

HEALTHY FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE

Council of the County of Maui

MINUTES

October 8, 2020

Council Chamber, 8th Floor

CONVENE: 1:32 p.m.

PRESENT: Councilmember Riki Hokama, Chair
Councilmember Yuki Lei K. Sugimura, Vice-Chair (out 4:00 p.m.,
in 4:23 p.m.)
Councilmember Tasha Kama
Councilmember Kelly Takaya King (out 2:52 p.m.)
Councilmember Michael J. Molina
Councilmember Tamara Paltin
Councilmember Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez

PRESENT: NON-VOTING MEMBER:
Councilmember Alice L. Lee (out 2:52 p.m., in 3:35 p.m., out 4:31 p.m.)

STAFF: Richard Mitchell, Legislative Attorney
Shelly Espeleta, Legislative Analyst
Lesley Milner, Legislative Analyst
Wilton Leauanae, Legislative Analyst (trainee)
Rayna Yap, Committee Secretary
Lenora Dineen, OCS Assistant Clerk

Evan Dust, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Tasha Kama
Davideane K. Sickels, Executive Assistant to Councilmember
Tasha Kama
Trinette Furtado, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Keani
Rawlins-Fernandez
Kate Griffiths, Executive Assistant to Councilmember
Kelly Takaya King
Jordan Helle, Executive Assistant to Councilmember
Riki Hokama

ADMIN.: Kathy Kaohu, County Clerk, Office of the County Clerk (HFC-31)
James Krueger, Deputy County Clerk, Office of the County Clerk
(HFC-31)
Karla Peters, Director, Department of Parks and Recreation
(HFC-14, HFC-13(13))
Todd Allen, Golf Course Superintendent, Department of Parks
and Recreation (HFC-14, HFC-13(13))
Chris Kinzle, Park Maintenance Superintendent, Department of
Parks and Recreation (HFC-14, HFC-13(13))
Bill Kahalekai, Beautification Manager, Department of Parks and

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Recreation (HFC-14, HFC-13(13))
Linda Munsell, Deputy Director, Department of Housing and
Human Concerns (HFC-74)
Michael Hopper, Deputy Corporation Counsel, Department of the
Corporation Counsel

OTHERS: Brian Kakihara (HFC-74)
Joshua Woodburn (HFC-74)
Susan Graham (HFC-74)
Jeff Jensen (HFC-13(13), HFC-14)
Brian Mercer (HFC-74)
Chris Mercer (HFC-74)
Gina Rizzi, Principal, Radius Sports Group (HFC-13(13), HFC-14)
Raymond Cabebe (HFC-74)
Joanne Hopper (HFC-74)
Paul Texeira (HFC-74)
Charlie Jennings (HFC-74)
Jim Brosnan, Ph.D. (HFC-13(13), HFC-14)
Joe DeFrank (HFC-13(13), HFC-14)
Sarah Menzies

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

CHAIR HOKAMA: . . .*(gavel)*. . . Aloha, everyone. Welcome to the Council's Committee on Healthy Families and Communities. This is our regular meeting for today. And this is October 8, 2020. And today we have for on our agenda various items. Before that, we'll take our Committee attendance. And we are pleased to say that joining us is our Vice-Chair Ms. Sugimura this afternoon.

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: Good afternoon, Chair.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you for joining us. Also joining us on our Committee this afternoon, we have Ms. Kama.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Good afternoon, Chair.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Hi. Thank you for be joining us. Also from our South Maui District, we have Ms. King joining us.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Aloha, Chair. How are you doing?

CHAIR HOKAMA: Aloha. Thank you so much. From our North Shore side, we've got, of course, our own Mr. Molina.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Good afternoon and aloha, Mr. Chairman.

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CHAIR HOKAMA: Good afternoon, sir. And from our West Side, our one and only Ms. Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Aloha 'auinala, Chair.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Aloha. And joining us from Moloka'i Hina, we have our own Keani Rawlins-Fernandez.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aloha 'auinala, Chair.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Aloha e. Thank you for joining us. And of course, we welcome any time our other two Non-Voting Members, Ms. Lee and Mr. Sinenci if they should so do so. At this time, we'll be happy to take our testimony on the items we have agendized for today, Members. So we'll start testimony. Each person is allowed three minutes by our Committee rules. If...please state your name. If you represent an entity, we ask that you share that information with us, if you're speaking for that entity on your position. If you are a professional lobbyist, we would also request that you disclose that information to the Committee. Just as a notification to the Committee, as well as to all of those that are listening and joining us through streaming or *Akaku* and those that are listening, it is this Chair's intention regarding HFC-74, La'akea Village, Paia, I'm going to defer that. The Chair has come to a sense that I need more time to provide this item...to have the ability for the discussion that I have now come to realize that I need more time than what I was allotting for this afternoon. So I have already notified the resource personnel and already those that are required...we've asked for required participation that we are going to reschedule this to the very next Committee meeting slot of this month, and provide this item the ample time and attention that it deserves. Again, this Committee is following through on compliance of what Council approved originally in 2005 for the lease of County assets or real property to the La'akea Foundation. That was the intent of this Committee and the Chair, was to follow through whether or not Council's intent and purpose is being met, and how the Department has ensured compliance. Okay. So that item will be deferred, but we will accept public testimony since we have agendized it this...for today. So stating with that, we will start public testimony at this time, and I'll ask our Staff, Ms. Milner, for our first testifier, please.

. . .BEGIN PUBLIC TESTIMONY. . .

MS. MILNER: Thank you, Chair. Our first testifier is Brian Kaka...kakahara [sic].

CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay, thank you. Okay. Mr. Kakakihara [sic] are you available, can you hear us?

