wilkins will be joining us at 9:30. From Hale Makua Health Services, Wesley Lo, CEO. Aloha.

MR. LO: Aloha, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Maui Invasive Species...Aloha. Maui Invasive Species Committee Manager, Adam Radford.

MR. RADFORD: Aloha, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: President of Marketing Management, Inc., Frank Haas. Aloha. And Ian Chan Hodges, Director of the Responsible Marketing...or the Responsible Market. Aloha, Mr. Chan Hodges. Okay. So the plan for today's meeting is as...as you can see, we have quite a...a delightful panel for us this morning. The intention is to talk about...discuss economic recovery, economic development, as we work our way out of this pandemic. And as you know, Mayor Victorino spoke about in his press conference yesterday, not relying so heavily on the tourism industry. And so I've invited representatives from different industries; from the film industry, from ag, from our...our technology industry, from health care, tourism, conservation, and I'm hoping we can have a really, you know, robust discussion about economic recovery. And so I'm going to take testimony first, and then I'm going to have each of our panelists provide opening comments, five minutes each, and then we'll...we'll open up to Q and A from the Members. And I'm hoping that we can get through this in the first two hours. We'll take a ten-minute break, and then we'll discuss, you know, CARES Act coronavirus funding with the Administration, with the budget director and managing director. Okay? Any questions? All right. We'll move forward. Okay. We'll start with public testimony. Oral testimony via phone or video conference will be accepted. Testifiers wanting to

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provide video testimony, please join by going to the BlueJeans meeting link at [BlueJeans.com/612388111](https://bluejeans.com/612388111), as noted on today's agenda. Testifiers wanting to provide audio testimony, please join by calling 1-408-915-6290 and entering meeting code 612 388 111, also noted on today's agenda. The Committee intends to keep the same meeting link and phone number for future EDB Committee meetings for the ease and convenience of the Members and the public. Written testimony is highly encouraged by sending your comments to EDB.Committee@mauicounty.us. Oral testimony is limited to three minutes. When you are testifying, please state your first and last name. If you're testifying on behalf of an organization or are a paid lobbyist, please inform the Committee. Staff will...Staff has posted the testifiers log in chat...in the log in in the chat, so that testifiers will be able to see where they are on the list. 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 providing testimony, please be courteous to others by muting your microphone and video while waiting your turn to testify. Participants who wish to view the meeting only without providing testimony, please view a live cable cast on *Akakū* Channel 53. You can also visit mauicounty.us/agendas to access live and archived meeting videos. Mahalo to the Committee Members, Administration, and members of the public for being patient if we run into any challenges during the meeting. I will now proceed with public testimony, starting with Harmonee Williams. Okay. Starting with Zandra Crouse, followed by Nick Drance. Zandra? Okay. We'll go to Nick Drance, and then we'll come back to Zandra. Oh, I don't see her on the list anymore. Okay. Mr. Drance. I saw you earlier. You may proceed with your testimony. Nick Drance?

. . .BEGIN PUBLIC TESTIMONY. . .

MR. DRANCE: . . . (*audio interference*). . . testify best I can see --

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh, there you are. Okay, we can hear you now. Please proceed.

MR. DRANCE: Okay. Did you hear the good morning part? Good morning, Chair, Council, guests.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Good morning.

MR. DRANCE: Aloha. I am Nick Drance with the Maui Miracle, and I'm testifying...the best thing I can find according to the agenda would be CC 20-275. I see from the correspondence and testimony provided that the CARES Act monies were requested for a broad variety of needs, but I haven't seen information related to workforce training for residents whose jobs were lost to COVID and not likely to return anytime soon. So I hope money for this COVID-caused disaster can be

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allocated toward that. I...I also wish that we had more recent information on expenditures than CC 20-275. Perhaps that exists. My request is that you encourage the Administration to increase funds allocated to the Maui Economic Development Board. I believe the funding for the Maui Economic Development Board was approved to help businesses develop a new revenue...revenue stream to compensate for the effects of COVID. I would like to see an even greater grant offered to empower our local workforce to develop skills required to transition to a new economy. The Maui Economic Board has been working towards this end for over 15 years. Essentially, they have what I would say could be called shovel-ready projects that they've developed over those years that would clearly fulfill the objectives intended by the CARES Act. So I ask that the Mayor team up with the Council in this time of great transition. Almost 25 percent of our workforce is unemployed, and likely having trouble making ends meet now, and for the foreseeable future. The employment outlook for the future is grim for many of them, not to mention many of those who are still in high school and not in the workforce yet. So by maximizing funding for the Maui Economic Development Board, we can make full use of their years-long efforts at diversifying our economy and arranging training programs for residents. So I hope that you're able to give them the support that they need. Maui Economic Development Board is a real gift to us. Let's embrace it. Mahalo.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Mr. Drance. We have a question for you from Member Molina. Member Molina?

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Thank you very much, Madam Chair. Good morning, Mr. Drance, and thank --

MR. DRANCE: Good morning.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: -- you for your testimony. With regards to the job training, what areas of job training would you recommend or suggest for Maui County?

MR. DRANCE: Well, the...the people that Keani has, the guests; there's health care, film industry, I don't recall hearing a representative from science and technology. But those are really the main areas that I can think of off the top of my head. In the last Council meeting, I testified that I hoped that the Climate Action and Resiliency [sic] Committee would take an active role in these. And so green jobs are included in that, and sustainable energy for Maui would be a source...a great source for employment.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Great. Well...well, thank you very much. I appreciate hearing that from the constituency because myself and other Members of this Council have asked the Administration to do some form of job training

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programs, and I don't know. I haven't heard anything yet. Maybe there is something on the horizon, which I'm keeping my fingers crossed for. But anyway, nice to hear that from you. Appreciate it.

MR. DRANCE: Well, I...I...it...can I add, just respond? We have a lot of money to spend for COVID-related disaster recovery, and job training is really a very important part of that. The...the monies that I saw on the Mayor's list...spreadsheet list and his request didn't relate to any of that, and there's so much of that money available. It's really a tremendous gift, has to be spent before the end of the year. And from what I understand, the Maui Economic Development Board actually could easily allocate that money to what I described as shovel-ready projects right now, and justify, in an audit, that that money was properly spent. So I don't know what residents have to . . . *(audio interference)*. . . in this area, but I, and many others, are happy to do anything.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Great. Thank you for your testimony.

MR. DRANCE: Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Thank you, Madam Chair.

MR. DRANCE: Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Molina. Committee Vice-Chair King?

VICE-CHAIR KING: Thank you, Chair. Thank you for being here, Nick. It's good to see you, as always, and thank you for invoking my Committee, the Climate Action Resilience Committee. Just want to let you know that our next meeting is on the 29th, and we will be looking at the THRIVE Agenda, which is sort of the newest iteration of the Green New Deal in talking about green jobs, et cetera. So I welcome you to join us for that.

MR. DRANCE: Thank you.

VICE-CHAIR KING: And you know, we're...we're...all of our Committees kind of cross over with each other, so you know, I'm just really glad we're starting this conversation here about economic development. So thank you for being here.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo for that announcement, Committee Vice-Chair. And Mr. Drance, we do have someone from the science-technology industry, MEDB --

MR. DRANCE: Wonderful.

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CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: -- and Ms. Wilkin [sic] will be joining us. Okay? Mahalo for your testimony, Mr. Drance. Aloha. Okay. Next is Harmonee Williams, followed by Faith Chase.

MS. WILLIAMS: Aloha, Councilmembers. Thank you so much for having me today. Again, I'm Harmonee Williams, Executive Director of Sustainable Moloka'i, and I apologize if you hear background. My kid's homeschooling Zoom keeps going higher and lower, and I'm like checking stuff, trying to focus. So anyways, I am really happy to be here today to talk about, of course, probably most of you know, Sustainable Moloka'i's focus on local food security, and really, you know, with that, we always aim to both increase the...the health outcomes in our community by increasing the amount of access to healthy local cultural fresh foods, and at the same time, to really make that an economic development piece. And so you know, any farmer on island or fruit producer can sell through our mobile market. You know, we also support our...our livestock producers and people that do value-added products, and so I really feel like it's just been awesome to see the increase in production, and our ability to increase getting that food out, not just through our normal sales channels. But during COVID, we've had some amazing support from funders helping us to be able to purchase more local food and get it out through our food banks. And so the big, kind of our new...our new part...piece of this is really working up in Mauna Loa, which most of you I'm sure are aware is really the hardest hit or one of the hardest hit areas probably in all of Maui County. And so we took...we were able to secure the lease on the Mauna Loa Store, which is owned by Moloka'i Ranch, a few months ago. Unfortunately, that store shut down in January, and so we have not reopened the store, which many people are hoping for, myself included, because I live on the west end, but we have been using that space as a place to store and chill and aggregate our local produce, and then to pack our mobile market. We'll also be becoming the food pantry for Mauna Loa, because Auntie Jan, who has been just doing an amazing service for that community for 20 years or plus...beyond, is retiring. So that Mauna Loa Store space will be used both for, you know, kind of this economic development, as well as just providing food to those in need. And we are hoping to get the kitchen recertified and be able to do value-added products and all kinds of things up there. And maybe eventually a store again, if we can find the right partners. And specifically, we're looking right now to hire some part-time positions to help with the food bank coordination, as well as keeping the facility clean and...and...and running. And then we're also looking for funding to upgrade the chill. I just got a call this morning from our mobile market manager: ah, the chill's not holding temp, what do I do? So we've got our refrigerated truck running and trying to jostle things around and anyways, so hopefully we can get some funding to get that repaired and really be able to expand our services. So that's all I have. Thank you for your time.

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CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Ms. Williams. We have a question from Member Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Aloha, Ms. Williams, and mahalo for joining us today. You know, I just wanted to let you know, I'm paying taxes on an empty lot up at Mauna Loa, so if you need a space to...to put some stuff, you're welcome to do so. I'm glad you're working with the community. You know, and we --

MS. WILLIAMS: Awesome, thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: -- when we talk about...we talk about resiliency, you know, I always go to the store for the necessities, right? Milk, bread, eggs, those types of things. And I know Moloka'i has the best bread already, so...but just looking at some of the things like...like those essentials, like milk and eggs and...and trying to get that to the island, have...has your group worked towards kind of inventorying what are some of the major needs on Moloka'i?

MS. WILLIAMS: Yeah, definitely. Especially now, we're watching how the Young Brothers increased rates are affecting, you know, staples like that specifically. One item that we...that we are excited to say we're finally hopefully going to be able to make a dent in, I don't know if I can say tackle, but is chicken eggs. So we did a chicken egg production series; January, February, March. We worked with Asagi Hatchery. We had Maxi Asagi come over and do full-day trainings with twelve participants, and six months...five months later...or you know, we got the chicks in April. Right now, the chicks are starting to produce. So all...all participants got 25 chickens, so they're now getting, like, two dozen eggs a day. We've been working with Maui County Department of Health to get our permit approved so we can go pick up the eggs from all the producers, bring them to the certified kitchen at the community health center, get them washed, and get them out through our mobile market, and potentially our food hub as well, and could be to the stores as well. So that's one thing --

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Awesome.

MS. WILLIAMS: -- I could say we made progress on. I don't know of anybody planning to do any dairy cows. I know that's a tough business, especially with our low volume, but we do have some awesome...you know, our livestock co-op is a huge resource for the proteins and the meat, and yeah, our producers, I can definitely say there's been an increase in production, and so we're hoping that that continues.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Oh, awesome. Mahalo, Ms. Williams. And I'm still waiting for the chicken farm to supply Costco with all those rotisserie chickens. Thank you, Chair.

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CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Sinenci. Seeing no other questions --

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: I have one.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: -- thank you so much for your...oh, I'm...I'm sorry. Who had a question?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Yes, Madam Chair, I have a quick question.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh, Chair Lee.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Hi. I just wanted to know about your deer population. Are you trying to, you know, capture the deer and slaughter it, and be able to use it? You know, consume it for the people? Are you working --

MS. WILLIAMS: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: -- on that too?

MS. WILLIAMS: Really good question. Yeah. It's gets...it gets...really quickly, you get into all kinds of USDA regulations. I know there's people on island that have kind of jumped through all the hoops, including the financial hoops, which include, you know, getting a USDA inspector on site to watch the hunts and make sure that all the shots are head shots, and having the landowner approval and the maps, and anyways, there's a lot of steps and financial pieces that you have to put together. I do...I know there's a ton of interest, and it makes a ton of sense, especially right now with this crazy drought. I mean, you can just see the poor deer struggling, so yeah, I would love to figure out a way to...to, you know, be able to use that meat and to still allow the community to have access, you know, as a subsistence resource. So it's definitely something we're interested in figuring out.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair Lee, and mahalo again, Ms. Williams, for your testimony this morning. Aloha.

MS. WILLIAMS: Okay. Aloha. Mahalo.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Our next testifier is Faith Chase, followed by Kevin Watkins. Ms. Chase? I don't think I see her on the list. Maybe she lost connection. Okay. We'll...we'll try to come back. Kevin Watkins, followed by Lori Buchanan.

MR. WATKINS: Can you hear me? Can you hear me clearly?

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CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yes. Good morning.

