

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND BUDGET COMMITTEE
Council of the County of Maui

MINUTES

October 7, 2020

Online Only via BlueJeans

CONVENE: 9:05 a.m.

PRESENT: Councilmember Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez, Chair
Councilmember Kelly Takaya King, Vice-Chair
Councilmember Riki Hokama, Member (out 11:57 a.m.)
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 (in 9:26 a.m.)

STAFF: Lesley Milner, Legislative Analyst
Shelly Espeleta, Legislative Analyst
Wilton Leauanae, Legislative Analyst (trainee)
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
Kate Griffiths, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Kelly Takaya King
Evan Dust, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Tasha Kama

ADMIN.: Michele Yoshimura, Budget Director (EDB-111, EDB-101, EDB-85)
Scott Teruya, Director, Department of Finance (EDB-85)
May Anne Alibin, Deputy Director, Department of Finance (EDB-85)
JoAnn Inamasu, Director, Office of Economic Development (EDB-85)
Shayne Agawa, Deputy Director, Department of Environmental Management (EDB-85)
Herman Andaya, Administrator, Maui Emergency Management Agency Administrator, (EDB-85)
Lori Ann Y. Tsuhako, Director, Department of Housing and Human Concerns (EDB-85)
Michele McLean, Director, Department of Planning (EDB-85)
Marc Takamori, Director, Department of Transportation (EDB-85)
Robert De Robles, Planner, Water Resources and Planning Division, Department of Water Supply (EDB-85)

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Kristina Toshikiyo, Deputy Corporation Counsel, Department of the
Corporation Counsel

OTHERS: Paige Deponte, Triple L Ranch (EDB-85)
Patrick Borge (EDB-85)
Helaine Borge (EDB-85)
Jenny Pell, Project Manager, Ohana Gardens (EDB-111)
Faith Chase (EDB-85)
Kristen Griffiths, Maui Mountain Activities (EDB-85)
Others (2)

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

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: . . . *(gavel)*. . . Aloha kakahiaka kākou. `Elima minuke i ka hala o ka hola `eiwa. Ma `ehiku o `Aukake i ka makahiki `elua kaukani iwakālua. E `olu`olu mai, e ho`omalua ke Komike Ho`omohala Waiwai me Mo`ohelu Kālā. `O wai ka po`o o kēia Komike o Keani Rawlins-Fernandez. It's 9:05 on October 20th...October 7th, 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 Kelly King. Aloha.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Aloha kakahiaka kākou, Chair. It's from beautiful sunny South Maui.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aloha. And we'll go to Council Chair Lee for our somewhere in the world greeting. Aloha.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Somewhere in the world today is Brazil. So Madam Chair, and Members, I greet you with bom dia, bom dia.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Bom dia. Bom dia kākou. Okay, and Member Shane Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Aloha kakahiaka, Chair, mai Maui hikina, and bom dia kākou.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Bom dia. And Member Mike Molina.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Aloha and bom dia to you Madam Chair, my colleagues, and everyone else from the virtual bridge in Makawao where it is actually really sunny outside.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Beautiful. And Member Riki Hokama.

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COUNCILMEMBER HOKAMA: Good morning, our Chair. Good morning.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Good morning. Member Tamara Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Bom dia, and aloha kakahiaka kākou mai old Lahaina Center.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Bom dia, and aloha. And Member Yuki Lei Sugimura will be joining us in about, I think, 15-ish minutes, and we have Pro Temp Tasha Kama. Bom dia.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Aloha kakahiaka, Chair, and it's still a beautiful day in the neighborhood of Kahului, and bom dia to you too.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Bom dia. Sounds like it's a beautiful Countywide. It's beautiful here on Moloka'i as well. And from Corporation Counsel we have Kristina Toshikiyo, Deputy Corporation Counsel. Bom dia and aloha.

MS. TOSHIKIYO: Bom dia and aloha to you too, Chair and Members.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: From the Administration, from the Office of the Mayor we have Budget Director Michele Yoshimura.

MS. YOSHIMURA: Good morning, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aloha, bom dia. And then we will have directors from the various departments that have grants join us later this afternoon. And...okay, and our Committee Staff, we have Committee Secretary Yvette Bouthillier. Bom dia, aloha. Legislative Analyst Lesley Milner.

MS. MILNER: Aloha, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aloha. Legislative Analyst Shelly Espeleta.

MS. ESPELETA: Good morning, Chair and Members.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aloha. And our Legislative Attorney Richard Mitchell. Aloha.

MR. MITCHELL: Bom dia and aloha, Chair and Members.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, Members, we have four items on today's agenda, and we have an all-day meeting. EDB-111, Amendments to the Fiscal Year 2021 Budget: Department of Environmental Management; Office of the Mayor; Department of Police; Department of Fire and Public Safety;

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Department of Housing and Human Concerns; ...Public Works; Section 14, General Budget Provisions. EDB-101, Vehicle Disposal Fee Fund. EDB-102, Creating and Expanding Workforce Development Programs to Get Maui County Residents Back to Work. And EDB-85, Legislation and Discussion on the Effects of the Coronavirus Pandemic, Rules, CARES Act, and Related Issues. So Members, we'll...we'll start with public testimony, and then we'll take up the first three items on the agenda, EDB-111, 101, and 102. And then we'll break for lunch and then we'll take up EDB-85. So that's the plan for today. We have three people signed up...currently signed up to testify. So oral testimony via phone or video conference will be accepted. Testifiers wanting to provide video testimony please join by going to BlueJeans meeting link at 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 per item. If you're still testifying beyond that time I'll kindly ask you to complete your testimony. When testifying, please state your first and last name. If you are testifying beyond...on behalf of an organization or are a paid lobbyist, please inform the Committee. Staff, I've posted the link to the testifier's login chat in the...in the chat. 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 cablecast on *Akakū* Channel 53, or 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. And we'll now proceed with public testimony. Our first testifier signed up is Paige Deponte with Triple L Ranch, followed by Patrick Borge.

. . .BEGIN PUBLIC TESTIMONY. . .

MS. DEPONTE: Hi, good morning.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Ms. Deponte?

MS. DEPONTE: This is Paige. Hi, good morning. This is Paige Deponte. I'm from Triple L Ranch in Maui. And I really want to first say thank you all so much for all the hard work and dedication you've put into helping the community of Maui and the small businesses. It's just been amazing what's been put up available.

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I'm testifying today as part of the Maui equine tourism industry. We're small, but we do provide an amazing experience for people who come to Maui for vacation. And our ranch does provide a lot of history and education to people who come to our part of the island for our experience. When the lockdown happened...because we're small we do only private tours, we were pretty much put into bankruptcy because, you know, tours are booked in advance. So we had to immediately refund everything for the two months in lockdown. We got creative and were able to get donations mostly to feed our horses. Because unlike a lot of industry...tourism industry places, we can't just store our horses in somebody's pasture. Our pastures in particular are very dry, so we've always fed the horses even when they're out to pasture. Kanaio has experienced an extremely severe drought. We finally got some rain. But you know, they...they're expensive, not just to feed them but their upkeep and maintenance. And you know, they're our family so I take pride personally in making sure that my animals are very well taken care of and fed. And they eat twice a day. They're 1,200 pounds each and they require a lot of food. And you know, it's...it's been tough to try and juggle paying off the expenses, keep the business going, going through lockdowns, reopenings, shutdowns of quarantine. Now we're facing maybe we won't get any more tourists because they can't decide on whether or not we're going to allow tourism on the 15th. So you know, it's been a rollercoaster. We're trying to hang in there. We're trying to do some creative adaptability, but we still have the need of feeding our horses. And I personally have given a significant...all my profit, 25 percent off on my tours to just try and feed my horses, which really was okay during June and July, and then we got hit with the quarantine again and...and...and, you know, it's just been downhill ever since. And you know, I'm barely...barely making the feed on the horses. We're trying to do all the other things expecting tourists to come back. And we're just not sure what's going to happen anymore. And we would like to be included in some sort of program. I have reached out to Maui Farm Bureau, Maui County Farm Bureau, the Hawai'i State Farm Bureau. There were plans that were supposed to be implemented to help our industry, and nothing really came about. I was given a grant for \$400 from...from the Maui County Farm Bureau, which isn't even a week's worth of feed for the horses. So you know, it's very hard for, you know, we're a hand-to-mouth company, we're not a big company. I know that Lahaina Stables, one of the biggest, did shut down, so they're gone. They couldn't...they couldn't make it and, you know, that's devastating. I...I feel that we all have something different to offer. And I feel that there is a need to keep all of us open and there for the tourists that come. And we really do need some help. I know that the agricultural grant program came about, but I don't believe it would help the equine industry because the livestock portion is...states specifically for livestock. And I'm not sure how...you know, I have suggested voucher programs at the feed store and other such programs. But to date, nothing really has come about on it. And, you know, we've gone into debt, just significant debt to try and keep things going. And I feel positive that, you know,

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next year things will turn around. I do get a lot of people calling. But I think the big challenge right now is that from what I'm hearing from tourists calling about what's going on over here is that they're not going to come until next year. So that's a bit devastating to us because we were very hopeful that October 15th we'd get a lot of business. So I would like for some thought hopefully to be given to our industry. We wrote a letter combined by all of us. And . . . *(timer sounds)*. . . just want to put in the word that we would appreciate some assistance in some way to help us stay afloat as far as feeding our horses.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Ms. Deponte.

MS. DEPONTE: You know, some people have quite a few.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Ms. Deponte, your...your time...your time is up. So if you could just close with...in a sentence please? Ms. Deponte?

MS. DEPONTE: Hi. Okay. So we're just looking for, I guess, feed supplemental income to come in in the form of a grant or a voucher system for the Maui equine tourism industry. And I think there's other here...others here that are going to be sharing. Thank you for your time.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo. Members, any questions? Pro Temp Kama?

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you, Chair. Thank you for coming today, Ms. Deponte. So can you explain to me what kind of a business do you have?

MS. DEPONTE: Well, we do horseback tours on our ranch, and we're located in Kanaio. So we, you know, we take private tours. We're not big, we take out two, four, sometimes six, parties of six, and we do that twice a day. It serves two purposes. It allows us to regulate our ranch, and it also allows us to educate tourists on the area and the history, which is amazing. And...and, you know, and it supports our agricultural aspect of our business as well. We have a cattle ranch with about 150 head. So it helps supplement that and...and helps our family maintain our...our legacy, which is important to us, and I...I feel it's important to Maui.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: So does your cattle ranch not help to support the industry too?

MS. DEPONTE: Well, the cattle ranch, we...we had a place called Bully's Burgers, which we're attempting to reopen as an adapt...adapt...adaptation to this. There were some issues that we had, which were cleared up. And right now we're preparing to reopen. That business does supplement quite a bit. The cattle industry, as you may know, is a bi-year...we're not a big company so we're a bi-year seller, calf/cow operation. And by opening Bully's Burgers that

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allowed us to do a monthly income which was significant because, you know, you take a cow and you grind it up into burgers you get, you know, a 1,200 percent increase in income as far as one cow. So you know, we're working hard to get that open, which would help quite a bit. But the cattle itself is a January sale and a July sale. And you know, it's not significant. We also used to do leasing, we lost that this year due to no rodeos. So we did lose quite a bit there. But you know, realizing, you know, long ago we created the tours for multiple reasons. To regulate the ranch, to keep an eye on the cattle, the waterlines, keep out invasive species. And you know, there's still rustling that goes on. So that was our way of just making our presence known and regulating. And it enabled me to pay my employees. Because we're small, it helps me run the ranch and...and take care of all the things that I have to do.

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

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Pro Temp Kama. Member Paltin?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Ms. Deponte, for being here and providing testimony. You mentioned that you sent a letter that a bunch of folks signed, but I didn't...couldn't find it in the Legistar. I was wondering where you sent the...who...who you sent the letter to?

MS. DEPONTE: I believe that Makena Stables had forwarded the letter. I sent it to Tokie, and she had forwarded to, I believe, the Budget Committee as well as Mayor's Office. And Helaine, I think, will be attending to make testimony today and she might be better to answer that question. But in an email from her it says that she emailed Sarah, Keani, and Trinette. And I'm not sure who those individuals are. She was in touch with someone who told us that we should make testimony today.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. Thank you. I'll keep an eye out for the letter. I'm sure we'll get it soon. Thank you.

MS. DEPONTE: Okay, thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Paltin. Okay. Seeing no other questions, I have questions. And I'm...I'm Keani, so I'm one of the ones...

MS. DEPONTE: Hi. Hi.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Hi. Okay. Were...were you able to apply for the...I don't know what it's called, the...the grant with the credit union funded through the CARES money?

MS. DEPONTE: Yes. So the --

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CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Kakou...

MS. DEPONTE: -- credit union was...it was a reimbursement. And so that was basically more on what did we purchase for sanitization, for sterilization, for updating, you know, our procedures which, you know, is significant if you want to make sure that you're CDC qualified. So a lot of that...which wasn't a lot, I mean, most of the grants that we personally...I can't speak for the other ranches, most of the things that we've boughten were very small. PPP was very tiny because we're small. And the kokua was very small as well. So we were only able to get just the lower amount. We did get a micro loan. But when you take into consideration that you had to pay back all of your income to...you know, we...we do a rotation system. So bookings come in and then ones that are booked for, you know, in March, we had to refund everybody, April everybody. And so that is...our whole reserve is gone. And so we pretty much go hand to mouth. And it was pretty devastating. I mean, we...we went on Facebook, we got people to donate to help us feed the horses because that was our...our main priority. And then we were able to get some income from the PPP, which came to...came in, it went straight out to feed. You know, our feed nut (*phonetic*)...just the feed alone for us--and others have many more horses than I do, I know Maui Mountain Activities has probably 35 horses. My nut (*phonetic*) is 2,300-plus a month just in feed and supplements, not including shoes or maintenance or healthcare for the horses. So it's like a huge mortgage or lease payment, you know, it's significant. And so yeah, we've...we're juggling, and I've...I've filled out so many applications for grants. I'm so tired. And since I've worked real hard and, you know, we just are still at this place where, you know, today we got devastating news that maybe the mayors are not going open the outer islands. And you know, have people that have called and want to book, and they're, like, we just don't trust your government anymore. And you know, I feel them because, you know, we'll take the money in and then we get to send it right back. So we're not getting anywhere, and it's pretty heartbreaking. So we were hoping to open the Bully's Burgers, but there's been a...we're just waiting for the County to sign off on it. We've got our Department of Health and everything. We're...we're ready to go with that. That would really help a lot.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Ms. Deponte. If you wouldn't mind sharing with us how much you got from the credit union, the Kokua Maui County Grant Program, the...

MS. DEPONTE: We got 3,700. So 3,700.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Okay. I see a question from Member Hokama.

COUNCILMEMBER HOKAMA: Thank you, Chair. Real quick, I...I just wanted to

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make sure I get this right. So Ms. Deponte, when you...I was interested in your hamburger comments. And you know, I appreciate your processing, I guess, challenges. So did you just share with us that if you're able to process your cattle so that you can do your burgers, which is a great value-added option, the...the value goes up 1,200 percent? Was that...

MS. DEPONTE: Well, maybe that's not correct. But if you take a cow and you sell that cow, that cow is going to probably sell...or steer. Steer itself as a baby is going to sell for maybe 280 to 300, depending on the weight and how many are bought or sold at that time. So that's the calf/cow part of it. If I sell it by boxed meat, we can sell and maybe make oh, 2,400 for...from...from a steer that's fully grown. Then we have the option now, which we had to . . .(audio interference). . . we could sell individual packages of meat.

COUNCILMEMBER HOKAMA: Right.

MS. DEPONTE: So we...you know, so that would be an increase as well, which is an added bonus. We just got that approved. But the burgers are significant because you take that cow and you divide it up into 1,200 pounds of beef. You take that 1,200 pounds of beef, take off, you know, the cuttings, you have about 800 pounds, that makes 12,000 burgers. So...I mean 1,200 burgers, sorry, not 12,000; 1,200 burgers for the weight size that we use. So if you're selling those burgers, it's...it's...it's a significant increase in income for us with the cost analysis. I mean, it's...our cost is about 18 percent with the buns and the...you know, lettuce, tomato, and all of that. So you know, it's a...it's a huge increase for us. And mostly, you know, we do this to give people in our area work. We hire within the community, our family. You know, we're not rich, we're...we're just, you know, farmers. And...and we also support our local famers and...and...and bread makers for the buns and the lettuce and...and the tomatoes --

COUNCILMEMBER HOKAMA: Right.

MS. DEPONTE: -- and avocados, everything. So we've been doing really extensive research, just support as many people as we can with that.

COUNCILMEMBER HOKAMA: Yeah, no, thank...no, thank you for sharing that with us this morning. So okay, now I see how you reached your comments earlier. So thank you very much for sharing that. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Hokama.

MS. DEPONTE: Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Members, before I call on Member Sinenci, I'll

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recognize Member Yuki Lei Sugimura to the meeting.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Good morning, everybody. Good morning.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Member Sinenci, you have a question?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Yeah, mahalo, Chair. And aloha, Helaine, nice to see you this morning. I was just wondering, have you and Pat...

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: This is Paige Deponte. Paige Deponte.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Oh, excuse me. Have you guys contacted some of the farmers for...for the horses, if they had any surplus as far as byproducts that could be fed to the horses?

MS. DEPONTE: Well, you know, in the beginning we had a program which I helped organize of getting feed donated from Tractor Supply. And then somehow between Hawai'i Farm Bureau, they dropped the ball twice. So I don't really know, I kind of gave up on them. And then we did go out to George Shishido. He's the only person who does grass cutting. With the drought, it was impossible for him to roll. We...we will normally...in a drought season, we will go and...and get grass. We're in an area...I don't know if you're familiar with Kanaio, just past Ulupalakua where, you know, we can get rain and we'll get some grass, but it isn't enough. So the cattle come first. The cattle eat the grass. The horses are kept in an eight-acre pasture. That eight-acre pasture, during lockdown, was done in two weeks. So there was no feed enough to feed, you know, nine 1,200-pound horses. They require, you know, a certain amount of feed every day. And feed goes fast, you know, even if you've got a pasture. And...and half of my horses cannot be trailered, they were born and raised in Kanaio. And you know, to...to put my assets in someone else's care, I just couldn't, they're my family first of all. And second, they are my assets and...and if...should anything happen, colic or anything like that. So getting grass, we have been on a list for months begging, praying, you know, to get grass out there. Nothing. We've cut grass, but it goes fast. And everybody's doing the same thing, everybody. And I think Mahi Pono, we went to them and they said no, we need all our grass for us. So you know, that was what we had hoped. So we have reached out to everybody and tried to do what we can. And you know, like I said, I have nine horses. I know two other stables have significant horses. Some of the stables in our industry are not in...in need, you know, for whatever financial reasons or they're in an area where they do have grass. But I know that some...you know, all of us are pretty much devastated by what's happened. And it's eaten into everything that we have, and we got to feed them.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you, Ms. Deponte. Thank you, Chair.

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CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Sinenci. Okay. Seeing no other questions, we'll thank you for your testimony this morning, Ms. Deponte.

MS. DEPONTE: Thank you very much, you guys. And I really do appreciate everything that you've done. You've really helped a lot of us. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo. Aloha. Our next testifier is Patrick Borge and Helaine Borge, followed by Jenny Pell.

MR. BORGE: Hello?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Hi. Hi, Mr. Borge. If you would like to turn on your video, you can turn it on at this time.

MR. BORGE: Okay. Can you hear me?

MS. BORGE: I don't know, it's not coming on.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yes, we can.

MR. BORGE: Okay?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yeah. I've . . . *(inaudible)*. . .

MS. BORGE: The video is still off.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: We can see you.

MS. BORGE: Oh, you can? Oh good.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: We can see and hear you. Please proceed with your testimony.

MR. BORGE: You can see me? Good looking guy, yeah? Hi. Good morning. Good morning. Good morning. Good morning, Councilmembers and Chairman there. You know, I'm...I don't raise cattle, but what I do here is I run a small operation of about six horses. I've been in business over 30-some years, and all my horses are in stalls. I don't have pastures. It's been really hard on me and my wife to where we're at the edge of this coronavirus can affect us. So we shut down completely. When that thing came on, we shut down. Got rid of my employees, so sorry. Some of them went back to the mainland. So just...just me and my wife take care of these horses. Then I had to give away one of my horses because of the cost of feed. I have no pastures. This horses...you know, everybody think trail horses are very cheap, but it's hard to find a trail horse

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that's going to take somebody that don't know how to ride. And that's...and that's where they come in...into play. You know, I've taken out...in 30-some years, I've taken out so many people. I've done a lot of videos with the...with the film industry. I've taken out actors, actresses, foot...professional players, foot...sports players, you know, I've just taken out just about anybody. But what I offer...I also took out Ruth Ginsburg, Supreme Court Justice, just to show you the kind of people that I...that I have come out to my stables here. I'm located at La Perouse Bay at the end of the road. It's all mesquite trees, there's no grass, a lot of goats. But it's just a beautiful area. What we offer here is what I...what I give people here is the aloha. And you know, everybody think people come to Maui because of the beauty of it, but it's also the people. It's people like us, we're born and raised here, and we showed our aloha. But right now I'm in a dire situation. I'm looking for help, that's all it is. That's why I'm testifying today. If I can get some help, you know, great. If I don't, well, I just got to deal with it. But hopefully that you people will be considerate enough to see that our industry, the horse industry, equine industry that takes tourists out, we're part of all the...all the tourist industry, we're part of it. So everybody is worried about the tourists, but if you take care of people like us, it would help out the tourist industry also. You know, I mean, we...we...we put a lot into it, into my operation and we put...we put a lot. And my horses come first. And our biggest expense is feed, you know. You know, you got Maui [sic] Pono, you know, you got all these guys with all this land and nobody ever try to grow grass for horses. You know, we getting...Timothy Hay, \$40 a . . . (timer sounds). . . double-compressed bail, you know, which is a lot of money, and it goes through it like nothing. Now, you know, I used to go on the side of the road and cut grass for my horses with my weedwhacker. There's now no grass because of the drought. Plus guys spray Roundup now and all that, which is not good for horses. But that's what I used to do for my horses. You know, the horses...how you would say, a horse is a horse, you know, is a horse, right? And it's a great business, I enjoy what I do, but I just need help. And I hope...and like I said, I don't raise cattle. You know, this is...this is the tourists...we're on the side, we take tourists out. We're part of the tourist industry. And it's not just hotels or whatever. We're an activity that the tourists really enjoy when they come to Hawai'i and it's a...it's a...it's a nice way to see the island and experience the island and to meet the locals, you know, and I just want to say that. Anyway, but I'm just here to say...I hate to beg, you know, I hate to...I'm a proud Portugee, you know what I mean? And...

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo.

MR. BORGE: We can use some help. We'd appreciate it. Thank you for your time.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: We have a question.

MR. BORGE: Also I want to congratulate you...

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CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Pro Temp Kama?

MR. BORGE: Wait, wait. Before you ask your questions, I want to congratulate you guys on your vote the other day on that affordable housing because it was right on. Because at 400,000, there's no way. Thank you very much.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Mr. Borge. Pro Temp Kama, you have a question?

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Yes, I do. Thank you, Chair. Mr. Borge, so my --

MR. BORGE: Yes, ma'am?

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: -- question to you, Mr. Borge, is can you...can you articulate specifically what do you need from us? How can we help you?

MR. BORGE: You can help me by helping me with my feeding of...you know, percentage of the feed for my horses. You know...you know, when you have a horse, you got feed, you got shoeing; if a horse gets sick, you got the vet. You know, and, you know, just couple weeks ago I had a horse I had to do special shoeing. By the time I took her to the vet to get x-rayed, you know, that's over a thousand dollars, you know, that kind of stuff. So every little bit helps. But I mean, no matter what...no matter there's...every little bit helps. I cannot put a price tag on how much or whatever, but it...but no matter --

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Okay.

MR. BORGE: -- what...you know it takes me about \$2,000 a month to feed my...to feed my animals.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you very much, Mr. Borge. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Pro Temp Kama. Okay, I see questions from Committee Vice-Chair King, then Member Sinenci, and Member Molina.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Thank you, Chair. I'm...no, I understand it's hard to put a price tag on it, but I'm going to ask you if...you know we have some grants out there. And I think they're kind of restrictive, and that's probably why you haven't gotten them. But if we could open them up, would...would...the latest business grants program that went out, it's for...it's called the adaptability grant, I think. It goes up to \$25,000 per business. And I just wonder if that level of assistance would...you know, would that help get you...how...how long would that...if that were available to you, how long would that get you through?

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MR. BORGE: That would get us...

VICE-CHAIR KING: Would that be helpful?

MR. BORGE: Absolutely. That would be...probably help us out through the year, you know. And yeah, you know, every little bit helps. And yeah, I think it would...it would be sufficient, you know, if --

VICE-CHAIR KING: Okay.

MR. BORGE: -- we can get something like that.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Okay. And then...and have you, you know, and have you tried to apply for that grant?

MR. BORGE: My wife going to take over on the...on that business end, okay? She's going...she okay to take that question?