MR. KAKIHARA: Yes. Okay. Good afternoon, Chair Hokama and Councilmembers. My name is Brian Kakihara. I served...I have served on the board of directors for La'akea Village for 12 years until I retired from First Hawaiian Bank in April of last year, and I joined La'akea Village as its business manager in May of 2019. I decided to join

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La'akea staff because I knew the organization had gone through a difficult management transition in February of 2019. La'akea had experienced rapid growth in the number of clients and employees it had, along with the construction of a new office, kitchen, and country store buildings. While the organization had this rapid growth, it was not able to institute the necessary business structure and systems to really be effectively managed. I can say since joining La'akea, the management team has worked hard to set up the necessary business structure and systems. In addition to that, revised mission, vision, and core values have been developed by the management, employees, and board, and that has been shared with clients and clients' families. A new employee handbook was established with job descriptions. We improved our collection of Medicaid waiver billings and improved our tracking of those billings. A tracking system was collect...was created to track the harvest of fruits and vegetables grown on the property. We are in the process of implementing a new IT system to manage La'akea's client services, which will save time and improve client services. A draft Environmental Assessment has been prepared, and should be coming toward the Council shortly for approval for us to develop housing on the 12 acres released from the County for special needs adults. All of this work requires leadership. I fully support the leadership of La'akea's executive director Sarah Menzies. She certainly has the integrity, the commitment, and heart to lead La'akea to achieve its mission, vision, and live by its core values. Susan Graham and the board...the board president and the board of directors fully support Sarah and our management team. I'm truly grateful for their commitment and support. Also, I ask for your support of La'akea Village, and thank you for your time this afternoon. Aloha.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you...thank you very much, Mr. Kakiyama, for your testimony today. I appreciate your work on behalf of the foundation. I know your community service for decades, so again, thank you. Before I ask if there's any questions for clarification, I would like to just say I appreciate the presence of Chairman Lee joining us this afternoon. Thank you, Alice.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Chair. Nice to see everyone.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Hi. And also, I see Mr. Hopper joining us this afternoon.

MR. HOPPER: Yes. Mr. Chair, I just had a question. If there...if the intention is to defer this item, I'm not sure if I heard that correctly --

CHAIR HOKAMA: Yes.

MR. HOPPER: -- and people, potential testifiers have been informed of that, I would just say that if you want to take testimony I think that's okay, but the Council should really avoid getting into deliberations on this item and going beyond clarifying questions. Because if there were those who may have wanted to testify that didn't show up because of that, I would just want to be cognizant of that. I think it's okay to take testimony from those that are here, but just to make sure that there's no deliberation, I think would be important.

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CHAIR HOKAMA: Mr. Hopper, the Chair thanks you for your cautionary advice. I am well aware of your advice you shared with this Committee. And yeah, again, it is not the Chair's intention to have any deliberations today. We have no proposal to actually deliberate on to make any decisions. This is...was...again, the intent was to see if we have compliance to what Council approved and agreed to in 2005, hearing from the Department and those that are part of the foundation. So again, we are in a discovery mode of status, and there's nothing to deliberate. And therefore, I believe the Members are aware that clarification requirements is only going to be allowed by this Chair. So thank you for your advisory. Okay, Members, hearing the advisory and your Chair's comments, any questions for Mr. Kakiyara to clarify his testimony at this time? Okay, having none. Mr. Kakiyara, thank you very much. And we will notify you at the exact posting when we bring up your...this item again for a more complete discussion. Thank you.

MR. KAKIHARA: Thank you.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Ms. Milner, our next testifier please.

MS. MILNER: Chair, our next testifier is Joshua Woodburn.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you. Mr. Woodburn, if you would please?

MR. WOODBURN: Hi. Aloha, Chair and Members. Thank you for your time this afternoon. I'm here as a board member for La'akea. I've been a board member for going on, I think, five years now. I'm also a landscape architect and planner, and just wanted to express my support for the project and staff. I was asked more or less as helping to work on the EA for the vision and goals of La'akea as we move and grow our project and our development. And you know, I just wanted to say that as a nonprofit organization, what we're trying to do is establish some housing within the parameters of our lease on this property for our participants and for low-income persons within the community. It's not a development as a developer to make money. It's really to stick with the intention of having an ag community for the people within the area with...for our participants who, in reality, are a very vulnerable segment of the community, of the population, who don't always have a fair safe place to live where they can be themselves. And this would provide that for them, as well as being part of our organization. I also am proud to say that, you know, I am familiar with this type of a organization as a nonprofit. My dad was the executive director of Ka Lima O Maui for 30 years, and so I'm familiar with nonprofits and this segment of the community, and I'm proud to be a part of it and support it, and support a good organization that I am proud to say is doing a good job. And, you know, we have hired Chris Hart & Partners to guide us as our land planner through the EA process, to make sure that we're following the proper steps and procedures. So we are in that draft process now and have submitted for comments to agency and the community, doing our part to keep everyone informed and aware of what we're doing as a nonprofit organization. And following the policies and rules and not...you know, being aware of what our lease is and our obligation there for our zoning and land use and what we're doing on the

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property and for the...our participants. So I just wanted to make those statements in support. And thank you for your time, and ask hopefully that you continue to support our organization and our staff and our participants. Thank you.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you, Mr. Woodburn. Members, any clarification needed for Mr. Woodburn regarding his comments? Having none. Thank you again once again, Mr. Woodburn, for giving us your thoughts this afternoon. We appreciate it.

MR. WOODBURN: Thank you.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you. Lesley, if you would please announce our next testifier.

MS. MILNER: Our next testifier is Susan Graham.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you. Welcome, Ms. Graham.