MR. WATKINS: Good morning, County Council. Thank you for the opportunity. I just want to say I'm very grateful to...to be here, and it's been really refreshing to watch you guys transition to this model...this technology, and really embrace it, especially with all of the conflict going on in other parts of the country. It's really refreshing to know that we have really engaged, very civil leaders. So I want to just say thank you for that. What I wanted to talk with you guys about today is about implementing technology and taking an approach with technological implementation that can help not only solve coronavirus or COVID-19 issues that we may be encountering with our current infrastructures, but that is simultaneously preparing us for the bigger pandemic coming around the corner, which is global climate change. And a couple of the key technologies that I wanted to talk with you guys about today, were there is digital applications for...for mapping different resources. There's contactless or touchless machines for either vending PPE or just...as we're getting into this new paradigm and businesses need to, you know, sort of transform and figure out innovative ways to be successful, this contactless technology can really help. You guys know from previous testimonies that I've done with you guys earlier this spring, I can't believe it's fall already, time flies, that we do...we...our...one of my goals that personally got me to start these companies is to see the end of the plastic water bottle. I'm sure you guys remember me testifying at Bill 52, and thank you again for that. So we...we have these contactless technologies, where there's the refill machine or these retail machines that can really sort of stimulate our economy and fight global climate change simultaneously. It can help our homeless population out. You know, I've...I've just been a huge proponent, and I think you guys kind of know my spiel that, you know, a distributed network of water bottle refill stations is an extreme asset, and we can be leaders in the world with our...with our islands, you know, going zero waste and getting rid of plastic water bottles in that way. You know, that's where infrastructure will allow us to legislate future bans of products like these. Additionally, I did note that the film commissioner was on here. That's another specific technology. As you guys know, there's the filming, right, going on down here in Wailea. There...what I'm...a kind of a pet project of mine, I think I would talk about today, is I'm actually working together with community members from all across the island as remotely as possible to put together a team of virtual reality film makers, so. . . .(timer sounds). . . But there's a lot to unpack in each of those categories. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Mr. Watkins. Members, any questions? Seeing none. Thank you so much for your testimony this morning.

MR. WATKINS: Thanks.

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CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aloha. Okay. Our next testifier is Lori Buchanan.

MS. BUCHANAN: Okay. I'm sorry. Aloha. Good morning. You guys can hear me? Aloha. Okay. Mahalo, Committee Members. Thank you for having this meeting today, and the opportunity to...I wanted to mahalo all of you and all your hard work because if I stressing out at home over Zoom, then you guys are all stressing out . . . *(inaudible)*. . . on Zoom. I hold many hats on the island of Moloka'i, and I was happy to hear the...the testifier earlier, Harmonee, because we support everything that Sustainable Moloka'i does. And much like MEO on the island of Moloka'i, Sustainable Moloka'i holds a really great position in this community, helping us with food security and a whole number of 'āina-related great work. But I also coordinate the Moloka'i-Maui Invasive Species Committee. We are a subcommittee under the Maui Invasive Species Committee, and you all, I'm sure, are familiar with the good work that the Invasive Species Committees do in Maui Nui. I would like to just convey that during all of this COVID and CARES Act funding, that we did put a proposal together that was submitted to the Mayor, and basically, I have to admit that I strongly drove that initiative because I felt like it was a wonderful opportunity to showcase how conservation work in Maui Nui and in the State of Hawai'i really is very sustainable, is part of a real and valid plan for recovery for our economy in Maui Nui, and we went through great lengths to make that possible. And so Adam Radford is with you today, I believe, on a panel, and he can expound on that later. But I was so excited to have the opportunity to show how much conservation work and 'āina work in Maui Nui is needed, and how it really is part of economic recovery. And so if you have any more questions upon that, I'm happy to answer it. Adam is there with you guys today on the panel to answer that, but I wanted to thank this Committee for constantly looking to us to help out in the section of conservation in Maui Nui. And thank you very much. And thank you, Alice, for that question to Harmonee about deer because we do, as a community, want to speak to that issue. Thank you very much.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Ms. Buchanan. Any questions for our testifier? Seeing none. And mahalo for offering to stay online if Members have questions later? Okay.

MS. BUCHANAN: Yes.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo. Our next testifier, we have Donne Dawson listed as a testifier, but I...I forgot to introduce her as a panelist, so I'm...I'm going to go to the next person. Oh, and Leonard Nakoa is also...I invited as a panelist, and so if they're...I saw the person signed in as Don leave. Testifier signed in as Don is no longer there. If there's anyone wishing to testify, please unmute yourself now if you wish to testify and did not previously testify. Okay. Hearing no one speak up, I will now close public testimony. Any objections?

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COUNCILMEMBERS VOICED NO OBJECTIONS

. . .END OF PUBLIC TESTIMONY. . .

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Members. Okay. And any objections to receiving written testimony into the record?

COUNCILMEMBERS VOICED NO OBJECTIONS

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo, Members. Okay, and what you heard in...from our last testifier, Ms. Buchanan, she was referring to a project that was just uploaded to Granicus this morning called MauiCARES, and so this is a report from the task force that the recommendations...and so it...it's on Granicus. We're gonna take a quick recess at the call of the Chair for *Akakū* to change their settings, and then we'll be right back. So don't, don't go anywhere. We're just gonna take a quick, quick, quick one, quick one. Okay, it's 9:37. We'll take a quick recess at the call of the Chair. Okay, we're in recess. . . .(gavel). . .

RECESS: 9:37 a.m.
RECONVENE: 9:42 a.m.

**ITEM 85: LEGISLATION AND DISCUSSION ON THE EFFECT OF
THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC, RULES, CARES
ACT, AND RELATED ISSUES (CC 20-207 and CC 20-
275)**

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Will the Economic Development and Budget Committee please return to order. It's 9:42. Mahalo for that brief recess. Okay, all right, I will...okay. So we have with us, from the film industry, our Film Commissioner, Tracy Bennett. From the...our Hawai'i Film... Hawai'i State Film Commissioner, Donne Dawson. Our community watchdog, Junior Nakoa. From the ag industry...oh, sorry...from the science and tech industry, MEDB, Leslie Wilkins. From our health industry, Wesley Lo. From the tourism industry, we invited Sherry Duong, and she was...she wasn't available to join us this morning. And I also invited Frank Haas, and...from the Conservation...I don't know if I want to call it industry...from Conservation, Adam Radford, and Ian Chan Hodges. Are there any objections to designating our resource personnel in accordance with Rule 18-A of the rules of the Council?

COUNCILMEMBERS VOICED NO OBJECTIONS

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CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Members. Okay, so I will first invite all of our panelists to provide us opening comments, and I'll put five minutes on the clock. And then I'll open up to Q and A. We'll start with MEDB, Ms. Wilkins, and then we'll go to Wes...Wes Lo. Ready?

MS. WILKINS: Well, aloha, Chair Rawlins-Fernandez, and Members of the Committee. We are excited to have this dialog and discourse because, as you know, in this time it requires all of us to work collaboratively, leveraging all our resources to help our economy rebuild and to help our residents. So I'll start with a few statistics, albeit they are not great statistics. I'll talk about two programs that MEDB is directly involved with for economic recovery, and then I'll answer some larger questions on other resources that we're pursuing federally in partnership. And I hope...and then, of course, I look forward to your questions. First of all, the August figures are out, and they are not good. This time last year in Maui County, August of '19, we had 79,700 people in our workforce. Effective August of 2020, it has been reduced by 28 percent, with only 57,400. The two sectors of the economy that have not been hurt significantly have been...construction has remained strong, as has government. We also know that these figures do not include those in our gig economy, if you will, our 1099 economy, which is significant in Maui County. These are traditional FTE employees. Of course, it's well known that the leisure and hospitality industry has been hit the worst. We have the highest unemployment rate in the State, according to DLIR in August, at 20.7 percent, compared to the overall State, which is only 12.5 percent. Maui Island is hardest hit in our tri-island County. Maui Island has 21.4 percent, Moloka'i 6.9 percent, and Lāna'i 8.6. We know Lāna'i will go up with the recent layoffs that are happening through Pulama Lāna'i. So that is the state of where we are. I'd like to talk about some mitigating factors that we are excited about. I believe with the Mayor's press conference yesterday, we are...can open up shop for the Adaptability Fund that we have been working on for some time. I was honored to be a part of the Mayor's task force, and one of the recommendations was to create a fund that was flexible to help our small businesses get grants to redesign, retool, restructure their businesses for a new economic environment that does not include the robust number of visitors that it has once held. In fact, yesterday, Carl Bonham of UHERO said that it will be 2025 before the state sees visitor numbers equal to 2017. The Adaptability Fund will be administered by MEDB. We look to open the application aperture by Friday for small businesses. We expect grants to range from 5 to 25,000. However, it will be a case by case. We're asking businesses to look at redesigning their space, not only to be compliant for social distancing, be healthy, but to look at e-commerce; look at an increased web presence; look at a shopping cart; look at training employees to service customers on a chat bot, rather than customers coming into their space, and the training and adaptability. We're also to put up a website, which is a directory of Maui County small businesses that do web developing, that do redesign of spaces, that do filtration systems for your HVAC system that could

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help kill the virus, all of those things needed for our businesses to survive. And we look forward to drawing to deploy that money as quickly as possible. The other funding that MEDB is a part of is state-allocated CARES Act. It's the Aloha Connects Innovation, that is with our virtual Economic Development Alliance of Hawai'i, a partner virtual organization, which has all the Economic Development Boards across the State, and Hawai'i Business Roundtable. We, I have recruited Maui County businesses that are not visitor dependent, that have innovation-based jobs, and we will be opening it up to...we'll be able to place about 350...this is State-wide, 350 applicants in those jobs. We're hopeful to get as many in Maui County as possible. The other side of that grant is KUPU, which is doing a conservation type of work study. And that will go through December 15th. It will pay employees for their wages, as well as their health care, as well as training. And the visitor host...excuse me, employer hosts do not have to compensate for that, that is paid for by the CARES Act. Some other funding that we're looking at, I'm trying to watch the clock here, is in partnership. I chair the State Workforce Development Council, and I'm honored to also do our Maui County Workforce Board. We have been working in consortium. We look to bring some disaster recovery grant money for 370,000 in as part of a State application for Maui County, and another employment recovery grant would be Maui County's allocation of 712,000, from the U.S. Department of Labor. I really want to thank Linda Puppolo of our Workforce Development Board for working with the State to get those applications in. We also have partnered with the University of Hawai'i system. The Workforce Development Council was the only one eligible to apply, the U.S. Department of Education for \$15 million. We're partnering with U.H. Maui College on that as well, the community college system, to build apprenticeship and work-based learning . . . *(timer sounds)* . . . in sectors of the economy that are not visitor driven; health care, clean energy science, technology, IT, cyber security are among some of those sectors that we're looking to support training for our residents. And I think that gives you a pretty good recap, going a hundred miles an hour, of some of the things. I look forward to hearing from my other panelists because, as I said, it's all about collaboration and leveraging the funding that we have. I look forward to your questions as well, and I will provide these statistics that I rattled off. We'll submit those in writing to you if that would be helpful to the Members because they're hot off the press, literally, for August stats.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yes, please. If you can send it to EDB.committee@mauicounty.us.

MS. WILKINS: I can do that.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: And so we're...we're going to be five minutes each panelist, and then I'll open up to questions.

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MS. WILKINS: Okay. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Ms. Wilkins. And as...as you heard Ms. Wilkins say, at the press conference yesterday, Mayor Victorino announced that MEDB was receiving funding from the CARES Act, and the next panelist, Wes Lo, their healthcare hui received funding from the CARES funding in round one. Mr. Lo? . . . *(audio interference)*. . . camera.

MR. LO: Aloha, Chair, Councilmembers. Before I get into CARES Act, I thought I'd just real quickly talk a little bit about the landscape in healthcare, and sort of our approach towards everything. So it...it...it's pretty complicated right now in healthcare. Believe it or not, although there are more people getting sick, business is not as usual for most healthcare agencies. The...the more normal types of visits are...are slowly disappearing. Hospitals are struggling and mostly not seeing as many elective procedures. Physician's offices, a lot of people are opting to stay home or delay healthcare right now. So it's a little bit complicated, but yet there is still a great need for healthcare services. So as we approach...as we approach COVID and the new landscape, you know, I've been talking to you guys about this for a long time, is...really, I think the approach is to start planning for the future, not...not planning for the existing day. We can't keep on hiring people for how it is now, we have to plan for the future. And I think the future is really going to be more community-based services, et cetera, and the future of healthcare is more about healthcare, not sick care. Because that's the only way we're going to be able to fund this all. Commercial insurance is disappearing. People are going to get on Medicaid rolls, so the reimbursements are going to drop a little...a little bit better. So the only way we can sustain our healthcare industry is by creating new models of the healthcare delivery system. Okay, so that's the...the blah, blah, blah part. The...you know, the way we're approaching this is that we believe that insurance companies and everything are looking to save money, and...by keeping people healthier and trying to get interventions in the community at home. So as we approach this COVID situation with the CARES Act money, we are trying to train a new workforce that is more based around community health workers, social determinants of health, community development, social work, and we are trying to also work with insurance companies to fund this new endeavor, which will be cheaper for them and will be sustainable. We did not want to just create jobs that would end after the CARES Act money expires. We need to continue that on. So I'll just get really quickly into the...the CARES Act program that we want is. We are creating new jobs. We have created a bunch of training programs for entry level people around just basic...just basic care issues; nurse aides, et cetera, but we're also working with Mālama I Ke Ola to create a new community health worker program, and start launching that into the schools and the community. We actually are trying to do a virtual program for the high schools, so that they...whether they go into healthcare or not, they will know how to deal with, you know, community needs and health workers, and they

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can give a big part of society. So we are doing that. We are hiring them, we are training them, we have already hired 18 people, and we have not yet executed the grant under this program. We are thinking that we are going to expand that program. In the spare time, we also realize that we are representing health. We are expanding meal delivery services through Hui No Ke Ola Pono. We're working with Mālama I Ke Ola to deliver meals to affordable housing complex. The hui is also continuing on its kūpuna program to all the homestead...Hawaiian homestead people. And then in addition, we are training staff to, when they deliver the food, to start doing some of the more social determinant of health work, do COVID-19 prevention, Medicaid and SNAP eligibility, answer healthcare questions, see if they need home improvements to keep them healthier. Meanwhile, we also are trying to make sure that not...it's not only entry level, that we create a pipeline, so that people can get to their highest level of earnings. So we are continuing on with UHMC. We have a great LPN program, and you know, we hope that they actually leave us and go on to become RNs after that, so they continue on, so. We're working with other funding sources to create that, and I don't want to take up too much of your time, so I'll be available for any questions that you may have.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Mr. Lo. Okay. Our next panelist will be Mr. Bennett, followed by Ms. Dawson, and then Mr. Nakoa. Mr. Bennett.