MS. BORGE: Councilmember King, we have...I have applied for pretty much every grant that we qualified for, and we've gotten pretty much nothing because our...we fall into a niche that just simply doesn't have any kind of funding. We don't pay rent, we don't have a lot of employees, we don't have a lot of PP [sic] use that...that we need here. We can't open until one, the business is sustainable by the volume of tourism. We have to put up a big liability insurance upfront, and we lost that in March when we had to close down. So that's a big amount of money. We have our feed bill, which is what we're trying to get help with because that's probably at least 2,000 a month. And if we can qualify for those...those loans, I would apply. My understanding was that we had to be currently open in order to apply for any of the funding, and we can't afford to open. I am taking...we...we're tapped out on our personal resources, simply giving the business enough money to feed and shoe our horses. We are doing everything ourselves. But until we can actually viably open up with a viable clientele...if we open up and I put down a huge liability insurance payment and then we close down again, we get no refund, and we get no pause on that. So we really have to time this where it's going to economically work. The horse industry in general, and pretty much probably ag industries, are very, very small on the profit margin. These are labors of love that people do. And because of that we have to wait until it's viable.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Okay.

MS. BORGE: But we...I have...I have spent hours applying for all kinds of different things. We got one initial grant in the very beginning, and then we used up all our resources that we had saved in the business that got us through until about June. We had the emergency grant through the Federal Government for

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\$4,000. We have not gotten anything since. I never even heard back for the payroll protection, but that didn't matter because we have so few...we just have a few part-time employees which we have helped...we...some of them are furloughed, some of them are...have moved back to the mainland, they've just left the island. But we are just between a rock and a hard place. I don't think we're going to make it until the end of the year at the rate we're going. We...we tapped out all our resources. So we're just reaching out for any kind of help.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Right. No, I appreciate...and I appreciate you sharing your...your predicament with us because I don't think you're the only ones. And I think a lot of people are in that same situation. So you know, hopefully our...that...that your...your testimony, I think, will greatly inform our discussion later on when we talk about, you know, opening...reopening industries. But who is...who's the vendor that you...you buy your feed from? Is it...is it a mainland vendor? Is it shipping to you from the mainland?

MR. BORGE: Wai Ulu Farms.

MS. BORGE: Wai Ulu Farms is our primary purchase for hay, and then we also deal with --

MR. BORGE: And Dell.

MS. BORGE: -- Dell's Farm, which is the one that Paige referenced for the farm supply for the feed. And you know, they have their own bills to pay, so we don't ask them for any donations. We simply pay them for the feed, and haul it down here and...and just do the best we can. But you know, we support the local vendors here too. We're...if we close down, they're going to be hurting too because --

MR. BORGE: We have to shoe the horses.

MS. BORGE: -- they...the guy that shoes horses counts on us. He's...his revenue has already gone down because other equine providers can't afford to shoe their horses. That's a...that's a...these horses, I don't know, people who don't have horses don't understand the value of these animals. These are very specific animals. They are safe, they are gentle. They...it costs probably...it would cost us over \$100,000 just to replace the animals that we have if they were to get hurt or get colic or get sick. They are very specific animals to what they do. And...and safety is a huge concern. It's hard to find...we've gone to the mainland to find horses like these horses. You don't just throw them out in somebody's pasture and they get . . . *(inaudible)*. . .

VICE-CHAIR KING: No, I understand. Believe me, I understand. I have relatives who own horses, and my daughter was --

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MS. BERGE: Okay.

VICE-CHAIR KING: -- into horseback riding for a while.

MS. BERGE: Thank you.

VICE-CHAIR KING: So I...I do understand what you're going through as far as the value of the animals. So thank you for sharing. I'll yield the floor, I know we have other Councilmembers who have questions. Thank you, Chair.

MS. BERGE: Okay, thank you.

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

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you, Chair. Aloha, Helaine and Pat. Nice to see you guys. I was just...our office in Hāna has been...been contacted by some of our organic farmers that are looking for maybe manure to...for...for natural fertilizer. And I know that they have an excess of grass cuttings here. So what I'll do real quickly, we'll try and...I'll...I'll reach out to some of our local farmers here, and then see if maybe you guys can do a swap or something, grass for...for manure for...for natural fertilizer. I just wanted to share that with you guys.

MS. BERGE: Thank you.

MR. BERGE: Yeah, thank you.

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

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Thank you, Madam Chair. Good morning, Pat and Helaine, nice to see you folks. And I know the last time we talked, I think it was in August we saw each other, the hope was the State was going to open in September. And I know for businesses like yours, time is of the essence. And you know, so sorry to hear you had to give up one of your horses. And...and to my colleagues, I had the experience of, you know, riding on Mr. Borge's horses and...and it's a really wonderful business. And this is the kind of tourism business we should promote. I...I know...I don't know if you mentioned, what are the costs for the...the vet cost for each horse? I...I can only imagine the cost. Can you give us a number?

MS. BERGE: Well, right now our...Mike, our...our feed bill runs about 2,000 a month. Our shoeing is probably...every six weeks we shoe the horses, and that runs another 6...almost 600, 570. Cost per horse depends on...on how hard they're

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working and...and what they're actually doing. But I would...but I mean, if you break down those prices, that's minimal, that's not even including care. That's...that's simply minimal maintenance, survival of the horses. So we're talking probably about 2,500 a month for...for...we've got six horses here right now. I don't know how these people that have 35 horses are doing it. They must be just extraordinarily stressed out, you know, and their horses, I'm sure, are suffering.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Wow. Well...well, you know, and anything we can do to help. I mean, it's like...I know for your business and just the industry itself, I think it will be a long-term benefit for all of us. So you know, we're pulling for you and, you know, keep up the good work. Have you folks done outreach to try and get the local clientele as well...along with the tourists?

MS. BORGE: Well, again, Mike, I actually have a list of local clientele that want to ride with us, but taking out a couple people a week is not even going to cover my insurance cost. And because of our vulnerability as well to the...Paige is lucky enough to be young enough to not have to worry about it, but Pat and I are both in an age group where we are vulnerable to it. And if we have...we see tourists down here, I know they're supposed to be quarantining, but I have them call me, they're not quarantining. And if we catch this, all bets are off, we got nobody to take care of the horses. So until we actually have a safe opening that we feel that we can...one, volume of tourists and volume of customers that we can survive and pay our insurance, at least our minimal costs and break even. And two, be safe enough for us not to end up at Maui Memorial Medical Center, heaven forbid. You know, we're...we're not doing it. But I do have a list, I have an absolute list of clientele that are local. Our bulk of our tourism, or our bulk of our business has always been repeat customers and visitors that come from the islands. We are very independent, we don't deal with any activity desk. But we have a huge amount of clientele that have been coming to us for years and...and repeat and word of mouth and via the Internet. But we have to wait until the island opens up. And I'm thinking...I'm hoping at the beginning of the year maybe when things are stabilized. Perhaps a vaccine, perhaps we have a little more stable tourism. I know the hotels are looking at...at higher occupancy bookings at that point, and so that would be sustainable for us.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Okay.

MS. BORGE: Again we forfeited a lot when we closed March 17th. We lost all our insurance, a quarter worth of insurance payment.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Well, thank...thank you for sharing with us. And also, with regards to your business, you folks really keep an eye out in the area because it's a very culturally sensitive area and I appreciate what you folks do

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keeping an eye out for people who, you know, do inappropriate things out in that very nice area. So anyway, good talking to you folks. Thank you, Madam Chair.

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

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. Aloha, Pat and Helaine. I'm so sorry to hear about the struggles. I just had a question. You know, when you buy your feed, do they...would they give any discount if it's bought in bulk, if...if all the...you know, kind of like how Costco, when you buy in bulk, they...they give a discount? I just was wondering.

MS. BORGE: Well, the feed store gives us some discount just because we're a regular consumer. They bring in...I'm not sure where Paige is getting her feed. Everybody has their own methods of feeding. For us, we feed hay and it's pretty much from Wai Ulu Farms. And consistency is really important for the health of a horse. I'm not sure what the other vendors are doing or the other equine...the equine companies are doing. But I know there's a...the cost of the shipping in is where they...where they get hit from the feed store. So I don't know how much they can bring in. And the problem with that...one problem with doing in bulk is that if the feed goes bad, if it starts to mildew, then all bets are off. You can feed it to cattle, but you can't feed it to a horse. So if you're buying...we've done that in the past years ago where we bought a container in bulk, and had to throw away a lot of it. Because if the horse is colic, if the feed goes...turns, starts to mildew, and when it's old or double compressed as it is, it can do that. So...so yeah, it's a good idea --

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I was...

MS. BORGE: -- but . . . *(inaudible)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I was thinking more like if all the equine industry was able to hui up and then disburse amongst yourself. Not...not so much of storing it, but if there's a way for the equine industry...it sounds like all of them are being hit hard. If...if...if...I don't know if the Administration could organize a hui to share costs and reap the benefit somehow. Or...or --

MS. BORGE: We would be open to that.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: -- amongst...amongst your industry.

MR. BORGE: Yeah, we'd be open to that. That's a good idea.

MS. BORGE: That's a good idea.

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COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: But maybe when we get that letter from all the equine industry then...then we can try start to see who...I mean, I don't know everybody in the equine industry, but if...if you guys could hui up a little bit.

MR. BORGE: We had a problem years ago where a guy...we tried to that, we brought in some containers, you know, and you get all...certain people bought from this guy, and then all the other feed stores got all upset because the guy brought in bulk on his own. He brought it in containers, set it up on the side of the road, and the guys would drive up and load up. And the feed...the other feed stores didn't like that at all, they had...and they shut him down. And so I don't know how...how we would work with...because, you know, you got three...three feed stores. I think you got to get the feed stores together --

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Yeah.

MR. BORGE: -- to...to...or not they're going...they're going to . . . *(inaudible)*. . . you know what I mean?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Yeah. Yeah. I guess, I mean, I hope that they would hui up as well as this is all about survival mode right now. But thank you, and I'm so sorry to hear.

MR. BORGE: Yeah, thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Paltin. Yeah, it's probably something that a County department of ag could really help with. I wanted to ask Mr. and Ms. Borge...mahalo for your testimony. Same question I asked Ms. Deponte. Were you able to qualify for any funding through the Kokua Maui County program that's being managed by the credit unions?

MR. BORGE: No.

MS. BORGE: We have not...we have not tried. My understanding is that we have to be operating, open and operating, and that's not feasible for us right now, Keani. We have to wait until the situation...I have to come up with a liability payment upfront, and it's not feasible until the economy gets to the point where we know we've got tourism on the island. Because I can't pause my insurance. So that's just one more...one more couple...three...\$4,000 I have to come up with. And until I know it's going to be viable, we're just going to...we'll try and hang in there. We're going to try and hang in there. And I think --

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo...

MS. BORGE: -- all of those loans require that you have to be open and running.

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CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Ms. Borge. Yeah, I...we have horses and goats, and this drought, this non-existent wet season this year, it was just really extreme and hard on so many of us. So as...as you see, the Members really want to help everyone in the equine industry. So we'll definitely be in touch, and we can further have this discussion later this afternoon with the Administration to see how we can help further.

MS. BERGE: Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Ms. Borge, did you want to also testify, or you feel good about answering questions?

MS. BERGE: That's fine.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay.

MR. BERGE: Thank you very much, and you guys have a good day and be safe.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: You too. Mahalo. Aloha.

MR. BERGE: Aloha.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Our next...our next testifier is Jenny Pell, followed by Faith Chase.

MS. PELL: Aloha, County Councilmembers. Thanks so much for having me on today. I really appreciate it. I really appreciate the BlueJeans platform that lets us testify from home. It makes it so accessible. And I'm the project manager for Ohana Gardens, which is a project of a nonprofit locally here on Maui called Food Security Hawai'i. And I'm referring to item number three on the agenda. And if I'm reading it right, the Mayor's Office wants to move the proviso line item grant into the CARES Act for farmers. And I just wanted to get on record saying a few things. The money from the CARES Act, it's earmarked for farmers and working farms. And Ohana Gardens, we're not farming, we're supporting backyard and neighborhood food gardens. We're doing education, we're doing outreach, we're supporting lower income families to get gardens started in their backyard. We are doing lots of onsite visits, we are, you know, we're helping people save money, we're building skills, we're doing all those things. We don't want to take any money away from farmers who need every penny of that CARES Act. We're not farming. So you know, the way the proviso grant is structured is that the dollars are awarded with the expectation that we'll back bill all the way to July 1st when the grant was technically awarded. So we're really well underway on this project. We've been working hard and across all of the things in the budget that we budgeted for through the County grant. And I'm already writing my first quarter report, you know, July, August, September.

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Like we're...we're...we're down the road on this project. And we've been helping people start gardens. We've been distributing seed . . .*(audio interference)*. . . propagating feed-bearing plants. We're putting all kinds of educational content out. And I just wanted to make sure that...that...I don't think we even qualify for the farming grant under the...under the micro grants. So I just want to make a case that we really should be in the proviso line item grant and...and that even the part of our project that is about contracting farmers to grow for us, none of that is actually paid for through the County grant, that's paid for in a different place. So it's come...it comes out of different money. The seedlings operation, the food-bearing tree operation, those all things are, you know, we're hoping that those break even on a different part of the budget. Meanwhile, we've been partnering with Uncle George Kahumoku and the Rotary Clubs to do our first big tree planting push of a thousand food-bearing plants in the ground by the end of the year. So you know, we're...we're in high gear. You know, according to how we wrote the grant for the line item through the proviso grant.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Ms. Pell. I see questions from Committee Vice-Chair King, followed by Member Sugimura. . . .*(timer sounds)*. . . Oh, sorry.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Oh, my time's up. Thank you, Chair. Thanks for being here, Ms. Pell. So...and...and it's great to hear that you hit the ground running. So you folks have already submitted your...your paperwork for that grant?

MS. PELL: Yeah. We...we submitted before the deadline. The only challenge outstanding is that because of COVID, it's really hard to get ahold of the...you know, to get all the compliance documents finished. We had...we had an address change, we had, you know, we had a couple little sort of bureaucratic things, but you just can't get through to those offices. So I've been talking a lot with the Office of Economic Development. They know that our compliance documents are all pending. We've sent them all the email threads and all the things we need to do. But yeah, it's already...the grant's in, Tina's already reviewing it and...and clearly, it's already gone up to the Mayor's Office because I think this, you know, proposed change came from the Mayor's Office, I think.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Okay. Yeah, that's what I was wondering is that did they discuss that with you at all, the change...the...

MS. PELL: No, not at all.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Okay.

MS. PELL: No.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Okay. That's very informative. But I'm glad you guys are on your

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way, and thank you for what you're doing and for also contributing to the...the tree...the tree planting event because, you know, we've got that one coming up too. So that's going to be a huge contribution to the ReTree. Thanks for being here.

MS. PELL: Thanks, Kelly.

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

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Yeah, thank you. Thank you, Jenny, for your testimony. So I'm...I'm encouraged to hear that not only did you get County funding, but you also got additional funding from other sources, which is something that we like to hear. So can you share that with us?

MS. PELL: Yeah. We were so excited to get our first Atherton Family Foundation grant for capital equipment. I just got the check today to deposit. And that has to be all things that are depreciable, so I'm going to buy a truck and I'm going to buy tools. One of our charters is to support low-income families that can't afford to put in gardens themselves, and so I got permission from the family foundation to spend some of that money on, like, starter toolkits. So that'll be like clippers and shovels and, you know, a few things that they can have. We're trying to register as a SNAP EBT vendor because you can buy seeds, seedlings, food-bearing plants, all you can buy. But you can't buy any of the things, like you can't buy the pots and you can't buy the buckets and you can't buy the tools. So you know, working with Uncle George Kahumoku like, you know, we are also looking at a whole can share campaign. So that's another part of what we're doing. We also got \$10,000 from the Hawai'i Resilience Fund back in, I think, April or May. So that was a really great boost. And I have one more out...two more outstanding grants. One is with the Healy Foundation, and the other one is with the United Way. But United Way has already gone through their first two tiers of grants, we're in the third tier. So I think they're working more with like Feed My Sheep and sort of more really needy food programs to get food out to people, so we got pushed into the third tier.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you. So what is the dollar amount of all these grants that you got?

MS. PELL: Well, the County grant is 75,000, the Atherton grant is 25, and then the Resilience Fund was 10, and I don't know what the Healy will grant. I mean, I'm hoping we get the Healy grant. We get...I asked for 50,000, which is their maximum, but they all do partial grants. So I got my fingers crossed for 25,000 because that's a really great one because the funds are unrestricted, which means I...like Atherton, I have to buy equipment, which of course we need. But you know, to be able to also pay for, you know, all kinds of things out of

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unrestricted funds is really...it's...it's just a gift, and it's a blessing to be able to not have it so restricted.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you. I hope some of the other ag people are hearing what you're sharing, and they can also go after those pots of money. So thank you very much.

MS. PELL: Yeah. You're welcome.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Sugimura. Okay, seeing no other questions. Mahalo for your testimony this morning, Ms. Pell.

MS. PELL: Okay. Thanks, Ms. Rawlins.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aloha. Our next testifier is Faith Chase, followed by a testifier identified as Robert.

MS. CHASE: Aloha, Chair. Aloha, Committee. I just have to pause for a moment because I can't believe Uncle Pat Borge took Ruth Bader Ginsburg on a horse ride. I just think that's so amazing. Maybe he could write a book just about that and generate some funds, I don't know. I'm so mesmerized by that. I just want to say that I think it's...listening to Paige and...and Pat and his wife Helaine, it's really...it's really sad and unbelievable that the bureau and the union and everybody that they asked can't figure out a niche to a...you know, a window, a way to make the time to help them. I've said...I've shared my complaints in the past about their purview of service to the greater community. And I think the department of ag, the micro grants, all...we...we've gone around the block, all the way around the block to sort of go around their shortcomings. And so I'm really sorry that it's happening to them. When...I just want to say that as far...as far as the Council goes, I know everybody's taking their own notes, I can see your hands moving. But every time we hear something, like a puka that is not being met during this COVID alarm, you know, whether it be MEO, Family Life Center, or the Mayor's Office, you know, the bureau, the union, whatever. Every single time somebody complains, I just wonder is there this Google Doc list that you guys can return to? Because you know, without insult to anyone of these...these entities that are disbursing the monies and trying to create that support, wherever the pukas are, we need to make sure that if...you know, it's kind of blurry, right? Because they need to serve the needs that people are asking for, and they're very specific. Well, if that organization doesn't have the staff or the wherewithal to attention it, then they need to internally look at themselves or you guys maybe could suggest that there's a puka or a part of the money that can just add staffing for them to further support. Because this is not the first time I've heard, well...like oh, you know, like absent, like, you know, the needs are just not being met. I mean, I remember hearing the...the issues about the renters. Oh, do we know if the

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renters are having problems? Hell, yes, they are. But how do we get to them? How do we find that information? So anyway, that's a little...I'm just...I...I just see so many pukas, and I'm really afraid because I know your timeline for spending this money. And in the past, no...no offense to this body or the organization, but in the past when people haven't paid attention, money has been misspent really poorly....very badly. So anyway, on that note, just...if there's some sort of list that we can return to of like all the little areas that need attention, please let's just return to it and see what we can do to help MEO and all these people. I just echo Jenny Pell's concerns regarding the \$75,000, the proviso section for MEO agricultural micro grants. You know, that's...I don't know what language that can be considered to support the Ohana Gardens, but that...this is...while it's a...it's a good chunk, and it's a good program, and Jenny Pell is like skilled and, you know, she's got that...that experience . . .(timer sounds). . . so...you know, component she's bringing. This Ohana Gardens is actually...since it's new is a pilot project, but it's a good one that's been pointing to examples all over the place. And I have five families that are waiting that can't...they...they just don't have the means to go haul soil or what, and don't understand the microbial action. And this is...this is going to be forever changing. And next year, when they come back, I'm sure they're going to get matched funding. But it's going to be...like the multiplier sort of effect of this program is going to be amazing. You guys will see, I promise you. So anyway, that's my two cents. Thank you for...for just attentioning [sic] all those people that really need things, especially the ranchers. Being a ranch girl, I really sympathize. Thank you.

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

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Mahalo, Chair. Aloha, Ms. Chase, for your testimony today. Yeah, I mean, just listening to Pat and Helaine, I mean, we've...we probably have some farms that have surplus in grass cuttings. I don't know if maybe...you know, and...and of course, looking at some of our ranchers to...to, you know, place animals into paddocks. So I'm thinking maybe we can look at those farms that have additional paddocks that could take maybe a couple horses. And then, you know, of course, our organic farmers are looking for...for manure, natural fertilizers. We can...we can bring these people in need together to...to help the situation during this pandemic.

MS. CHASE: I...I do want to say something about that. First of all there's two things. Once back in the day there was a feed reimbursement program to the tune of like 400...like I want to say 400,000 specific for...at least Maui ranchers could...could reach it. And what happened was the feed...the feed supplier was the one that was buying all the feed for all the ranchers and then submitting his reimbursement to get that national funds. And finally, what's his name, Diamond...Diamond B...what's his name, I forget his name, Balthazar.

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Balthazar went to the freaking Legislature, changed all that language to make sure that the...the guy on the ground was actually getting those reimbursement funds. So you know, it's just the like farmers. And you guys know I worked for the Farmers Union, I tried to give them my heart and soul for four-and-a-half years, and I just got so disappointed. You know what, if you...the farmers and the ranchers, they're out in the field. You can't expect them to do paperwork. I mean, God bless Helaine for being able to help Uncle Pat. But you know, they...they...these things are happening, and they don't know it. And they just need to be out in the field doing their job. And so on the other...on the other note, you know, listening to the conversation yesterday was really, really...it really made me happy. Because I started a business, a side business, don't laugh but it's called Like Scrap (*phonetic*). But it's meant to be a composting pickup, you know, service sort of, you know, a smaller scale of composting. And when I was listening to you guys yesterday talk about how...what a shame that composting isn't in that agriculture...agricultural sector, and that you guys wanted to take more home rule on it. Thank you, Alice Lee, you know, Councilmember Lee. Is...that's...that's great because now I can feel confident when I put forward my request for my micro grant because I know that my local County supports that. So that being said, if they could do a small mixture of a compost with the manure, they would set themselves apart for...it doesn't have to be the large animal mortality composting gnar, or gnarly gnar stuff that Gerry Ross was talking about yesterday. I know that got people a little squirmish. But manure with other kind of compostables, then maybe that value added could be a sort of new...you know, a new area that they could actually, you know, it...they could maybe give it some attention so that they could create a new revenue stream. Anyway, that's my two cents. Thanks for...thanks for your input.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Sinenci. Okay, seeing no other questions. Thank you so much for your testimony this morning, Ms. Chase.

MS. CHASE: A hui ho.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aloha. Our next testifier is identified as Robert, followed by Kristen Griffiths from Maui Mountain Activities. Robert? I'm unable to unmute you from my side, you would have to unmute yourself from your end. Okay. We'll come back to Robert if Robert would like to testify. And we'll go to Kristen Griffiths.

MS. GRIFFITHS: Hi.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aloha.

MS. GRIFFITHS: Hi. Okay, so I'm Kristen Griffiths from Maui Mountain Activities. And I just wanted to testify on behalf of the horse feed situation along with, you

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know, Paige and...and Mr. Borge. We're on a lot bigger scale than they are. I know they said they have about six or seven horses each. We've got 35 horses. So our feed bill is a lot higher than...than theirs right now. So we're currently spending probably \$7,000 to \$8,000 a month in horse feed. You know, there's no programs out there, there's no grant. A lot of the agriculture things are based on cattle or sheep or goats, where the horses, you know, kind of fall through the cracks there. So there's really no type of funding to help us all with...with horse feed. So you know, we're kind of at the point where we're selling horses, and I'm afraid that all of these horse businesses may end up just going out of business. So you know, we're just hoping for some kind of help somewhere, either in grants or any kind of discounts in horse feed. I know someone had mentioned about buying in bulk, and we definitely buy in bulk. And there's a five percent discount at Dell's, which is the cheapest place that we can go to to buy horse feed right now. And...but the five percent is...is...it doesn't make a dent in our horse bill. You know, along with shoeing, which is another close to \$400 per week. And then, you know, God forbid a horse gets sick and you've got vet bills. So it's a really substantial monthly expense by us not running. And I'm afraid that things won't even start to look a little normal until probably next year. So you know, I know that Ms. Borge was talking about her insurance bill, which was...she said it costs about \$4,000 to put their insurance back on. Ours is closer to \$45,000, and we pay a third of that to get our insurance back on. So you know, as far as doing like local customers and things like that, it's...it's such a small scale that it's not worth the, you know, \$10,000 you have to come up with just to get the insurance reinstated for...for a two-person ride, you know? So I just...I just was hoping that there was something, you know, that we could do, either to open the grants a little more to allow us to qualify for them or something, or create some sort of...of grant to help feed these animals or just some sort of some kind of help somewhere.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Ms. Griffiths. . . .*(timer sounds)*. . . I see a question from Member Sugimura.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you, Ms. Griffiths. So as others we've asked, so have you applied for any of the available grants? Like the MEDB...

MS. GRIFFITHS: We've applied for everything. I'm sorry?

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Have you applied...have you applied for the adaptability program we just started, which is...that's . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

MS. GRIFFITHS: That one I have not. That is what...yeah, I just found out about that one, I am working on that. So I will --

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Yeah. So that's...

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MS. GRIFFITHS: -- be applying for that one.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: That's the new one. Okay. Thank you.