MS. GRAHAM: Hi. Thank you for taking our testimony, and I thank you, Chair and Councilmembers, for heading this Committee. I appreciate the opportunity to talk about La'akea. I am currently the board chair, but I'm not here to talk about that so much as from as a parent's perspective. I, for the last ten years, have been raising my special needs grandson, Zen (*phonetic*), who's now 20 and a participant at La'akea. Any parent with a special needs child has the same worry. What's going to happen when we're gone? And when I was first introduced to La'akea, I saw something that I hadn't seen in other agencies, and that was the ability to create friendships and family and ohana for Zen when I'm gone. And he has thrived, being a participant there. Before COVID when the store was open, he was learning how to make change for money. He was learning social skills by greeting people in the store. The community lunch program offered another opportunity for socialization and grace and courtesy around eating with other people. He loves being on the campus, and he really looks forward to when this COVID has passed that he can be back on the campus. But the most important thing is the friendships that he's gained there. It's hard for special needs people to make those friendships, and the mentors and the staff and the other participants are now part of his life, and that alleviates a great amount of worry and concern that I have, being his grandparent, for what happens later in his life. So that's my testimony around being a parent and what it means to me personally. When I first got involved with La'akea, I was so impressed with their master plan with the land the County has leased us, and the vision for affordable housing that includes adults with disabilities just inspired me, and I think that's why I've been on the board through some maybe tough moments, but I believe in what we're doing so strongly and think it is so important for the community to have this kind of housing. And I'm happy to answer any questions. I could go on about La'akea forever. It's one of my favorite subjects. But I'm conscious of the time that everyone has to spend today, and I thank you for allowing me to testify.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you, Ms. Graham. Members, any need to have a question for clarification at this time? Having none. Ms. Graham, again, we thank you for your thoughts this afternoon.

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MS. GRAHAM: Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Ms. Milner, if you would please, our next testifier.

MS. MILNER: Our next testifier is Jeff Jensen.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you.

MR. JENSEN: Aloha, Council. Thank you --

CHAIR HOKAMA: Hi.

MR. JENSEN: -- for putting us on today. Very good to see you all again. I was on a call last month with you. I'd really like to thank you again for your time and allowing us to be on these calls. It's very much appreciated and, you know, thank you on behalf of the golf industry. I'm testifying today again in support of Waiehu Golf Course, who is seeking an exemption from the proposed Maui County pesticide free bill. And I'm not going to take much of your time today on here because I do have some other resource experts who are going to be following me up here from the world of turf management, academia, and environmental sustainability, who are going to talk about some best management practices that they are doing at the golf facility, and we're also doing throughout the Hawaiian islands. But I do believe that this is something that, you know, the combined efforts of Todd Allen, who is a member of our Golf Course Superintendents Association of America and the Hawai'i Golf Course Superintendents Association as well. The efforts that he is putting in at the golf course, he has made tremendous strides over the past five years in putting together just an amazing product out there, just terrific turf conditions, and he's doing it in an environmentally sustainable manner right now. And again, allowing for your residents, your juniors, your seniors, and others throughout the Hawaiian islands to have a very affordable, you know, recreational activity, something that many other golf courses on the island are not able to, you know, provide due to their setup. So again, I would just ask that the Council again listen to some of our experts that we're going to have on the call a little bit later this afternoon here. And, you know, listen and take a look at some of the things that, again, I think we can do...we can manage this golf course, they can manage it in a sustainable manner that's going to protect your land, that's going to protect your water. We're going to be able to still use synthetic pesticides at times when needed, but I think we can make this work. And we can continue...you know, you folks can continue to provide an amazing product for your residents. Almost 90 percent of the play is from local residents in the Maui area there and the Hawaiian islands. So we just hope that you take a look at that. And, you know, with the COVID going on right now, there's not a lot of activities that folks can do. Golf is a great one with socially distanced safety and protocols in place. And again, you know, please take a look at our BMPs that we have put together specifically for the Hawaiian islands that address 12 different areas of golf course management. And I think you'll be very enlightened to what we have available there and what we can do, you know, to make this, you know, a win-win for both sides.

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CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you, Mr. Jensen. Yeah, we'll look forward to the information that you will share and provide to this Committee for us to review and familiarize ourselves with. So thank you for that.

MR. JENSEN: Thank you for your time.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Any questions for Mr. Jensen at this time, Members? Okay. Having none. Mr. Jensen, thank you very much. We'll have that appropriate discussion when we bring the item up. Thank you.

MR. JENSEN: Thank you.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Ms. Milner, our next testifier please.

MS. MILNER: Our next testifier is Brian Mercer.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay. One of you is Brian, I'm assuming.

MR. BRIAN MERCER: It's two of us. I'm Brian. This is my husband Chris. We volunteer over at La'akea and...well, we used to before COVID started. We taught a group fitness class over there. So we wanted to talk about how important it is to us and the community. We live across the street in Skill Village.

MR. CHRIS MERCER: Right.

MR. BRIAN MERCER: When we moved here about five years ago to Maui, we wanted to find somewhere to volunteer with, and so we ended up meeting Susan and volunteering our training over for the participants at La'akea. When we started there, it was just a small little farm stand, and we've seen it grow over the past few years, and we've seen the changes in participants who go there. We've seen the changes when we're training in their workouts and their functions and how they've grown over the years. And...

MR. CHRIS MERCER: Also, too, I think what it is is La'akea is such a great example of, you know, people's potential. And also I think when people see how wonderful when you go into this space and what they're doing, it really is magical, I mean it. It's an amazing thing to see and to experience. We feel very honored and grateful to be a part of it. So we just wanted to have our experience and be neighbors for this beautiful property. I just...we can't say anything more. We just...we're really grateful that we can be a part of it. So we just wanted to let you know how we feel about it there.

MR. BRIAN MERCER: And thank you for taking our testimony.

MR. CHRIS MERCER: Thank you for taking our testimony as well.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Well, we...the Committee thanks both of you for sharing your comments with us this afternoon, Brian and Chris. Members, any questions for the Mercers?

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We'd just like to thank you for your volunteering, also, your time to this organization to help our disadvantaged youth. So thank you so much for what you do to your...to give back to your community. Thank you so much for joining us today.

MR. BRIAN MERCER: Thank you.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Lesley, our next testifier please.

MS. MILNER: Our next testifier is Gina Rizzi.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you.

MS. RIZZI: Aloha.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Hi.

MS. RIZZI: Hi. Thank you for having me here today. I appreciate all of your time, and a few minutes with you to speak with you about Waiehu Golf Course and some of the best management practices employed in Hawai'i. So thank you. A little bit about myself, a quick introduction. I run and own a company called Radius Sports Group, and we are a sustainability consulting company in golf. And I've had the company for ten years. We do work with some of the other islands in Hawai'i as well, resort properties, public golf courses. We're constantly working to try to encourage sustainability efforts, including reducing water use, reducing pesticide use, protecting the environment, encouraging diversity and inclusion, all kinds of sustainability efforts on the golf courses throughout Hawai'i. Specifically in regards to today, I want to share the initiative we worked on with the 150 golf course superintendents in Hawai'i, which is the Hawai'i Best Management Practices Guide. I'm going to try to screen share here. Maybe if it's successful, I hope.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay. Can we assist them, Staff?