MR. BENNETT: Aloha, Chair. Thank you. Thank you so much, again, for having me today and including Donne and I in this discussion for film and television production, and nice to see you all Councilmembers. Some of you I know better than others, and I hope to get to know some of you more at some point. But the pandemic has...has not made that possible, so. You know, I'm going into my seventh year as the Film Commissioner for Maui County, and for quite some time, we've been dependent on TV commercials here and reality television. You know, it puts a lot of people to work here. They pay very good wages and, you know, it is a...a diverse job pool, and it's different kinds of jobs you can have in this industry. And you know, back in February or March, April, when we shut down, all of the State Film Commissioners and some filmmakers based in Hawai'i thought that we could make the film industry into a position that could feasibly work during this pandemic. Because the movie studios and TV networks have so much...have so many resources, have the financial ability to create testing programs and protocols to put into place to make it safe during a pandemic, and still provide the content that ultimately, I think we all want. But I'm sure there was a point during this pandemic when people were at home, where you were on your remote control searching for things to watch because you couldn't go to work and you were stuck in the house. So with that, Donne Dawson and I really have worked hard to come up with a plan where the film industry could work right now. Right this very minute, and it has. And, you know, we have a reality show that's been here two previous seasons. We were able to talk them out of shooting at luxury homes on the West Side, and instead

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focus their show at a single resort, where they could centralize themselves just in that resort, and create their own COVID-free environment. So with that, word got out around Hollywood and around...around the industry that Maui and Hawai'i were making this possible for film production to continue. So while there's been a little bit of drama and pushback regarding this specific television show, they've had zero negative [sic] tests so far, and they're employing roughly about 125 of our local workers. And it's creating this opportunity now for people to go back to work in the safest manner. And I will argue that the safety plan put into place right now rivals any industry in the world. In fact, the medical company that this television show is using is also being used by the NFL, where they have conducted over 70,000 tests with zero positives, because they create this COVID-free environment. So, you know, with film production, a lot of times they like to move around and shoot in different areas, but as I said, we're trying to keep this centralized in a...in a resort area and...and create this environment. And because film production is ready to go now, we're able to establish this program and these protocols, not just as Maui County, but as the State, in inviting productions here. So we don't have just this reality show. We have two other large-scale productions in the queue that are ready to go. So we want to make sure that this reality show that's filming at the Andaz right now, we don't have any bumps. And there may be some because we're in uncharted waters. But I know that Donne Dawson will speak to some of the economic benefits that the film industry provides. And the great thing about opening our island to...and our County to film production is that we have the workers here to do it. And while it provides the jobs right now, we still want to build to the future. And with that future comes Brian Kohne's program he has at UHMC, where he's grooming these students to learn the industry from the inside and be able to get those jobs here in Hawai'i instead of having to move to Los Angeles or New York or somewhere where the industry thrives also. So we want to keep those people here in Hawai'i and in Maui County to get those jobs.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Mr. Bennett. Ms. Dawson?

MS. DAWSON: Mahalo, Chair. Aloha mai kākou. I'm really, really honored to be here and partake in this conversation, which is so important. Just...I think it's appropriate to just give a little bit of background on myself. I have deep roots on Maui, in Maui County, Maui Nui. My sister and brother-in-law are long-time healthcare professionals on the island. My sister is a cardiac nurse, and now a Kamehameha Schools nurse, and my...my brother-in-law is an EMT at Kaiser for 25 years. My grandparents, Annie Asam and Francis Kanahele, met on Maui. My grandmother was a teacher up at Kula San for the doctors, the...and...and their...their family...their kids, and my grandfather was an engineer for the County of Maui. I used to live on Moloka'i. It was wonderful to see Harmonie this morning, because she used to live in my house. Her...her kids were actually born in my house in Kawela. But I just...I've been doing this job for...for almost 20 years now, and I can safely say that this is the most

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challenging time for our industry. It has provided...or has...has created, I should say, the greatest challenges, but it has also created the most hope ever, I think, in the midst of this pandemic, which I think is really important to keep in mind. As Tracy said, we...we are restarting an industry State-wide, and we have always paid special attention to our neighbor islands because they...they struggle the most. You know, the majority of production goes to O`ahu, and...and so that's one of the reasons why we have a tax credit program that provides an additional financial incentive for productions to take their work to the neighbor islands, all in an effort to kind of help those communities kind of grow around this industry. And it's important to keep in mind that the...the film industry is not just...is not just a bunch of...of...of...of film workers, you know, local and out of state coming here to create their magic, it is...it is tied deeply into the small business community of our...of our islands. You know, because these film productions not only need their workers, they need to be able to have the resources of small businesses, many of whom are on the brink of going under, to provide goods and services to help support these...the engagement of these film productions. So that is a really critical point. The other thing is that the...with regard to economic impact, I can say also that 40 cents on the dollar of every dollar generated through this industry goes to household income. That is the income that our workers in the film industry take home. And...and that...that's also important. And so you...you trickle down the impact of...of those direct dollars spent in our community and all of the ancillary businesses, and the wages that are taken home by our...our residents. But I think the most important factor here, as Tracy mentioned with regard to the film industry, is that it is, without a question, in an ideal position to stand in the gap for tourism right now, and in a manner that is going to be safe and regulated, controlled, so that our hotel workers have the opportunity to get back to work in these supremely safe environments. So with...with all of that said, it...it is very hopeful for...for a community and communities across the pae 'āina who are...are struggling right now to put food on their table and to...to pay their bills, and I'm...I'm pleased and proud that this industry is in such a position to...to...to step in the gap. And just to give you the overall picture of what this means economically, the industry prior to the pandemic was worth about a half a billion dollars in direct dollars spent to the State of Hawai'i. And once that is...you know, once you apply the multiplier to that number, we're...we're looking at you know, in excess of \$800 million dollars that is pumping through our economy. Now, we are, you know, we're just, you know, we're getting back reopen again, so we're not going to be looking at numbers like that for a while, but we are on the right track, and I think that that's important. And finally, I will just leave with this, and that is that film productions who are applying for the tax credit have to provide a workforce development education giveback to our public and charter schools, which is critical, and it was the legislature's...by legislative design, that there would be that community giveback to our young kids to grow them up in this industry. During the COVID, however, we do have the ability to redirect or redeploy those

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givebacks for the most critical needs in our schools. As an example, providing...providing computers for the kids who can't afford them because they're doing distance learning. So I'll leave it at that, and mahalo for the opportunity to be here.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Ms. Dawson. Mr. Nakoa? And Members, I asked Mr. Nakoa here because he was invited to be a community watchdog for the Council to ensure that this safe...I'm sorry, Ms. Dawson, will you tell me what that plan is called, again? Safe...safe way? Safe way open?

MS. DAWSON: It's the Safe Way Forward, and it is the document that was created by the Film . . . *(audio interference)*. . . the strict safety protocols.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo. Okay. And so Mr. Nakoa is going through that protocols first hand, and I thought it would be really interesting for us to...and the public to be able to hear directly from him, how those protocols are, you know, panning out in...in life. So Mr. Nakoa?

MR. NAKOA: Howzit? Good morning. Well, first thing I want to tell you guys, this is not all fun and glory. This buggah . . . *(inaudible)*. . . staying over here, no can do nothing. Okay. What I going...I going explain to you guys everything. What you call? I was against this project from the beginning, when the Mayor went...when tell us at his press release, I went call the Administration, everything. And then when he went stop 'em, then somebody from the film industry went contact me on my Facebook and he was talking, one braddah from Honolulu, one film guy. And then . . . *(inaudible)*. . . me and you is Hawaiian, we not going get nothing, brah. I need for talk to somebody who can make decision. So with all that being said, we had about 16 hours of Zoom meetings total, and we got...and then...then I went invite choke people from the public that I could, you know, in the short time I could. I invited Councilmembers, I invited State Representatives, I invited the Mayor and his Administration; they never come on. I invited people like me, who also protect Maui and the guys who...for make some noise, plenty activists, our protectors. Take that back, we protectors. And then so had all kind people. I went invite the people that work for the hotel. I went invite my sister-in-law, who work for Kaiser. You know, for, you know, assure that this...this film industry not going come over here, take all our resources. And then so we had these meetings, and throughout that meetings, was awesome. Was awesome. I learned plenty. I've learned plenty. So I kind of went...kind of went drop my guard of...against being against this project. But I still wasn't...wasn't fully satisfied. But during this meeting, somebody went throw my...a bunch of people went throw my name in the mix to be...to be this guy that going come over here and make sure that the film industry and the hotel do what they say they was going do. And I...I took 'em after about one week of thinking about they gotta go dig my nose three times for the tests, you know what I mean, so. And then I...I got to stay

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over here. No get me wrong, the room is cherry. Nice. But junk. And I stay in my room again, right now, after I had to stay inside here for seven days because it's the only place where my Wi-Fi is kind of good, you know what I mean? And plus, I cannot talk without my mask once I leave my room. I always got to have my mask on, so I wouldn't be able to talk to you buggahs. I came in my room, and I...and I going talk to you guys about this. Now, how I got...when I got here, I had to take one test before I even set foot on this property. So I drove by, I took one test in my car, then I went home. Wait to...wait for the phone call saying that I was clear, and then once I was cleared, then they said I could come. And then when I got here, when I got here to the property, I got out, I had two...two...two luggage. The braddah went take 'em and put 'em on the cart, and then he went spray 'em. He went spray 'em with some kind of misty solution, soft...I don't know what it's called, but then had to leave 'em over there for, like, ten minutes before I even can go anywhere. Then from there, I went to the front desk, check in, grab my key that I only could use one time. So once I get in, I...I no can go no place. So I was stuck for seven days. Then throughout the seven days, they came over there and they gave me a lot of tests. I think it was five...after five days, I get one...I took one other test. Again. Stick 'em up my nose. And then I did that test. Okay. Fine and dandy. After that, two days later, they gave me another test. So three tests I had within seven days. Crazy. So then after that, I finally got to get out on Tuesday, this past Tuesday. So the past two days, Tuesday and Wednesday, I went around the...and then...okay, wait, take...let me back up little bit. Now, for me for leave this place, my room, I gotta do one survey...one questionnaire on my phone on one app, Webcore [sic] app, Medcor app, answer all the questions, then I get one standby cautionary thing on my phone, then I go to the medical station that they get over here. Then I gotta walk over there, I gotta do my temperature check, then I got to...then I give them my phone, then they clear me, then they give me one band for that color for the day. Then that says that I am clear to roam the property. I get...we get boundaries over here, no can go past 'em. So the water...the beach look good, I no can even swim in 'em. Dang it. But so yeah, so we do that every day. We gotta do the test. So and then all the workers...you know, the hotel workers, I been going around for two days, I go down to see the hotel workers, they all stay social distance. The guys that serve us the food? They behind plexiglass. They all...they all stay, like, away from us. We get a handwashing station. It's, I mean, unreal. I mean, what they doing here is like...like the president...presenter before me said, this is above and beyond. I mean, craziness. Like I said, I cannot...I cannot go nowhere without my mask. I . . . (timer sounds). . . They give us a whole bunch of masks every year...oh, every week. Oh, sorry, I think I gotta hurry up. But just let you guys know, I just talk to some of the hotel workers. They happy to be back work, they know the...they gotta go safety protocol. I going talk...if you guys get some more question, I get some more...I talk to the film guys that actually from Hawai'i. So, okay then. Shoots.

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CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Mr. Nakoa. And again, I asked...I invited Mr. Nakoa because he has that first-hand experience of going through that protocols of the direction that, you know, we...recovering or get coming...reopening the economy, what it could, you know, involve for now with this pandemic going on. Okay. So next we have Mr. Radford, followed by Mr. Haas, and then Mr. Chan Hodges. Mr. Radford?

MR. RADFORD: Yes, thank you, Chair and Members for the opportunity to talk about our ideas for how to help with a sustainable and resilient economy. And as you...you all know what we do with Invasive Species Management, and so what we want to compliment is the efforts to employ more people. And I'll just talk a little bit about what we've been doing already to make that happen. So the idea that we have is to create essentially a conservation corp. of people, and so we're trying to actually make this easier for the County in terms of, like, having one conduit that then would distribute funding to other projects. And so I'll just give a little bit of back...background. So the Mayor's CARES Act taskforce recognized that this was an existing need, and that, you know, they asked us to participate in that taskforce and provide input on it. And so we provided input on projects that were related to environmental protection and MISC and MoMISC interests as well, of course. But we saw this as an opportunity to help get people back to work while helping the 'āina. That's, like, the main thing, right? Like if we're moving away, as the Mayor said yesterday, from a tourist-based economy, like resiliency within our own place of living and being. And so we reached out to our conservation partners on Maui and Moloka'i to learn about their needs and their abilities to put people to work. The response was phenomenal on both accounts. Eighteen different organizations said yes, we need the help, and we can put people to work right away. Available activities range from fence work, reforestation, native plant propagation, cultural lands restoration and outreach, invasive species removal, and more. As I said, you know what we do. And so it was expanding the scope of work, but trying to keep it easier for the County to facilitate the use of the funds. There is also strong need for work...work in marine conservation, and during discussions with the taskforce, we agreed that it made sense for marine work to be under a different umbrella, which was the Maui Nui Resource Council. So it'd be a similar approach, but focused on makai. So the only marine aspect of our proposal would be on Moloka'i. And so our proposed conservation corp., like I said, involves marine elements, but the major focus is on terrestrial or land-based management. So all projects, as we always try...strive for, I should say, include a cultural component as well. And so that was part of our proposal to the Mayor and the taskforce. And the vast majority of programs said they would like to have teams for 12 or more weeks, and of course, job training would be provided by host agencies. The time frame is a bit limited by the funding availability. It's our understanding, as we've discussed in this meeting, that the funding would expire, essentially, at the end of the year. So the reality for us is that that needs to be spent, essentially, by, like, the end of November,

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middle of December at the latest. And so timing is...is a concern, and that...that is actually a question I had about possible extension of funding because I've heard that come up. But, you know, if...if we'd launched this in August, we were looking at, like, a three-month term. But right now, you know, we're kind of getting down to the wire. That's just the reality. And the...the questions of projects being shovel-ready comes up quite often, and we are shovel-ready. All the projects, the 18 projects that . . . *(audio interference)*. . . participate in this initiative, they're all projects that are shovel-ready for sure. And there are things that most of the programs have not been able to do for years. And these may have a huge impact on the environment and our quality of life and agriculture and all those things that we work to protect. So yeah, we indicated to the taskforce that the conservation corp. proposal was also scalable. And so any amount of funding is going to have an impact, but of course, we want to try to make the best use of the funding that we can. So like, where are we now? And you've heard this from others. But we were told that we would be contacted by the Mayor's office, and we haven't heard from the Mayor's office as . . . *(audio interference)*. . . so we're still under the impression that the funds must be spent by the end of the year, and we also understand there have been efforts to extend the timeline, as I mentioned. So as it gets closer to the end of the year, it becomes difficult to scale up on the short notice that we may be given. However, we still want to entertain, and hope that the Council advocates for environmental conservation protection work. And so . . . *(timer sounds)*. . . I just wanted to...I'll just end with this. I just wanted to note that Lori is on the call, and if she has...if you're open to comments from...additional comments from Lori, Chair, I would appreciate that. So thank you all for your time, and I'm happy to take questions and share our proposal to the Mayor with anyone who may be interested.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Mr. Radford. Next, we have Mr. Haas.