MS. GRIFFITHS: Yeah. You're welcome.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Sugimura. Chair Lee?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Thank you, Madam Chair. I was wondering if you folks have contacted any of the hotels or resorts about maybe having some kind of an arrangement with their people...I mean, with their visitors and working out some kind of program. So you know, there's...they can supply you with the visitors and...and you can supply, you know, a special experience, you know, a nice experience for their...their tourists. Is there anything like that? Any kind of --

MS. GRIFFITHS: Well --

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: -- discussions going on with that?

MS. GRIFFITHS: -- there are...yes. Hotels do have their own concierge desk, which book activities such as ours. But without the visitors here and everything, we have to be kind of off and running at full pace in order to make it worthwhile to pay the large insurances and do all of those things for us to get open and running again. So if, you know, if visitors are kind of trickling...right now we don't have any visitors. Right now we're not doing any rides at all. But as they start to trickle in, we have to at least run at...you know, like I would say probably a half scale to at least make it worth putting the large insurances back on and...and doing all the things that it...it entails for us to run.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay. What I'm thinking of --

MS. GRIFFITHS: But...

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: -- is...okay, what I'm thinking of is that yeah, we may have access to some grants, but the grants...sounds like the grants will probably just help you...you and your industry for a couple months, and that's it. But...and that's fine. But what we...you know, wouldn't it be great if the hotels and all the other businesses came together and say ho, okay, we're going to help you, we're going to send people to you because that's what you need, you need customers. And if they're not aware of some of this, perhaps the Council can help make them aware. Because we are...we've been giving out millions of dollars to different, you know, sectors of the community. And they need to come together to help all the other groups who could use, you know, customers, could...you know, there's a lot more that can be done in the community.

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Instead of everybody staying their little silos, everybody start working together as one group. I think what the Council can do is encourage that. You know, in other words, we just don't dish out...dole out money. It's like okay, we're going to help you here, but we need you to start looking at our farmers and our ranchers and all the other people that you can help and...and work it both ways. So anyway --

MS. GRIFFITHS: Absolutely.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: -- that's, I think, a job that we have today to start --

MS. GRIFFITHS: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: -- working on. Thank you. Thank you.

MS. GRIFFITHS: Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair Lee. Seeing no other questions. We'll thank you for your testimony today, Ms. Griffiths.

MS. GRIFFITHS: Thank you very much.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aloha. Okay, we'll do a last call for Robert. Robert, if you would like to testify, please unmute yourself. Okay. Ms. Milner, did the person signed on as Robert indicate that that person wanted to testify, or was it just someone that is not Staff or part of the meeting?

MS. MILNER: No, Chair. We just added him to the list because he was not Staff or Administration.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, mahalo, Ms. Milner. Okay. I'm going to assume that the person signed on as Robert did not intend to testify. Are there any objections to closing public testimony?

COUNCILMEMBERS VOICED NO OBJECTIONS

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

COUNCILMEMBERS VOICED NO OBJECTIONS

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, great.

. . .END OF PUBLIC TESTIMONY. . .

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CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Members, would you like to take our morning break early now? It's 10:17. Or --

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Yes, please.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: -- would you like...okay. Okay. I...any objections to taking our morning break, ten minutes, we'll return at...oh, I guess we can round up. Okay, I'll say 10:25, and we'll probably end up starting at 10:30 anyway.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Okay. No objections.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. So we'll...we'll come back at 10:25. Okay, Members? It's 10:17, and the Economic Development and Budget Committee is now in recess. . . .*(gavel)*. . .

RECESS: 10:17 a.m.
RECONVENE: 10:31 a.m.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: . . .*(gavel)*. . . Will the Economic Development and Budget Committee please return to order. It's 10:31 on October 7th.

**ITEM 111: AMENDMENTS TO THE FISCAL YEAR 2021 BUDGET:
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT;
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR; DEPARTMENT OF POLICE;
DEPARTMENT OF FIRE AND PUBLIC SAFETY;
DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND HUMAN
CONCERNS; DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS;
SECTION 14, GENERAL BUDGET PROVISIONS (CC 20-
475)**

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: And we will start with the first item on today's agenda, EDB-111, Amendments to the Fiscal Year 2021 Budget: Department of Environmental Management; Office of the Mayor; Department of Police; Department of Fire and Public Safety; Department of Housing and Human Concerns; Department of Public Works; Section 14, General Budget Provisions. Oh, okay, I guess I don't have to read all of that. Okay. So we have Budget Director Yoshimura with us for opening comments. Budget Director?

MS. YOSHIMURA: Thank you, Chair. So I'm not sure how you want to proceed with this, but there's a total of five budget amendments. The first amendment has several parts to it. If I could refer you to the proposed bill, Section 1. Section 1...

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AUTOMATED VOICE MESSAGE: Facebook...

MS. YOSHIMURA: Sorry? Section 1 moves premium pay...or not premium pay, fringe benefits from the EP&S Fund to the Solid Waste Fund. So there was reduction in salaries and wages for the Solid Waste Fund, which should have resulted in a decrease in fringe cost to the Solid Waste Fund; however, it was applied to EP&S instead. So we're just moving it back to the appropriate fund. Section 2 of the grant...of the proposed bill relates to the Food Security Hawai'i. Right now, we're not making any change to that grant. As...as you read it in the Budget Ordinance, Food Security Hawai'i has no money. They should actually have \$75,000, and that's what we're correcting. The...if you look on Page 5 of the proposed bill, for some reason the appropriation did not line up with the grant title. And so this is...that's the only correction we're making, so that the appropriation coincides with the Ohana...Food Security Hawai'i for the Ohana Garden Project. And on Section 3, all we're adding is "government facilities." And this is just basically housekeeping on these...on the Fiscal Year 2021 Budget. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Director Yoshimura. So we'll...we'll stop at the first one. We'll see if Members have questions on that first batch of amendments, and...and then we'll go to the next one if Members don't have. Okay. I see questions from Committee Vice-Chair King, followed by Council Chair Lee.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Thank you, Chair. Thank you for being here, Ms. Yoshimura. I'm just a little curious as to how the funding did not make it in for Food Security Hawai'i in the budget. Because that was...that was not only appropriated, but then it was also corrected when I didn't see it in there. And so I'm just wondering how it still didn't make it in there. And I'm a little concerned that the way that you're proposing to put that money in is to take it out of the micro grant, the ag micro grants. Is that because you don't feel like there are going to be enough applicants for the ag micro grants?

MS. YOSHIMURA: No, Chair...Councilmember King, so if you look on the original budget bill that was passed by the Council, on page 21. So I think you folks all got that spiral-bound budget book. If you look on page 21, you will see there's \$75,000 that's kind of on the bottom one-fourth of the page, and it belongs to pretty much nothing, right? That actually should have been the funding that was for...specifically for the Food Security Hawai'i. So when you...when the final budget document was...was approved, it's just the way it was printed and it didn't line up. So there's no ...*(audio interference)*... being taken away from...from the micro grant program or the farmer grant...the micro grant program. It's just cleaning up the document, making sure that that money that's kind of just hanging out there right now is assigned to a specific grant.

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VICE-CHAIR KING: Okay. Because...oh, so it's not like you're deducting 75,000 from the pot of micro --

MS. YOSHIMURA: No.

VICE-CHAIR KING: -- grants for the agriculture?

MS. YOSHIMURA: Just cleaning up the grant.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Okay.

MS. YOSHIMURA: Just cleaning up the ordinance.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Excellent. Okay. Thank you for that clarification. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Committee Vice-Chair King. Yeah, it...the...the formatting was...

VICE-CHAIR KING: Okay.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Council Chair Lee?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Thank you. Budget Chair, I'm looking at something, I don't know if that's the right page, but anyway, it says Food Security Hawai'i, 75,000. But under it, it says Ohana Garden Project. Does it mean that project gets all of the \$75,000?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Yeah. Okay. And if not in this group of adjustments, rather than me keep asking you where we can add provisos, maybe you can let us know. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh, Chair Lee, what kind of provisos?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Well, I'm...I'm thinking that, you know, a lot of people, the smaller entities are just falling by the wayside because there's no real group advocating on their part. And like for instance, the ranchers today, the people who...who have these...what do you call that? Anyway, the tours with the horses, the stables. Okay. So you know --

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Equine industry.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: -- maybe...maybe there's a possibility that we can include

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either them specifically, or we can include them so that they qualify for some of these grants that...that probably perhaps didn't anticipate these kinds of applicants. So now we're finding out more about applicants and their uniqueness. And so we want to be more inclusive, right, of...of everybody. And you know, everybody has an important role to play in this whole economy. It's not just the hotels, it's like everybody. And the hotels could be helping these people. And these people could be helping the hotels. I mean, there's...there's so much more that could be done interactively. And I don't know, it just...it just seems that we're too busy taking care of line items that we're not being more inclusive, and we're not looking at the big picture. And because the little guys play...collectively play just as an important a role as one big guy. So I...I think...like when Mr. Sinenci was talking about, you know, manure. You know, maybe somebody needs manure, somebody needs grass cuttings, somebody needs this, somebody need...and...but they're not...they're not working together to...to help one another because maybe they don't know what's available, and they don't know what other people need. So...because as the hotels start to open, you know, I'm sure they would be more than happy to help these small businesses on Maui. But if they don't know about them, then it's hard to help. So that's why I asked about possible provisos. We can...can we change some of the...the language that enables people to apply? Or can we just do outright...you know, outright grants? Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair Lee. So I think for...for EDB-111, it's specific to the amendments that we received from the Administration. And I...and I think and, you know, someone can correct me if I'm wrong, that this...that discussion we can have under EDB-85 or even EDB-102 for workforce development and coronavirus impacts. Okay. Okay. And I saw Member Hokama's hand up.

COUNCILMEMBER HOKAMA: No, Chair, thank you for sharing that because that was my understanding, that we either vote up or down the amendments as proposed by the Administration. I agree with Ms. Lee that, you know, with testimony, everything, we should have some potential flexibility to make adjustments. And that was one of my concerns that I believe I shared before we passed the final budget about having too restrictive language in the provisos that takes away that flexibility. So I would just ask the Committee to consider that as we go forward on future provisos, that we consider the level of flexibility needed to address some of this unique adjustments during this COVID time. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Hokama. Okay, Members, any other questions on the first batch of budget amendments? Member Molina?

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Yeah, thank you, Madam Chair. Just more of a clarification question for the Director Yoshimura. For the Food Security

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Program, can you kind of explain to me what is meant by properly reflect the appropriation of the Food Security Program?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Director Yoshimura?

MS. YOSHIMURA: Councilmember Hokama [sic], okay. So you're taking that language off of the transmittal letter?

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Yeah.

MS. YOSHIMURA: Okay. So yeah, right now, if you...like I had said earlier, on page 21 of the original Budget Ordinance, when you look at...or actually page 22 you'll see on the top of the page Food Security Hawai'i Ohana Garden Project, and there's no appropriation tied to that line. And so it was just a matter of lining up the...the amount for the grant that was kind of just not...the alignment was off. Just the alignment was off on the printing of the ordinance.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Kind of a typo basically, yeah?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: I'm going to share my screen.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: All right, thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay.

MS. YOSHIMURA: Oh, Chair?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh, yes?

MS. YOSHIMURA: Okay. So Councilmember Molina, if you look on page 5 of that proposed ordinance that we had submitted, you'll see where it's bracketed \$75,000. So that's where the amount was just kind of there, and not lined up with the Food Security Hawai'i line. So what we did was just move that amount to the appropriate line.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Okay, thank you.

MS. YOSHIMURA: To properly reflect the \$75,000 should have been there.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: All right. Okay, good. That helps me out to figuring this out. So okay, thank you very much, Director Yoshimura. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Did you see my mouse trying to be Vanna White? Okay. Okay, mahalo, Member Molina. Okay, seeing no other questions. We'll

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move on to the next budget amendment. Director Yoshimura?

MS. YOSHIMURA: Okay. So the second amendment is for Appendix A. During the budget deliberations, I believe Councilmember Hokama wanted to insert a FEMA grant for the Lānaʻi Senior Center for the purchase of...the purchase and installation of an ice machine and a generator. Somehow that proviso got added to the Fire Department. So this amendment just corrects the grant being put into the Department of Housing and Human Concerns versus the Fire Department since it is for the Lānaʻi Senior Center. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Director Yoshimura. Any questions? And as everyone can see, let me know if you would like me to share my screen, and I can point it out. It looks like everyone's good. Okay. And no questions. Okay. And then for the next budget amendment, Director?

MS. YOSHIMURA: Okay. For the next budget amendment, this one is for Appendix C and this is on page 2, Item D, Countywide Federal Aid Program. So the County is anticipating \$17 million in Federal Aid funds for CIP projects. And that wasn't reflected in the total. So the County's portion is 8.9 million, we're adding 17.533 million, for a total of 26.546. So it was reflected everywhere else in the budget, just not on Appendix C. So that's the adjustment that we're making for that. And on the item before that, Item C, sorry, there were...you look at the description, if...I believe Items 3, 4 and...oh, 3 and 4 were...were deleted during the deliberations. So they had the brackets, they just weren't removed, and so now we're just removing it. So the Pukalani Terrace Pavement Reconstruction and the Kalai Subdivision Pavement, those two projects were removed by the Council during deliberations. And added a new number 3, Keomoku Road Maintenance. So we're just cleaning it up, taking out what should have been taken out.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: We have a question from Member Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you. I was just wondering what page in Appendix C are...are we on?

MS. YOSHIMURA: So on the proposed amendment, I was referring to page 2. But if you're looking at the Budget Ordinance itself, it would be on page 7 and 8. Oh, primarily 8.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Ms. Yoshimura.

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

VICE-CHAIR KING: Mahalo, Chair. So Ms. Yoshimura, just to clarify that the...the removal of those items are...those are items that have been completed?

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MS. YOSHIMURA: Those were items that were removed by the Council. I'm not sure, I can't remember exactly what the reason was for the removal.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Okay.

MS. YOSHIMURA: But those were reductions made by the Council.

VICE-CHAIR KING: So those were reductions that we made, and then they somehow didn't get taken out, those...the items.

MS. YOSHIMURA: Yes.

VICE-CHAIR KING: But they're...but the dollar amount is correct?

MS. YOSHIMURA: Yes.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Okay. So I just wanted to clarify too that the...and the...talking about the 17-plus million. If we're doing corrections, is any of this affecting the bottom line of the budget?

MS. YOSHIMURA: No.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Okay. So the bottom line is the same, it's just some of these things just didn't get printed in the right places or didn't get recognized wherever they should have. Okay. Thank you, Chair.

MS. YOSHIMURA: Yes.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Just wanted to clarify that.

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

VICE-CHAIR KING: Thank you for sharing your...sharing your screen because that's really helping. It's...some of us are very visual.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: I'm sure that's helpful for the public too so they can kind of follow along.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Yes, absolutely.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: So I believe some of those were taken out. We were trying to reduce Highway Fund and...and Director, you can correct me if I'm wrong. But I...I remember that that was part of the discussion. We were looking for projects that were shovel ready that, you know, we could reduce

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some of the Highway Fund so that we wouldn't need to take...reduce the Highway Fund for maintenance, road...road maintenance and paving, and so we're looking at projects that could wait a year.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Oh, okay.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: And those projects that we decided together with the Department that could wait a year to see how our economy looks.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Okay. Well, thank you for that. Thank you for your memory. Appreciate that.

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

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Yeah, thanks. I was just going to say that. And I look forward to us putting that back into the budget for the next fiscal year so that we can take care of Upcountry because it was all the...it was a grab from Upcountry, which I appreciate my community. Thanks.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo. It was also Moloka'i. Okay. So...

VICE-CHAIR KING: And South Maui.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: And South Maui. Yeah. So it was a collective effort. I think we all, yeah, are sacrificing a lot together. So if there aren't any more questions on those budget amendments or that budget amendment, then we'll go to the next one, general budget provisions. Director?

MS. YOSHIMURA: Okay. So general budget provisions, Section 14, all we're doing is changing it. Rather than having it reference from A through Y, we're having it change from A through Z because the Home Acquisition and Ownership Programs Revolving Fund was added to the list under Appendix A, Part II. So it took it to...through Z. So we're just making that change there. So I think if you look on page 58 of the Budget Ordinance, you'll see that there was one fund that was added at the end.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Members, any questions? Seeing none. Okay, we'll go to the last one.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I just...

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh, Member Paltin? Sorry.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: So we're talking about the Home Acquisition and

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Ownership Programs Revolving Fund being the...the Z?

MS. YOSHIMURA: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. All right, thank you. Sorry.

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

MS. YOSHIMURA: Okay. And the last one is for Appendix A, Part I, which is the CDBG program. So on the second page of the proposed bill, there is language being added for the disbursement for salaries and premium pay is not restricted by Section 5. That's just so we could...that was...that was not included in the original ordinance, and so that's just being added. So we...we have three staff members there. So that would allow the salaries and premium pay to be disbursed from the CDBG funds. Okay. That's...that's the five amendments. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Any questions on the last amendment? Okay. Seeing none. Okay. The Chair will recommend...entertain a motion to recommend passage on first reading of the proposed bills entitled "A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE FISCAL YEAR 2021 BUDGET FOR THE COUNTY OF MAUI AS IT PERTAINS TO DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT, SOLID WASTE ADMINISTRATION PROGRAM – SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT FUND, ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND SUSTAINABILITY PROGRAM – ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND SUSTAINABILITY FUND; OFFICE OF THE MAYOR, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM; DEPARTMENT OF POLICE, MOLOKAI POLICE STATION ROOF REPLACEMENT"; "A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE FISCAL YEAR 2021 BUDGET FOR THE COUNTY OF MAUI AS IT PERTAINS TO APPENDIX A, PART I, GRANTS AND RESTRICTED USE REVENUES – SCHEDULE OF GRANTS AND RESTRICTED USE REVENUES BY DEPARTMENTS AND PROGRAMS, DEPARTMENT OF FIRE AND PUBLIC SAFETY; DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND HUMAN CONCERNS, (FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY (FEMA) PUBLIC ASSISTANCE GRANT)"; "A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE FISCAL YEAR 2021 BUDGET FOR THE COUNTY OF MAUI AS IT PERTAINS TO APPENDIX C – CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS, DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, COUNTYWIDE ROAD RESURFACING AND PAVEMENT PRESERVATION, COUNTYWIDE FEDERAL AID PROGRAM"; "A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE AMENDING FISCAL YEAR 2021 BUDGET FOR THE COUNTY OF MAUI AS IT PERTAINS TO SECTION 14 OF THE GENERAL BUDGET PROVISIONS"; and "A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE FISCAL YEAR 2021 BUDGET FOR THE COUNTY OF MAUI AS IT PERTAINS TO APPENDIX A, PART I, GRANTS AND RESTRICTED USE REVENUES – SCHEDULE OF GRANTS AND RESTRICTED USE REVENUES BY DEPARTMENTS AND PROGRAMS, OFFICE OF THE MAYOR, COMMUNITY

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DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) PROGRAM”; incorporating any non-substantive revisions; and filing of County Communication 20-475.

VICE-CHAIR KING: So moved.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Second.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Second.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Moved by Committee Vice-Chair King, seconded by Pro Temp Kama. Discussion? Member Hokama?

COUNCILMEMBER HOKAMA: Chair, very quickly. I’m in support of the motion that’s before us this morning. I want to thank Budget Office for the corrections and adjustments so that we’re all in sync. Just one quick comment, Chair, regarding the last item you brought up, CDBG salaries and premium pay language. I understand the need, and I...I support your recommendation; however, I believe that we also have an item in Committee that eventually maybe we need to consider some of the uniqueness of how they’ve been doing salaries and premium pay over the last few years of this program. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Hokama. Will do, sounds good. Okay, any other discussion, Members? Member Sugimura?

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Yeah. So good job, Budget Director. It’s all your work and attention to details, I appreciate it for this cleanup. So thanks a lot. I support this.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Sugimura. Okay. Seeing no other hands, I’ll call for the question. All those in favor of the motion please raise your hand and say “aye.”

COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aye, okay. And I...nine “ayes,” zero “noes,” zero excused. Motion passes unanimously. Mahalo, Members.

VOTE: **AYES:** **Chair Rawlins-Fernandez, Vice-Chair King,
and Councilmembers Hokama, Kama, Lee,
Molina, Paltin, Sinenci, and Sugimura.**

NOES: **None.**

ABSTAIN: **None.**

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ABSENT: **None.**

EXC.: **None.**

MOTION CARRIED.

ACTION: Recommending **FIRST READING** of bills and **FILING**
of communication by C.R.

ITEM 101: VEHICLE DISPOSAL FEE FUND (CC 20-416)

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: We'll move on to the next item EDB-101, Vehicle Disposal Fee Fund. And Budget Director for opening comments.

MS. YOSHIMURA: Chair, thank you. So this...this bill is...the proposed bill is to just change the reference in 3.27.030 Item B. It now references 3.26.020, and 3.26.020 is actually referring to the Employee Parking Fees Fund rather than the Vehicle Disposal Fee Fund. So we're just making that correction. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Director. Members, any questions? Okay, seeing no questions, the Chair will entertain a motion to recommend passage on first reading of the proposed bill entitled "A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 3.27, MAUI COUNTY CODE, RELATING TO A VEHICLE DISPOSAL FEE FUND"; incorporating any non-substantive revisions; and filing of County Communication 20-416.

VICE-CHAIR KING: So moved.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: So moved.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Second.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, moved by Committee Vice-Chair King, seconded by Member Sinenci. Discussion? Seeing no discussion, I'll call for the question. All those in favor of the motion please raise your hand and say "aye."

COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, I see nine "ayes," zero "noes," motion passes unanimously. Mahalo, Members.

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VOTE: **AYES:** **Chair Rawlins-Fernandez, Vice-Chair King,
and Councilmembers Hokama, Kama, Lee,
Molina, Paltin, Sinenci, and Sugimura.**

NOES: **None.**

ABSTAIN: **None.**

ABSENT: **None.**

EXC.: **None.**

MOTION CARRIED.

ACTION: Recommending **FIRST READING** of bill and **FILING**
 of communication by C.R.

**ITEM 102: CREATING AND EXPANDING WORKFORCE
DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS TO GET MAUI COUNTY
RESIDENTS BACK TO WORK (CC 20-428)**

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: And mahalo...I think the next item will be a Council discussion. So we can let Director Yoshimura, I believe, go. Oh, unless we want to talk about budget provisos. Okay, okay. So the next item is EDB-102, Creating and Expanding Workforce Development Programs to Get Maui County Residents Back to Work. Members, we can all agree that workforce development in Maui County is an important issue. Mahalo to Chair Lee for introducing this resolution to urge these organizations and administrations to expand or fund programs to get our residents back to work. This item was referred to Committee because of the large amount of positive discussion that occurred during the Council meeting on August 28, 2020, and I welcome the continuation of that discussion today. So as Members will recall, we had the...Chair Lee's resolution at Council, and we attempted to pass it on the floor that day. There were some amendments that Members were interested in including into the resolution, which is why it was referred to the EDB...our Committee. And so I will invite Chair Lee to provide us opening comments. And I remember Member Paltin had some amendments to propose. And I'll ask other Members if they have amendments they would like to propose as well. Chair Lee?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Thank you. Okay. This is pretty self-explanatory, and...but it does relate to what we talked about earlier. Is like I wish we had a Board that had a grander view of our economic situation so that we could help all the

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moving parts in our economy work...work together as brought up by the issues with the ranchers and the farmers, et cetera. But we also need to ensure that this Board, whether it's some specialized economic board, can...can foresee and anticipate all the jobs and the different kinds of...excuse me, I don't know why I'm coughing. Anyway, we need to have internship programs, we need to have more training programs. We need to have the college provide different kinds of courses because we are changing course from overreliance on the visitor industry to a much more diversified range of economic opportunities. And I'm going to take a break right now and get some water, okay?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Sounds good, Chair.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Excuse me. But somebody else can be talking.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. I'll call on Member Paltin since she had some amendments that day, and then we can hear some of the proposed amendments for inclusion. Member Paltin?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. So I had some notes in my Granicus app, but I'm not able to access the app. So I just was going back over and trying to remember. One amendment...and let me know what you think, it's just a proposal. On the first BE IT RESOLVED where it says "That it urges the University of Hawai'i Maui College to expand its curriculum to include more technology and skilled trade programs including technical certificates, licenses, and degrees." And I put "and careers that are chronically vacant." You know, like police dispatch, we always have a hard time filling that. The police force, there's chronic vacancies on that. And you know, engineers, I mean, I think engineers is included in technology and skilled trades program. But just to try and...and we're trying to put people in jobs, and we have these needs. So it's like, you know, can we...can we look at the jobs that we have that are chronically vacant and also make it easier for folks to get training in those. And in the second BE IT RESOLVED I wanted to add onto "construction-related", "and health care trade unions in the County to expand...work on expanding apprenticeship and other training programs." If...if...if that's amenable. Just kind of broadening the scope a little.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. So on the first one, first BE IT RESOLVED clause on page 3, your proposal is to the add word "careers"...

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: That are chronically vacant in Maui County.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. And then on the second one, it's to...

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Add "health care in addition to construction-related trade unions." My notes were a little bit more eloquent, but sorry, technology.