MS. RIZZI: Here we go.

MS. MILNER: We don't see it yet.

MS. RIZZI: No?

CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay.

MS. RIZZI: I am so sorry.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay. No problem, Gina. What we would request of you is if you could continue your comments and if you have something you could submit to us, we are happy to ensure that all Committee Members receive a copy of your attachment.

MS. RIZZI: Thank you. Okay. Yeah, so what I'll be sharing with you is the...just a quick

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brief presentation around the Hawai'i golf management best practice...Hawai'i Golf Best Management Practices, which there is a website dedicated to it, which is hawaiiigolfbmp.org. And that will be included in what I share with you. But what it details is the vision that Hawai'i Golf Course Superintendents have, which is to manage and maintain golf courses for both outdoor recreation and exercise, but at the same time, ensuring that they're ecologically functional and healthy green spaces so that they're honoring the land and the people and traditions of Hawai'i while contributing to the local economy. So it's very important to Hawai'i Golf Course Superintendents to be good environmental stewards. And our Hawai'i best management practices have 12 areas that they're focused on that are detailed in the guide that you'll see. And the one that is particularly relevant here is the integrated pest management...integrated pest management section, the IPM section. What this encourages golf course superintendents to do is to look to ways to reduce conventional pesticide use when feasible by employing other practices; control tactics, including mechanical practices and cultural practices like mowing practices through their irrigation use, through the turf that they choose. And in the case...in this golf course in particular, they did a major conversion to paspalum grass, which requires less inputs overall, both water and pesticide. So they...they are constantly striving to try to do the right thing and continuously improve, and only use conventional pesticides when absolutely necessary. So this...

CHAIR HOKAMA: Gina. Gina, I'm sorry to interrupt but, you know, you're close to your time maximum at this time, so if you could kind of wrap it up in a couple of sentence please --

MS. RIZZI: Sure.

CHAIR HOKAMA: -- so I can be fair to others. Thank you.

MS. RIZZI: Yeah. Okay. Couple of sentences. So you'll see when you look at the handbook that there was collaboration between the Hawai'i Department of Agriculture, the Hawai'i Department of Health, the Hawai'i Commission of Water Resources, and the University of Hawai'i in developing this handbook for guidance, as well as alignment with the aloha plus goals for the State of Hawai'i to reduce natural resource use and to manage natural resources appropriately in addition to the sustainable development goals. So you'll see all of that information in the document. And I just really encourage you to familiarize yourself with it if you would because it is something that golf courses are being proactive about in Hawai'i, and really care about what they're doing, they care about the environment. So I just wanted to share that with you. And I am available if you ever have any questions on this or any other matters in regards to the BMPs. I'm certainly available to you. But I will follow up with you and make sure that I share that. And I thank you for your time today.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you, Ms. Rizzi. We appreciate your comments and we look forward to your documentation that you'll be transmitting to us so that I can ensure all Committee Members receive it.

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MS. RIZZI: Okay.

CHAIR HOKAMA: I believe Ms. Rawlins-Fernandez has a clarification request of you. Ms. Rawlins-Fernandez?

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. Aloha, Ms. Rizzi. Mahalo for your testimony. I missed it. Did you let us know what company you're with or organization?

MS. RIZZI: Yes. So my company is called Radius Sports Group, and we are a sustainability consulting company that works with golf courses.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: And you work with our Waiehu Municipal Golf Course?

MS. RIZZI: Not directly, no. I work with the Hawai'i Golf Course Superintendents Association, so the association that represents the 150 golf course superintendents in Hawai'i.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo. And then your position on fertilizers is it's necessary?

MS. RIZZI: On pesticides...what we're relating to pesticides, you mean?

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh, okay.

MS. RIZZI: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Pesticides.

MS. RIZZI: Yeah. So my position is that it...it can be necessary to control certain diseases or pests. And my preference and my position is use it on a minimal basis, try to use and employ other methods first, which is following the principles of integrated pest management.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, thank you. So you don't have a position on fertilizers?

MS. RIZZI: Same...well, same for fertilizers, but I believe that this is in regards to pesticides. But I would say fertilizers, you know, if you can...I believe that if you can use organic, that's great. But again, it's the concept of sustainability is about continuous improvement and trying to get better and to always do better. So I'm a big believer and, you know, if they're working to do the right thing, it might not be something that can be achieved overnight.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: . . . *(inaudible)*. . . soil health.

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MS. RIZZI: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, thank you. Mahalo, Chair. Mahalo, Ms. Rizzi.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Yeah, thank you for that. Yeah, we'll be looking forward for that documents you transmit to us so we can actually look at the language that your organization is practicing at this time. That would really help this Committee out.

MS. RIZZI: . . . *(inaudible)*. . .

CHAIR HOKAMA: Are there any questions for clarification? Yes, Ms. Paltin?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Ms. Rizzi, for your testimony. I just was wondering the location of your practicing. Is it here in Maui?

MS. RIZZI: No. I'm in San Francisco.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Oh. Okay. So you work in San Francisco, but you're a part of the organization.

MS. RIZZI: I...yes, I work with the organization. So I'm a member of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America, but I was sourced or hired by the Hawai'i Golf Course Superintendents Association to help them develop their best management practices.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. Thank you for clearing that up for me.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay. And again, if Ms. Rizzi is available, Members, we can also consider her as a resource personnel since she does work for...my understanding is she does represent the aloha section or Hawai'i Superintendents of the 150 superintendents of Hawai'i. So again, Ms. Rizzi, time permitting, if you're able to continue to stay with us, we'd be happy to consider you as a resource personnel --

MS. RIZZI: Of course.

CHAIR HOKAMA: -- for the subject matter.