MR. HAAS: I've had a long --

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: I...oh, there...okay. You are.

MR. HAAS: Am I --

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Go ahead, Mr. Haas.

MR. HAAS: Am I unmuted now? Aloha, Chair. Aloha, Members. Thank you for the opportunity to...to speak today. I've had a long career, which has mostly been, you know, focused on hospitality and tourism, and like many people in Hawai'i, we've had some frustrations. Some people have traditionally said that the...the industry has been very successful, but of course, success is...depends on how you...how you define success. And for too long, I think we defined success as more and more...more visitors, more topline economic spending by the visitors.

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But when you dig into it, you find some concerning and frustrating trends that...that need to be addressed. One of the things that I did is to work with the folks at University of Hawai'i Economic Research Office to really take an analytical look at tourism and...and see not only what the problems are, but how we could help to, you know, to solve them. Coming out of that, we've written two papers, one with Dr. James Mak and Paul Brewbaker called Creating a New Course...Charting a New Course for Hawai'i Tourism. And it really says that, you know, since the development of Hawai'i Tourism Authority, which is a little more than 20-some years ago, it...it...we haven't lived up to the promise of tourism. Tourism, like any industry, should only exist if it...if it works for Hawai'i, if it helps Hawai'i. And when you look into the...the numbers carefully, we see some troubling trends that in real terms, that is inflation-adjusted terms, visitor spending has not increased, while at the same time, the number of visitors has increased dramatically. So we're seeing this imbalance. We've also seen changes in consumer behavior, where visitors are causing economic impacts on our sites and our communities and our residential areas that need to be managed. And frankly, we have not managed them. So that paper said we need to take a look at how we're structured, how we work with this, and how we think about tourism. The second paper was written after the start of COVID-19, and it has a provocative title. It says Can Hawai'i Rise From the Ashes of COVID-19 as a Smart Destination? We saw COVID-19 as an opportunity not only to bring back tourism, but to rethink tourism. To say, okay, now that we're shut down, how do we change the structure? How do we change the management practices, so that when...when tourism comes back, it comes back the way we would like to see it. And that works on the idea of smart tourism, which is a new concept, using technology to implement some management tools that have been missing, frankly, from...from...from tourism. So tourism hasn't lived up to its promises, but it is not going away, so we need to...we need to deal with the 800-pound gorilla in the room, not just ignore it. So this is the time to say, what can we do. And on the economic side of things, we can use technology to improve the economic impact of our visitors. We're not going to get to ten million visitors, perhaps never, but certainly not in 2021, 2022. So in that environment, we need to make sure that we're targeting the visitors who are our best possible prospects, and that's possible now with new tools like big data, artificial intelligent [sic], data analytics. And we need to take a look at what we've done in the past and change those practices that just said, you know, bring on all comers, and start talking about better targeting to those visitors. We also need to use technology to manage those negative impacts that we've seen. The good news is that people are starting to see the need for that. The Hawai'i Tourism Authority has adopted a new strategic plan in January that shifts the balance from marketing to put much more emphasis on destination management. We're also seeing some...some initiatives on Maui, for example, the restriction of people going up to Haleakalā. We're seeing in Ha'ena on Kaua'i, a very well-thought-out, comprehensive management plan, but there's so many other sites that need to

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be managed. The Hāna Highway, here on O`ahu, Maunawili Falls. We need to do a site assessment and say, where are these hotspots? Where are these sites where we're seeing . . . *(audio interference)*. . . how can we manage them? Tourism Authority has initiated something called a destination management action plan, the DMAP, that's already underway on...on Maui. And hopefully, coming out of that will be a site assessment, and from that site assessment, then a management plan for...for how to manage those sites. That's where technology comes in. How do you control access? How do we...how do we implement management fees? How do we...how do we restrict . . . *(timer sounds)*. . . need to see those . . . *(inaudible)*. . . So read the two papers. It's all there, and I'm happy to answer any questions.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Mr. Haas. And I'll get those two papers, and I can upload them to Granicus for the Members to read. Mahalo. Okay. And our last panelist is Ian Chan Hodges. Mr. Chan Hodges?

MR. HODGES: Oh, yes. Good morning, Chair Rawlins-Fernandez and Councilmembers. Good to see you all. I'm looking forward to the day we can see each other in person together. I want to start out by thanking all of you and thanking this Committee and the Council as a whole for approving funding for Phase-II of our Maui ESG project, which is actually focused on deploying capital for community need. And we've actually been in conversations with a number of people on these panel...this panel. And so I actually want to just use the first minute or two of my time just to talk about...go back at what people had said on the panel and kind of maybe add something to it. And starting with Leslie Wilkins and her Adaptability Fund, which I think is an important initiative. In terms of capital deployment, we're kind of looking at where can we actually get additional resources and capital to support what we're doing here? And I'll just throw out one example, if maybe it'll be able to augment the work that Leslie and MEDB is doing. There's a...there's a large asset manager called Brookfield Asset Management that owns hundreds of shopping centers. Their largest shopping center they own is Ala Moana Center. They've set aside \$5 billion dollars to actually try to look at how do we redesign retail, sort of post-pandemic, and...and given what's happening with Amazon. The person who heads that fund is actually...used to work for the steelworkers, and I worked with him very briefly during the auto crisis when he was part of the Obama Administration. But I just want to throw that out there to say that's a potential source of capital that maybe you can augment to what...you know, the work that Leslie and MEDB are doing. And then touching briefly on Wes...what Wes Lo is working on, I had an opportunity to talk with him a couple of weeks ago about his work in terms of training healthcare workers and looking through the future of healthcare and kind of community-based healthcare. And one area I think there's a big opportunity there, and Frank Haas talked about this as well, as far as the value of big data and in artificial intelligence is, and this is an area that we've been working on for a while with some of the folks on the

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mainland here. But actually, looking at the healthcare workers that we have here, you know, to collect their own data following HIPAA protocols and being able to use that in a way that augments their value and gets them paid more, and helps to actually reduce costs in the healthcare system. And I think that's something that Maui could really be a leader in. So I wanted to mention that as well, and thank Wes Lo for his work in that area. Coming to the film industry, we had three panelists kind of addressing that, I have had an opportunity to actually work with Tracy and Donne, and was very interested to hear what Junior had to say. And I do think this is something that is really a very good example of what we can do for a number of reasons. One of which, I think, is it does actually involve a lot of union members. You have both...both hotel workers unions have been involved in this, Local 5 and ILWU. You also have the major film industry unions, and I think that actually, the involvement of the unions, and...and Donne was mentioning the Safe Way Forward Plan, really helps make this a great way to go, and it also ensures that the people who are working in this area actually get paid union...you know, union rates, and also really importantly, because they have a union, they have the ability to whistle blow if there's a problem because the union protects them to allow them to be able to do that. And the other aspect too, that I think is important, is talking about redesigning tourism, is we...to me and...and the film industry is a really good example of this, is we need to be bringing people in to visit Hawai'i that stay here longer than seven to ten days, and so that...that...that helps in terms of COVID and the quarantine. When you have people come in who are staying longer and actually working here, like the film industry people are doing, that...that...that provides a bunch of advantages. And I think the film industry is leading that way, and we actually are, right now, seeing people both out of the hotel workers, IATSE members, and other union members actually having good paying jobs right now, thanks to the hard work of people in the industry and Tracy and Donne. And in my last 30 seconds, I...I will say that when we...there's...there's a very big opportunity. We had a conversation yesterday with someone who's an expert in ESG Bonds, municipal bonds, and in Maui County, we...which is very well positioned, I think, to actually be a leader in that area and be able to leverage their municipal bond usage with private-sector funding to be able to do things like create dinner...centers for excellence and conservation finance and be able to support our 'āina and our watershed systems. And you know, previously we had presented to Council about the report we put together on investing in the...sort of East Maui water system and how that could be beneficial. Okay, that's kind of just an overview of what I see that's been very valuable about what the other panelists have talked about. So thank you very much. . . .(timer sounds). . .

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Mr. Chan Hodges. Okay, Members, that is our...quite a power house of a panel. And like I said, I invited everyone here to discuss...to touch upon all the different industries as we look, you know, forward in reopening our economy, and doing it in a way that is responsible and

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sustainable and...and improves the quality of life for our entire . . . *(audio interference)*. . . That was the intention behind today's panel, and I know...I'm sure you have a lot of questions. I'm going to give...I'm going to try to do two rounds of three minutes if...if possible. We'll do the first round and see where we're at, and see if Members want to do a second round. Okay? So we'll start with Committee Vice-Chair King, and then we'll go to Member Sinenci, and we'll do three minutes per Member.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Okay.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Committee Vice-Chair King?

VICE-CHAIR KING: Thank you, Chair, and thank you for putting together this great panel and starting this discussion off. So many questions, but I'm going to kind of start with Mr. Frank Haas because, you know, I was really intrigued by what you were saying about potential...I think you were talking about impact fees, and just listening to Ian Chan Hodges on...when you talked about the...the getting...not focusing on the numbers of tourists, but managing who's coming here and what they're doing. Do you think that impact fees would be...would work better if they were applied by the State, or if they...you know, by the State Legislature, or if they were...if the Counties were enabled to apply them directly in the County? Do you have an opinion on that? And...and you're muted, so you need to unmute yourself. The other part...let me ask the other part of the question too, because I was in the Galapagos last November, and Ecuador has an impact fee, which is higher for shorter stays. So I think it kind of goes along with what we're saying, with trying to get the tourists to come here for longer periods. Because if you only stayed there three days, you pay more than if you stay there a week or two weeks. So maybe you can address that as well.

MR. HAAS: Can I get unmuted? How do I unmute --

VICE-CHAIR KING: You're...you're unmuted now. You did it.

MR. HAAS: Okay. That's a great question, and it really...it really bears some...some deep thinking. Whether it's the State or the County or sites really depends on the approach that you want to take. There are places...the second paper I talked about, the Can We Become a Smart Destination, cites some places in Europe that do impact fees at the destination level. And what they often do is modify those fees based upon the demand. So during peak seasons, they go up, during soft seasons, they go down. And they may...they may incentivize different behaviors, longer stays or other things, as you pointed out. That's one approach to it. On the other hand, if you want to manage specific sites by doing access fees, then you...it needs to be site-specific. On the Hāna Highway, for example, it's possible to impose a toll only for visitors that...on that road. You can do it through transponders or through other technology, so that it

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wouldn't affect the...it wouldn't affect the residents. But when a visitor with a rental car has a...which has a transponder...drives into that area, it would automatically put a charge on their...on their rental car. So it's not one or the other. We really have to think about what the strategic approach is, and then build the system from there.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Okay. And will your report be making those recommendations? You know, you said you were going to do site assessments and...

MR. HAAS: Well, the site assessments, there's a...an initiative that just started on Maui called the DMAP, the Destination Management . . . *(timer sounds)*. . . Plan and that's underway. We didn't make recommendations because we think we need community...we need a broad based community involvement to make those determinations.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Okay. So when you get your study done, you'll be taking that to the community first. Okay. All right. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Committee Vice-Chair King. Member Sinenci, followed by Member Molina.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Mahalo, Chair. Yes, my first question, question is for Mr. Lo. And so I appreciate your comments this morning. And first question is, you know, is it difficult for healthcare expansion when we...when we talk about smaller clinics and going outside of the larger healthcare system? And have you been working with some of the hotel workers that are out of work right now?

MR. LO: Madam Chair, Councilmember Sinenci, so the expansion...I think it's two-part question. The expansion of clinics, et cetera. I think there's a lot going on right now with, is particularly the . . . *(inaudible)*. . . Centers, Malama I Ke Ola, Hui No Ke Ola Pono, to expand many programs to get out into the community. So there's a big push right now with a lot of the insurance companies and Medicaid to start providing more of those services to the community. So now it's a matter of us trying to scale up to do that, and find a new reimbursement model so we can pay for it. So I see that happening. We're actually partnering with Maui Medical Group to start actually expanding those services to the community where we'll do our part, they are going to do the physician part, and try create better outreach to those areas. As it relates to the hotel workers, so we've started several different programs, and it's been targeted...initially it was targeted at the high school students, and now it's targeted displaced workers. So we have been seeing a lot of people who are in the tourist industry. Some are like rent-a-cars, you know, the hotel workers, et cetera, that are now dipping their toe into the water of healthcare right now. And we are trying to give them not only the training in that, but also to see

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what the future is, you know. Because again, I think I told the Council at one point in time that healthcare is probably the highest paying profession in the County of Maui right now, once you get to the pinnacle of it. So we're starting to see that right now. I actually think that over the next several months, at least from Hale Makua standpoint, we're going to see further jobs being developed. We actually are working on a potential acquisition that would expand...frankly, healthcare sometimes is hotel working jobs. I mean, it's just that we're not necessarily for tourist, but we're, you know, 24/7 care, kitchen workers, et cetera. But timing is a little bit awkward for us right now. I think that our expansion may occur closer to April or June of this coming year. And so we're trying to figure how to train them, keep them engaged, and provide the future going forward. I think, like you've heard from many of the testifiers, timing is complicated right now, but we definitely think that there's tremendous opportunity . . . *(timer sounds)* . . . in this field, but we have to move quickly at it right now. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Sinenci. Member Molina?