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CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. So would you like to make the motion?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Sure. Okay. Right now?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. I'd like to move to amend the first BE IT RESOLVED to add on at the end of number one, and careers that are chronically vacant in Maui County, and on the second BE IT RESOLVED to add on health care after construction-related...add and health care and that's my motion.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Was there a second?

VICE-CHAIR KING: I'll second the motion. And Chair, I have a...I have one addition I'd like to make, but I'll do that separately. You want to take these up separately?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Uh-huh.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Okay.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, so moved by Member Paltin, seconded by Committee Vice-Chair King. Chair Lee?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Yeah, I understand what she's saying, but I don't know if you...if it's appropriate to say "careers that are vacant" or "positions that are vacant." You know, I'm just trying to get to the right verbiage.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Friendly amendment.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Yeah.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: For this ones.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: So go ahead, Chair, you can fix it.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay.

VICE-CHAIR KING: I'm amendable to that. I'm amendable to that as the second.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, great. Member Sinenci?

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COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you, Chair, for the opportunity. And great amendments. I was just thinking about maybe the environmental...environment stewardship careers, the industry as well. I know last or two years ago, Chair Lee was ready to call on the troops to...to come and help with some invasive species like coqui frog eradication. So...and with the pandemic, you know, it just seems natural that careers outside in the environment could be more enhanced, you know, just with the social distancing and all. So I mean, if...if Members are amenable, maybe adding "environmental stewardship" as a friendly amendment.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Is that on the BE IT RESOLVED second clause?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Yeah. I'm...I'm...yeah. I'm thinking maybe at the second BE IT RESOLVED.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: So it would then read? I see Member Paltin nodding.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: On top of the...maybe after "health care" and then maybe "an environmental stewardship careers" or "job opportunities." Unless we want to put it into the trades, more curriculum trades at...at UH Maui.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I'm amendable. The only situation is like, you know, I know they have like health care unions and construction unions. Like Local 5 has --

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Right.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: -- a union that does health care as well. I'm not sure what the...if like MISC has a union. So maybe...

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, we'll...we'll save that one, and we'll preserve the original motion for now until we can figure how to include "environmental stewardship" if that's something that the Members would like to consider. Okay. As the seconder of the motion, Committee Vice-Chair King, did you want to speak to the motion? And then Member Molina, and then Chair Lee.

VICE-CHAIR KING: No, I support the motion because we've been talking about health care, you know, as an industry that we need to grow. I've been looking at this for many, many years as far as nurses on the island. And I've been, you know, it's from 20-plus years ago been playing tennis in the nurse's tournament. And you know, the goal of...working with the folks that are...the goal to try to grow that...that industry, and it's been up and down. So I think it...it really needs to be singled out and...the health care industry. And also because, you know, here we are in the COVID, you know, era. We need health care, we need more

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health care workers. So I...so I support it. And I think that that's...I think that's a good point that those two things do have unions. And so if we could find some other place to put, you know, green jobs or environmental stewardship that it might be more appropriate. But I...I certainly support adding that as well at some point in some area of this resolution because the green jobs has huge potential as well.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo...mahalo, Committee Vice-Chair King. And I actually have an amendment that I can...related to the green jobs and...and environmental stewardship. So I can read that later after this motion is written down, and then...

VICE-CHAIR KING: Okay. And mine...mine's pretty simple too, so I can read mine later separately. Mine will be on number five.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, great. Member Molina, followed by Chair Lee.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Yeah, thank you, Madam Chair. Just for clarification purposes, so this is to be in the...I guess it's...the amendment is in the fifth resolve. And that came after...what was it, the words "training programs," am I...did I say that correctly?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: That's the second resolved.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Oh, second resolved. Oh, okay. In the second resolve. Okay.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: So the first...the first one, "positions that are chronically vacant." Excuse my messy handwriting. And then the second one that is "construction-related and health care trade unions."

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Okay. Yeah. I...I just bring that up because I was going to propose adding the word "health care" in the...in the first BE IT RESOLVED after the word "technology." But you know what, if...as long as the words "health care" is in the reso, I'm fine with that, and I certainly can support this. Because you know, myself and, of course...practically everybody else, you know, we're...we're wanting to expand the health care professions and maybe create some sort of a...where...create a farm system for Maui County where we can grow and train our health care professionals with the hope of them staying here. And to relieve added expense on families and students from having to go off island for training. Why not have that appropriate training here and save a lot of folks some expenses? So I...I support the amendment. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Molina. Chair Lee...perhaps Chair Lee meant to...meant for skilled trades to be health care related is what I'm

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thinking. Chair Lee? And if not, if it's amenable to...

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: No, I'm...I'm actually open to everything.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: I was going to bring up the issue of what I believe Mr. Molina just said, that this should lead to something. That we're committing to pay...help pay for this, whether it's, you know, certificates, degrees, or whatever. So it's not just like pushing...you know, these...these are great ideas for somebody else to do. No, it's for us to do. And then I agree with Members King and Paltin and Sinenci. Too bad we can't think of a word or phrase that includes the environment and the climate change, et cetera. Because this, without question, is going to provide substantial jobs in the future. And...so, you know, we can't...we can't minimize this by just saying, you know, with a little mention of it. Okay, that's all I have to say. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair Lee. Okay. Member Hokama?

COUNCILMEMBER HOKAMA: Chair, I really enjoy...I'm enjoying this discussion this morning on this item. One thing I wanted just a little clarification from you. Okay. Because I getting kind of lost on the intent. Is the intent of how we can use this money that's listed in the resolution, and how we can get our people back to some sort of more immediate or quicker employment opportunities, or this is about something we're going to develop that will take time and our reaping of this benefit is one, two years away? Because we're hearing the need for now as well as the need for the longer term. And I was just curious about are we more focused on the CIP component where it's for now? Or are we looking at something for the longer term regarding workforce development? If maybe you could give us some...some of your...how you want to proceed please, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Hokama. I'll ask the introducer of the resolution. Chair Lee?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay. Actually, Member Hokama, it was meant for both. Because one of the important issues that people...I don't know, maybe the public seems to forget is that we have over \$700 million for CIP now --

COUNCILMEMBER HOKAMA: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: -- and for the next, you know, for the next few years. So that is the reason why we're urging the unions, can you please boost up your internship and apprenticeship programs, knowing that you're going to be needing more people, and which we do not want to import from someplace else.

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So start training them now because we have all these construction jobs coming up. But at the same time, we also these brand new kinds of jobs that we have to prepare for. So it's both, the answer is both.

COUNCILMEMBER HOKAMA: Okay. So...so, Chair, yeah, if then I can...I'll just give my quick comment then. I support the discussion. I think adding the health care component is critical. But what I would add is that if this is for both short term and long term, then I would ask that we not forget Department of Education. I think we need to reach our people even at a younger age. Okay. I mean, when I grew up, almost every public school had a farm, and we did FFA and agriculture at school. We actually grew food for the cafeteria, whether it was the corn, pig or whatever, we grew for the cafeteria. And that was really farm to table at that time, in that...back in the '60s we were doing it. So I would just say that, you know, let's not forget those that we can help encourage at a younger stage, whether it's in the agriculture field or whatnot. And I would also strongly be supportive of work training, on-the-job training. Not everybody is the greatest person through a book or a paper, but doing on-the-job training with their hands and their skills and they can do it. And so I hope we are open to other ways of getting our people trained and prepared for the new challenges. Thank you, Chair. Appreciate my turn.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Hokama. Okay. I saw Committee Vice-Chair King's hand up for your second and final.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Oh, no, I was just going to point out that...well, two things. One, that the urgency part of this has to do with the CARES Act because we all know that has to be spent by the end of the year. So you know, we're trying to push the envelope there. And then the long term, I think, is great. I like that Member Hokama brought up Department of Education because in the past, the Council has always separated everything out. And now I like that we're working together, and we're including the callers, and we're including the Department of Education and we're not...you know, we all have to work together on this. And it's becoming clear and, you know, maybe that was one of the...the great things about the situation we're in, is that all we're realizing that we have to crossover and...and work from County to State to Federal. So whether or not it makes it in this resolution or...and I...and I...I'm looking forward to hearing your...your amendment, Chair, about the green jobs. Because we have a lot of resolutions about green jobs, and we're working on another one with THRIVE, but it can't be said enough, in my opinion. So you know, as many...as...wherever we can put that to urge because the potential for that is so great. But I'm ready to vote on the amendment before us.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Committee Vice-Chair King. Before I call on Member Sugimura, Member Paltin, I...I saw you nodding your head earlier, and Chair Lee sounded open to adding specifically to the BE IT RESOLVED, the first

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one, “health care” in the education in working with UHMC. Is that something that...

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. Yeah, I think that’s great. Originally I did think that the skilled trades would cover it, but I think it’s good to add “health care” in there also in addition to the union one. Because you know, we’re not just talking about unionized nurses, and then you got the nurses at the hospital with a different union than the clinics. But also, you know, I broke my finger before, and there’s only like so many bone doctors. And so like my fingers are all crooked because it took over six weeks to get like into the...the...get it set, you know. And so we need like more than just nurses, we need doctors, we need like elder care, we need all sorts of things. So I think it is good, and I am amenable to specifically calling out health care, although I did think it was covered in skilled trades by Chair Lee. The need is so great and, you know, we have so many people breaking their necks in the shore break and...and things like that, that we definitely need more doctors, and especially for broken bones. Because you know, if you wait so long that your bones heal crooked, nobody really wants to go and break them again to like make them be straight. So I...I would like to specifically emphasize health care, even though I thought it had been covered in skilled trades like the need, you know.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo, Member Paltin. And Committee Vice-Chair King, open to it as the seconder?

VICE-CHAIR KING: Yes. As much as that story kind of creeps me out about the bones in your fingers, I’m amenable to it.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo. Okay. Member Sugimura?

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Yeah, great discussion. And that in terms of when Tamara mentioned health care, there’s a whole avenue, or a whole new industry opening up with this coronavirus in...in...in that we need, I think, like compliance officers or different jobs now that never was of importance before. So if the health care would cover that in terms of COVID also related, or do you think that maybe we should mention pandemic or COVID-19 or novel...COVID-19, you know, industry or job somehow because that’s what’s happening to our whole economy. As...as we roll forward, we’re going to have to be ultra-careful and we’re hearing it, you know, often and reading about it daily. So if the...if the health care would also cover that or...I would like to also add that, you know, COVID-19 jobs industry education, or as it would relate to UH, so.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Sugimura. I think health care would cover COVID-19 and any other novel viruses that could come.

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COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Okay. So as long as it covers it.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Okay. Any other discussion? Okay. And Ms. Milner did make the amendments and I can ask her to now share her screen so that we can see it all together so that we're all clear on what it is that we're voting on. Mahalo, Ms. Milner. Oh, we added the "health care" to BE IT RESOLVED the first clause, and then "and positions that are"...oh, Ms. Milner, will you mind moving your mouse, please? "And positions that are chronically vacant in Maui County." And in the second BE IT RESOLVED clause, that it urges construction-related "and health care" trade unions in the County. Okay. So mahalo, Ms. Milner. I'll call for the question. All those in favor of the motion to amend the main motion, please raise your hand...oh, we don't have a main motion, I think.

VICE-CHAIR KING: We have a motion to amend.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yeah, but we don't have a main motion. We're in discussion.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: I thought you did.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: No. Chair Lee, would you like to make the motion to recommend passage of your resolution on first reading? [sic]

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: I move to approve.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Second.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Second.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo. Moved by Chair Lee, seconded by Committee Vice-Chair King. Motion to amend by Member Paltin, seconded by Committee Vice-Chair King. I'll call for the motion to amend the main motion as you've seen on the screen from Ms. Milner. All those in favor of amending the main motion by including the new language, please raise your hand and say "aye."

VICE-CHAIR KING: Aye.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Aye.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Aye.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, I see nine "ayes," motion passes unanimously.

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VOTE: **AYES:** **Chair Rawlins-Fernandez, Vice-Chair King,
and Councilmembers Hokama, Kama, Lee,
Molina, Paltin, Sinenci, and Sugimura.**

NOES: **None.**

ABSTAIN: **None.**

ABSENT: **None.**

EXC.: **None.**

MOTION CARRIED.

ACTION: APPROVE amendment to main motion.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Committee Vice-Chair King, you had an amendment?

VICE-CHAIR KING: Okay, thank you, Chair. Yes. You know, just today and all the times that folks have come before us and asked for, you know, to be included in some of these grant opportunities, and I feel like...and so maybe I should go through my motion first and then see if I get a second before I start explaining it. Okay, so my motion is in...under the BE IT RESOLVED number five and I wanted to expand it to say that it urges the Mayor to create more opportunities for public input and to allocate CARES Act funding to program. So if I can get a second, I can explain.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, moved by Committee Vice-Chair King, seconded by Member Paltin. Committee Vice-Chair King?

VICE-CHAIR KING: Okay, thank you, Member Paltin. So you know, what...what...it seems like what happens is people have to come to us to get their input, then urge...we're...we're urging the Mayor. And I just think there needs to be a lot more opportunities from the Administration to allow the public to input on how the CARES Act money is being spent. And we could...they could get to that...that place quicker than having...everybody having to come to us. Because we don't...we don't...we can't make those decisions on the CARES Act, all we can do is urge the Mayor to do something or, you know, what they put in the State legislation, which was consult. We've all given our input. But I think we could...we could get to that space quicker if the Mayor would actually hold regular...you know, we're holding very...very regular meetings discussing the CARES Act funding, and I don't know what the Mayor is doing as far as allowing the public to input. But I would have loved to have had, you know, the

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Borges and...and the other folks that came in and talked about the issues with the equine industry be able to give that information directly in a forum to the Administration and get those things taken care of quick...I think they could get taken care of quicker. So that's my...my hope. I know they had one or two public forums at the beginning, but it should be an ongoing thing for the Administration, just like we're doing on the Council.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Committee Vice-Chair King. Member Paltin, did you want to speak as the seconder? You don't have to.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I'll...I'll pass. I think Member King summed it up quite well.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Anyone else have any questions or want to speak to the motion? Chair Lee?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: I support the motion because it's true, even we're finding out a lot of things that...that more information about individual circumstances that we didn't anticipate. So if we're just finding out, then the Administration needs to find out because they have to adjust...you have to make adjustments. When you find out things aren't happening exactly as you had planned, then you have to make adjustments. And in order to do that, you need the public's input. So I certainly support this.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair Lee. Okay. So Committee Vice-Chair King, if you would like to read it one more time, and then I think I'll call for the question.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Okay, so that number five would read "That it urges the Mayor to create more opportunities for public input and to allocate CARES Act funding to programs in the County dedicated to workforce development and training programs" and then the rest of it would be the same. So I'm inserting the phrase to create more opportunities for public input.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, I'll call for the question. All those in favor of the motion, please raise your hand and say "aye."

VICE-CHAIR KING: Aye.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Aye.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Aye.

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CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, I see nine “ayes,” motion passes unanimously.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Thank you, Members.

VOTE: **AYES:** **Chair Rawlins-Fernandez, Vice-Chair King,
and Councilmembers Hokama, Kama, Lee,
Molina, Paltin, Sinenci, and Sugimura.**

NOES: **None.**

ABSTAIN: **None.**

ABSENT: **None.**

EXC.: **None.**

MOTION CARRIED.

ACTION: APPROVE amendment to main motion.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Member Sinenci, did you have an amendment or did you want me to read what I had and then I'll call on Member Molina for amendment? Yeah. Member Sinenci? Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Yeah I'll . . .*(audio interference)*. . .

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, so...a new BE IT RESOLVED clause That it urges recognized agricultural related non-profit groups, and community organizations in the County and State to work on expanding apprenticeship and other training programs. But you wanted environmental stewardship? Member Sinenci? Oh. Member Sinenci? Oh, you're muted, Member Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Maybe just adding language, friendly amendment, as far as conservation and environmental stewardship.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Okay, so That it urges recognized agricultural related...agriculture, conservation, and environmental stewardship related non-profit groups and community organizations in the County and State to work on expanding apprenticeship and other training programs.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh, okay. But you have to...would you like that to be

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your motion?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: So moved, Chair.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Second.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Moved by Member Sinenci, seconded by Committee Vice-Chair King. Committee Vice-Chair King, did this kind of jive with what you had or did you want to add something later?

VICE-CHAIR KING: No, I think this is fine. I think it's pretty encompassing, and you know, we have...we just have to commit to it. I'm...I'm actually really thrilled that we're doing this because I think this Council, more than any other, is...doesn't make...doesn't pass resolutions lightly. And I think we commit to what we put in these documents. So you know, the environmental stewardship kind of encompasses everything, including climate change and, you know, we're working on additional documents in the climate change committee. So I think this is fine.

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

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Chair, I just wanted to add too, you know, in...in last...yesterday's meeting we talked about water, and water specifically for agriculture. And in past months we've had this continuous discussion about, you know, how do we transition water usage from plantation and being more...and...and being more specific in our data collection and...and conservative with our water usage. So I think moving forward, water usage is also going to be important as far as infrastructure development and strategic planning. And also the water use development program as we move forward. So thank you for adding this, Chair. Mahalo.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Committee Vice...Member Sinenci. Okay. Any other questions, comments? If not, I'll call for the question. Okay. And I'll read it one more time so that we're all clear on what it is that we're voting on. "That it urges recognized agriculture, conservation, and environmental stewardship related non-profit groups and community organizations in the County and State to work on expanding apprenticeship and other training programs." Okay, all those in favor of the motion please raise your hand and say "aye."

VICE-CHAIR KING: Aye.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Aye.

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maintenance, admin clerks. And you know, we've all heard stories about, you know, why does it take so long for permits and things like that to be processed. Maybe it's because additional personnel is needed. So now these would be temporary hires for just up to 90 days, I believe, no benefits. And I know there was a little bit of pushback I think when this discussion was brought up in May from the Managing Director, about maybe union issue as well. The Administration is not bound to this, but this is a suggestion. And again, it's allowable by Hawai'i Revised, you know, Statutes. So my feeling is, why not? Let's all think outside of the box. So this is why I propose this additional language under the fifth BE IT RESOLVED clause. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Molina. Any questions or...Member Hokama?

COUNCILMEMBER HOKAMA: So...so Mr. Molina, you're talking about our current vacancies that we currently have that you would look at for temporary hires?

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: It could be that, you know, and as maybe like limited-term appointments, just maybe for 30 days up until no more than 90 days as one possible way to fill these positions temporarily.

COUNCILMEMBER HOKAMA: Right, yeah. No, no, no, I just was curious if you were looking at the vacancies we currently have because I do know the Governor is making a call for December 1st to start furloughs. Okay. Because it's a cash situation for the State. And I would ask our Budget Officer, Miss...Director Yoshimura if she's still on, is...is...do we have a cash flow concern at this time? Because we got to pay ops with cash, we not...we cannot borrow money.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Mr. Hokama, I believe the...these were the...when it was first proposed, it was to use Federal CARES Act monies to pay for this. So --

COUNCILMEMBER HOKAMA: Correct, yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: -- I don't know if all the Federal CARES Act monies have been allocated for it, but...

COUNCILMEMBER HOKAMA: Yeah. I do know that just for the Committee's information, Chair, and maybe you already have it from the Office of the Inspector General that the Feds will be extra scrutinizing the County's use of CARES money for personnel and payroll reimbursements or charges. We got that in black and white from our NACo office that the Fed Inspector General is very concerned about expenditures and verification. So I just share that with you, Mr. Molina, that it's something we can do and I hope the Administration is prepared to do the appropriate auditing and accounting for verification. Thank you, Chair.

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

VICE-CHAIR KING: Thank you, Chair. Just a question for Member Molina because...and I...I agree that, you know, we...temporary hires was...was on my list of...when I did...when I inputted on the CARES Act funding. So that was my understanding that...that you're...in those temporary hires, you're referring to CARES Act funding? Right.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: That's right.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Because you know, obviously that's money that we have that's going to...that's not long-term jobs. That's why, you know, I...I as well was urging, you know, just put people back to work right now for at least a couple months while we have this money. So I support it.

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

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I just was wondering on like is there any specification for folks whose unemployment has run out, or is it just for anyone that applies? Or like...well, within our household the unemployment is running out and then, you know, there's still vacation and sick leave and then...so we're trying to juggle it so that, you know, it still works out. But you know, there's...there's folks that unemployment hasn't ever kicked in yet because of errors and things like that. So I just was wondering, are we targeting folks that, you know, aren't getting the assistance that people who were able to get unemployment and these other types of grants, or is it just a blanket whoever?

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: If I may answer, Madam Chair. Good question because yeah, that's my...my preference would be if the Administration does go for doing this, that they would prioritize the people who need the jobs first. Like if they've been laid off from their other jobs and not give it to...you know, the...the...the applicant would have to demonstrate the need, as you had pointed out. So yeah, that will be my preference for the Administration as to whom they hire and what the criteria is first. But yeah, definitely go first towards the people who need the...need the jobs the most and who have been affected by the pandemic employment-wise.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Yeah, because there's like...you know, like the small business owners too, that weren't able to get the PUA and, you know, things like that. There's people that are...are really...I guess there's, you know, the varying degrees. And...and I agree, I would like to, you know, try and provide some peace of mind small kine for those that haven't been able to collect

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anything yet. And then, you know, the folks that are on it, it's...it's kind of difficult because then you have calculate, yeah, if you're making so much less and then...and when you file your unemployment, it makes it a little bit more tricky. So it...it would be good to focus on those folks that aren't able to collect anything yet.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Paltin. Okay. Any other comments? If not...oh, Member Sugimura?

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Yeah, this is a really good idea and discussion. And I just wonder how long it takes to process this. Just from my experience on being with the County that by the time this passes, I wonder if there will be CARES Act money available. And you know, for it to go through the system, I wonder if it's going to be past the time that CARES Act would be available. But good wish, and we can always hope for maybes. Thanks.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Sugimura.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: You know if I could just comment on Member Sugimura's, just a follow up. Yeah. And you know, this was suggested four months ago. And if it had been implemented sooner, then maybe there would be less of a wait for going through the processing personnel-wise. So yeah, you make a good point. But unfortunately, for whatever reasons, the Administration did not want to implement these and other ideas that the Council came up with back in late May. As you recall, Madam Chair, when you sent that letter to the Administration with all of our recommendations. So I don't know, I don't want to comment any further on that. But anyway, thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you. That was interesting.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Molina. And perhaps because we know that this pandemic will not end at the end of December, perhaps another amendment that we can consider is CARES Act and other Federal funds that is meant to help stimulate and save our economy. And that's something that we can maybe take up after this amendment, and that way this will be a longer lasting resolution and won't end when the CARES Act money ends. Okay. Are...Member Molina, would you please repeat your motion, and then I'll call for the question.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Okay, thank you, Madam Chair. The motion is to, in the fifth BE IT RESOLVED after the words "training programs" to insert the following words including temporary hires for the County.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, I'll call for the question. All those in favor of

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the motion, please raise your hand and say “aye.”

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Aye.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Aye.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Aye.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, I see nine “ayes.” Motion passes unanimously.

VOTE:	AYES:	Chair Rawlins-Fernandez, Vice-Chair King, and Councilmembers Hokama, Kama, Lee, Molina, Paltin, Sinenci, and Sugimura.
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	NOES:	None.
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	ABSTAIN:	None.
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	ABSENT:	None.
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	EXC.:	None.
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MOTION CARRIED.

ACTION: APPROVE amendment to main motion.

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

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Sorry, I just forgot to put down my hand from voting.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. All right, I understand. Okay. So Members, I haven't fully thought through how...where it would all be inserted, but where it refers to CARES Act funding, I...I propose, and then I guess I would entertain a motion to add CARES Act or other similar Federal funding.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: So moved.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Second.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Moved by Pro Temp Kama, seconded by Member Sugimura. Chair Lee?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Oh no, no, no. I was raising my hand to second it, second

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the motion. I don't know, I guess I got the disease from Ms. Paltin. The hand didn't come down fast enough.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: On my screen, you aren't six feet apart, you're right next to each other. Member Sinenci?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: So yeah, I think we just have a lag in...there's digital lag. That's all I just wanted to say. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, any other discussion or lags in hand raising? Okay, I see no other lags in hand raising. So I'll call for the question. All those in favor of the motion to include other Federal...similar Federal funds that could potentially come in the future from the Federal government, please raise your hand and say "aye."

VICE-CHAIR KING: Aye.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Aye.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Aye.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Aye.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, I see nine "ayes." The motion passes unanimously.

VOTE: **AYES:** **Chair Rawlins-Fernandez, Vice-Chair King, and Councilmembers Hokama, Kama, Lee, Molina, Paltin, Sinenci, and Sugimura.**

NOES: **None.**

ABSTAIN: **None.**

ABSENT: **None.**

EXC.: **None.**

MOTION CARRIED.

ACTION: APPROVE amendment to main motion.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Any other amendments to this...Chair Lee's wonderful resolution? Member Sugimura?

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COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: So...thank you. In addition...in addition to...because of what was just added, do you want to add the...our Senators, U.S. Representatives Brian Schatz, Mazie Hirono, U.S. Congresswoman...the Congress and even the President of the United States if that's what you want to urge...other federal funding, or you think that's too far-fetched? I'd like to make that motion to add to the...the last, certified copies be transmitted to our congressional team and our president since we're waiting for them--

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Second.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: -- to negotiate, thanks.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Moved by Member Sugimura, seconded by Pro Temp Kama. Any other...Member Sugimura, did you have more discussion?