MS. RIZZI: Absolutely.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay. Thank you very much.

MS. RIZZI: Mahalo.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Next testifier please, Ms. Milner.

MS. MILNER: Next testifier is Raymond Cabebe.

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CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay. Thank you.

MR. CABEBE: Good afternoon.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Hi, Mr. Cabebe. Can hear and see you.

MR. CABEBE: You can see me. Okay, good. I can't see myself really. Good afternoon, Councilmembers. My name is Raymond Cabebe with Chris Hart & Partners. And we've been assisting La'akea by creating the farm village as required by their lease with the County. La'akea Village was submitted to the Department of Housing and Human Concerns to be processed as a HRS 201H project in order to help them get some relief from some of the requirements and fees. Just to give all of you a brief status on the project, it was submitted in January through DHH...through the Department of Housing and Human Concerns. The draft EA was published in May, and we had the comment period in June and July. And we did have a community meeting in...also in July. We'd actually planned it for April, but then, you know, due to circumstances we had to postpone it, and so we did it by Zoom meeting. And we're...at this point, we're preparing the final EA for submission to the OEQC. And eventually, this project is going to be coming to Council for...I don't know if it's going to be Affordable Housing Committee or the Planning Sustainable Land Use Committee for review. In our dealings with La'akea Village, they have been nothing but professional, cooperative, and transparent with how their program is run. They have a great mission and from my understanding, they are one of the few programs on Maui that serve intellectually and developmentally disabled youth and adults. This item had...there was a letter that was attached to this item. And in regards to the allegations in that letter, I cannot speak to the, you know, the accusations of fraud and violations. But the few times that I have visited the site, I have observed their clients being treated with utmost respect and compassion. That concludes my testimony. Mahalo.

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: Can't hear you, Chair.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you. My error. Thank you, Mr. Cabebe, for your comments and your time this afternoon. Is there any questions for clarification, Members? Ms. Sugimura?

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: Nice seeing you, Raymond. I just wanted...I think I didn't hear you clearly, but did you say they're applying...they will be applying for a 201H project, is that what you said?

MR. CABEBE: Correct. Yes.

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Thank you.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay. Anyone else would like to ask a question to clarify at this time, Members? Having none. Mr. Cabebe, thank you very much for joining us this

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afternoon.

MR. CABEBE: Thank you.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you. Ms. Milner, is...do we have another testifier please?

MS. MILNER: Our next testifier is Joanne Hopper.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay. Thank you. Ms. Hopper, welcome.

MS. HOPPER: Thank you. Can you hear me?

CHAIR HOKAMA: Yes, we can.

MS. HOPPER: Okay, great. Yeah, I have a very different experience with La'akea. When my daughter, Hannah, is multiply disabled, and she's been there for about seven years. When she first started out, it was great. There were organic vegetables. There was organic food. There was no spraying allowed there. You know, I don't think there still is, but it was just a fantastic place for her. And with the change in management, we had some pretty disappointing changes, like, for example, serious lack of communication. A lot of the reports were either nonexistent or late. No one communicated with me regarding the changes around the COVID thing. So my daughter was taken to Mele House one time. Well, this was more than once, but they took her over there to get cleaned up after going swimming, and she was just yelled at, told she couldn't even enter the premises. Nobody told me that this was part of it. No one called me first or wrote me a letter and said, things have changed, and she can no longer use that house for cleaning up. When her aide Delia took her in, she had to clean the bathroom first, then she was constantly complaining about the filth in both the bathrooms, both on the campus and at Mele House. So that's one thing. And, you know, speaking about going from organic food to...at some point, they switched over to food pantry food, I was told. And then Hannah wasn't...she's on a special diet anyway because of her autism, then she was...we were informed that she wasn't even welcome to have any of that food, that we had to provide...which is fine, I don't mind that. But it went from being a really open wonderful organic experience to, you know, bad food and not welcome to it anyway. You know, so there was, at one point, a...there was a volunteer appreciation evening, and I've done a great deal of painting of signage for La'akea over the years. I mean, I can't tell you how much I used to love this place. And I was called and lied to so that I wouldn't show up and be able to speak to the board. They told me it was going to be switched to a different evening or canceled or a different location. So that was not right, that was not fair. There were a lot of lies told to my complaint letters to the State. You know, that was pretty easy to get out of. A lot of the other parents that are not willing to testify or write letters or sign their names, I see in public. I know we're acquaintances. I don't know them well, but we all have similar attitudes and feelings and experiences. We don't believe that the property and the whole environment is being used to the best advantage and good of the participants. We see things just not being taken as seriously. We're concerned somebody's going to get hurt. Hannah and Delia went in one morning, and there were

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homeless people sleeping in the barn. Things like that...between that and the dirt and no more gardening. Hannah used to water the plants and feed the animals, things like that. That's all gone. I know some of it probably has to do with COVID, but it just went from being a paradise for my daughter to being a place where I was really concerned about her safety and the cleanliness and the quality of everything for everyone there. You know, I...there are other issues that I concur with that I can't speak to directly, but that's my testimony and I really appreciate your time. And thank you for letting me speak. I appreciate it very much.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you, Ms. Hopper, for sharing your comment . . . *(audio interference)*. . . Committee this afternoon regarding your concerns and issues regarding the La'akea Village program. As I shared earlier, it's my intent to defer today because I really believe we need to...I need to give it the time it...I believe it deserves, to have people like you and others share their comments with the Committee. So I am planning to bring this item back at the very next Committee meeting swap, and allow those of you and others to speak on this item again. So thank you for your thoughts this afternoon.

MS. HOPPER: Thank you.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Members, any need for clarification with Ms. Hopper? Having none. Ms. Hopper...oh, I see Ms. Paltin. You have a question?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you. I just was...I didn't understand what you were saying. What is a Mele House?

MS. HOPPER: Oh. Mele House is a residential house that's right across the street from La'akea. There are people that live there, and they all have their aides and their...but there's a house manager, and she just monitors everything coming and going. And she came out and yelled at my daughter, Delia, and said no, you can't even come in here, you can't come in here, get out of here, you're not welcome here. You're specifically not welcome here, and completely unprofessional. Hannah was very upset. She cried for two days. You know, she doesn't...she's nonverbal, but she understands, really. She's incredibly intuitive and she gets it. She understands tone of voice and --

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: The other...