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Thank you, Madam Chair. I'd just like to first say thank you for putting together this bunch of wonderful panelists. We have a plethora--I looked up that word, plentiful and great, great resources. I'll just start my question with, I guess, continuing on the line that Member Sinenci and Mr. Lo with the healthcare profession training and, I guess, Ms. Wilkins can chime in. Seems like the highest unemployed...of those that are unemployed come from the visitor industry, and I'm glad to hear we're rebounding, getting some training programs in there. So again, Mr. Lo, the highest area of need for healthcare professions is what? Physical therapists? Radiology? Can you respond to that? Because I know you're a former hospital administrator as well.

MR. LO: You know, I don't have the exact stats, but there was a study done across the State. And I think that, if I remember it correctly, the certified nurse aides were in huge demand for the current environment. And nurses are...but nurses are at different levels. So again, there's not a...necessarily a big demand for newly graduated nurses, there's a big demand for specialty nurses. So you have to develop this whole pipeline to get them there. I mean, it's not as simple as just creating a, you know, let's go and do nurse training. You got to make sure that they continue to develop. But I think it's mostly in things like nurse aides, et cetera. Now having said that, I think the future is different than that. I think the new future is something called a community health worker. And a community health worker, frankly, is a person that likes to be in healthcare, but doesn't want to see blood. I...it's kind of tongue in cheek, but it's more around the social work. It's more around social determinants of health. It's more about becoming their advocate in the community, and making sure they know where the resources are, as opposed to institutional care. So we're

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working with the college right now and Malama I Ke Ola to start developing new programs. And I think that the...if we can develop these programs, and we already are starting to get funding to start having these things to reach out into communities like the COFA population or the Filipino population, Hawaiian, you know, population is that...I think that is going to be a new area where other new jobs that don't exist right now very much. They're very limited. So we're . . . *(inaudible)*. . . right now --

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Mr. Lo, if I could...

MR LO: . . . *(inaudible)*. . . Oh, I'm sorry.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: If I could stop you right there, it's great. Just briefly, how many jobs do you foresee we will have with these training programs? And like Mr. Radford said, there's some like 18 shovel-ready...or 18 organizations have shovel-ready jobs to go. So just alone on the healthcare profession, by your estimate, how many jobs that people...people put back...be put back to work?

MR. LO: Well, I can only speak directly to Hale Makua. We're hoping that within the next six months will be about 50 jobs. We've already hired 18 of them, and we're probably going to hire another five in the next day or so. This is over the last two or three weeks frankly, but it's going to take a little time. I know that Maui Medical Group and Kula Hospital also have a...and Malama I Ke Ola have training programs that they are looking to hire right now also. So, you know, we're...I think...I'd be hard pressed to give you a total jobs, but there's certainly jobs in the healthcare industry.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Great. Well, it seems...seems like there's plenty of hope on the horizon. Great. Thank you. Thank you, Madam Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Molina. Chair Lee, followed by Member Hokama.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Thank you, Madam Chair. Thank you, panelists, for coming. I appreciate all of your presentations. But I would also like to talk to Mr. Lo. Are you working from a overarching strategy? Like for instance, are you just doing this on your own? Is every field just working on their own, or is everybody working from a master plan of some kind that perhaps the County, the Mayor, the Administration put together, or somebody put together? Because I would think, Wes, that you would need to start with some kind of assessment, yeah, to find out what kinds of jobs are preferred, what kinds of qualifications do our people have with regard the 20,000 who are not working. They should be surveyed, along with your idea of a future. All the high school seniors should be surveyed as well because that's the next wave, yeah. So I

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would hope that everybody's working off a master plan, and that there's not a whole lot of people tripping over each other and doing duplicative work. So is that how you operate? It seems like you have a hui that you're working with, and you do have kind of a master plan; is that correct?

MR. LO: Oh. Wow, was a big question. So I'm going to answer this carefully. We have a healthcare pathway that is very comprehensive going on right now. It includes UHMC, DOE, Castle Foundation, the University of Hawai'i system, Community College system, many of the big foundations like Weinberg Foundation and so on and so forth, Hawai'i Community Foundation, MEDB, et cetera. So we have been working on a pathway around healthcare. Now, we started working on this probably--I'm starting to look at Leslie--probably around November of last year, but we've had to pivot recently because of COVID. So we do have that going. We actually meet regularly. In fact, on Monday I have a meeting with some of the funders for this hui. We are trying to put together a comprehensive pathway from high school all the way to the highest level, which probably will not be working for Hale Makua. So we do have that. That's one piece of it. We also have a healthcare hui for the CARES Act that we have been working with through the Mayor's Office to try to determine how that we could best approach that, and we meet regularly on that, and that's with Mālama I Ke Ola hui, you know, some of the Hāna folks, et cetera. We meet regularly on that. So we have those two things going, and then if there's really an overarching thing and, you know, I appreciate your comment. The comment is less about healthcare, but it's about community development, and we are trying to put that together. I think that in Councilmember Hokama's Committee . . . *(timer sounds)* . . . we did put together a health impact assessment about community development. Now --

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay. Wes, sorry.

MR. LO: -- community development...

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Wes, our time is up, so I just want to say thank you for not only having a broader view and be it specifically going after jobs, but also coming up with a very good funding plan. Because as the former Director of Finance you know how limited our funds are. So the more you can leverage private funds, that's terrific. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair Lee. Member Hokama, followed by Member Sugimura.

COUNCILMEMBER HOKAMA: Thank you very much for my opportunity, Chair. And I would also agree. We have wonderful resource people in the community. They care a lot, so thank you for allowing them to share their thoughts with us this morning. But hearing from them, I would have a question for Mr. Teruya. I

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believe he's participating with us, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Director Teruya?

COUNCILMEMBER HOKAMA: Are you with us, Scott?

MR. TERUYA: I'm here, Chair.

COUNCILMEMBER HOKAMA: Okay, thank you, Director. Director, knowing the condition of the State, yeah, they're over a billion dollars short of cash right now, so they're looking at difficult decisions, whether it's called furloughs, RIFs, layoffs, you name it, and its impact on our own County residents. I know the County can last maybe 12 more months without any cash difficulties. But my concern is have the County prepared once we get some normalcy back on how we gonna start making collections back for appropriate taxes, licenses, fees, and those other requirements? Because without the cash, we won't be able to give groups like MISC money, or anybody else, because there's no cash. I know what we did, we just borrowed. We got a unbelievable rate under 2 percent all inclusive for the borrowing. That was tremendous. But we need cash to operate. And so my question to you is, is my scenario of this County being financial cash concerns within...could happen within, what, 12 to 24 months if we don't get appropriate influx of cash back?

MR. TERUYA: Chair, and thank you, Mr. Hokama, for that question. Because we recently finished our official statement with the bond, I believe to be exact, right, about 289 or 298 cash on hand. So if that was one of your questions, that is the answer that we had provided on our official statement.

COUNCILMEMBER HOKAMA: Yeah. And again, I just bring this up because now our own people are going to deal with Young Brothers' 46 percent rate increase. We going to be dealing with additional cost factors with less cash flowing in our economy. And this County cannot keep pumping out cash it doesn't have. So my question to you is . . . *(timer sounds)*. . . Well, Chair, I . . . *(audio interference)*. . . I appreciate my turn. Thanks.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh. If you want to ask your last question, we can may just ask Director if he could briefly answer. Go ahead.

COUNCILMEMBER HOKAMA: Okay, thanks. So again, yeah, Chair and Mr. Teruya, my concern is, how do we then also with the break that Mr. Haas mentioned regarding this temporary delay with the industry, how do we do our shoreline sea level projects planning and construction for the future when we not sure what the visitor industry going to look like. Waikiki for O`ahu, for us is Kā`anapali and Wailea. So you have any comment about the fiscal versus monetary policy? It's a hard question, I know, Director, if you want to think

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about it, that's fine with me because we in serious times. This is a serious question, and we need serious answers. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Hokama. Member Sugimura, followed by...oh, wait, no. I skipped Member Paltin. Member Paltin, and then Member Sugimura. Yes. Member Paltin, sorry.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. My question is for Mr. Lo. You know, knowing about your history with the hospital and the agreements and commitments that Kaiser made when they took it over, you know, the situation like, you know, I'm totally supportive of expanding healthcare, but right now they're talking about closing clinics in Wailuku, Kihei, Lahaina and, you know, those specialized nurses, surgeons, gastroent--you know the one, colonoscopies and all that stuff. Like, I mean, what kind of, I guess, what Chair Lee was talking about, the overall thing, like how...we know these are needed things and they want to try and move that to the hospital, and it's kind of totally in breach with their commitment that they made when they took it over. It's in breach with their commitment to Local 5. And so how can we talk about expanding this industry when they're laying folks off, and they are needed people within our community. Like not everyone wants to go to the hospital for these procedures.

MR. LO: Councilmember Paltin, yeah, you know, that's actually a really good question. Irrespective of them losing those...the Kaiser practitioners, or I'm not sure if they are, sounds that they're moving that direction, people are still going to be sick. So that's why I think there needs to be a much bigger effort to keep people preventative medicine and start looking from a community base. Now, in the background of all this, obviously this is a Statewide issue and there are...I think that if we can save the health delivery system some money, there will be other opportunities to expend services here. I think that we need to, as a community, show the grass roots and the groundwork to support that, and that's why I'm really pushing hard on this community based health. You know, you still need to...you know, you still got to deal with it, no matter what. I mean, it doesn't go away just because the doctor went away. So we have to figure out better methods to do that, and to find better partnerships, and to reach into the community sooner and faster. This is my bet on this and, you know, we'll see how it goes in...but, you know, the ebbs and flows in any industry...and this is what's going to happen, I certainly have my opinions about what you said, and I agree. And much of what you said is that there were some commitments that we need to deal with on that. But we as community need to take the bull by the horns and start trying to find ways to maybe prevent a lot of that, those things happening and then find appropriate partnerships.

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COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, yeah. Definitely not allow unilateral shutdowns without public hearings. My next question would be for the film industry, and I'm glad that you guys were able to relocate to South Maui. Just wondering, you know, in the past, like how you used private luxury residences in West Maui, is that a commitment moving forward to just use legal accommodations? There was some issue when it...the filming occurred in West Maui about not necessarily legal places that were being stayed at, and there were quite a few complaints from residents about the shooting and filming location when it occurred in West Maui. And I just was wondering, you know, now that we're having this whole shift of everything and destination tourism that the . . . *(timer sounds)*. . . commitment . . . *(inaudible)*. . . accommodations.

MS. DAWSON: Tracy, you want to answer that question regarding the homes?

MR. BENNETT: Thank you, Member Paltin. Thank you very much for that question. Yeah, we're talking about a particular reality show that was filming there, and I think that because some of the issues they had in previous seasons is why we really stressed to them this season to, you know, buy out a resort, ultimately, and shoot there. And what their future is going forward, we don't know that but, you know, it's a very difficult production to manage in a sense that reality television is unscripted and there isn't really a plan for their daily shooting, which is why it's called reality. And it's kind of a daily, you know, look into people's lives. And, you know, a lot of people don't like it, it's not their cup of tea. But in any case, you know, productions like this, they generally spend a lot of money in the County and employ a lot of our people. And I think you make a great point in moving forward that we definitely need to have a better handle on where they do film because ultimately, you know, when they were filming in those private residences, it is private property, which doesn't require a County or a State Film Permit. So it's difficult for Donne and her office to get involved, and difficult for me to get involved. And unless there's really an effort made to control them a little bit better, I think going forward now, you make a great point. And I really would like to stress a different model for shows like this that come in and film at these luxurious homes. You know, the industry, I think, is growing so much now in these COVID times that we have the ability to direct them into different areas to film where they can and can't go, and we've had to make some changes to our rules as well and Donne can attest that, you know, we're trying to keep the productions in an area that are safe and the least amount of community contact as possible. So I really do thank you for that question and that concern, and it certainly...moving forward, especially with productions like this, will be dealt with much, much differently than we have in the past.

MS. DAWSON: Can I add to that very briefly?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Real quick, real quick.

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MS. DAWSON: Oh, okay, sorry. Just wanted to let...thank you for the question, Member Paltin. We have a very strict film permitting process for all the of the State's jurisdictions. And specifically for the West Side of Maui, we are hyper sensitive to what some of the community's concerns have been, and we are...we are never going to release a permit or approve a permit if it is going to in any way trample on any kind of community or cultural sensitivities. So I just wanted you to know that that is a very important part of the process. Because when it comes to balancing the interest between producers and our community, we're going to have to err on the side of community because we are members of the community, and we need to live here and be answerable to those people that have those concerns.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you. Thank you. And I think last time, it was right after we passed the commercial ban at Hanaka`ō`ō that filming was going on at Hanaka`ō`ō, and I appreciate that there was no police involvement in that. And I think, you know, Mr. Ornellas had a lot of work to be doing while the filming was going on and just, you know, the trespassing and other issues like that. Thank you.

MS. DAWSON: I fell...I came over here specifically to address that issue. I flew over to Maui.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Thank you, Ms. Dawson. Member Sugimura?

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you. I echo everybody. This is such a great panel. It's inspiring, and it gives us hope for the future as we're taking a look at where we are today and looking forward. I wanted to ask Mr. Haas, if I could, because of his background with hospitality and tourism, and in our economic situation where we are today, and I hope when we manage our visitor industry better, as you said by these papers, I wonder if you could give us a brief look at what you're seeing, and any hints that you could give us from your perspective.