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: I think if we're going to look for more federal funding or would like to encourage it for our...our County of Maui, then this would support that and our Senators as they fight for us at the U.S. Senate and the U.S. Congress. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Sugimura. And just to clarify, the previous motion that we passed to amend would only recognize the...you know any similar funding that could come down from Federal Government. It actually doesn't urge more, but I guess it could. But just...just for clarification, that wasn't what the amendment was. It wasn't urging more money. It was recognizing that more money could come down apparently after the election.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Right. And so if I could, Chair...and so by adding that additional federal funding...right now what's happening in Congress is that there's a...there's a stalemate as to what the Administration and Congress is going to do. So if we're going to look after...look for that in this resolution, I just thought it would be...it would make sense because it would not come with this CARES Act, it would be an additional...more Federal funding. So if...if that was the intent of that additional funding phrase, I support that, it makes sense. And if it comes and it happens, it'll...yeah, it may happen after the...after this election. You're right.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Well, hopefully it comes before the election because our people really need it.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Yeah. Yeah.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: But we see what's happening at the Federal level. Pro Temp Kama?

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COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you, Chair. I think that there's no harm to at least FYI our federal delegation in terms of where this County is thinking and where we would like to go now, and maybe in the future, to get any more funding from . . . *(audio interference)*. . . but at least giving them, you know, a heads up, that's what I think we're doing. And I don't think there's any harm in doing that either, so I would support this...this amendment. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Pro Temp Kama. Okay. Any other discussion? Okay. Okay, I'll call for the question. All those in favor of the motion, please raise your hand and say "aye."

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Aye.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Aye.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: And this is to include congressional delegation and president. Okay, I see nine ayes and zero noes. Motion passes unanimously.

VOTE: **AYES:** **Chair Rawlins-Fernandez, Vice-Chair King,
and Councilmembers Hokama, Kama, Lee,
Molina, Paltin, Sinenci, and Sugimura.**

NOES: **None.**

ABSTAIN: **None.**

ABSENT: **None.**

EXC.: **None.**

MOTION CARRIED.

ACTION: APPROVE amendment to main motion.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you, Members. Let's pray. We need money. Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: I will do that.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo . . . *(audio interference)*. . . And would Members also like to consider including certified...a certified copy list...would also include health care, trade unions to the certified copy list as the

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construction trade unions on there.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: No objections.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: That's a big list.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: I guess I could. . . (*audio interference*). . .

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: . . . (*inaudible*). . .

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. So I'll...I guess I'll ask if there any objections?
No. none.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: No objections.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: 'A'ole. 'A'ole.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo, Members. Okay. Any other amendments to the resolution? Okay. I have...I have one more for Members' consideration. That it urges the Maui County Workforce Development Board to collaborate and work with the Maui Economic Development Board to create, strengthen, and implement more workforce development programs to get residents back to work.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Second.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh. I'm sorry. Who moved?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I was wondering if you could say it --

VICE-CHAIR KING: I think we need a motion.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: -- say it again because you came a little robotic. Like your voice.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay.

VICE-CHAIR KING: There was a little glitch in the transmittal.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. That it urges the Maui County Workforce Development Board to collaborate and work with the Maui Economic

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Development Board to create, strengthen, and implement workforce development programs to get residents back to work.

VICE-CHAIR KING: So moved.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Moved by Committee Vice-Chair King, seconded by Member Paltin. Discussion? Committee Vice-Chair King, followed by Member Hokama, followed by Chair Lee.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Yeah. I believe Chair, you can correct me if I'm wrong, that this was one of the items that came up in...with a testifier about strengthening the connection between our Maui Economic Development Board and then the Committee that the Mayor has put together. Since the Maui Economic...MEDB has been around for 30-plus years and been working on these issues, so...I just wanted to clarify that and I fully support that idea.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Committee Vice-Chair King. Member Hokama, followed by Chair Lee.

COUNCILMEMBER HOKAMA: Chair, when you mentioned about the Maui...not the MEDB but the other economic development group, is that the names on the Maui CARES team that you're referring to, or this is another group of individuals? If you could just help me with that, please.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: The Maui County Workforce Development Board provide...is...provides oversight of integrated programs under the Workforce Innovations and Opportunity Act for the County of Maui.

COUNCILMEMBER HOKAMA: Okay. Well, my only comment, Chair, is with that then, I thank Ms. Wilkins of MEDB...but I need Lāna'i residents to give it...input on Lāna'i needs. Not just a representative from the landowner. I need one who will speak for the island and the community versus one landowner, even if it's a big one. So that's my only comment that we...I hope we still keep in mind the uniqueness that we're a tri-isle County, and that each island on its own has its own specific requirements and needs separate from the County as a whole. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Hokama. Chair Lee?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Item number 3 is very similar to what you just said. So I don't know if you want to replace item number 3 with what you're proposing?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. And I would like to add the Administrations workfor...task force there as well. So the three. And that'll just be an amendment to the BE IT RESOLVED number three, okay. All right. Committee

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Vice-Chair King?

VICE-CHAIR KING: Yeah, I accept that as a friendly amendment to the motion. I just wanted to respond to Member Hokama, which is, that's kind of the reason why I wanted to put that, "urging the Mayor to create more opportunities for public input." And you know, that's...that's where we're lacking, is that...that...and that's, you know, if we have to spec...hopefully we don't have to specify every single island. That was the intent. But, you know, we can specify that if you want. But that's what's missing, I think, is that opportunity for members of the public to actually be able to input directly, and not have to be represented by somebody they may or may not be represented by. So just wanted to make that point.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Committee Vice-Chair King. So number three, we'll be adding the Maui County Workforce Development Board and the Economic Recovery Task Force, I believe it's called, that the Administration put together. Okay, I'll call for the question. All those in favor of the motion to amend, please raise your hand and say "aye."

VICE-CHAIR KING: Aye.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Aye.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Aye.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. I see eight ayes? Member Sugimura are...okay, and nine ayes...motion passes unanimously.

VOTE:	AYES:	Chair Rawlins-Fernandez, Vice-Chair King, and Councilmembers Hokama, Kama, Lee, Molina, Paltin, Sinenci, and Sugimura.
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NOES:	None.
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ABSTAIN:	None.
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ABSENT:	None.
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EXC.:	None.
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MOTION CARRIED.

ACTION: APPROVE amendment to main motion.

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CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, and I think those were all the amendments that Members had. Okay, so we're now on the main motion as amended. Any further discussion? Member Hokama?

COUNCILMEMBER HOKAMA: Chair, thank you. Very quickly, I support the motion as it's been amended multiple times. I think we've made some good improvements. I just want to follow up on one key important comment I believe Chair Lee made regarding economic development. We need to find opportunities of employment and...employment as well as training to help build a bigger and stronger island middle class. Because I think that is one of the key components we feel that we need to work on if we're going to have affordable housing down the road, where you have employment paying our people the value of the work that qualifies them for the affordable house without the subsidy. So I would just ask that you consider some of that in your Committee report, Chair, that we hope that this will help us build a bigger and stronger island...island middle...I use the term island because I think island culture has the values of the environment, the climate, the ocean, the land. So I'll be pushing this from an island component of our values. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Hokama. Any other discussion? Seeing none. We'll thank Chair Lee again for the resolution and we'll be sending it to Council. Okay, the Chair will entertain a motion to recommend adoption of the proposed resolution entitled "CREATING AND EXPANDING WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM TO GET MAUI COUNTY RESIDENTS BACK TO WORK," incorporating any non-substantive revisions, and filing of County Communication 20-428.

VICE-CHAIR KING: So moved.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Second.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Moved by Committee Vice-Chair King, seconded by Pro Temp Kama. Discussion? Okay. Seeing no discussion...or Chair Lee, was that a lag?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: That was an expression of, "I hope there's no more discussion." That's what it was.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: . . . *(laughing)*. . . I'll call for the question. All those in favor of the motion as amended, please raise your hand and say "aye."

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Aye.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Aye.

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COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Aye.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: I see nine ayes, motion passes unanimously.

VOTE: **AYES:** **Chair Rawlins-Fernandez, Vice-Chair King,
and Councilmembers Hokama, Kama, Lee,
Molina, Paltin, Sinenci, and Sugimura.**

NOES: **None.**

ABSTAIN: **None.**

ABSENT: **None.**

EXC.: **None.**

MOTION CARRIED.

ACTION: Recommending **ADOPTION** of revised resolution; and
 FILING of communication by C.R.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: And that is the first half of our meeting for today, and we can go to lunch four minutes early. Woo-hoo. So I'll see everyone back at 1:30. We will be taking up EDB-85, legislation and discussion on the effects of Coronavirus Pandemic Rules, CARES Act, and related issues. We'll be discussing revenue shortfalls, department's plans to . . . *(audio interference)*. . . shortfalls or anticipate those shortfalls in their budget and their proposed process for taking up the funding of. . . *(audio interference)*. . . Okay?

VICE-CHAIR KING: Oh. You just went mute. Chair?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Am I still muted?

VICE-CHAIR KING: Oh. Now you're not. Okay. Just that last part of that sentence.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. All right, are there any questions? If not, we'll break for lunch. Okay, awesome. All right, it's 11:57, and we'll see everyone back at 1:30. Enjoy your lunch. The Economic Development and Budget Committee is in recess. . . *(gavel)*. . .

RECESS: **11:57 a.m.**
 RECONVENE: **1:33 p.m.**

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

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: . . .*(gavel)*. . . Will the Economic Development and Budget Committee please return to order. It's 1:33 on October 7th, and we are on the last agenda item for today, EDB-85, Legislation and Discussion on the Effects of the Coronavirus Pandemic Rules, CARES Act, and Related Issues. Okay. So for today, I've asked several members of the Administration to be here today to address specific questions related to potential revenue shortfalls due to the pandemic, including addressing. . . *(audio interference)*. . . to grant funding because of those shortfalls, and then move to questions. So we will start with...well, I guess either Budget Director or Finance Director on...so basically during budget, we planned for five months of revenue shortfall. And we're about three months into our fiscal year, and I thought it would be prudent of Council to check to see how we're doing because we anticipated five months of revenue shortfall and, you know, we're three months in which...and we're not really seeing this ending in two months, and so it would be good for everyone to start planning ahead to see how we're going . . . *(audio interference)*. . . anticipate any further shortfalls in revenue for our departments. So I can invite either Budget Director Yoshimura or Finance Director Teruya to provide opening comments.

MR. TERUYA: Chair, I'm going to defer to...Deputy May Anne Alibin is on the call. She's been doing the background research on this, so I'll give her the floor there. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo. Okay. Deputy Director Alibin?

MS. ALIBIN: Hi, Chair. Good afternoon, Members. First of all, we just want to take this opportunity for providing us...to provide you an update of our revenues based on what we've collected as of August 31st, and also preliminary numbers as of September 30th. Just some disclosure, Chair. For the September 30th numbers, we are still closing our books for the month of September, so Ms. Sato and her group are in the process of closing our books for...and hopefully, we're going to finalize it by end of next week. I'm not quite sure how you want to proceed with this, Chair. I have a spreadsheet that I would like to share, if I may?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yes, please proceed.

MS. ALIBIN: Okay.

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CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: And so my thought was, the last time we spoke about revenue shortfalls, we had...you know, it was what, last month. So we didn't really have time to do an analysis of what we had anticipated generating in revenue, and where...the amount of revenue we ended up making for July and August. And I understand, you know, September just closed. So...so...yeah. Please proceed with. . .*(audio interference)*. . . Oh, Chair Lee, did you have a question?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Yeah. What does an update as of July/August, I mean, August 31st mean with preliminary numbers as of September 30th? Why are you using those two dates, May Anne?

MS. ALIBIN: Chair, if I may? Maybe if I could share the screen so I could explain further?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Oh, okay. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Please proceed.

MS. ALIBIN: Chair, can you see the screen? I have a Excel spreadsheet up.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yes.

MS. ALIBIN: Okay. So just to provide a summary on --

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: If it would be possible to make it a little bigger, I think that would be helpful for everyone.

MS. ALIBIN: -- oh. Okay, Chair. Hold on. Is that okay, Chair?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Much better. Everyone okay with that? Good? Okay. Yeah.

MS. ALIBIN: Okay. So just to kind of provide you the analysis that we've been doing on a month-to-month basis since the start of this COVID-19 pandemic. So for Fiscal Year '21, I have column B here that shows the full-year Council adopted amount for the revenues, and this does not include any amendments made. The next column here is column D. This is based on Fiscal Year '21 actuals as of August 31st, so it's for...it includes the month of July and August. And this...the next column here shows the percentage of the actual revenues collected relative to the adopted budget amount, and we're assuming the percentage is based on an annualized percent, which is for the first two months, it's around 17 percent. So if you see, the green arrow going up means that we're over, you know, we're beyond our projection at about 17 percent, and arrow down...or the red arrow is stating that it's below the 17 percent

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annualized projection. And the next set of data here is our Fiscal Year '21 actuals as of September 30th. Now this is based on the report that I generated on Monday, and we are still in the process of finalizing our books. So meaning that there are some revenues that haven't...that have not been posted in our books because we do our revenues on a batch basis, and not on a real time. And then last column here shows the percentage of the actual amount of...relative to the adopted budget based on the 25 percent annualized target. As you can see overall, Chair, for general fund, we are doing beyond our projection for the first two months and for the first quarter, mainly due to our real property tax collection. We've already collected 50 percent of our real property tax revenues. And again, for the month of September, we're still not done posting all of our revenues. For our highway fund, we are projecting...we're below our projection of 17 percent or...for the first two months, and this is mainly due to timing of the franchise tax, of which franchise tax happens at around Feb...January, February time frame. And I'm just going to go in a little bit deeper on...on...or focus on the areas that are showing red, so particularly highways. So with the highway, as far as fuel tax...Chair, can you see this next screen that I'm sharing?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yes. Are you able to make it bigger again for us?

MS. ALIBIN: . . . *(inaudible)*. . . So this one is for fuel tax. So this is our historical data on a month-to-month basis. For fuel tax, as you can see, for the first two months of...the orange is our...based on our Fiscal Year '21, and then our...this top here is like light blue is on Fiscal Year '20. So as you can see with the fuel tax, we are projecting pretty much around the 2016/2017 is what we're trending. But we...the only reason is in...for the two fiscal years in August, historically, we didn't collect any, so we're thinking that it could be timing as well. What we're also doing is we're...because of the uncertainty with this...the economy right now and the pandemic on what's going to happen, we're using...we're utilizing this forecasting tool in Excel that provides us what our forecast is based on the historical trend. And also, the top one is more on the upper confidence and then the top...the lower one is on the lower confidence, so worst case scenario. So we're hoping that with the return of the tourism, the fuel tax, that we're going to be able to be in line at the same...like within the Fiscal Year '16/'17 level. But the fore...the projection is not looking into going back to about like Fiscal Year '20 level at this time. Moving on, because I've already discussed about the franchise tax, I just want to share next is on the weight tax. So with the weight tax...so this is the...for the renewals. So these revenues are collected by DMV, and as you can see, Fiscal Year '21 pretty much compared to the last five years, we've actually collected the highest on the month-to-month, and then going back between 2020/2019 level in the month of August. So the analysis is, you know, we're hoping that as the next few months of the data become available, that we should be able to provide a different projection. But overall, it looks...so far it's within our target at this

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time. For the next one is our sewer fund. We...the model is looking at...due to the lower usage, but based on the forecasting model, we are projecting to be a little bit over the 50 million budgeted just for the charges for services, and this is the data that supports the sewer fund. So mainly just charges for current services. And as you can see, 2021 we're at, you know, in between the 2016/2017 level. And again, with the...with so much uncertainty, our fore...our model...forecasting model tool projects between, you know, the average between the level of the '19 and '20 and '16 and '17. Last one is on the liquor fund. So with the liquor fund, it...we think that this is just timing. We've actually collected...for the first two months, we are below that 17 percent expected revenues, but there are some revenues that haven't been posted, and normally, the peak for sewer...sewer fund is around September/October. I'm sorry, Chair, it's liquor fund. Here is the data for the liquor fund. As I mentioned earlier, normally the peak for liquor fund is around September. And based on this data, we haven't really posted anything for the month of September. I think this...the 2,400 that's been recorded so far is just, you know, some revenues that are probably journal entries, and so we're in the process of completing the month of September. Our...the next one is on the water supply. We are on target as far as the first two months, and for the first quarter, it's showing below 25 percent because they haven't posted any entries for the month of September. And this is the chart that shows the month-to-month comparison for the water. And this is mainly for charges for current services. And as you can see, Fiscal Year '21, for the first two months, is above 2019 level, but below the 2020. And our model is projecting that we're going to be at pretty much the same level as 2020 fiscal year. That's all that I have, Chair. If you have any questions or further questions, I'm here to answer any.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Deputy Director. Okay. Okay, Members. Deputy Director, will we get that in hard copy or electronically given to us so that we...we can see it, or...

MS. ALIBIN: Yes, Chair. We can do a transmittal.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Thank you. Okay. I see a question from Member Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Ms. Alibin. My question is about the 17 percent number that you were referring to. I'm not understanding like how that represents...like every month it's supposed to be 17 percent of the total of the...of the revenue that we adopted, or...I'm...I'm not clear. I'm sorry.

MS. ALIBIN: Chair? Oh. Go ahead, Mister...Director . . .(audio interference). . .

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Director Teruya? Oh. Deputy Director.

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MR. TERUYA: Oh. Well, I guess to basically sum it up, what...what the Director is...is showing you is two months of the year. So 2 divided by 12 is 16.6666 whatever. So she's just basically saying that at the end of the second month, you're expecting to collect 17 percent.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Oh. Oh, okay. I thought it was each month was 17 percent, so I wouldn't --

MR. TERUYA: No. No. No. . . . *(inaudible)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: -- okay. Did --

MR. TERUYA: Her data only provides you only two months of numbers from the Accounts Division. So that's all she's representing is the...it's just simple math . . . *(inaudible)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you. And then so...what you meant about like when the revenue is collected, it's not consistent as in each month you're supposed to get 8 percent, but it depends on when...when it's collected, and then it'll like either shoot up or...or then we'll know real data if we're hitting the targets after the point where it's collected.

MR. TERUYA: That is correct. And that's the reason why the Deputy was showing you that graph is because every year, we...we find certain revenues stronger in certain months, and what she's just trying to show you is the trend over...year after year, month by month. That's all. Thank you, Chair.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. And then I guess my last question now that that's all cleared up in my mind is...so you guys aren't that worried?

MR. TERUYA: I wouldn't say we're...we're not worried. We're always cautious. That's the reason why we...we came before the Chair to provide you an amendment to our OPEB payment of \$18 million. We met the...met the minimum requirement, \$13 million to meet what we felt was our obligation. The rest was bonus. I'm not going to say that we shouldn't or should...we shouldn't or should put it in, but I think what we want to do is make sure where are we...our revenue's coming in. And the more important date for us to reconcile that decision will be our second half payment of taxes in February. So if we see the trendline to be the same, and we look good in February, I think we would probably just remit the rest of the \$5 million to OPEB. But should something unforeseen happen, then we want that consideration to reappropriate our money. And I hope, Chair, you feel the same way. Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I guess then my last question at...for this round would be

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like, you know, the five thousand Minatoya with the declaration, if they're declaring that they're not doing STR because they can't accommodate folks that are not doing the quarantine, would they then convert from STR to non-owner oper...occupied, and...and that would cause a shortfall in our projected revenue?

MR. TERUYA: Thank you for that question, Chair. The answer to that is, this fiscal year, it has no impact. That's the reason why you have certification is for your revenue purposes so you know what your revenue is going to be. Next fiscal year, it could be an issue of how much revenue you collect, and we're in discussions with your Budget Chair right now, whether or not amendments need to be made or not. We don't...what impact it would be, it could be significant. But...and that's the reason why we need to further discuss the bill as...as maybe...if we want to maybe fine tune it before presenting it to the Council. Thank you, Chair.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you. Thank you to my colleagues and the Chair for indulging me with a bunch of questions...and Director and Deputy Director. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Paltin. Chair Lee, followed by Pro Temp Kama. Chair, you're muted.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: One of the questions was asked...that I was going to ask, and that is just to confirm, February would be a key date. That's when we will have a better handle on revenues?

MR. TERUYA: Chair, that is correct. Our second half mailing of our tax collections is billed out in January 20th of 2021, and the due date is February 20th, '21, at which...such time at the end of February, maybe March 1st, we'll have a very good picture to provide the Council with where we are as far as revenue collections. As you know, that it makes up 80 percent, thereabouts, of your general fund, so we'll have a much better idea come March 1st.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Couple more questions. Number one, I would think that some of our expenses have really gone down substantially. You know, like electricity and some of the big ones, correct? Or have our expenses gone down in...in significant areas? Am I not being heard? Hui.

MR. TERUYA: I...I don't have the answers to that. I'll defer to Budget or Deputy if they have that readily available. I haven't seen the expenses on that.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay. And then, since if you're punting over to Michele, Michele, why don't you answer this other one too. Is there any danger that we may have to furlough people or not provide mandatory raises as required by

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collective bargaining? Just those two, Michele.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: . . . *(laughing)*. . . Director.

MS. YOSHIMURA: So...thank you. Thank you, Chair Lee. Thanks, Scott. As far as expenditures, one of our largest expenditure is payroll, and that has pretty much remained constant. And we've tried like...we...we do have a freeze on new or vacant positions to try to prevent what we can from having to furlough our employees. So we'd...so we do have that freeze in place right now. We are looking also at grants, and I think that was one of the questions that Chair Rawlins-Fernandez has about grants. How are we moving forward with grants? How are we proceeding with our larger expenses? And so those are all under review as well. We're trying to make sure we fund the ones that are needed for health and safety, and then we have...and those are more the Department of Housing and Human Concern grants. When it comes to Office of Economic Development, they're more discretionary. They're for events, they're for, you know, different types of programs, and so those are the ones that we're taking a closer look at to see if the events are going to go, then maybe we don't need to issue the grant. And that would result in savings. So we're trying to look now for the future and how to cut back...how to do cutbacks. How to make sure that we will be able to provide the mandatory core of services that we need to provide, and make our...make sure we have the revenues to fund the expenditures. And I'm sorry if I rambled, but what was the other part of your question?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: About furloughs.

MS. YOSHIMURA: Yeah. So I...I don't...we're going to try to do whatever we can to prevent furloughs. I'm not going to --

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Furloughs and raises. Mandatory raises.

MS. YOSHIMURA: -- . . . *(inaudible)*. . . the mandatory pay increases, those are moving forward. We did have collective bargaining agreements effective July 1 of 2019. So we are looking at those right now. We did have monies funded in for Fiscal Year '20 as well as '21 for it.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay. Thank you.

MS. YOSHIMURA: Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair Lee. Pro Temp Kama, followed by Committee Vice-Chair King.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you, Chair. So I just had a question to, I think,

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either Budget Director or Mr. Teruya. So the revenues that the liquor fund is able to derive, do they come from only the sales from restaurants and bars, or do they come from retail sales also?

MS. YOSHIMURA: They come from both. The Liquor Department generates their own funds through their permits, and it's for permits...licenses for all liquor establishments and liquor sales.

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

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

VICE-CHAIR KING: Thank you, Chair. So Michele, is it possible, maybe you have this...to get a list of...of the events that haven't happened and aren't likely to happen by the end of the year that we're going to be saving money on that have been budgeted? Things like the Friday events. You know, those have not been happening, so the ones that we've already skipped so far, we're saving...there's some savings on those, and there might be other events that are either not happening or likely not to happen that are budgeted in.

MS. YOSHIMURA: Councilmember King, yes. I could work with JoAnn Inamasu and come up with a list of the grants that are for...specifically for events that are not going to happen from now through December, and we could provide that to you.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Okay. And then that money would go back into the general fund?

MS. YOSHIMURA: Yes.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Okay. All right. Thank you. Thank you, Chair.

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

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Mahalo, Chair. Yeah. Just clarification for Deputy Director Alibin. So your red colored decreased forecast, you said some of them are due to some of the departments not yet putting their information?

MS. ALIBIN: Chair?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Some of those decrea...forecasts mentioned departments have not updated . . . (*audio interference*). . .

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Deputy Director?

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MS. ALIBIN: Chair. So for...let me just restate the...what I had stated earlier. So the 16 percent or 17 percent is what we're projecting that the first two months will be. So the percentage that I showed earlier represent what we have collected so far for the first two months. So if we are not within that 16.6 percent, that fund will show a revenue, like a arrow...red arrow. And it's the same thing for the other column, which is based on the first three months. So if the revenues collected for the first three months is not within 25 percent, then it will be a red arrow. What I had stated earlier with regards to the September numbers is that it's still preliminary because there could be revenues that are still not posted in our books. Technically, we, you know, try to...they do submit the revenues on a daily basis, but as far as our general ledger process goes, we are based on a batched mode, so it's not a real time. So it could be that the accountants are still hold...holding on the posting of that revenue because there could be some questions regarding the account code or whatsoever.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Okay. Thank you. But pretty much, all the departments are reporting monthly. . . (*audio interference*). . .

MS. ALIBIN: Chair? Best practice is that they're supposed to. For the most part, for all the departments where they have...there's a automatic interface between their revenue system into our financial system. It should be uploaded on a daily basis, but it's being held in a, like a journal entry, as a batch. So we don't post it real time. We hold onto it until we're able to confirm the numbers.