MS. HOPPER: -- Delia wasn't...was pretty upset as well that this place has been available to them just to go in and wash up after swimming so that Delia can bring Hannah home sweet and clean and all the salt off and sand off of her. So now Delia takes her to her own home to give her a bath and make sure that all the salt's off. She's not going to stop taking her swimming but that Mele House is just a place where they got cleaned up.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. And then one other clarification was --

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MS. HOPPER: Sure.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: -- is the timeline of all of this, was it concurrent with the coronavirus? Like was it like March?

MS. HOPPER: The...I don't remember the exact specific date of that particular event, but it was...it was concurrent with the coronavirus, yes. And what...you know, when everything was just starting to get bad, and people started testing, and everything started to change and masks and all this. But it really wasn't communicated to me that Hannah can't go to Mele House anymore, and I would've told Delia...or they should've told Delia, both of us, we could've all gone and had a meeting, and they could've said, things have changed, we can't do this anymore, but there was nothing. We...our . . . *(inaudible)*. . . got yelled at and...I mean, it was not good and very unprofessional. And, you know, I want to love La'akea, but it's just changed so much that it hurts, yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you. I'm sorry that she had that experience.

MS. HOPPER: Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Chair.

MS. HOPPER: Appreciate it.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay. Anyone has a question for Ms. Hopper? Ms. Sugimura?

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: Not really a question, but just thank you. This...I can tell this is hard for you to testify, so just wanted to --

MS. HOPPER: Yeah. It really is.

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: -- say thank you.

MS. HOPPER: Thank you.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay, Ms. Hopper. Again, we appreciate you making the time to join us this afternoon. Thank you for being here.

MS. HOPPER: Thank you. Thank you very much.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Ms. Milner, our next testifier please.

MS. MILNER: Our next testifier is Paul Texeira.

MR. TEXEIRA: Hello.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Hi.

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MR. TEXEIRA: Hi. I can read you a letter to you guys. Is that okay?

CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay. Of course.

MR. TEXEIRA: My name is Paul Texeira, and I was raised in foster care. All my life I wanted an ohana where no one gets left behind or forgotten from Lilo and Stitch. You have probably seen me in videos and newspapers and articles, talking about having an ohana at La'akea. I did have an ohana at La'akea, but no more. La'akea has changed. And they don't care about the clients anymore. They said they do, but they don't. They told me I didn't get to make my own decisions anymore. When I asked to change providers, they took me off the schedule and expected me to be alone . . . even do all my case. Manager said I should have a smooth transition. They didn't care about me at all. One time they left Ian outside after 7:00 p.m. with no dinner, and he peed on himself. I'm glad I'm no longer with La'akea and I have a good PA with Bayada. I'm glad Ian's not there anymore. I worry about my friends that are still there that are . . . *(inaudible)*. . . Sometimes they stay home for many days and don't go anywhere. I don't think they are safe. I want an investigation. Okay. . . . *(inaudible)*. . . Period.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Very good, Paul. Very good, Paul. Thank you very much for speaking with us this afternoon. That was wonderful. Thank you so much. Members, any questions for our testifier, Paul, this afternoon? Good job, Paul. Thank you so much for sharing your thoughts with us. Mahalo.

MR. TEXEIRA: Again, thank you.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Hey, good job. Good job. Ms. Milner, our next testifier please.

MS. MILNER: Our next testifier is Charlie Jennings.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay. Thank you.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay, go ahead. You can go ahead. Go ahead. You can talk.

MR. JENNINGS: Hello. Hello, everybody.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Hi. Yeah.

MR. JENNINGS: My name is Charlie Jennings. I live right across from La'akea house and I farm below La'akea farm.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay.

MR. JENNINGS: This . . . *(inaudible)*. . . about couple years ago I was going to sue them because they took the kid out, they belong in the program because I used to take care of Paul. He was living with me for four years, I believe. And so...and I watched them

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all the time, which was this kid. The people, the workers, they no take care. They like . . . kids, they come, they sit down, no say nothing, then go sleep. They know...that is very bad. This program is very, very scam in my opinion because even the farm, they no more farm, but they can say they farm go sell stuff. They go buy stuff from different farmer, and they resell them for make they look good for their farm, but they no farm at all. So two years ago I was going to sue them, but what happened...but this kid fall in the . . . *(inaudible)*. . . that's a kid that belong to the program. This is very hurt me because what I see this kid is it's no good. Very bad. So even my tears, they never see them, I cry, you know, because I love this kid, these people. You know, that's why the program there, for handicap people. It's not a people they can...like this boy, Ian, I don't know I heard he saying got to change diaper, Paul he got to cook, you know, like I say, live with me for four years. You know, I take care him and I watch the other kid too, you know. Because I live right across from their house, you know. Like I said...like I said, this program there's couple people...it's a scam for make, you know, they work for themselves and not for the kid. Period, not for the kid. That is very bad. So don't go . . . *(inaudible)*. . . I...you know, it's broken my heart to see this kind kid. Even the other people, couple times about three years ago or four years ago, and one this...I think it was a Filipino, Japanese boy. He like come, go walk outside and they send him inside. They say no, you got to go in the house. About two years ago or last year, I forget already because I get mad at this thing. So anyway, I hope you guys can look at this program . . . *(inaudible)*. . . wasting money. Keep the money on the right place where get use for the kid, like this kid. Right now they get people, get kid, they change their clothes, you know, it's not...this boy over here . . . *(inaudible)*. . . that's like Paul and . . . *(inaudible)*. . . really, really need the program. You know, it's not the other people that come around. Just like it's shibai because they treat the kid, the way I look, it's not fair for them. When the boss come, fast they make, you know. They start...aw, man. It's broke my heart this kind people. Anyway.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Mahalo. Yeah. We understand, John [*sic throughout*]. John, any last thought you'd like share with us this afternoon?