MR. HAAS: Well, I think we have to start...am I unmuted? I always have to check. I think we have to start with a...at the beginning, we need to start with the State vision. What do we want tourism to be? What is the community basis for tourism? And then build from there. I think there's some opportunities in diversifying tourism. I don't think that we've taken the opportunity to develop some of these niche tours and markets, agritourism, ecotourism. And we need to do research to identify the kinds of visitors, their spending patterns and behaviors that are preferential. We know certain visitor types are better than others in terms of their low impact and high yield, and that's...the first step is identifying those people, and then building our programs around them.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Well, thank you. I look forward to reading your

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papers that you'll share with us. If I could ask the Adaptability program with MEDB and with...this would be for Leslie Wilkins. I got an email from the Maui Food Technology Center, and they're asking about value added products, as they have not been included with the Maui County Farm Bureau or the Hawai'i Farmer's Union funding that has come to keep agriculture going, but they...you have these byproducts that are being produced, like the Upcountry Jam, and wondering if they would be able to use the...your program --

MS. WILKINS: So --

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: -- Leslie.

MS. WILKINS: -- thanks, that's a really good question. The Adaptability Fund is all about restructuring businesses to survive and thrive in our very changed economy. I'm just going to say...and each evaluation by our financial board members and community partners will be done on the strength of the application of what they are --

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: It depends.

MS. WILKINS: -- applying for, what is their needs? It's not just as much as the prior very successful funds from the Chamber and from the credit bureaus when businesses have already spent money on plexiglass, or they've spent money, you know, on things for social distancing, and they're getting reimbursed by receipts.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: So Leslie, thank you. I'm going to ask them to apply, right, that's what you're saying.

MS. WILKINS: Oh, definitely.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: It depends on the strength of what they're doing. Thank you.

MS. WILKINS: Of how they're going to mitigate their business.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Yeah. And I'm just trying to skim through because we have limited amount of minutes. So --

MS. WILKINS: Sure, no problem. . . .*(timer sounds)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: -- Tracy Bennett...oh.

MS. WILKINS: Sorry.

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COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: No, no, no. I'm sorry I cut you off. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Is it a quick question?

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: I just want to say, we gave the Film Commissioner 116,000 through this budget cycle, and I'm just wondering from what he...or seen and with the change of our economy due to COVID, how do you see that, you know, that funding...is that going to be sufficient, or is this CARES Act going to provide you what you need? But that might be too long of a question to answer but that's my question, the 116,000 that we, you know, that the County provided for your industry for this fiscal year.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: If you're able to --

MR. BENNETT: Thank you...

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: -- respond in a few sentences.

MR. BENNETT: Yes, thank you. Thank you, Chair. I can...Member Sugimura, I can tell you that, you know, the monies that we've used, this consistent amount of funding in the past goes toward marketing Maui, Maui County as a film destination, and attending many of the industry trade shows with Donne Dawson and the other film commissioners from Hawai'i. So I think moving forward, because of the pandemic, I'm in the process now of reinvesting some of those funds at the moment and seeing, you know, going forward into the next fiscal year, you know, the amount of funding that I would personally need. But, you know, right now is what's important to these other productions that are seriously considering Maui because of the protocols that we've set forward. So I'm in the process of that, and I'm happy to speak with you at length later about it if you'd like.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: I would, I would. Thank you very much. Appreciate it.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Sugimura. Okay, Pro Tem Kama.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you, Chair, very much. So I, too, want to be able to talk to the...the Film Commissioner and Ms. Dawson. Ms. Dawson, you mentioned earlier in your presentation that 40 cents of every dollar, where does it go? Does it stay here, and does it go towards...where did it go? That was one. And then the second question was, you mentioned also earlier that what we...what Maui has been producing in terms of the film industry has been commercials and reality shows. Can you explain why those two as opposed to a bigger movie production that has a longer life here on Maui? If that makes sense to you, my question. Either one of you. Thank you.

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MS. DAWSON: Yes. On...first of all, just regarding the 40 cents on the dollar, the dollars are directly spent in association with the engagement of that film production in our islands, and they go to a wide variety of things. But the point I was making was that 40 cents on the dollar goes to the wages for the people that are employed by that production. So it's nearly half of what they're spending is toward...is toward wages and salaries. So...and regards to why Maui is...attracts those kind of smaller productions, a lot of it has to do with infrastructure or lack thereof and, you know, we...the reason why close to 90 percent of production goes to O`ahu and the neighbor island counties have to struggle for that remaining 10 percent really is because the majority of our infrastructure and our labor force in this industry is based on O`ahu, and that's why we fought hard to provide that 5 percent differential for the tax credit program. So the neighbor islands provide...are able to give a full 25 percent through the State's tax credit program to offset the additional cost to bring people from O`ahu, to bring equipment from O`ahu. And so that's...and that was important. We had a hard time getting that through the legislature, but the idea is, there is so much diversity that is offered on the neighbor islands, and the idea is we are growing this industry Statewide, and we want to...we want to develop the infrastructure, both in terms of labor and facilities on those neighbor islands so that they can attract more of the longer, bigger budget projects.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Last question, what do you think would be the development cost to do that infrastructure?

MS. DAWSON: Well, for a film studio...and Maui did have a film studio that was in...that was engaged for a brief period of time. You're looking at minimum a 30 to \$50 million capital investment for a stage space that is going to provide that necessary infrastructure at the size, the square footage size that would be attractive for a major feature film production. I will say that the tourism facilities that are not being currently used for tourism are being engaged for film production. As an example, the Hawai'i Convention Center is talking with two television shows to provide stage space that would be retrofitted there for a limited amount of time. So we're looking for all of these synergies with tourism to make it work, but I don't think you're going to see that kind of a capital investment during the middle of a pandemic.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Pro Tem Kama. Okay. So I wanted to allow our panelists to add on and to correct. So I wanted to call on Ms. Wilkins about...I think this was Member King asked the question. So the technology company on Maui that can do what Dr. Haas is recommending. Ms. Wilkins, would you mind adding your comments on that?

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MS. WILKINS: I would love to add an addition. You know, we have some extraordinary technology here on Maui. HNU Photonics has exactly the geofencing and tracking app that will allow us to monitor who goes to our extraordinary visitor locations, maintain carrying capacity, mentioned Hāna Highway. I believe the principal there, Dr. Dale O'Connell (*phonetic*) is in conversation with Senator Kalani English. It's very simple app. Visitors would have to register, register their rental car with an app to be able to get on the highway, they would get a timeslot of when they could go, et cetera. And geofencing would show if they have breached that allowed time period. And of course, it would give preference to any residents to use the roadway facility. So I just wanted to make sure that we don't just look at other national, international best practices, we look at home. It's called Safer Hawai'i. It's already developed. The last thing I wanted to talk about is our infrastructure. Film, whatever, we need to look at our broadband. Our broadband is severely in trouble. We cannot, I think, reach the potential that Mr. Bennett and Ms. Dawson are talking about unless we get our upload speeds. We have an incredible pipeline of young people, starting with Maui High, that know creative media and that are winning national awards throughout our schools here that, you know, if we don't address the broadband situation collectively as a State, as a County, private sector, it will definitely, absolutely deter our abilities to diversify our economy in technology, in healthcare, and the in demand higher wage opportunities that we're so desirous of. And that will also be what we need to do, is look at job opportunities for our residents that are not geographic specific, connecting our young people with international, global employers like the Facebooks, Googles, and whatever because they have the skills, but we need the bandwidth to allow them to connect to those kind of jobs. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Ms. Wilkins. Okay, and I'm sorry it wasn't a correction, it was a clarification.

MS. WILKINS: Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mr. Radford and Ms. Buchanan, you wanted to clarify on the number of jobs. I think Member Molina had asked about the number of jobs, and I think you said there was 18 organizations, but it wasn't clear the number of jobs. Mr. Radford, Ms. Buchanan?

MR. RADFORD: Hey, I was on mute. But sorry, what was the question?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh, I wanted to just give you an opportunity to clarify on the record. You typed in chat. Member Molina had asked about the number of jobs when he was asking a question to Mr. Lo. So I wanted...

MR. RADFORD: Yeah, that's a great question. So we've proposed creating 215 jobs on

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Maui and Moloka'i, and those would be focused on a wide range of things, like entry level work crew leaders, data management, communications, and administrative work. So it'd be kind of a gamut of all the things we do, and with a focus on Moloka'i and Hāna. And the other thing I would just highlight is that we actually see an opportunity to employ people who have worked in like tourism industry, who have the skill sets to help facilitate that kind of work, the administrative type work.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Mr. Radford.

MR. RADFORD: Thank you for the question.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo for that clarification. And...okay, so I just have a few questions. One, Ms. Wilkins, now that...after yesterday, we've...we now know that MEDB is being rewarded the...awarded the...

MS. WILKINS: Adaptability Fund.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Adaptability. Thank you, thank you. Adaptability. Two questions. A testifier asked about Workforce Development and about Adaptability. How will it be announced to the community, the different businesses, and how do they apply?

MS. WILKINS: Thank you for the question. I believe we have our notice to proceed on the fund. We have set up a website for applications, which is secure for our businesses, with the criteria for them. Again, the strength is in the proposal of how they will use these funds to retool, rebuild their business to survive and thrive, and with that comes coaching. Our whole business development team with our business development partners will help our businesses with that process, and then we hope to get funding out as early as possible to help fund those...there is an...also another website. I will put all these out in every social media platform, every multi-media, press release possible as soon as...I'm doing that in conjunction with the Mayor's Office as soon as we get the permission to release that. They will also have a website. We've also been going out to our small businesses in Maui County that provide those services, whether they're a videographer or web developer, a social media marketer, a space redesigner, so that our grantees in the Adaptability Fund are putting that money twice into the economy by hiring local businesses that provide those services to them. About training, very important, if there is some training related to that restructuring of their business, that is allowable in the Adaptability. I think I mentioned the example if a retail store is going e-commerce, and is putting on a shopping cart and a chatbot, if they need to retrain some of their normal staff that had, you know, greeted people as they came into a physical store, which isn't happening, on how the technology to respond, that would be eligible. The other training I recommend anyone to go into our American Job Centers to look

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for retooling and retraining in other areas. And I also mentioned the Aloha Connects Innovation program that MEDB is a part of, which is State funding, which is work-based experience and training in careers that are not visitor, and businesses that are not visitor dependent. So...and I'm happy to get out all those websites and all that information. Did I answer your question?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yes, you did. Mahalo, Ms. Wilkins.

MS. WILKINS: All right, thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo. And then I'll get all of that information and I'll add that to our item in Granicus. And I know that Mr. Radford also talked about workforce training with the 18 organizations that were willing to do the job training for those that are...Mr. Radford?

MS. WILKINS: And we have ongoing training for our STEMworks programs as well.

MR. RADFORD: Yeah, absolutely.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo.

MR. RADFORD: Thank you for raising that point. I'll just make a quick one. That we actually did this in the post 9/11 economic downturn, so we actually are well prepared to manage. I mean, when you say 215 people, that's pretty intimidating, right, but like we've actually done, not to that scale, but we've done this before, and so I just want to make that point on the record and to the Council. And so thank you for letting me have another comment.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Absolutely. Mahalo again for joining us. Okay. So it's 11:18. Unless anyone has a really burning question, I'm going to thank our panelists, and I can't see everyone. Okay, Committee Vice-Chair King?

VICE-CHAIR KING: Thank you, Chair. Just back to Ms. Wilkins on the Adaptability Grant. For businesses that already spent money, you know, they didn't wait for a grant and they already put their own money into adapting but, you know, the acrylic shields and things like that. Will they be able to apply for this grant to reimburse for what they've already spent?

MS. WILKINS: Yes. They will have to self-certify that they have not been reimbursed from any other CARES Act funding or County funding to support that and, you know, prove that, but yes. But again, we would like to also coach them on how they're also doing things to more long-term future focus, retool, and adapt their businesses for long-term thriving.

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VICE-CHAIR KING: Okay. Well, that's great. I just want to make sure that the businesses that went ahead and did...started on this did, you know, still have --

MS. WILKINS: March 20th. It has to have been spend after we went to --

VICE-CHAIR KING: After March?

MS. WILKINS: -- shutdown, yes, is the CARES Act treasury guideline on that.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Okay, great. Thank you. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Absolutely. Mahalo for that clarifying question. Okay. So I don't see...oh, Member Molina?

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Thank you, Madam Chair. This has been such a wonderful panel. I just have one dying question to ask Mr. Haas as it relates to tourism. I appreciate the new marketing strategy and maybe targeting the, as you put it, the high yield tourist or high end, which I think is a good, you know, approach. What other tourist destinations that you've looked at and what they're doing that we could incorporate into our new marketing strategy for tourism?

MR. HAAS: Well, there's a lot of best practices if you look at--blanking on the name--Sedona or Charleston or some other destinations. They've really focused their activities on certain types of visitors that fit...that fit the profile that they're looking for. You know, the...globally, the tourism industry is huge so, you know, we don't need 10 billion visitors. We only need the visitors that we want. So...

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Less is more, yeah.

MR. HAAS: Less is more. And the more you focus, the more sharp your brand is, and the more it attracts like-minded visitors. So cultural tourist, heritage tourist...Santa Fe is a good example of...they focused on the arts and culture market and the native market there. Charleston, New Orleans has food festivals, jazz. Yeah, there are a lot of...and a lot of those examples are in the second paper that I mentioned.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Great. Thank you very much, Mr. Haas. Thank you, Madam Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Molina. And I'll get the papers from Mr. Haas and then I can...

MS. DAWSON: Chair, is it possible for me to add a quick statistic of to --

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CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Sure, Ms. Dawson.

MS. DAWSON: -- of what was just asked. Just to share from . . . *(inaudible)*. . . perspective on...if you take the figure \$30,000 equals approximately 50 tourists, then you look at a budget for a TV show that would be between, you know, 7, \$7-and-a-half million, that if you were looking in the tourism realm, that would equate to about 4,500 tourists coming to that particular community. So I just wanted to reemphasize the bang for the buck, if you will, in attracting that kind of quality tourism, and less is more, as Member Molina said. And truthfully, we know that film producers are high spending tourists. So just wanted to add that.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Ms. Dawson. Okay. Member Paltin?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Chair, and I just wanted to go off...dovetail off of Member Molina's question as well. For Mr. Hass, are you guys also...kind of an emerging concern is, you know, with that hotels being so high end, a lot of folks are just renting cars with camping gear, but we don't have the camping facilities to support it. So I just was checking that that's on your radar, like transient vacation rental cars.