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

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Sinenci. Okay. Members, any other questions for...for finance right now?

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: I have a question.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh. Member Sugimura?

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Can you see me? You can't see me right, you said? Anyway, I...I have a question for Director Teruya. And if we look at our current economic condition with the pandemic and the situations that are going on around us with many of the businesses having a hard time opening and hiring and just the general economic condition, would we look at the way that you did for the earlier August payment? Would we look at September the same way, where you might defer some of the penalties for 60 days or 120 days and allow for incremental payments?

MR. TERUYA: Chair, thank you for that question. By...I believe by Code, you're only allowed a 90-day extension. The Director doesn't have discretion over 90 days.

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

MR. TERUYA: We did allow 60 days from the Mayor, but we haven't discussed anything further. And...and kind...like we mentioned, I talked to Budget Chair also, we really haven't heard a lot of concern. There are concerns out there about paying their taxes. There's not...not a doubt. But even our bond writer said, you know, we have a lot of out-of-state owners as well from Maui, and the first half...the reason why we got such a great bond rating was they predicted that our rating and the amount we would collect would be on par, and that is exactly what happened. We're receiving 50 percent of our revenues already. Some people have chosen to take the two extra months and pay interest at 1 percent, but waived the penalty for the first two months, and that's...that's their prerogative. Every business decision is different for somebody. So at this time, it's hard to forecast what's going to happen after this. But at this time, it's really just kind of a wait and see. I don't have an answer for you. I would be guessing if I told you I knew the answer. So as of right now, we look good, but you know, that can change at any time. So we just want to be cautious about our payments.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you for all that you do, Director. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Sugimura. Member Paltin?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. My next question is, I think, kind of like a process question. I'm...I'm sure everyone is probably getting emails about the short-term rental folks that were not able to short-term rent to...because we didn't have folks coming in. And I remember that you had explained to us during the budget that, you know, the GET and the TAT is for usage, whereas the real property tax is based on value of the property. And so procedurally wise, when we set the rate regardless that they are able to make use of the short-term rental, it won't change until we set the tax again during the next budget cycle. And so really, there's nothing that can be done on our end or the Administration end once the tax rate is set.

MR. TERUYA: That is correct. In fact, the condominium code that says, "if you rent for just a single day in a calendar year" that is...that's the highest category that you will be in. So yes, I understand everybody's situation, but that's the reason what certification is for, and that's what the budget process is for because you set revenues. If you were to change that rate midstream, you would have to redo the budget process...how you reissue notices. You would have to reissue everything. Reopen appeals. I mean, that would be...I don't even know if you can, honestly. But I would say that...if you had to, that would be the entire process. You would have to go all over the budget process again. Thank you, Chair.

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COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you. I just wanted to verify that...that was my understanding as well, but the folks that are calling us up are thinking that there's something else that can be done. But I just wanted to verify that that was the correct situation.

MR. TERUYA: That's correct. And then that goes for all the other...the other counties in Hawai'i. I couldn't speak for another jurisdiction, but for Hawai'i, yes. It is your property as of January 1. It's so unfortunate that if your house burns down on January 2, you're still paying on January 1. It's a snapshot in time for budget purposes. Thank you, Chair.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And that's how it is across the entire pae 'āina.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Paltin. Chair Lee?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Yes. I got two questions. The Budget...I mean, Finance Director. One is...or the Budget Director. When is the next supplemental budget you're sending down to us? The one that has all the savings. The one that had the million dollar savings from refinancing, and perhaps there were projects that had been delayed? You had planned to send the supplemental budget down soon?

MS. YOSHIMURA: Chair Lee, we don't have any plans right now to send anything to you for consideration. We...if we do need to, we will work with Chair Rawlins-Fernandez on scheduling on any budget amendments that we need to send forward.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay. And please...please ask her for her suggestions while you're formulating the budget. And then secondly, back to the Finance Director. So do you anticipate, or have we started getting a whole bunch of appeals by the short-term rental owners?

MR. TERUYA: Chair. Thank you for that question, Chair Lee. The appeal period ends April 9th of every year. It's from the date of notice from March 15th to April 9th, and that's the only period that you can file an appeal. Because of certification purposes, everything that goes before you in certification needs to be allotted...adjusted for in the budget, so you cannot appeal after that date because of certification purposes, so the appeal period has ended all...already.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay. You know, I'm feeling like they...it's no fault of theirs. You know, I'm not a...a person who really supported short-term rentals in the first place, but you know, I do believe in fairness. And is it their fault that they were subject to a catastrophic global event, that there's no relief of any kind that...that we could provide them?

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MR. TERUYA: Thank you for that --

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: You mean like, this...this never ever happened?

MR. TERUYA: -- question.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: This kind of catastrophe never ever happened before, where people...there was no way anybody could anticipate, you know, this happening and this stretching for so long.

MR. TERUYA: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: I don't know.

MR. TERUYA: We've looked at the . . . *(inaudible)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: I always feel there's an answer, you know?

MR. TERUYA: Yeah. I don't have a good answer for you. The CARES Act, as much as it helps a lot of people, it does not allow for the counties to use for revenue shortfall. So you know, unfortunately, we don't have that authority. Maybe other...maybe the State level might have that ability, but for our level...at the County level, when you read the...the rules that we must follow, it does not allow for paying for anybody's taxes. It's very clear. It does not allow for every...any revenue shortfall. So those are...I mean, we would be assisting if we could. I mean, we have a lot of programs out there, but unfortunately, there's nothing that I can provide you unless you can point it out in the rules that we're overlooking something. I apologize for that though. Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Well, I'm not looking...I'm not trying to live our life through a rearview mirror. What's out forward? You know, what's forward? What have we not thought of? What answers are out there? It's not...let's not constrain ourselves with...with the current rules. I mean, you know, rules are...can be changed. But it's the ideas we want to encourage, you know, people to start thinking in very different terms. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair Lee. Member Sugimura?

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you, Chair. So related to just this in general, and bringing in the questions that we got during the first part of our budget meeting this morning, did you have a chance to hear all of the people who had horse businesses...equestrian businesses that are not able to conduct their business because they don't have feed? And part of that is due to weather, since it's been a hot summer, but can the CARES Act money be used to assist

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these people?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Budget Director?

MS. YOSHIMURA: I guess it's me. So we do have a...and we are working on an emergency feed program, and that was with Kyle Caires, I think. So we're looking at that, and it was for cattle, hogs...pigs, and now there's a concern with horses. We will look into expanding that to include them. So yes, it's something that we have considered. Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you. I think part of that is climate. Our, you know, just hot summer and conditions like that, but...thank you very much.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Sugimura. Member Paltin?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. I just following up on Chair Lee's comments about looking forward. You know, while I do believe that majority short-term rental are an investment, and so, you know, there are certain risks involved in investments. But in looking forward for like next budget, maybe the rate would be lowered in...in hindsight of what was happening this year. I was wondering, is there any mechanism, you know, some folks own like three, five short-term rentals or whatever. Is there a mechanism that could say like, you know, you're first short-term rental is taxed at this. Your second, a little bit more, whatever it is. Like you know, depending on how many short-term rentals you have or no? Would that be a TIG situation?

MR. TERUYA: I...I don't know how to answer that question, honestly. If there's a Corporation Counsel on the line that would like to answer that, but I...it would be very difficult. You have part ownerships, you have LLCs ownerships, I mean, there's so many different ways. That would be very difficult to identify, and I'm not even sure if legally you would be able to be doing that as well. Corporation Counsel, anybody --

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Ms. Toshikiyo?

MR. TERUYA: -- want to take a stab at that?

MS. TOSHIKIYO: Hi, Chair. Yes. I actually don't know the answer off the top of my head. That's something that I would have to look into, but that's an interesting suggestion. I have to get back to you.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. But in...in general, a short-term rental is considered like an investment property; is that correct?

MR. TERUYA: Chair, a short-term rental by definition of the Real Property Tax

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Division, "is a unit that is occupied by transient vacation"...or transient use less than six months in duration."

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Not by the owner?

MR. TERUYA: As long as you're renting for a period of less than six consecutive months, that is considered by...by our code, a short-term rental.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Yeah. So I mean, I...I think, you know, as a county, our priority has to be like the people who live in their homes, and so the owner-occupant...I'm...I'm happy of what we did. I still...I...I...I can feel for the short-term rentals, but you know, it's not where they're living at, it's an investment kind of situation. But you know, in hindsight, I think none of us knew that it would be going on this long that they wouldn't be able to rent their properties out. So I mean, I would consider trying to make adjustment next year to mitigate what happened this year, maybe, right, or what?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Is that a rhetorical question? Or Director?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: . . . *(inaudible)*. . . if somebody has answers, I'm cool. Like I mean, this is...this is the only time we can discuss it like in open session. We can't like go pau hana and discuss it. So I mean, I figure discuss it now, right?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Because we're in session, and...

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: And its budget, and this is the correct committee to be having this...this discussion. Chair Lee, did you want to respond to Member Paltin's question?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Yes. Yes. I had a...this is the kind of thinking I like to encourage. Whether it translate into an actual solution, at least it gets you thinking. Like for instance, another possibility would be to encourage...let's say we might buy some of these homes. Not at market value. Not at market value. But that would relieve them of some of their obligations in terms of taxes. We would get something at a discount and we would add to our inventory. So you know, I...I'd like to encourage everybody to think of...how do you turn a catastrophe into something of a plus? And yes, it...yes, this is somebody's investment, but so is a farm, and so is a T-shirt factory. It's all the same. And we're all trying to help everybody. And...and yeah, I love it when you guys start thinking creatively. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair Lee. Pro Temp Kama, did you want to

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respond to Member Paltin's question?

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Well, I don't want to respond to anything. I just wanted to comment that, you know, people who are here, whether they live here or whether they're from the mainland or wherever, they are here because they either were born and raised here....this is their home. Or they come here because they love the place and they want it to be a part of their new life. But also, that they have come and said, "is there a place where I can create a business here? Is there something that I can do?" So people come and they create businesses and they create short-term rentals, they create a whole bunch of things. But all of that stuff all helps to keep our economy going. The pandemic actually put a huge screeching halt to this economic cycle that we have all become accustomed to. When I think about who we need to help, I always think about the people who are here. The people who are here who are looking not for an investment in a second or third or fourth home, but who are just trying to keep the roof over their own heads, who are still trying to put food on their table and trying to figure out what their own next step is going to be. So while I appreciate the discussion that we're having today, my heart is always with the people who are here first and foremost because we have unsheltered people living on the streets. And we have people who come to us and say, "help me keep my second or my third income." And I think we have to be real about where we're going to be going in the future. So those are my comments, Chair. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Pro Temp Kama. Okay. Member Paltin?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I...I agree with Pro Temp Kama, and I do agree with Member Lee as well because you know, there is like the fairness issue, but I mean, when folks are starving or they don't have a place where they know they're going to live, there's the equity issue as well. So I mean, I think...well, just...there's...it's so far in the future, and we don't even know who will be the budget people in March, so the discussion is good, but there's so much unknowns at this time, it's difficult. But I mean, even when we were making the budget in March through May, there was so much unknowns. And like Member Lee was saying, like, we can't really look back because hindsight is more 20/20. Not the year but, you know, the vision. So you know, maybe we...we were a little bit much on the short-term rental, not knowing that they wouldn't be able to conduct their business, but the...they're not paying the taxes on conducting their business right now. They're not paying the GET and TAT because they're not renting it out, but the value of their property isn't going down either, and that's what property taxes is. And what I'm running into with a lot of the folks that are calling me up is they don't understand the differentiate...the GET, the TAT, the RPT, and who collects what and what it's for. And that lack of awareness and understanding is...and coupled with the desperation that I hear in their voices is something that's...they think that

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there's something that we can do, but it sounds like from Director Teruya, what he said, there's nothing we can do at this point, you know. We had to make those decisions when we weren't aware of the full scope of what would happen. And you know, it's not because we weren't asking. All of us were asking, but nobody had the answers. And it's not their fault they didn't have...anyone had the answers because can't predict the future. So it's just a junk situation.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: For everyone, yeah. Mahalo, Member Paltin. Committee Vice-Chair King?

VICE-CHAIR KING: There's...what...what can you say. I mean, the unknown is the unknown. And one of the reasons I was asking about what...where the revenue might be that we know we have...we know we have extra revenue right now because we budgeted for things that aren't going to happen. So let's kind of...you know, let's start there first and see where...where, if any, there is extra revenue. I'm...I'm actual...I'm really impressed with the report for today that we had. It reminds me of being back in my business and looking at our forecasts and our, you know, those little lines that go up and down, and what happened last year and five years ago. And so it was...it was...I thought it was a really good report. I understand how you don't fully have September done yet because it takes a while to get all the numbers for that. So we're really working off the first...off of July and August numbers. Now, they don't look that bad but, you know, where I'm kind of focused...and I'm glad that Chair Lee was...you know, appreciate that everybody's trying to think outside the box and trying to come up with new ideas...is how do we help the people that are hurting the most that are, you know, are residents...that are...are the people on Maui. And so not knowing how long this is going to be, can you tell me, you know, what your projections were based on? Are they just...are they based on some calculations of...of things getting better, or things not getting better? Or you know how...when...out forward from this month...going forward, what are those calculations based on? Who's...I don't know who's...Director Teruya or Ms. Alibin?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Dep...Deputy Director?

MS. ALIBIN: . . . *(audio interference)*. . . Chair. So the forecasting tool that we've used is just...it's a tool that's available out of Excel and it actually, as you know, like Excel offers like...and has the ability to like calculate based on historical data. We don't have any other forecasting modules available that we could use at this time. And you know, we do, depending on the type of the revenue...you know, for real property tax, obviously we base it on our certified amounts. But other than that, for everything...pretty much from weight tax to fuel consumption, the projection is just based on statistical...

VICE-CHAIR KING: So you're just...but we know it's not going to be as good as it was

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in the past. So were there any other inputs that you were able...anything else you were able to input that adjusts it for the situation we're in now?

MS. ALIBIN: No, not at this time. But just looking at how we budgeted for Fiscal Year '21, I think, you know, this body has been very conservative and. . . (*audio interference*). . . but you know, given that even at the State side, the Council...you know, the Council on Revenues...I mean, it's...it's really different from how us as a County...because we're very unique as far as...you know, compared to the other jurisdictions. So we're just keeping close on the month-to-month between Director Teruya and I. You know, we're really looking at it very closely and hopefully, you know, as...as we go through each month that we're going to be able to see what the real picture is, you know, towards early of next year.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Okay. Well, yeah, the actuals are the actuals, so that's kind of a given. It's just I wanted to find out if you had any inputs you were putting into your forecast that reflect the times that we're in and what's likely to happen, you know, out through the end of the year. But it sounds like you're not. You're just using based on historical. So we can probably surmise from that that it's going to be lower than what you have if the situation stays the same or possibly gets worse. It's going to be lower than what you've shown us as far as a forecast?

MS. ALIBIN: Yes, Chair. Yeah. And we do have...the formula also shows, you know, the upper and the lower confidence. And then you can see, you know, the high and the lows. And so if we're in between that, or if we're below what we think we're going to be, then we would come to this body and provide you similar to what we've done last year, you know, for the solid waste one and the general fund due to the TAT shortage.

VICE-CHAIR KING: So yeah. And I know...I notice that the solid waste's fund was up above what we thought we were going to be doing. So that's good news. But I guess my biggest concern is...and it doesn't sound like there's any way to forecast for that is, you know, the ups and downs, and you know, how things are going to hit us when we don't have that spike in tourism like we're used to having, you know, at certain times of the year. So....okay. I guess all we can do is just kind of go month by month and look at the actuals and, you know, I do think it's going to be important to see where we budgeted for things that have not...already not happened and there's some extra funds there. So...it's a dire situation. I think we're in a little bit better situation, though. And I think we did a great job in the budget this year, you know, all of us collectively looking at those things and planning for it because I don't think everybody...well, I know not every city and county in the country is in as, you know, this kind of shape where they...they're able to see these kinds of numbers. To me, they're much more hopeful than I was expecting. Put it that

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way. And...and I think the one thing that I...I'm still holding out hope for is just from all the meetings I've been going to and the NACo western interstate region meetings is that NACo's still fighting for...for an extension of the spending...the CARES Act spending, and also for the counties to be able to utilize some of this funding for revenue show...shortfalls. So, you know, whether we get it in this current CARES funding or we get it in the extended CARES funding, you know...but then we're hoping for. Maybe we have to wait until after the election, but at some point, hopefully, it'll...it'll be allowed to be used for revenue shortfalls, and then that's where we maybe can help our...our really struggling residents. But thank you for the report that you did because that was...that was really good. There was...and thank you, Chair, for having this meeting and letting us all see where we are. Because I for one, just having looked at these kinds of reports, I have a much better comfort level than I did before I saw those reports. And not that I think everything's rosy by any stretch of the imagination, but it's a lot better than I thought it was going to be. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Committee Vice-Chair King. I saw...I saw Member Paltin's hand and Chair Lee's hand. We do have the department directors all lined up for us to be able to ask them questions too. So I want to keep us on time. Did you have a quick question, Member Paltin and Chair Lee for Finance?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: . . . *(inaudible)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I hope so.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Go ahead.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: It's based on Chair Lee's earlier outside of the box. I just was wondering, is there a plan, you know, if a bunch of say, short-term rentals do not pay their RPTs, what is the plan? Is it go to like collection, or is it like, you know, foreclosure, when folks don't end up paying their RPTs. Is there a way to convert it to long-term housing? Just...I mean, either people are going to pay their RPTs or they're not. So what happens when a bunch of folks don't pay their RPTs?

MR. TERUYA: Chair, thank you for that question. Well, first of all, according to the County code, we don't...we got...we move to...towards foreclosure until the property is three years delinquent. That's by County code. Prior to that, I would assume if they're still not getting rental annually, they can self-declare, under current code, to something other than short-term rental if they're a condominium. So you know, that's their option. So I...I guess that kind of answers your question, is that basically, until three years are delinquent, we don't move towards foreclosure. So we wouldn't be moving...doing anything

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during the interim. Thank you, Chair.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Paltin. Chair Lee?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Yeah, really quick. Michele, what if we decide to not follow the exact protocol as the Governor, and we want to have additional testing done on Maui, you know, for people coming in. Do we have a savings account for that or do we have some money set aside for the additional cost of testing?

MS. YOSHIMURA: Chair, we do have money set aside for testing with the CARES Act funds. So that's available. And in the Fiscal Year '20/'21 budget, we do have money set aside for COVID-19 related items. I think we set aside \$9 million for that. So if we do have to implement a second testing, and we do have to pay for that, then, yeah, we do have that accounted for.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair Lee. Pro Temp Kama?

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: You know, I was just thinking about the people that came to us this morning and explained to us how...what a difficult time they were having just trying to get feed stock for their horses. And I think one of them mentioned that they ended up having to sell one of their horses to be able to make ends meet. And I think that's pretty creative of them to have to give up a part of who they are just so that they can hold on to what's left of what they've got. And so I just was thinking that in response to what Member Paltin was saying about what happens, maybe...maybe that's what needs to happen. Maybe people have to start selling. Because I think we do that. We all do that when we can't make ends meet, we let go of things that we think we don't need. Sometimes it's we let the electricity go, then we let the water go, then we let the phone go, or whatever. But I think in...as we move forward, those are the things that are going to be happening for many people. So thank you, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Pro Temp Kama. Okay. So I...my intention was to keep it kind of more County funds, and then I did have...we were going to discuss the CARES Act funding and all of that after we asked questions of the departments regarding County funds. So general funds or special revenue funds. Okay. So I have OED, and then Department of Environmental...Department of Environmental Management.

MS. INAMASU: . . . *(inaudible)*. . . good afternoon.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Director Inamasu. Aloha.

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MS. INAMASU: Good afternoon, Chair and Committee Members. Appreciate the opportunity to be here to talk to you about our processes. And I know we were provided with a couple questions as far as to answer, and I know some of that was answered previously by Budget Director with regards to the grant funds that we have, and trying to get funds approved through our grant process. And there were two questions that were asked of us, and it was a matter of if the grantees had been informed about a possible delay in their being awarded or not. At this point, unfortunately not. We didn't expect this long delay to happen, and we realized that we should have kept them in the loop. We did some...some of them inquired and we did let them know, but we know...lesson learned. But it's all going out now as far as notification to the grantees...their level of award and as far as trying to move that forward. "Is there a deadline for making the funding determinations?" We had that...a deadline internally, but because of some of the unanticipated delays, our...usually our anticipated time of making these determinations and letting the clients know is usually towards the end of August, beginning of September. So we're...we were delayed with that and, you know, we apologize to our grantees. And we have, in doing that, is moving forward. And you know, we...we received so many applications this year, a little less in funding that we had, so trying to be creative on how we move forward and if we're able to. But as Director Yoshimura had mentioned, it also goes to another review to see how much that we can spend this go around and see how we can move forward. I know there was a question earlier with regards to some of the events and...that would be coming up, and I've had this discussion with Councilmember King on the 4th Fridays and how to proceed. What we are doing right now is, we are reaching out to those organizers, whether it be through festivals or through the Friday parties, and asking them to provide us with safety protocols. And we will then provide that to Mayor and see if we can move forward. We don't know if it'll happen through the end of the year, but maybe possibly for 2021. But we've taken that step forward to see if we can get information from the applicants. So that's where we are with those festivals. So I just wanted to get that. But we can...I will definitely work with Director Yoshimura on providing you with information on those events because we have held off on that, not knowing...and wanting to do some due diligence in the matter of safety, and not knowing where things would be come December or come March, but now reaching out to the individual organizations to provide us with their protocol on how they look to adhere to all of that. So...for approval. But thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Director Inamasu. And so those are for . . . (audio interference). . . line item grants for the pool of...of grant funding that the community would be able to apply for. Do you have an update on that?

MS. INAMASU: Where things stand? Is that what you're asking, Chair? Okay.

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CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yeah.

MS. INAMASU: Yes. We are moving forward with all of that. We have gotten approvals on level of funding and being able to move forward. So those...the grantees have been notified. I think most of them have been notified already to be able to know what they've been awarded, and that we are going through the process. So that's where most...that's where those stand. But thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo. Okay, Members. I'll put two minutes on the clock for whoever would like to ask questions of Director Inamasu. And last clarification. So as far as the grants and as discretionary fund, OED isn't concerned about moving forward with...with that money. They're not in --

MS. INAMASU: We're not...I'm sorry. You can go ahead...I'm sorry, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: -- there aren't any that may possibly not get funded, except for like the events and stuff.

MS. INAMASU: The events, yes. But at this point, it's pending on the events. There are certain ones that have been...that have applied, and not...as far as the economic benefit to the community, right? Or as opposed to we received a couple that the benefit would only be for a very small portion. One was a family with that. And not to say that that's not important, but we look for the money that is spent, that you have allocated to us, to be responsible for, to serve a broader community. So looking at different things. So there were just a handful that would have been denied, but denied from OED. We have also referred them to other agencies for assistance, or through one of the programs that we administer to be able to help them. So...

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

VICE-CHAIR KING: Thank you, Chair. Thank you for being here, JoAnn. My...there's this horrible echo. Okay. So my question is...when you were talking about safety, and you were talking about events or projects that you're looking at funding, I'm just wondering if you're able to garner any of the information from what happened with the production here in West Maui...in South Maui...the reality show? Because I got a report today, and I just wanted to briefly update everyone. They've done 1,256 COVID tests that they've administered. Zero positives. And they've had...they've done, you know, they're...they're more than halfway through their shooting, but they've...they haven't closed any beaches or walkways. They've had signage up. The...the...they've let a couple people go, as far as I know, that...that they've told me about that didn't follow protocol. So I think there's a lot that could be learned from the protocol that they use, and that was kind of the purpose of trying it here and making it really tight. And you know, we've had a community watchdog out there the whole time. So we

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all know that Junior's been out there the whole time, and . . . *(inaudible)*. . . and so I'm just wondering, can you...are you in touch with...you know, has Tracy been talking to you about this, and maybe being able to apply some of this protocol to some of our existing situation?

MS. INAMASU: There's an opportunity. And yes, I have been in contact with Tracy as they move forward with the production and just being very cautious. And he's been a bird dog for us as well, in trying to watch through all of that and ensuring what we has said is happening, and what the protocol is and has been stated from the State level down to the local area. So he's been watching that. Some of that would be applicable, and we could use some of...some of those protocols, but the matter of being tested would be a little different for festivals and all of that. So we're wanting the...the groups to come forward and try to . . . *(timer sounds)*. . . look at this . . . *(inaudible)*. . . all of that entry.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Okay. . . . *(inaudible)*. . . that's great. You can find some application for some of the protocols that have been used because, you know, that was the intent in trying it here. Thank you, Chair.

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

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Mahalo, Chair. I just had a question for...for Director Inamasu. Since dropping the micro-ag grant yesterday, have you seen a lot of interest. . . *(audio interference)*. . . micro-grant...micro-ag grants?