MR. JENNINGS: I no can hear. I'm deaf so I no can hear.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Yeah, we appreciate your time, John, for you to share your thoughts with us, yeah, this afternoon. I know it's difficult to express yourself, but we thank you for speaking up and to us this afternoon, John. Thank you.

MR. JENNINGS: All right. Thank you for your guys' time. Thank you.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Members, any questions for John [*sic*] this afternoon, Members? Okay. Mahalo, John. We thank you for joining us, yeah. Mahalo.

MR. JENNINGS: All right.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Ms. Milner, anyone else would like to share their thoughts with us?

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MS. MILNER: Andrea, would you like to testify as well?

MR. JENNINGS: What they said?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: You got to say something.

ANDREA: Oh. Not right now. I think Charlie and Paul have expressed enough for today.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Charlie and Paul. Okay, great. Thank you for clarifying that. So yeah, it was Charlie and Paul that testified earlier. Okay. Thank you, Andrea, for assisting them this afternoon. We appreciate it. Anyone else, Ms. Milner?

MR. JENNINGS: Thank you.

MS. MILNER: Chair, we have no else signed up to testify. If you're here to testify, please unmute yourself and give your testimony now. Chair, we have no more testifiers.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay. Members, with no objections, we'll close public testimony for this afternoon, as well as receiving all written testimony that has been submitted to us per the agenda items, with no objections.

COUNCILMEMBERS VOICED NO OBJECTIONS

CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay. Thank you, Members. So ordered. We'll close the public testimony for today.

. . .END OF PUBLIC TESTIMONY. . .

ITEM HFC-74: LA'AKEA VILLAGE (PAIA) (CC 20-483)

CHAIR HOKAMA: So with no objection, Members, as I've indicated, the Chair would like to defer HFC-74, La'akea Village, with no objections.

COUNCILMEMBERS VOICED NO OBJECTIONS

ACTION: DEFER PENDING FURTHER DISCUSSION.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay. Thank you. That item is deferred, and your Chair will reschedule that for the very next Committee meeting.

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ITEM HFC-31: ELECTION BY MAIL SYSTEM (MISC)

CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay. We are going to take up, at this point, HFC-31; and then we'll hit the Turf Management and Waiehu Golf Course. So at this time, I'd like to ask if our Clerk, Ms. Kaohu, is available please at this time. Ms. Kaohu?

MS. KAOHU: Hi. Oh, hold on. Sorry.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Hey, okay. We can see you.

MS. KAOHU: Good afternoon. Good afternoon. And I have Deputy James with me too.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay. So, yeah, thank you for joining us, Madam Clerk, for this item, Item 31. Basically the Committee is just interested in your status regarding the primary. And if you could just share anything for our community, as well as our voters, any comments you can have as regards to the General Election voter deadlines that people need to be aware of, if we have additional drop off box locations, we just would appreciate if you could give us a status between you and Mr. Krueger. So thank you for joining us, both of you, this afternoon.

MS. KAOHU: Thank you, Chair. And thank you for this opportunity. I'm going to start with some data that James has collected from the Primary. But I do want to jump to the punch and make an announcement that today our ballots are going out in the mail from Oahu's United States Postal Service processing center. So we're in it, and this is day 27 and counting down. So James, are you there?

MR. KRUEGER: Yes.

MS. KAOHU: Okay.

MR. KRUEGER: So just a brief recap for our Primary Election. You know, so during a Primary Election, a total of 91,841 mail ballots were mailed out to registered voters in the County of Maui. Of those, we received back 43,257, and that's receiving mail ballots, you know, either by the via post office or, you know, by drop box. And then we also...there was also 697 ballots cast at voter server centers. So that's inclusive of individuals who either received mail ballots but elected to vote at the voter server center anyway, or new people who registered to vote at the voter server center and then did our same day registration and voting process.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay. So basically, went...things went quite smoothly then, Mr. Krueger, from the Clerk's Office perspective.

MR. KRUEGER: Yes. I would say so. You know, that was our first time ever for our State to, you know, do a primarily by mail election and, you know, all things considered, I thought it was a...it went like a...it went a very smooth process. You know, I think...we're excited that, you know, we had a bump up in turnout, and we think that mail certainly contributed to that process. Yeah. And then I would defer to Kathy for

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further comment.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay. Any unique regional challenges, whether it was the East Maui or Moloka'i, Lana'i precincts? Any geographical or transportation concerns that was unique for this trial county? Ms. Madam Clerk, or Mr. Deputy? Everything went well regarding your arrangements, coordination, regarding ballot box pick-ups? Any issues with collections or anything else?

MS. KAOHU: We had a little bit of challenge with Hana. The ballots weren't in danger or anything like that. It was more of a handoff...a discrepancy in handing off the ballots collected from Hana at the halfway point of the Keanae area. And so we had to...that delayed the pick up a little bit until the two parties were able to connect. But the communication in that area, as far as the signals by cell phone, are spotty to begin with.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Yes.

MS. KAOHU: So that was a little bit of a challenge, but we ended up making contact with all the parties, and it worked out okay in the end. And it didn't hold up the release of any results because Oahu was still processing their ballots.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay. Great. And my last question, and then I'll turn it over to the Committee, is there anything you need to share with us in regards to adjustments for COVID safety measures that you would like to share with the community at this time?

MS. KAOHU: I don't know if we'll be making adjustments from what we did in the Primary. But we certainly aren't going to relax our protocols. The numbers are lower for Maui and Moloka'i and Lana'i, but we're not going to take that as a sign to not require masks or sanitizing. We do have a special area set up for voters who cannot wear a mask or do not want to wear a mask so that they're not going through the whole voter service center area, but they have a designated area to be able to still vote or do their business at the voter service center. And we also do provide masks for anybody who shows up and forgot their mask.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay. Thank you for sharing those comments. I appreciate it very much. Okay, Members, one question and one follow up if needed on this item. Again, I think Clerks has done a very outstanding job for us in the Primary, so I wanted to tell both of you and to your staff and the volunteers --

MS. KAOHU: Yes.