MR. HAAS: Well, it's a bigger issue than that. It's really targeting the type of visitor that goes to a hotel. Hotels are a good example. Hotels have really good economic impact. You know, the number of employees per visitor is high in a hotel. Somebody in a camper or somebody in a vacation rental, the equation is very different. So you use research to say who are the types of people that prefer to stay in resorts, and play at the golf course, and play tennis, and go to the restaurants, and those people are easy to identify. My wife is a foodie. She doesn't care where she stays, but she doesn't care what she spends on food. Those are the people that we want, that they're happy. You know the average rate, hotel rate in Wailea pre-COVID was \$600 a night. And when I used to teach a course in hospitality and I said, is that worth it? And the answer is, it's worth it to some people. The question is, how do you find those people that say, I'm happy to spend \$600 a night at the Grand Wailea because that's what I want.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Paltin. Okay. So I'll thank all of our panelists for joining us today and spending this time. And again, today is...was just to kind of touch upon all the multiple industries that we have in our County, and the industries that we invested in the budget this session. And what we can do is have a deeper dive moving forward, you know, in this Economic Development and Budget Committee, and I can invite some of our

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panelists again so that we can have a longer discussion about how we can grow each of these different industries in a way that we best benefit from, and that we maximize community benefit from, and that we're, you know, giving back to our home to not just our people, but also to our `āina because, you know, tourists will not want to come here if we're not investing in the reason that they're coming, which is that Maui County and Hawai'i is naturally beautiful. But if our coral reefs all die and the invasive species take over, then people won't want to come, and our residents will not be happy because, you know, coqui frogs, little fire ants are, you know, just not making our quality of life here very, you know, good. So with that, mahalo again, all of our panelists, for joining us, for sharing your thoughts, answering our questions. I will be in touch. I'll get added information and have it uploaded for our Members, and I look forward to a deeper discussion with each of you. Mahalo.

MS. DAWSON: Mahalo nui. A hui hou.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: A hui hou.

MR. HAAS: Aloha.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: And then, Members, it's 11:26. Is it okay if we return at 11:35? Okay. And when we return, we'll have Managing Director and Budget Director and probably Finance Director to answer some of the questions regarding the CARES Act and other Coronavirus funding. Okay. Mahalo, Members. Okay, so it's 11:26 and the Economic Development and Budget Committee is now in recess. . . .(gavel). . .

RECESS: 11:26 a.m.
RECONVENE: 11:37 a.m.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: . . .(gavel). . . Will the Economic Development and Budget Committee please return to order. It's 11:37. And we are on our one agenda item today. I forgot to bring that up earlier that the panel was under EDB-85, Legislation and Discussion on the Effect of the Coronavirus Pandemic, Rules, Cares Act, and Related Issues. So now we have...Managing Director Baz, are you on? And Budget Director Yoshimura, and Finance Director Teruya.

MR. TERUYA: Here, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: And is Managing Director with us?

MR. TERUYA: I don't see him.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: He's not logged on at the moment. We'll give him a call.

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CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, okay. I wanted to just give our Budget Director and Managing Director and Finance Director an opportunity to give us an update on the funding for this item. If you would provide us an update and take about five minutes, and then I'll open up to questions from the Members. Whoever would like to go. Or I can just open up to questions.

MS. YOSHIMURA: Oh, okay.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Should I go straight to questions and then when Mr. Baz comes on?

MS. YOSHIMURA: Okay. Unless you want an update for the HELP program, I can give you that. So as of September 18th, which was Friday, they received 531 new applications, which equate to \$3,995 in requests. They processed 471 applications. Total assistance to date with HELP 2....so we did HELP 1, this is HELP 2. There's a total assistance of \$1,799,271 that has been dispersed. We've assisted 2,355 households, which equates to 12,321 individuals. So HELP 2 is wrapping up. We're getting geared up to do HELP 3. With that, we'll put another \$5 million available through the program, and change a little bit of the criteria. So that should be coming out shortly. We also have the Kokua Maui County, the small business grant that we've been providing to the community through our credit unions. And to date, they have provided about \$4.9 million. We did give them two rounds of monies. It was 3 million the first round. Second round is another 3 million. With the second round, we did increase the threshold. So now it's any business that is with income of \$2 million or less. And if you did apply for the Chamber's small business loan program, you could apply for the small grant program and be eligible for 50 percent of the grant, so it's 3,750. We have done...with the \$66 million that we did get from the State, we have submitted and encumbered about \$43 million. Yesterday, the Mayor rolled out his task force recommendations. We are working with each individual group that has requested funding. So with that, we have all of our funds committed for the \$66 million, which will take us through November 30th. So that's a quick update of where we're at with our funding. So we will be using all of the monies that was provided from the State. And hopefully . . . *(timer sounds)* *(inaudible)* . . without having any monies come back from any of the agencies that we awarded funds to. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Perfect. Mahalo for that update. Okay. That was actually going to be my question, is how confident are we in spending all that funds so that we're not reimbursing any to the Federal government. So I'll turn it over to Committee...unless you want to answer that question, but I think it sounds good. Okay, yeah...it looks like...

MS. YOSHIMURA: Chair?

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CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yes, go ahead. Go ahead. You can answer that question. . . . *(inaudible)*. . . Okay.

MS. YOSHIMURA: Okay. So we've been very cautious on how we've been approving the funding and making sure, you know, if there's any question as to the expenditure, Director Teruya has been checking with the State. So we are hopeful that we have been very cautious in spending our funds. So yeah, we are looking at now all of the monies that were committed in July, and if the monies weren't expended, we're having that...those funds then reprioritized or, you know, redistributed.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo.

MS. YOSHIMURA: Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo. Director Teruya, did you want to speak to that?

MR. TERUYA: I can just add to that, Chair. Yeah, we have...trying to follow up on the earlier request that were made in the prior fiscal year to make sure that they turn in their receipts or if not, we're going to unencumber their funds because, you know, it should've been done last fiscal year. And we want to make sure that if there's any funds that are not spent that were asked for, that we reprioritize and reallocate according to priority that the Mayor sees fit. So yeah, we are following up on the finance end to make sure, especially with large asks over several months, that they at least provide us with periodic reimbursements so that we know that they're going to meet the goal that they requested. So we...Finance is following up on a periodic basis, Chair. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo. And then a follow up to that is, do we have a plan if come, you know, like December 10th or something, to ensure that we spend that last of the Federal fund, the CARES fund?

MR. TERUYA: Chair, maybe I can answer part of that. We continue to get requests in, and the budget...I've been forwarding that to the Budget Office in case there is a time and a need for additional expenditures. But I'm sure between now and December, there's going to be a lot more asks and reprioritization of Federal funds requesting, being requested. So I'm sure we're going to have a standby list as well.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo for that response. Okay. We also have the OED Director Inamasu on the line if anyone has questions for her. And Staff just let me know that Managing Director Baz is in a meeting, so he won't be able to return to this meeting for today. Okay. So two minutes for

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each Member, starting with Committee Vice-Chair King, and then we'll go to Pro Tem Kama, and then Member Sugimura.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Okay. Well, thank you for asking my first question, Chair. The other question that I have, it will probably take the two minutes is...and I'm sorry I'm not aware of this, but I was just emailed this morning from by couple of different people who had concerns over an RFP that we're apparently putting out for \$12 million worth of tests. And was that in one of the Mayor's press releases that maybe I missed? Is that actually happening? Can you...somebody answer that yes or no? And then I can follow up with my follow-up question.

MR. TERUYA: I'm not aware of any IFB for a test. I know...

VICE-CHAIR KING: There's no RFP coming out of Maui for ABID ID tests?

MR. TERUYA: I'm gonna have to defer it. I don't know of a RFP for . . . *(inaudible)*. . .

VICE-CHAIR KING: Director Yoshimura, do you know anything about that?

MS. YOSHIMURA: Councilmember King, yes. We did put out an RFP for tests. I'm not sure on the amount, or what the exact request was, but I know we did put out a request. I think they're due back today.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Right.

MS. YOSHIMURA: And so part of the monies we have set aside is for testing for communities.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Okay. But is that...is that towards the specific ABID ID test? Because the concern I'm getting from...and it's a couple of professionals I know on O'ahu...is that there's...and they sent me three FDA reports on this about the concerns that FDA has on the accuracy and the expense. They apparently carry the expensive test, like 250 each, and they're not reported to be that accurate. So I have a concern about us locking ourselves into one type of tests that may or may not be valid.

MS. YOSHIMURA: I apologize. I did not review the RFP. I know it was for testing. I don't know if it was for a specific test. But I believe it was anybody who had a proposal for testing. So I can take a look at that and get back to you.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Could you do me a favor and contact me if it is for that specific test, and then I'll send you these reports that were sent to me about that test.

MS. YOSHIMURA: Okay.

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VICE-CHAIR KING: And then, you know --

MS. YOSHIMURA: Okay.

VICE-CHAIR KING: -- hopefully you'll be better informed about that. Because I'd hate to...that's a really high, expensive test. And if it's not . . . *(inaudible)*. . . that's a concern.

MS. YOSHIMURA: Okay. Okay. I'll follow up on that.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Okay, thank you very much, Director. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member King. Pro Tem Kama, followed by Member Sugimura. Pro Tem Kama? Pro Tem Kama, I think...I think you might be muted.

VICE-CHAIR KING: I think somebody muted her.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Yeah, because my...

VICE-CHAIR KING: There you go. Now you're good.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Okay. Can you hear me now? Okay. So my question was, you know, regarding the committed funding. So let's say, for example, if somebody...you're committed to funding a particular proposal, and if they don't come to go get it, you can reprioritize that. But what is the deadline? I mean, if we up against the clock for December 31st, what's the deadline for if they don't come by December 15, then they going to...you're going to uncommit it and reprioritize? What is your drop dead date for that?

MS. YOSHIMURA: Councilmember Kama, so we daily review all of the requests, and we try to execute the agreements or the contracts as soon as we possibly can. For instances like the HELP program, Kokua Maui County grants, those were big allocations, and so we gave them a deadline of October 31st for accepting any applications. That would give them the opportunity to wrap up their program by November 15th or so, and then whatever monies after that is not going to be able to spend will go to our list of alternates, right. I know some of them...if you looking for a quick reimbursement or a purchase, those would be easier. . . .*(timer sounds)*. . . Services and programs, that'll be a little bit more difficult. And that's why we're starting now to see what we can release from what has already been encumbered so that we can keep the money moving throughout the process.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Okay. Okay. Thank you, Chair.

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CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Pro Tem Kama. Member Sugimura, followed by Member Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you. The Kokua Maui County program, which is very successful, I wondered if the \$3 million threshold, you would raise it to a higher level. Because a lot of businesses, you know, kind of fall on a higher threshold for revenues and income, or why did we choose 2 million for this last round?

MS. YOSHIMURA: Okay. So we started at a million dollars with the first round, hoping to catch the real small businesses. And then we raised the threshold to 2 million, trying to catch the next group of businesses. So if we have enough monies to go to a round three, then we'll look at the parameters again, and see if we should open it up even further. So we have multiple programs going on with the Chamber, with MEDB, so there's lots of different opportunities for people to seek help for their business.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: The Chamber program is still going on, Michele?

MS. YOSHIMURA: The Chamber program is still going on. I think they still have some monies left. I can check for you what the balance is, or...I don't know if Ms. Inamasu has an update on the Chamber program.

MS. INAMASU: Thank you, Councilmember Sugimura and Director Yoshimura. I did...I do have somewhat of an update. I know they're reviewing more today, but to date, out of their 1.7 million that they were granted, they have disbursed to date about 1.4 million, almost 1.5. And they're reviewing more grants today, and it's actually equated to about 80 businesses that they have helped. I don't have the breakdown on how much each one was, but they are still processing grants...or loans, excuse me.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Yeah, thank you. So businesses that fall above . . .
(timer sounds). . . that new threshold...I'll ask you that later.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo, Member Sugimura. Okay, Member Paltin, followed by Member Hokama.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. I guess my first question is if anyone got the transmittal from the last time when you guys asked questions for us to send it in writing. Still waiting for the answers from that transmittal. My second question would be, can the CARES money be used for quarantine management and enforcement so that our appointed directors and whatnot don't need to sit at the airport? And my third question would be, the monies that were allocated to Maui Health Systems for the employee leave and whatnot,

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did that go through, and how will we get accounting of it?

MS. YOSHIMURA: Okay. That was three questions, right. So the first one, the responses...I know it was split into different departments. I believe the Managing Director is putting together a response. The second question about the sitting at the airport. So we did hire Robert's Hawai'i to be the screeners. The directors are tasked with doing the...making the hard calls down at the airport. So we've been assisting in that arena. And then the third one was...what was the third questions, sorry?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Oh. Maui Health System --

MS. YOSHIMURA: Oh, Maui Health System.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: -- like the 3.7 mil.

MS. YOSHIMURA: Okay. So we have committed that monies to the health system. We have not...we're in the process of executing a grant with them, or an agreement with them, and getting the payment. So that payment hasn't been made yet.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: But is there going to be a reporting back to you or some entity of how that funding gets spent?

MS. YOSHIMURA: Yeah. So that...we . . . *(timer sounds)*. . . are working with them on drafting an agreement so that we could get reports on what has been spent, or how the monies will be spent.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Paltin. Member Hokama, followed by Chair Lee. Member Hokama? Okay. We'll go to Chair Lee, and then if Member Hokama is back on, then we can check with him again. Chair Lee?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Thank you. Michele, have you done a...some kind of a needs assessment or a general survey to ascertain the breakdown of the 20,000 people who are out of work, what fields they prefer to be in, to work in, what resources are available now, what resources are needed, what kind of training programs are needed, what kind of training programs we have now. Because as we...as the economy gets back on its feet, we're moving in different directions, pretty much away from the over reliance on visitor industry. So whether it's healthcare, some healthcare, some visitor industry, some agriculture, some this, some that, we're going to need to know where to allocate the funds as we work on our budget. Because what's going to happen, what normally happens, is like 20, 30 people come and ask for money, but there's no master plan. Yeah. So whether you folks do it or we do it, I really believe that we need some kind of community assessment done. And then from there, we come up with a

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plan. And from there, you know, we know how to do our allocations. And from there, we do...somebody, normally the Administration, does the monitoring to see how effective the plan is working. So have you folks talked about something like this, Michele?