MS. INAMASU: I did speak with David Daly over at MEO earlier today, and there has been a lot of inquiries. He hasn't mentioned anything about applications, but there've been a lot of questions. Do I qualify? Can I do this? Can I do that? So he's been very instrumental...he and his staff. And so I'm looking forward...I'm trying to give it a few days to see what they entertain as far as applications and going through that review process too.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Okay. Thank you for that update because yeah, our office has been fielding a lot of calls and just the general excitement. So looking forward to . . . *(inaudible)*. . . Mahalo, Chair.

MS. INAMASU: Thank you very much.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Sinenci. Okay. Members, any other questions for Director Inamasu? Chair Lee.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: This might be for you too, Chair. I was wondering, are we going to be taking up the subject of reopening for Maui County? And if so, have...have we looked at different models? Today, I heard about Korea, and

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there may be models that you've been looking at already...the Administration, that maybe the Council should have a discussion as well on this subject?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Either one of you can answer.

MS. INAMASU: Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: We're...oh. Okay. Well, so we're going to talk about the County funding shortfalls grants, and how each department, you know, plans to accommodate whatever revenue shortfalls, if that is what is being projected. And then after we go through all the departments, then I was hoping that Managing Director Baz would join us, and then Budget Director Yoshimura, and have that discussion on opening and the H.E.L.P. fund, and any...the plan for the excess CARES Act money.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay. Then I'll ask a more pertinent question to --

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Go ahead.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: -- Ms. Inamasu. You know our district funds?

MS. INAMASU: Um-hum.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Are they only granted to nonprofits? They could be for-profit entities?

MS. INAMASU: You are correct. After...you know...and we evaluate the application, so we're making sure that they adhere to...when we always say to...for economic benefit in looking at. . . (*audio interference*). . . There is no restriction.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: And is there still money available for Wailuku?

MS. INAMASU: Yes, there is. And I can get you that information. I'm actually preparing a letter for you. So...

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Oh. Okay. Thank you.

MS. INAMASU: Thank you very much, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair Lee. Seeing no other questions, we'll thank Director Inamasu for joining us today, and then we can move on to the next department.

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MS. INAMASU: Thank you very much.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Thank you, Director.

MS. INAMASU: Thank you, Members.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Our next department is Department of Environmental Management with Director Nakagawa, followed by Department of Housing and Human Concerns. Oh. Okay. So we have Deputy Director Agawa.

MR. AGAWA: Yes. Hi, Chair. Hi, Members.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: . . . *(audio interference)*. . . for joining. . .*(audio interference)*. . .

MR. AGAWA: So our department, we have very limit...limited minimal grants. Mainly all of them are in our EP&S section. The total grant...we have 1.25 million. Right now, the majority of the grant money goes to Mālama Maui Nui. They have two different types of grants, or three different types of grant fundings. All of those grants are fully executed, meaning that they processed, they're all executed, and we forwarded a 25 percent grant payment for them. There are other 12 various grantees that we narrowed down from, like, Director Inamasu said. There's a multitude of grant applications, so we narrowed it down to 12. We have a grant committee. Right now, those are in Budget Office waiting...sorry, in Corp. Counsel, and they're being drafted up. So they're on their way of being executed. There's another one that we don't have staffing for, and that is a green grants program. So right now, that is not on our grants managing...part of our grants program. And the final one that we're awaiting more information from the grantee is the West Maui Composting Pilot. And all of those compromise the 1.25 million we have in grants.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo for the update on the grants. And so Deputy Director Alibin showed us the projections or... well, both projections and the actuals as of the first two months. And thankfully, we're not seeing as much of a shortfall in solid waste, but the sewer fund, it is low. So is the Department planning on how to accommodate additional...that additional shortfall if it lasts for more than five months?

MR. AGAWA: Actually, in talking to our divisions, the numbers are kind of reversed. We're actually... in our real time numbers, we show...Deputy Director Alibin is correct, but we show an opposite with our actual numbers. And like she said, a lot of the numbers haven't been calculated in yet. So for Solid Waste Division, we actually show a shortfall of about, let's see, 240,000 through August 20th. And let's see, an estimated shortfall for the year of 750,000 to 1.3 million, but

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again, this is estimated for the yearly. But as far as August, we're looking at a shortfall of about 240. And let's see, for...for our sewer...wastewater...wastewater, we're on track. We're actually projecting...we're hitting our projections for the...the two months.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: That's great news. Mahalo for that. Chair Lee? I'm going to put two minutes on the clock.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Thank you, Madam Chair. Hi. I thought we handled a potential projected shortfall in the budget, the 800,000 already?

MR. AGAWA: We did.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: We covered it.

MR. AGAWA: Again, this...the numbers that are actually coming in vary from month to month, so these are just actual numbers, month-to-month up to date is the shortfall. But for the projected . . . *audio interference*). . .

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Well, okay.

MR. AGAWA: Oh, this --

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Are we --

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: . . . *(inaudible)*. . . already, so...so the --

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: -- plan for . . . *(inaudible)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: -- projection is a lot worse. Is that it?

MR. AGAWA: Yeah, they're saying that the revenue...projected revenue losses is in the residential refuse and the 3 Can Plan program. But I don't know what the breakdown is between the two.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Madam Chair, maybe we can get more specific information? Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yes.

MR. AGAWA: Yeah we . . . *(audio interference)*. . .

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: I submitted...transmitted questions in writing, and asked the departments to come prepared to answer the questions on the floor. But they can also submit their more detailed responses in writing as well.

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COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Thank you, Chair.

MS. YOSHIMURA: Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh, Budget Director Yoshimura.

MS. YOSHIMURA: Sure. Just for the solid waste fund, we did make adjustments for the Central Maui Landfill. But adjustments weren't made for the residential refuse collection in the Fiscal Year 2021 budget, and what we did see at the end of July was about 2,000 accounts not being renewed, or they haven't made their payment. And so that's why, I think, there's that shortfall at the...at...during August. It was based on residential refuse, not on the Central Maui Landfill.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yes, that's . . . *(audio interference)*. . . Mahalo, Budget Director. That was something we hadn't discussed and anticipated during budget; people not paying their six months at a time monthly pickup...trash pickup. That kind of caught us a little off guard. But I...I...I reminded, you know, the community before during that meeting when we did get that update, that...that, you know, utility bills are covered through the H.E.L.P. fund if it's something that they need help covering. Committee Vice-Chair King, followed by... I'm sorry, who had their...Member Sinenci.

VICE-CHAIR KING: I think Member Sugimura.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: And then . . . *(audio interference)*. . .

VICE-CHAIR KING: Thank you, Chair. So Deputy Director Agawa, it sounds like your numbers are a little different than the numbers that we just heard about solid waste, as far as the first couple months. But you mentioned the 3 Can Plan, and we eliminated that in this current year, so how is that affecting your budget?

MR. AGAWA: I...I believe it's...they expected revenue from it, so maybe --

VICE-CHAIR KING: But I thought that it was losing money, and that's why we cut it?

MR. AGAWA: Yeah, I can inquire with our Solid Waste Division to get more details on the numbers and get back to you on that.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Okay, because I...I just want to make the point that, you know, in previous years, I thought it was, you know, either revenue-neutral or bringing in revenue, because we were charging the residents, and DEM kept arguing that it was losing money, and that's why we cut it this...in this current budget.

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So if you're now saying that it was making money, and you're losing money because you don't have it, then what was the reason for eliminating that program? So you know, I just...I'm...I'm not...that doesn't make sense to me.

MR. AGAWA: Yeah, I can...I can inquire with our Solid Waste Division and get back to you with that.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Maybe, Chair, maybe we can get...follow up with a letter of inquiry about the, you know, whether the 3 Can...3 Can Plan was actually bringing in revenue? Which, to me, would make it successful and we should...probably should not have cut it.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Thank you.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Thank you, Mr. Agawa.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo Committee Vice-Chair King. Member Sugimura, followed by Member Sinenci, and then Member Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: I was actually going to comment on the 3 Can Plan because that was my recollection also, that we actually deleted it or eliminated it because it was losing money and it was supposed to have been experimental, I think. So yeah, you can probably check and find out more on that. And that's it for now. I'm going to reserve for another round. Thanks.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Member Sinenci, followed by Member Paltin. Oh, I'm sorry, Budget Director Yoshimura, did you have?

MS. YOSHIMURA: Yeah. The 3 Can Plan, we did remove it from the budget this past...or...or for Fiscal Year '21. The contract did escalate in cost, and so we were paying for...for the sorting, right? But the manpower was still County employees picking up the three cans, and so we're...that's still...I mean, we still have that cost. We didn't lay off anybody...because we got rid of the program, we didn't lay anybody off.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay, but Director, if that's the case, then why...why are we saying...why didn't we keep the program if it's causing us to lose money since we ended it?

MS. YOSHIMURA: Because we had a third-party contractor that did the sorting and the...the recycling. And that contract escalated in cost more than what the program, or the charge to each individual household costed us. And so we would have had to raise the cost per household maybe two or three times the amount.

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COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay, that --

MS. YOSHIMURA: To cover the contract cost.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Anyway, maybe we can just follow up, because that doesn't really make sense to me. That wasn't brought up during the budget session. That's it.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Member Sugimura.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Yeah, just, sorry, in the same discussion before we go forward, if you don't mind. Thank you. Is that then could we use not our MEO H.E.L.P. program, because that's County funds, but could we use the CARES Act, which is State? The Catholic Charities pot, and is Maui United Way the Catholic Charities primarily the 50 million and then now it's up to 100 million total that the Legislature and Governor released September 15th and ending of September? Could we use that to pay for our.. the utility shortfalls that we're seeing? Because I believe that's what people are doing. Maui Electric has --

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: H.E.L.P...H.E.L.P. is . . . *(break in audio)*. . . --

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: . . . *(inaudible)*. . .

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: -- by CARES.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: I'm sorry, what?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: It's...it...it...the H.E.L.P. program is now being funded by CARES.

MS. YOSHIMURA: Correct, for some.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: The CARES . . . *(inaudible)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Not MEO side, but the State...the State program. I wonder if we could use that so that we can get repaid through that... the State...State-side funding, not necessarily our pot.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Who is...who is we? County or individuals?

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: The County, right? So if our Department is having a shortfall because utility, right, a utility is not being paid. The State program, which is administered through the Catholic Charities and the United Way --

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

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: -- accommodates rent, as well as --

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Right.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: -- utilities. So I wonder if we could get repaid from that.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: For the County to get funding from Catholic Charities?

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: For the people who are not paying their bills? It has to come from the individual is the way that it works.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Right.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: So the individual would request it, and then get us repaid. I don't know if we've ever made an effort to see that happen.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yeah. So it would be up to the individual to go through the paperwork to do it.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: So we should encourage it. Yeah. I mean, if we're seeing shortfalls because of them, they're...I'm saying that there's funding available, and not necessarily from our 66.7 million, but from the...the State's pot, which is completely separate. So I...I...I can tell that maybe that this is not a thought that was thought of before.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh yeah, if it's --

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: So I'll...I'll talk to Michele later. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Member Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Chair, I think Member Paltin had her hand up before me.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Member Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I'll yield to Member Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Someone go ahead. We gotta get going.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Oh, okay. Mr. Agawa, I guess my question is, I...I had

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heard some constituent concern over smell at the Lahaina Wastewater Treatment facility. I've been working pretty much out of Lahaina and I haven't smelled the smell, but I just was wondering, do you have any update on that situation, if there has been smell that you've heard? Or numbers for people to call if there is smell? Or, like, I thought there were scrubbers.

MR. AGAWA: Recently, I haven't...we haven't heard any complaints that came to our office regarding smell. The last time that was brought up was months ago in talking to, I believe it was Kanamu Balinbin was talking about it.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay.

MR. AGAWA: We are looking into some technology to...it's an additive to our system that would reduce the smell. Right now, we are in talks with other municipalities that have used that technology, primarily in Texas, and we've been getting conflicting data and results. So we're trying to iron out that right now, to see if this technology is something worthwhile looking into. So it's supposed to decrease the smell and also the volume of sludge.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. Thank you. And then the other question would be, the transfer station. I heard that, you know, some of the undesirable contract people were removed, and then I had heard something that the new people that they were replaced with were worse? Any follow up on that?

MR. AGAWA: Yes. We had some complaints come into our office regarding customer service at the Olowalu Transfer Station. We did look into it. My understanding is that our contractor, our vendor...this is not run by the County personnel, this is a vendor. They have a new manager who oversees that site that was recently put in, and the staff there was changed, I think as recently as three weeks ago. We had our solid waste operation superintendent actually go out of his way and throw his waste there this past Saturday, just to see, and he was pleasantly surprised by the...the customer service that he received by the new personnel that are staffing the site. So we have confidence in this new manager, that they're making changes and they do have new personnel.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. And --

MR. AGAWA: As recently as three weeks --

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: -- was anybody held accountable for the collecting of money or, you know, the other kind of illegalities that was going on? I think they were trying to go off of people's --

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Member Paltin, the timer went off.

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COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Huh?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: The timer went off.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Oh, okay.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: But if you want me to --

MR. AGAWA: Chair?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: -- send that...do you want to answer that question, Deputy Director?

MR. AGAWA: Yeah. We haven't had any evidence of monies being collected illegally. We did send one of our supervisors who manages our rural landfills, and the Olowalu Transfer Station, and he went for several trips and was looking from afar as to not, you know, show that his presence was there, and we didn't see any evidence of transfer of money.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you for your indulgence, Chair.

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

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Mahalo, Chair. . . . *(Audio interference)*. . . A quick question for Mr. Agawa, and mahalo for keeping our community abreast of the metal collections program. I was just wanting to ask, I know part of it was having workers from O`ahu come and then having to... to quarantine. So have there been any efforts to...to look at just some of our...our local workforce to help with the metals collection?

MR. AGAWA: Yes. Thank you, Member Sinenci, for the question. Unfortunately, there is only one vendor, and this is in particular to handling the refrigerant type of material that, you know, we assume to be coming in. That vendor is out of O`ahu. There's no local vendors that handles that particular part of the material collection. Other workers are from Maui locally, but just that one specialized vendor needs to come from O`ahu.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Could we still continue without the...the refrigerant portion? Without icebox collection?

MR. AGAWA: We could look into that.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Okay.

MR. AGAWA: Yeah. We...I can definitely talk with our EP&S Section, and see if we

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can move forward, and maybe when time permits and COVID allows us, later to bring in O`ahu vendors that we can add that. But yeah, we can certainly look at eliminating that portion of the collection and handling other types of white goods. Definitely.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Okay, great. Mahalo, Mr. Agawa. Thank you, Chair.

MR. AGAWA: You're welcome.

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

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Yeah, thank you, Madam Chair. You know, earlier, I think Director Yoshimura mentioned there was something like 2,000 households have not renewed their account. So I...I guess the majority of the reason for that was probably, I guess, they cannot stay at whatever residence they're at or where they're renting from. Maybe Mr. Agawa can answer this. So have you...has there been an uptick now in people taking their own rubbish to the dump because of, you know, people not renewing their residential accounts? And has there been reports of illegal dumping?

MR. AGAWA: Thank you, Chair Molina... Councilmember Molina. You know, we haven't really seen an uptick because our numbers have been so down at the Central Maui Landfill. We haven't had any reports of additional volume at our rural sites that I know of. Yeah, and as far as illegal dumping, the only cases I've heard about was the hotspots that, you know, we all know about; Mile Marker 13 half and Pe'ahi areas. Other than that, there hasn't been any hotspots that flared up that came under our radar, and we are working to take care of those hotspots I mentioned earlier.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Okay, great. Thank you. Thank you, Madam Chair.

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

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: All right. Just a quick one. I...I asked Corp. Counsel and maybe DEM previously, but I never did get an answer. You know, in the transfer station, I know that no commercial vehicles are allowed, including landscaping, but just was wondering if it's a suspicion versus a proof: Do the people still get allowed to dump...one of the complaints that I had heard from my constituents was, they go about twice a week, and the contractor was telling them that they couldn't go there, but they weren't commercial landscapers, they just have a big property. You know? Or something like that. So is it they have to have proof to be turned away? Or can people be turned away on suspicion?

MR. AGAWA: Thank you for that question. No. They...they...the vendor has very strict guidelines to follow when it comes to discerning between residential and

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commercial use. So some of the guidelines are license plates, magnetic commercial signing on the vehicle. One of the things that tip them off, and I must admit that they use it as a gauge, is the...how often the people use the dump. And we understand that some people have very large properties, a lot of greenery...greenery, and I think after about three trips for a consecutive month or so, they, you know, keep an eye on them. But they're not supposed to turn them away on suspicion alone.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you. Thank you. That clarifies it for me.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: . . . *(inaudible)*. . . Paltin. Pro Temp Kama?

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: I had just a...a real curious question. You know all of the...all the metals that we have to recycle like cars, refrigerators, air conditioners, you know, those kinds of big-ticketed items. Do we have, or can we have a fund that the County...I mean, if people are bringing...I mean, businesses bring in all of these big-ticketed items, right? And they sell it to a consumer, and the consumer uses it, it breaks down, then they just trash it. But then we gotta take care of all of that. Is there a way for us to collect something from the vendor who sells these things like cars and washing machines and air conditioners and, you know, so on and so forth? Is there a...is there a way to do that? It's like some kind of an electronic fee. Computers too. Laptops, you know? All of...printers --

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Pro Temp Kama --

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: -- scanners. That's the question.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Pro Temp Kama, I appreciate your question. I think it's going a little outside of what we --

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Chair --

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: -- what the agenda item is. And then we can have that --

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: I was just curious.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: -- discussion another time.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Did you have any other questions?

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: No, I was just curious.

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CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. We'll, thank Deputy Director Agawa for joining us today. Mahalo --

MR. AGAWA: Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: -- for answering our questions.

MR. AGAWA: Thank you, Members.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aloha. Have a great day. Okay, so it's 3:11, and generally, we have our afternoon break at 3. Do Members want to take a quick break and come back refreshed? Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: A long break. . . .*(timer sounds)*. . .

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yeah, not a long break. We have MEMA, Planning, DHHC, Parks. So all...all the Departments that have grants. And the purpose of having the Departments come before us is to talk about revenue shortfalls and their plans for any, you know, potential shortfalls, so that we're planning ahead. So if Members can try to keep their questions a little more limited to that, that would...that would be really helpful. Okay. All right. So 3:22? Ten minutes. All right? It's 3:12, and the Economic Development and Budget Committee is now in recess. . . .*(gavel)*. . .

RECESS: 3:12 p.m.
RECONVENE: 3:29 p.m.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: ...*(gavel)*...Will the Economic Develop and Budget Committee please return to order. It's 3:29 on October 7th, and we will pick up where we left off, with Emergency Management, let's see, Administrator Andaya?

MR. ANDAYA: I'm...I'm right here. Madam Chair, Members of Committee. There we go. Oh, okay. Can you hear me, Madam Chair?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yes, we can hear you and see you.

MR. ANDAYA: Okay. So the...the Maui Emergency Management Agency manages two County grants. The first grant is the American...is American Red Cross, \$50,000 to the American Red Cross. And American Red Cross provides

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invaluable services to Maui County. They help us by setting up and staffing emergency shelters, assisting victims with removing debris from homes affected by disasters, conducting damage assessments of homes that were damaged by natural disasters, and so forth. They've also assisted us with public education and the...these...the \$50,000 is to help support their disaster preparedness and response program. They are a part of our Emergency Operations Center. Every time this EOC is activated, they are here with us. And so they...they provide, once again, invaluable service to Maui County. The other grant that we manage, County grant, is the Hāna Emergency Preparedness Group. That's \$50,000 to that organization, and that is to help them with creating a cache for supplies for...for Hāna. And so those are two grants that we...we manage.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Administrator Andaya. And as far as those two grants, they're safe to be funded?

MR. ANDAYA: Our intention is to...to fund them, yes.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Great.

MR. ANDAYA: Because of the services they provide. Yes.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, Members. Any questions for Administrator Andaya? Perfect, you did a great job. No questions.

MR. ANDAYA: Thank you very much, Councilmembers, for all your support.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, and mahalo for your update. Have a great day. Oh. Okay, you're good.

MR. ANDAYA: You too, Councilmembers.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Everyone's just waving. Okay. Next, we have Department of Housing and Human Concerns, Director Lori Tsuhako. Oh, aloha Director, I think you're on mute.

MS. TSUHAKE: Okay, let me start that again. Hello. Good afternoon Chair and Members. Happy to be here.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo for joining us.

MS. TSUHAKE: Thank you. Shall I just go on?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yes, please.

MS. TSUHAKE: Thank you. So the Department of Housing and Human Concerns

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probably executes the majority of grants throughout the County. So for this current fiscal year, I think we have about 90 line-item, as well as other grants that emanate from specific subject area allocations in our budget. These allocations include homelessness, early childhood, services to the frail and elderly, youth center and youth services. So as an update, in the current fiscal year, our grants management staff, which normally consists of two program specialists, an office technician, and the program administrator, has been short one program specialist for the majority of this year. We did a recruitment and unfortunately, the person who was offered the position declined. And so we're in the process of recruiting that position again. Having only one specialist, as you can imagine, severely puts a crimp into the speed at which that office can process grant agreements. So we have executed 44 of the contracts for fiscal year. Forty-six of those contracts are routed. It means that they're going from our office to Corp. Counsel, to Finance, to Budget, to the Mayor's office for signature and final execution. So the bulk of the grant agreements that we have are currently routing. And if you want to know about the status of any particular one, I could probably share that with you. We have only a few grants that are still pending execution, and what I mean by pending, is that we've either not received the...a request from the grantee, or the application and the documents necessary for us to begin that grant-making process, or the grant...the grantee and the program specialist have not made...have not come to consensus about performance measures that the County agrees upon, or other items within the budget that may be allowable or not. So we have, I would say, about...less than 20 grants that are in the process right now that are still...still pending those documents back and forth between the grantee and the Grants Management Division. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Director. And so for clarification, of the 90 grants...90 line-item grants and other grants, you're projecting to be able to fund all those grants?

MS. TSUHAKE: Yeah, we are. We have not received any formal notification from Budget or Finance to indicate that the funds are not available to us, and so the Department is proceeding with our...our normal process. We met with our...our...our grant funding goes in two-year cycles. So Fiscal Year '21 is a new...first year of a two-year cycle. So last summer, we had meetings with grantees on Moloka'i and Lāna'i and here on Maui, and we reminded the grantees of the language that's included in all of our grant agreements. There's a small clause that says pending availability of funds. So what that means to grantees is that they should always be aware that if the County doesn't have funds to provide those grants, that we will not be able to do that. And my responsibility for that is to let people know when we get the word that we don't have the funds in order to provide those grant revenues to the agencies, with plenty of time for them to make alternative plans. And I think we've had conversations both in this Committee, as well as in...as in Member Hokama's

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Committee about what the County's position has been, in terms of being a grant funder to agencies, and that is the encouragement for agencies to seek multiple sources of funding to diversify their source of revenue, so that they're not wholly dependent on the County for funding. And that...that's been a messages that we've had...we have given grantees consistently over the years, to try and assist them with developing their...their resources, so that they're not just, you know, totally dependent on the County for funding. Because, you know, as you mentioned earlier, Madam Chair, none of us could have predicted that we would be in this pandemic situation. None of us know how long it will last, and none of us really know yet what the impact is on the County's budget, and how able we are to continue to provide these funds to nonprofits to do services. So I...I really do believe that nonprofits understand that. I think it's still very fear-inducing for them to fully realize that the County may not be able to fund them as we have in the past so generously. But it's something that we...I mean, everybody in the community's dealing with those challenges. So I think they understand. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Director. Okay, Members, questions? Committee Vice-Chair King.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Thank you, Chair. Can you hear me okay? I just put these headphones in, because there's a debate going on in the other room, so. On TV. Thank you for being here, Ms. Tsuhako. You know, so you said...you said so far, you're able to fund all of the grants that are in the budget. I just wanted to clarify that, because you spent a lot of time talking about what if...what would happen if we couldn't. But right, so far we're okay; is that...is that a correct statement?

MS. TSUHAKE: Yes, that is correct, Member King.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Okay.

MS. TSUHAKE: I've not --

VICE-CHAIR KING: Okay. So --

MS. TSUHAKE: -- any indication that they're not going to be able to.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Okay, great. So my question is, we passed a...the Council passed an ordinance in the previous year to allow grantees to access, I think it was up to 50 percent, maybe it was more, of the grant funds before they --

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Twenty-five.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Twenty-five percent before they actually expend the money,

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because some of them can't afford to put money out and then get reimbursed. So has that happened with any of our grantees in your department so far?

MS. TSUHAKE: Yes, it has. Actually, out of those grant agreements that have been executed, I think almost every agency has. As soon as the grant has been formally executed, they've submitted what we call a first...first quarter advance payment, which --

VICE-CHAIR KING: Oh, okay.

MS. TSUHAKE: -- is 25 percent of the value. So I think everyone has exercised that option.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Oh, okay. Okay. Well, that's good to know because we had assumed that that was a big need, and apparently it was, so it's good to hear that you're able to do that. And...and then I guess the follow-up question would be, you wouldn't be in a position where you approved a grant and then later on found out there wasn't funding for it, would you? I mean, if there was...if something happened and there were...we were getting short, you would let them know before you...before approval? . . .*(timer sounds)*. . .