MS. YOSHIMURA: Chair Lee, I will defer that to Managing Director Baz, or to . . . *(timer sounds)*. . . JoAnn Inamasu to respond to that.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: I don't know. I just feel, in conclusion, that the Council would like to have justification for how we allocate funds. And without a plan, it's very hard to do that. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair Lee. Aloha, Managing Director Baz.

MR. BAZ: Aloha.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Did you want to respond to Chair Lee's question? Are you able to? Did you hear it?

MR. BAZ: Sure. So no, we have not done a survey of the 20,000 people that are currently collecting unemployment. We do know, from Department of Labor, what industries they came from, or they were employed in. And so...and of course, no surprise, majority of them are hotel workers, visitor industry related individuals. Or what their desired employment is. Anecdotally, the people I have talked to want jobs, and a lot of them want to return to their old jobs. You know, especially the ones that have seniority, that have, you know, been at these businesses for a long time. That's why the difference between furloughs and layoffs is a critical item for them that they're looking at right now. And part of the reason why they haven't been enamored to go and find new jobs is because they're been on furlough and they're expecting that when the economy rears back up again that they're gonna be taken off furlough and back at their normal status. I agree with you that the information needed to make good decisions, you know, is valuable. We don't have that information. And I could evaluate how to collect that information, other than going and interviewing the 20,000 people who are unemployed. What we're looking at is...and what JoAnn Inamasu and her WIB board and with members of the Workforce group look at is what the employers are needing for employees. It's generally how it's addressed is that the employers say, okay, we're going to need, you know, this many employees in this industry, or this many employees related to this job responsibility. And Workforce Development team will work either, you know, with college or with other providers to help to recruit and train individuals for those industries. And that's kind of a historical process that has been going on through all the previous layoffs, right, HC&S and Moloka'i Ranch . . . *(inaudible)*. . .

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COUNCILMEMBER LEE: One last comment --

MR. BAZ: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: -- Mr. Baz. It's...I don't think we can afford to be reactive going forward. I think, you know, we have to not only look at the people who presently are out of work, but all the high school seniors who will be looking for work, so that that...so that their future is incorporated in the plan, and we not only planning for today.

MR. BAZ: Right. Thank you. Yeah, so and maybe...and JoAnn, maybe you'll be able to respond a little bit better. I haven't attended Workforce Investment Board meeting lately, but that Board does definitely work on those items. And working proactively with organizations like MEDB and, you know, the STEMworks and things that they do for preparing individuals for new industry, new job creation, those kind of things, really is where we're going. And so, yeah, that kind of factors as you heard...I'm assuming you heard earlier. I'm sorry I had to jump off to another meeting, but from those efforts are going to be what the future will hold for us. And I would love a crystal ball where we can say, hey, yeah, we need this many employees in this areas, and this is where we can move forward and start training people. But at, you know, what we have done, industry training for STEM related items, for healthcare industry people, for hospitality industry, those training channels have been supported in the high schools all the way through our community college, or UH Maui College, and into the employment sectors. But yeah, we can try to work on more detail for you in that, maybe when JoAnn . . . *(inaudible)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Oh, Mr. Baz...Mr. Baz, one last thing. I just wanted to let you know that we are a partner as well. So if you need someone to take care of that survey, of that assessment, I'm pretty sure the Council will be supportive of us doing it. Because as Ms. Paltin mentioned earlier, you folks are so busy working at the airport, you're doing double duty as it is, right.

MR. BAZ: I do have to work at the airport as well, yeah, and meetings while I'm down there and yeah. . . . *(inaudible)*. . .

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Managing Director. And mahalo, Chair Lee. And this is a really important discussion and one that, you know, I can schedule soon so that we can have a three-hour discussion on it because it is that important. And we can figure out --

MR. BAZ: Chair?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: -- who . . . *(inaudible)*. . . in that meeting.

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MR. BAZ: Yeah, Chair, just also I came back right in when Ms. Paltin was asking about the response, the EDB-85 response.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yeah . . . *(inaudible)*. . .

MR. BAZ: It was due today, we just finalized it. I signed off on it. Mayor will have to review it and transmit it, so you should receive it, hopefully by the end of the day today.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Managing Director. And I will...as soon as we receive it I'll upload it to Granicus for the Members. Member Paltin is very appreciative, as we all are. Okay, I'm sorry, Members, we're going a little over time. It's 12:05. Last two Members, Member Molina, and then Member Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Thank you, Madam Chair. Very quickly, I forwarded a request from the Pacific Cancer Foundation to Mr. Baz, Mr. Nishita, and Mr. Miyake back on September 17. They're requesting funding for cancer treatment equipment, and services because with the pandemic, they have a difficult time fundraising. And it's an issue that's near and dear to many people, and for me especially, my mom died of cancer. So it's something I really care about, and I guess they asked about is there some maybe CARES funds could be used to assist them or other options. So I would ask the Administration, please get back to them as soon as possible. We've been told that they have not been responded to. So anyway...and I know we're pressed for time. The HELP program, you know, I guess Administration raised it \$100 for a family of 4, which is appreciative, but in my opinion, not enough. And now with Director Yoshimura announcing that all the funds have pretty much been expended for, so I guess it would be moot for me to ask for any consideration to increase that. Also, if you guys could look into...I had a constituent tell me that, I guess, MEO is administering the HELP applications. This person told me an MEO employee told them that it's going to take four weeks just for them to look at an application because I guess they've been overwhelmed with a lot of people applying for that. So if you could look into that, otherwise our office will make our own inquiry with MEO. And finally, the O'ahu's Household Hardship Program, I guess the equivalent to HELP. I guess supposedly, one, they're giving more monies for qualifying families, and it's based on household income. Have we considered structuring our HELP program to maybe model some of what they're doing with our HELP program?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Managing Director Baz?

MR. BAZ: I don't know the details of their program. I can look at that to see if that's something, but the agreements with MEO have already been processed and executed and, you know, we're running short on time here, the service

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provisions. And we have tweaked it a little bit . . . *(timer sounds)*. . . based on input from MEO, but we can take a look at what they're providing. But at this point, I don't think we're going to make significant changes.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: All right. Thank you, Mr. Baz. And quickly, you folks are short-handed upstairs on the 9th floor because I know you're busy all over the place. Are you folks lacking employees to help address some of the concerns from citizens related to COVID?

MR. BAZ: Well, we do have a significant increase in contact from our community members, businesses, citizens. So yeah, that has overwhelmed our capacity. We do have our call center open seven days a week for people to call in, so they'd be able to respond to items, and we are . . . *(inaudible)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Yeah, yeah. The reason I ask is because maybe if you guys need additional help, then maybe this is time where you can hire some people to work temporarily for the County to help assist you guys in the Mayor's Office to, you know, respond to . . . *(inaudible)*. . .

MR. BAZ: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: So just a suggestion.

MR. BAZ: Thank you. I believe we have hired some temporary help to do some work that's not as detailed oriented.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Okay. All right. Thank you. Thank you, Madam Chair.

MR. BAZ: Thank you.

MS. YOSHIMURA: Chair?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Molina. Oh, Budget Director Yoshimura?

MS. YOSHIMURA: Chair, just to address Councilmember's Molina's concern about the HELP applications being about a four week backlog. We are addressing that. In fact, this morning we...yesterday, my staff did some training with MEO, so we could help and assist with the review of applications. This morning they brought us a banker's box full of applications. So my staff will be working on them trying to assist them to clear their backlog. So --

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Thank you.

MS. YOSHIMURA: -- we're addressing that. Thank you.

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CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Budget Director. Member Sinenci, and then Member Hokama.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Mahalo, Chair. And yeah, I guess I just wanted to share, you know, some of the comments I had from the first half of your meeting today, Chair. You know, when looking at all of the different agencies on screen, it seems like even though they operate in their little silos, seems like the direction we should be moving in is maybe a hybrid of some of them. You know, we talked about the hotel industry working with the healthcare industry. We talked about maybe the film industry working with the environmental conservation industry, or the high tech industry working with the ESG and ahupua`a industry. So it almost seems like it's natural that maybe we should go beyond silos during this pandemic and work in tandem with some of the other agencies. My question today...and thank you, Budget Director Yoshimura, for letting us know that the funds have already been used up, and also for addressing some of the needs of our East Maui community. But in the 2021 Budget, on page 7 of the Department of Finance, we had appropriated funds for Moloka`i, Lāna`i, and East Maui. I believe 350,000 for Lāna`i and Moloka`i and 300,000 for Hāna. So my question is, are these funds being...how can we access these funds? Who's administering them? And we've got several community members inquiring about the use towards COVID related activities. Director?

MS. YOSHIMURA: Councilmember Sinenci, thank you. So on page 7, it did have funds set aside for the three different areas. So those funds, I believe, Councilmember Hokama was indicating where we should have job training, different types of programs to diversify the workforce. And so we do know we have those funds available, and because right now we could use CARES Act monies to address that situation, we...that's what we're trying to do first is use the CARES Act monies before we actually tap into our own General Fund monies. So through Office of Economic Development, they are working on a long-term plan on job training, and maybe this could be a different discussion at another meeting, Chair, with JoAnn Inamasu and the Workforce Development staff.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Okay. So Director, those funds aren't available just yet?

MS. YOSHIMURA: So we will have those funds available when we come up with the...when we develop our long-term plan. . . .*(timer sounds)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you, Director. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Sinenci. Member Hokama?

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COUNCILMEMBER HOKAMA: Thank you, Chair. I appreciate for my opportunity. Yeah, my one concern I would ask, I guess, either Mr. Teruya since he's Finance and he deals with the contracts. Have we been having problems for those that we gave to programs or nonprofits regarding taking care of their documentation and execution of the agreements? Again, we all know our Federal deadline of end of December. So has that been a issue, Mr. Teruya?

MR. TERUYA: Chair, thank you, Mr. Hokama, for that question. I'm not sure if Budget Director wants to chime in on this. I haven't seen a lot of the reimbursements so far. Normally it goes through our . . . *(inaudible)*. . . Department. But Director, do you have any comment? I'm not sure of any off hand, other than the initial paperwork that I've seen and I've approved. They know that it needs to have supporting documentation. For example, even if it was from the hospital, that it would they have to show the hours for being in the warm unit, COVID directly, COVID related expenses for auditing purposes. Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER HOKAMA: Yeah, no, the Federal Inspector General's Office is putting out additional comment and guidelines on reimbursements, especially for overtime of COVID personnel. But my one question, I guess this is more for us, Chair. My concern right now is that if the Federal Government does not come up with equal or sufficient funding down the next couple of fiscal years, and we all know we gave appropriations for programs and nonprofits, are we ready--I guess for Mr. Teruya, Ms. Yoshimura, and ourself--are we ready to set up a mechanism to decide who will get the limited future funding? Because, you know, we feeding a lot of mouths now, and I don't think we can feed all of them if we don't get additional support. And again, depending on November 3rd, what happens at the Federal level will impact our Federal funding in the future. So I think we need to start a process where we can evaluate and prioritize who will be receiving funding and supporting the future because we cannot fund everybody. And I would ask if the Administration currently has ongoing working plans moving forward that they could share with us today, or is there something maybe we can do jointly in Council and Administrative joint effort to work up a plan. Any comments please, Administration? Well, if not, Chair, why don't we send a question to the Mayor's Office in writing?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Okay, we can...oh, Budget Director Yoshimura, did you want to comment?

MS. YOSHIMURA: Sorry, I was going to...if you could send us that question in writing, we'll respond. We'll have a discussion, Scott and myself and the management team. Thank you.

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COUNCILMEMBER HOKAMA: Okay. All right. Are you folks clear on my question, Ms. Yoshimura?

MS. YOSHIMURA: Yes, I think I --

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: And we can send it in writing as well.

MS. YOSHIMURA: -- understand what your question is. Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER HOKAMA: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Budget Director. Thank you, Mr. Teruya.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Budget Director. And Member Hokama, here's an idea --

COUNCILMEMBER HOKAMA: Yeah.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: -- that perhaps we can consider, since we're both on Thursday. Perhaps we can do...we can have them both in and update in EDB and HFC, OED grants update, and then DHHC grants update on, you know, at the next Thursday meetings that we have.

COUNCILMEMBER HOKAMA: Happy to work with you, Chair Rawlins-Fernandez. We can do it.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Awesome.

COUNCILMEMBER HOKAMA: Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Yeah, good idea, good idea. Looking forward. Okay. All right, Members. It's 12:17. We'll thank Director Teruya, Director Yoshimura, and Director Baz, and Director Inamasu for joining us and answering our questions. Any last questions or comments before I adjourn? Okay, hearing none.

ACTION: DEFER pending further discussion.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: I'll see most of you at 1:30, 1:30 Healthy Families and Communities Meeting. It's 12:18 and the Economic Development and Budget Committee is now adjourned. . . .(gavel). . .

ADJOURN: 12:18 p.m.

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APPROVED:



KEANI N.W. RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ, Chair
Economic Development and Budget Committee

edb:min:200924

Transcribed by: Kaliko Reed and
Michelle Balala

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CERTIFICATION

I, Kaliko Reed, hereby certify that pages 1 through 27 of the foregoing represents, to the best of my ability, a true and correct transcript of the proceedings. I further certify that I am not in any way concerned with the cause.

DATED the 26th day of October 2020, in Wailuku, Hawai'i



Kaliko Reed

CERTIFICATION

I, Michelle Balala, hereby certify that pages 28 through 58 of the foregoing represents, to the best of my ability, a true and correct transcript of the proceedings. I further certify that I am not in any way concerned with the cause.

DATED the 26th day of October 2020, in Wailuku, Hawai'i



Michelle Balala