MS. TSUHAKE: Thank you for your question, Member King. I...I don't think that that's always going to be possible. I think that there's a...there's a possibility that as the fiscal year moves forward, we could have some grants that already...most of the grants should be executed as the fiscal year moves forward, and there may be indications from Budget or from Finance that the County's financial situation has changed so much that funds may be withheld from the Department. If that's the case, then we'll have to make some decisions and priorities, and inform the grantees at that time. I won't...I wouldn't know that at the time the...the grant agreements are executed. So that --

VICE-CHAIR KING: Okay.

MS. TSUHAKE: -- notification to the grantees would have to come as soon as the Department is made aware that the funds have been limited.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Okay, so they know, even if they do get some funding, that it may...something may happen, and they wouldn't...might not get it all?

MS. TSUHAKE: Yes, that is correct.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Okay. All right. Thank you. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo Committee Vice-Chair King. Okay, Members, any other questions for Director? Okay, seeing none, we'll thank Director

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Tsuhako for joining us.

MS. TSUHAKE: Thank you, Madam Chair, Members. Have a good afternoon.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: You too. Continue the good work.

MS. TSUHAKE: Thank you very much.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Next, we have Parks. Parks and Recreation, which Budget Director Yoshimura will give us an update, followed by Planning.

MS. YOSHIMURA: Okay, so Ms. Peters was unable to attend today's meeting, but she did give me a report. She does issue two grants, the Lahaina Restoration Foundation Groundskeeping Grant, and the MCCC Work Line Program. So both are line-item grants. The Lahaina Restoration Foundation grant has been executed. It's...and the Work Line grant was awarded to the Department of Public Safety, MCCC. But they are, at this time, unable to commit to the program, due to the lack of correction officers. So they'll be in contact. They're still working with MCCC, should that situation change, and then we could execute a portion of the grant.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Director. Okay. Members, any questions for Budget Director Yoshimura? Member Paltin, followed by Chair Lee.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. It's...it's within the subject matter, but if you would just...I was wondering, because Director Peters was following up on Condition 15 of Ordinance 3889 for the West Maui Community Park, 50 acres, and it almost got left out of the budget because Maui Land and Pine wasn't returning calls. And I just was wondering if there's any progress on that. I'm coming to find out that they're not sending in any of their compliance reports for a change in zoning, they haven't been complying with their conditions. And so I'm...I'm wondering, are we letting this slip through the cracks, or has there been any forward movement on that?

MS. YOSHIMURA: Councilmember Paltin, sorry, but I don't have the information for that, but I can find out. If you would put your question in writing, I can submit it to Ms. Peters.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you.

MS. YOSHIMURA: Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo. Okay, Chair Lee?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Chair. Director...Budget Director, I appreciate your

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thriftiness, but is it necessary for you to sit there in the dark? Can't see you, hardly. You have your light on?

MS. YOSHIMURA: No, my lights are on, it's just I have windows in the back, and it doesn't have window shades, and that's why my...mines come out dark, like I'm sitting in the dark. But it's just because of the daylight coming in.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay.

MS. YOSHIMURA: I don't have window shades. That's my thriftiness.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: I'm going to take a collection at the Council and buy you a lamp.

MS. YOSHIMURA: Okay. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair Lee. You're always such a problem solver. Okay. We'll go on to the next department, if there aren't any questions for Budget Director regarding Parks. Okay. The next is Planning, followed by Transportation. Director Michelle McLean, Mahalo for joining us.

MS. MCLEAN: Aloha, Chair, Committee Members. The Planning Department just has two grants in FY '21, and these are both for UHC grant extension agents. We have the long-term grant that's been going on for, gosh, decades for the coastal hazard specialist. That's Tara Owens, I think you're all familiar with her. And then this is the second year that we've continued with a new second extension agent as a June manager. The idea for this originally was to fill the void that will be left when the South Maui Volunteers, the leaders of the South Maui Volunteers retire. That position has been filled by Wes Crile, who you may know. He worked for Council Services, was also with the Coral Reef Alliance, I believe. So Wes has that second position. So those are the only two grants we have for FY '21. To answer the questions in your letter, we have not informed them about potential funding delays, and there is not a deadline for making funding determinations, but the...the amount budgeted for FY '21 is actually larger than what is needed for a 12-month period, because we were trying to get those grants on the same timeline cycle as the Federal budget. And so FY '21 was bigger, and then in FY '22 will get that to a 12-month period. So if we do really get into a crunch, we would like to still extend those grants, but we could do it for a 12-month period, and then just when we get back on our feet economically, we can add the additional money and...and try to get on that...have those budget cycles coincide. We can do that in a later year if we need to. And that's all I have. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Director. Okay, Members, any questions for Director McLean? Seeing none, thank you very much for that very thorough

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update.

MS. MCLEAN: You're welcome . . . *(inaudible)*. . .

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: . . . *(inaudible)*. . . Okay. Next, is Transportation, followed by Department of Water. Aloha, Director Takamori.

MR. TAKAMORI: Hello. Good afternoon, Committee Chair and Committee Members. Thank you for having me. I'm Marc Takamori, I'm the Director for the Department of Transportation, and I guess for our department, I'm providing updates to our grants. We have...this fiscal year, we have two line-item grants. One of them is to the State Department of Health for the air ambulance service, so that grant has been executed. And the other grant that we have is with MEO for Human Services Transportation, and that grant is going through the process of getting signatures at the moment. So there were some questions that we went back and forth with MEO, and so we...we haven't...so getting to your...your letter that you provided to my department, we didn't tell them that there would be a possible funding delay. We did have questions on the grant, and I guess there is no deadline that we have set...or from the Administration for funding determination.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Director. Members, any questions? I have one question regarding revenues. The ad revenues? Has that been figured out?

MR. TAKAMORI: Yes.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: I mean, I...yeah, okay.

MR. TAKAMORI: Okay. I can...yes, thank you for that question. I can provide an update. We...we have actually given the notice to proceed for...I think our notice to proceed for ads, I think that was September 1st in the agreement, but most likely, I think the agreement was signed before we gave the notice to proceed. So I think it was maybe marked the beginning of this month from the company that bid on the service is starting work. So how it's kind of set up right now, is based on the ads that are sold in the bus, if the...if the ads are...if the space is sold, then...then we would get a portion of that revenue. We set it up, where if...if ads aren't sold in the bus, we are not collecting funds from the company. We didn't want to make them go into the hole if they're unable to find advertisers, you know, especially during this COVID time. So that's the latest right now. We haven't actually received any revenues yet, but we technically just got started. Yes. So we're in contract.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Excellent. Good job. Okay. And then a quick follow up question. With the CARES funding from the State Department of Transportation, I think what's that, 7.8 million? Has that been secured and

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contracted and budgeted for?

MR. TAKAMORI: Yes, so we have access to those funds right now, so those funds are being utilized for enhanced cleaning and extra costs that's coming with it. Yeah. Yeah. So the...yeah, and we have access to that.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo for that update. Okay. I seen hands. Was that Committee Vice-Chair King? And then followed by Council Chair Lee.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Thank you, Chair. I just wanted a quick follow up, since you brought up the revenue from the...from the ad...or the...and I'm glad...I'm so glad you're moving forward. At least we got a name...a signature on a contract. We'll see if we get revenue. But are we still in control of PSAs? Like if you wanted to put in a public service announcement, is that something that we would...you would do? Or does that still have to go through the contractor?

MR. TAKAMORI: . . . *(inaudible)*. . . Chair. Thank you for that question. Our...yeah, so the contract that we have set up right now is, depending on space available, if all spaces are sold, then PSAs would...wouldn't get the higher priority. But as of right now, before...so it's...it's hard to say, but I mean, moving forward, I guess I'll answer, moving forward, we have it written where we can provide the...space available, we provide the PSA to the contractor to install.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Okay. Yeah, I'm assuming that we're probably not going to fill the bus up with ads, but if you do --

MR. TAKAMORI: Right.

VICE-CHAIR KING: -- great.

MR. TAKAMORI: Yes.

VICE-CHAIR KING: So all right. Thanks. Great to see you, Marc.

MR. TAKAMORI: Yes. Nice to see you all.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Committee Vice-Chair King. Council Chair Lee?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Thank you. I just have a quick question, Marc. Who's paying for the free shuttle?

MR. TAKAMORI: That...the free shuttle is actually, I believe it's...and that might be a question for Budget Director, but it...it's a program out of the Department of Management. I think those funds are set aside for the...for the parking garage,

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and to offset...to offset the stalls that are going to be taken away when the parking...the municipal parking lot is closing, then the Department of Management came up with a...I guess they had funds available to do a shuttle to have off-site parking. So I'm not quite sure if that's in...in their CIP budget or not, but it's...it's not actually in our department.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay. I'll...I'll wait to ask him. I'll ask the managing director that question. Thank you.

MR. TAKAMORI: Okay.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Council Chair Lee. Okay. Seeing no other questions, I have one last question, Director Takamori.

MR. TAKAMORI: Yes.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: So on O`ahu, I've seen reports and...of bus drivers not feeling safe because some people who ride the bus refuse to put their mask on, and they've been getting into, you know, not good situations. So I was wondering if our bus drivers are feeling safe and everything is okay on Maui.

MR. TAKAMORI: Thank you for that question. Part of the CARES funds did fund us installing driver barriers, so when...when you ride the fixed-route system and you board the bus, there's a...there's a, like, a plexiglass door that kind of closes in a compartment for the driver, so that helps. We also require every rider, before they board the bus, to have their mask on properly. Usually, if we do have any issues, is when riders board the bus, sit down in the back of the bus, and then either pull down their mask and...and what's good is that we have other riders that are keeping an eye, so if there's any issues, the riders will, you know, let the driver know, and then the driver will then remind the rider to...to put on their masks. If the situation does escalate, then MPD is usually notified, and...and they quickly respond to the situation to either have the individual put their mask on or remove them from...from the bus. So there have been some incidents for that, but we do have the ability to play a voice announcement on the buses. I think it's once every 15 minutes or so, to remind the riders that they need to wear a face mask, and wear it properly on the bus. Yes.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Director. Okay. See...oh, Member Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. I just had a question, it might be straying outside a little bit again, but was wondering, you know, with the...there's like a little bit of a shortfall because of the amount of rental cars that was...they said was going to be removed from Maui County. And I just was wondering if we have plans to capitalize on the situation by expanding bus

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routes and, you know, making it so that public transportation is more common and maybe we don't need those...those rental cars back until our roads have the capacity to handle it? If there's been any thought about that for the upcoming budget cycle?

MR. TAKAMORI: Chair. Thank you --

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Director.

MR. TAKAMORI: -- for that question. You know, I think within the Department, we've been discussing that. I know that...I know that we just got our...not too long ago, we got our budget instructions that we have to fill out, and...and one of the things that...that we are being told is to keep a pretty flat budget. And so...so I guess within that, we're trying to determine what...what's best or how best to move forward during this situation. Granted, I don't think we really know what's going to happen October 15th, when we start allowing out of state...or I guess nothing has been announced for interisland as well, with regards to quarantining as well, so I guess we're also monitoring to see how that affects us. But yeah, in terms of next fiscal year, we would probably like to make some changes. I think it would be hard to actually ask for new routes during this time. So I think it might be, again, tweaking to see how can we better provide services during this time. ...*(timer sounds)* ...

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Paltin. Okay. Mahalo, Director Takamori for joining us today.

MR. TAKAMORI: Yeah, thank you for having me. Thank you. Nice to see everybody.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Good to see you. Take care.

MR. TAKAMORI: Yeah, you, too. Bye.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. And our last department is Department of Water. Aloha, Robert De...De Robles.

MR. DE ROBLES: Hi. Can you hear...can everybody hear me? Good afternoon. You know who I am, Robert De Robles, Planner with the Water Resources and Planning Division. Thank you, Chair and Councilmembers for having me here to answer your questions. So DWS does not anticipate any funding delays due to insufficient water rate revenue. As you know, we have about 11 grantees we're managing right now. We made adjustments in our FY '21 budget to reflect any anticipated decrease in revenue. Those adjustments did not affect the grant subsidies that we've...we've planned for. But you know, we have been

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in constant communication with our grantees to make sure we understand what's going on in the field, what's affecting them with COVID, and what they could do to possibly, you know, adjust to the situation. So, yeah, we're all just trying to figure out, you know, what we could do to help each other at this point. And then as far as the deadline for making our funding determination, you know, we've already, for FY '21, we've already sent out our agreements for execution. So those, the deadlines to commit the funds, is when those agreements are executed. So I think we're anticipating those...we've got most of them back, but we're just waiting for UH and a couple of a...one more grantee to send in executed agreements.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Mr. De Robles. Members, any questions? Okay, seeing none, good job.

MR. DE ROBLES: Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Thank you for your update.

MR. DE ROBLES: Good afternoon. Okay. Take care.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Have a good afternoon. Aloha.

MR. DE ROBLES: Aloha. . . . *(audio interference)*. . .

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. All right. Mahalo, Members. Okay, so we might be able to get out of the meeting a little early. So there's just a few updates. I understand that Managing Director Baz will not be able to join us because he'll be doing the press conference briefing today. So we have Budget Director Yoshimura, with the three questions. So for the CARES funding for...I think the question was worded better in my written transmittal. Okay. Will you please provide information on the plans for unexpended CARES Act funding? For example, the State has indicated they intend to place any unexpended funds into unemployment insurance as a way to...a safeguard to, you know, have somewhere to quickly put the...all the remaining funds, so that none of it has to be returned to the Federal Government. Do we have that kind of a plan?

MS. YOSHIMURA: Chair. So we receive...there are two allocations, right? Which total 66...66,598,757. So we got all of the money from the State, and we've committed all of the money that we received. So all of the money's been committed. We do have a pending list, so we do have projects or purchases that we could move forward with, should one of the current commitments fall through. If we do have a large sum at the end, we...unlike the State, we don't have an unemployment insurance fund, but we do intend to reimburse ourselves at the very end. Remember back in March, we did do a \$2 million

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dollar advance program on H.E.L.P., and we also did a disbursement out of the emergency fund, so those could be paid back, should we have additional funds at the end. But our intent is to fund as many programs that we could possibly do, to help everyone at this point in time.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Budget Director. Chair Lee, you had a question earlier that I asked you to hold off for this part of the discussion on CARES, I think?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Was that the one about opening up on October 15th, or if there's going to be a separate protocol for the neighbor islands?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yeah, that was the question.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Oh, okay. Ms. Yoshimura?

MS. YOSHIMURA: Okay. So I know there's going to...there were discussions ongoing today, Mayor, Managing Director. I was not in any of those conversations, so I don't know what the...what the October 15 opening is going to be like. So I would have to defer to Managing Director. Hopefully, he could join us after the press conference, or if not, we could respond to the Committee in writing.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Are we under any kind of pressure from the Governor or anybody else to open October 15th?

MS. YOSHIMURA: Well, I'm sure everybody wants to reopen on October 15 to get the economy back moving again, getting people back to work. Whether or not anybody's applying pressure, I don't...I don't know.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: So, but you said we do have the money to do the extra testing if necessary, right?

MS. YOSHIMURA: Yeah. So we do have monies committed to testing in...in the CARES Act funding from now through the end of the period...through December, right? And then there's also an allocation in the Fiscal Year 2021 budget that was set aside, I believe about \$9 million that can be used for COVID-related items.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Is there any particular criteria that the Mayor is following to guide his decision on whether or not to open on October 15th?

MS. YOSHIMURA: Yes. So they have been in discussions with the Governor, with Mayor...with the other Mayors. I know there's matrix...matrixes that they've been looking at, different criteria, and following the CDC guidelines on reopening Maui County.

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COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair Lee. Okay. Members? Member Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. I just was wondering, you know, I heard that County of Hawai'i opt out it...opted out of the program, and Kauai is still thinking about it, but I was wondering if we don't opt out of the program, is there a way to in...implement the two test...two-step test plan? Like, so before you leave and after you arrive? Is that what they're discussing?

MS. YOSHIMURA: Yeah. So I know there's the pre-test plan, three days...72 hours prior to your departure. I know Mayor Victorino is in favor of a post-test. I'm not sure what the status is on that at this moment, but we could definitely get back to you on that.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Oh, is there anything...like, I support that too. Is there anything like we could do to back up the Mayor? Like a resolution or something? Like, I support it too, and you know, just to back him up? Give him some support? A unified front?

MS. YOSHIMURA: I'm sure...I'm sure there's a...yeah, he would welcome all the support that he could get. You could send a letter or call him, let him know what your position is. Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay, like write a letter.

MS. YOSHIMURA: Yeah. Or just give him a call.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Oh, okay. All right. Text maybe.

MS. YOSHIMURA: Text, yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay.

MS. YOSHIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Aloha. Thanks.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Paltin. Committee Vice-Chair King, followed by Member Sugimura.

VICE-CHAIR KING: Thank you, Chair. I just wanted to add my voice to that, because I was going to ask the same question as, you know, what could we do to...sorry about that. What could we do to...to back up the Mayor? Because I totally

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agree with the two tests, and we heard Dr. Pang come before us last week and talk about that as well. He was pretty adamant, so yeah, I'm totally with that too. And if you...if it helps for, you know, each one of us who agrees with that to text you or write you, I'm...I'm willing to do that as well.

MS. YOSHIMURA: Thank you.

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

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you. So Michele Yoshimura, I got a text as we were talking here, and the text, they want to know about the food box or food drives, if we have any plan in the future. I think we have Moloka'i on Fridays, Wednesday is Lāna'i, it looks like from the press releases. And I just wonder if there's any other food drives or food boxes that are happening that you know of, or if it's posted somewhere, so I can direct them to the appropriate information?

MS. YOSHIMURA: I can get that information to you, but I know for the next four...three or four Fridays, we are having one on Moloka'i. We have one weekly on Lāna'i on Wednesdays. We have been supporting the community food drives put on by various organizations. The County hasn't done our own food drive, but we have provided support for all the other food drives that have been going on throughout the communities.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you. And I think also you've helped the Filipino...Binhi At Ani the last Saturday of the month, is another one that happens that I've noticed, and I just... okay, so I'll...I'll check in with you, Michelle, to find out where I can get the information, and I'll pass it on. Thank you very much.

MS. YOSHIMURA: Okay. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Sugimura. Okay, Members, any other questions? Okay. So as far as the monthly report to the Governor, those are due on the 10th of each month, and we're only having one EDB meeting for October, so we'll go over that expenditure report to the Governor in our November...in our first November meeting. So that'll be submitted to the Governor on October 10th, but will...will you please transmit that to the EDB-85?

MS. YOSHIMURA: Yes. And Chair, do you...do you want an update on the current programs that we have going on?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yes, please.

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MS. YOSHIMURA: Okay. So right now, we have the Chamber of Commerce Microbusiness Loan Program. That one was funded with \$1.75 million. To date, there was a total of 85 loans that have been given out, so there's about \$188,000 left in the program. So if \$25,000 per grantee, it's about seven, maybe eight. So that program's still ongoing. We do have the Kokua Maui County Small Business Recovery and Relief Fund. That one, businesses with less than \$2 million of income have until this Friday, actually, to apply. Because that program is going to be running out of money shortly. So we have given, to date, 800....812 businesses. We've distributed 23 awards on Moloka'i, two awards on Lāna'i, 138,000 and 11,000 respectively, and so that program, we'll take the last application Friday. If there's other programs that are not going to use the monies, then we could always reconsider. But that one's going to come to an end. We have the H.E.L.P. Program through MEO. That one is still taking applications. They'll take applications through, I think, October 31st. We...they have been experiencing about 500 requests per day for assistance. Last week, they did 656...they...they received 656 applications, processed 668 applications, gave out a total of \$318,000. This week, since then, like I said, they were getting 500 email requests per day about the program continuing. We did increase the amount because the program's going to end, first-time applicants are receiving substantially more than what originally was allocated, and second, third...in fact, we...we've extended it to fourth and fifth time applicants. So you can now get an additional two months' of assistance, and we've also increased that allocation for the households. So my office has been assisting MEO with reviewing applications because there was a backlog. So we have been processing, or reviewing applications daily, and hopefully we can get caught up with all of the applications. And a lot of assistance, we have realized is needed, and we have just released another \$5 million for that program. So if people need assistance...food, mortgage, rent, utilities, they should apply with MEO, and it's online...applications are online. Okay. And then we continue to do our support with the farmers and the ranchers, with the product purchase program, so that's ongoing. Maui County Farm Bureau, Hawai'i Farmers Union United, and then we also support the food distributions through Maui Food Bank, Feed My Sheep, and the Salvation Army. And the Adaptability Fund just got kicked off with MEDB, so that's another opportunity. We'll have two more opportunities with the Chamber; another farm program, and small business program, so we'll be...we'll be doing all of those programs shortly. And I think that's it. The Maui...MauiCARES Task Force funding recommendations, so we are working off of the report that we had gotten from the Task Force. Myself, JoAnn Inamasu, Lori Tsuhako, are reaching out to the programs, making sure that they will be able to move forward through November 30th and using the funds that are available to them, and we'll be executing those agreements. Okay? And I think that's it. If you have any questions?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo for the update. So for the CARES funding

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from the recommendations from the MauiCARES report from the Task Force, round two funding, are those contracts being executed as agreements are made with the organization that requested that funding, or are you waiting to make a...is the Mayor waiting to make an announcement all together, before releasing any of those funds?

MS. YOSHIMURA: I think he made the announcement on who's getting the funding. And so now it's just working with each agency to see whether or not the allocation that the Mayor had set aside for them, if they'll be able to spend it down. If, you know, if they were...if they asked for 500,000 originally, if they can only use 300,000, then we'll look to reappropriate...or reallocate the remaining balance. But at this point, because we're getting towards the end of the funding, we want to make sure that everybody can use what they're going to get, and...so that we don't have to return any monies.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Great. And then the last question, I'll follow up on Chair Lee's question earlier about the equestrian companies that...or organizations, businesses that came before us and testified this morning. You said earlier that you were going to try to expand the emergency feed . . . *(inaudible)*. . . program that has been enacted with the...for cattle, hogs and pigs.

MS. YOSHIMURA: Yeah.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: And we're going...you're going to try to include horses in that?

MS. YOSHIMURA: Yes. All livestock. So we'll...we'll work on that, so they can get assistance.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, great. Okay. And then we're...did the companies that testified this morning reach out to the Administration, and do they...will...will you folks reach out to them to let them know that this program will be happening and when they can apply?

MS. YOSHIMURA: Yes. So we'll reach out to them. I think there were, like, five different companies this morning. So yes, we will reach out to them and let them know what's available because there might be other programs as well.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Wonderful. Okay. Yay. Okay. Members, any other questions? Member Sugimura.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Director, how much...how much in total were we able to allocate to MEO with this additional five million that you just awarded?

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MS. YOSHIMURA: So our original was two million. We did another three million, and then five. So a total of \$10 million.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you. And does that, then...do the funds...well, the last day...is the deadline to apply, like the ending of the year, or is it in November?

MS. YOSHIMURA: So the last day to apply is October 31st.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Oh, yeah, you did say that. Sorry about that. Yeah.

MS. YOSHIMURA: And then...and it's just because the time it'll take MEO to make sure all the payments are made. So with that program, we don't cut the applicant a check. We make all the payments to the electric company or, you know, and then food vouchers are issued. So we want to reconcile all of the funding.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you.

MS. YOSHIMURA: Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Sugimura. Okay. I see no other hands, so I think those are all the questions that we have for today. It was a very long day. Thank you, Members, for holding on until the end. Mahalo, Budget Director Yoshimura, for fielding all of our questions, and I think we're going to call it a day. Yeah? Any...any last questions or comments before I adjourn? Member Sinenci? Oh, you're just waving. Waving? Okay. Chair Lee?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay. I just want to say thank you to you, Madam Chair, and the Committee Members, because we helped to get information, important information to the Administration, and I thank them for cooperating in return. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Absolutely. We're going to get through this together, for sure. Member Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. Yeah, same thing what Chair Lee said. I just was clarifying my Ordinance 3889 Condition 15. I sent it to budget.office@co.maui.hi.us?

MS. YOSHIMURA: Okay.

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COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Is that the right place?

MS. YOSHIMURA: And I should have gotten it. Let me check.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: We can do this after we adjourn too.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay.

MS. YOSHIMURA: Got it.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. She got it. Okay, great. All right. It's 4:24, and tomorrow...tomorrow's Thursday, so we'll start out with, is that PSLU? Yeah. At 9:00 o'clock in the morning, PSLU. So we'll see you all in the morning. It's 4:25, and the Economic Development and Budget Committee is now adjourned. . . .*(gavel)*. . .

ADJOURN: 4:25 p.m.

APPROVED:



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

edb:min:201007:

Transcribed by: Daniel Schoenbeck,
Jaylene K. Hamilton, and Kaliko Reed

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CERTIFICATIONS

I, Daniel Schoenbeck, hereby certify that pages 1 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.

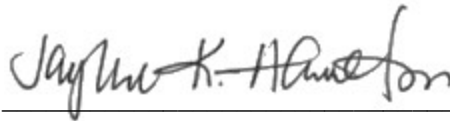
DATED the 31st day of October 2020, in Kula, Hawai'i



Daniel Schoenbeck

I, Jaylene K. Hamilton, hereby certify that pages 59 through 88 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 31st day of October 2020, in Wailuku, Hawai'i



Jaylene K. Hamilton

I, Kaliko Reed, hereby certify that pages 89 through 117 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 31st day of October 2020, in Wailuku, Hawai'i



Kaliko Reed