CHAIR HOKAMA: -- thank you very much for ensuring that Maui County participates in the manner that we all would like it to be. So thank you for your good work. Ms. Sugimura, you have any question at this time?

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah. Thank you. I know that during the Primary there was a time when people could not...not people...we could not come to the 8th floor. So do

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you have that date designated where Riki and I will have to find other places to...or what is the time schedule and times?

MS. KAOHU: Thank you for reminding me about that. I do need to send out a notice. We will begin processing ballots on October 24, and that's a Saturday. And that'll be conducted during the daytime, and then it'll run every night the following week, Monday through Friday, from 4:30 to 9:00, and then again on the next Saturday at the 31st. And then Sundays we're not processing, but September 2nd [sic], Monday, we will, and then of course, the Election Day on the 3rd.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay.

MS. KAOHU: Or November.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Yeah. It's November. It's November.

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: So Kathy --

CHAIR HOKAMA: Yes, Ms. Sugimura.

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: -- just clarification then. I think the last time during Primary we couldn't come to this floor 3:00 during Monday through Friday, or 3:00 was the latest we could be here, or did you want us not to come to this floor?

MS. KAOHU: We can push it back a little to...I'm going to say 4:00 if you need to be there for your work, if that helps.

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: So I think what my office will do...and I don't know what Riki will do, but my office, we won't come here just so that you have, you know, the free...freedom to do what you need to do because this is an important time for you. So out of respect for your office, I can do that. I just got to move my binders back to Kula, but it's possible.

MS. KAOHU: Oh, I see. Okay. Thank you. And if Members need...

CHAIR HOKAMA: Just work it out with the Chair, and the Chair and you put out a joint memo as far as protocols that you wish to have in place by the dates and times for the purposes of the General. That would be fine. I think that would be the best way. Yeah, it's not a committee item. This is a Council item. So we will let you and the Chair deal with it for us.

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh.

MS. KAOHU: Thank you.

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you.

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CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay. Thank you. Ms. Kama, any questions at this time?

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Yes. Thank you, Chair. So Kathy, you know, you said that 91,000 ballots went out during Primary, and about 43,000 came back. I assume that they were voters...and then 600 were brought in from the ballot box. So the difference between those that voted and the amount of ballots you took out is something like maybe 46 or 7,000 other ballots. So did you get any ballots back due to whatever...no one at that address, undeliverable or whatever...whatevers?

MS. KAOHU: We did get quite a few of those back. And Federal law prohibits us from forwarding them through the mail system. So a number of those envelopes, if there are change of addresses with the post office, they are instructed to return that mail to us, but they will put their little tag on it with the forwarding address. And then what our process is is to reach out to the voter and try and get them to verify their address or acknowledge themselves. And then once we can have them fill out an updated voter registration form reflecting that new address, then we can get them in the system at that new address and get the ballot streamlined to the voter.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: And then for the ballots that actually don't come back, I mean, there's an assumption that they decided not to vote or maybe that person doesn't exist anymore or whatever. But do you ever...so do you just keep sending out those 91,000 ballots again for the General?

MS. KAOHU: Well, typically between the Primary and the General, we've made notations for those questionable addresses or the do not forward addresses so that they're not going to be returned, they're not going to be going out during the General. And so, yeah, we'll eliminate that. And hopefully if voters recognize that they want to vote but they haven't gotten their ballots, if they call us, we'll be able to identify whether they're part of that group that got tagged as questionable addresses.

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

CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay. Thank you very much, Ms. Kama. Ms. King, any questions if you'd like to ask Clerks.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Kathy, for being here. I guess my only question is, are we expecting, and have we had any problems with our post office system here in Maui? Has there been any, you know, what's been happening across the country where sorting machines are being taken out and other funny business was ordered by the top, the Feds? Have we had any of that happening in our post office, and are we...do we anticipate any problems with the mail in voting for...from any of that...those potential actions?

MS. KAOHU: We haven't...or Chair?

CHAIR HOKAMA: Madam Clerk?

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MS. KAOHU: Okay. Thank you. We haven't had any of that happening here. And knock on wood, the postal service were in contact with our liaison on Oahu on a daily basis, and they're as dedicated to this election process as we are as far as our local postal service and our carriers. And yeah, it's just a day-to-day basis of watching what's going on on the mainland and seeing if it has been translate over to Hawai'i.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay. Well, I was hoping...I know our postal carriers are very dedicated and, you know, like the folks in our Kihei Post Office are great. I just don't know if there's anything coming down from up above that's, you know, the playing with the schedules, and mandating that they leave at a certain time even if their trucks are empty, and all that stuff that we've been hearing about. But there was a push from some groups at one point to just ask people not to mail things unnecessarily in case that affects, you know, the postal service. But I haven't seen anything so far, so it's good if you haven't, and that you're keeping your eye out. You'll let us know if...and let the public know if something's happening that's slowing down the mail.

MS. KAOHU: Yeah. Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay. That's my only concern. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you, Ms. King. I'd like to go to Mr. Molina at this time, and ask if he had a question he'd like to ask.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Yeah. Thank you, Chair. Just one question. Madam Clerk. You know, you mentioned about people who don't want to wear a mask and you've set aside a place for them to vote. So you don't have to give...the person doesn't have to give you a reason, right, or do...so --

MS. KAOHU: No.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: -- for medical reasons. So I can just go up to you and tell you I don't want to wear a mask, but I do want to vote, and you provide the accommodation?

MS. KAOHU: Yeah. We don't...we're not going to turn around...turn away anybody from voting, for sure. That's a given.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Oh. Okay.

MS. KAOHU: So we're making the accommodations on our end to prevent that from happening, and still respecting the whole mask or the people's choice not to wear a mask.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Yeah. I'm just wondering in the event, say, starting November the State does a...mandates mask for outside, you know, like they do in some other states. So of course, it could change, but highly unlikely, but okay. I was just curious

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about that. Thank you. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Great question, Mr. Molina. Thank you for asking that. So just one quick follow up because I think this is something Ms. Paltin and I are kind of concerned about, Madam Clerk, Deputy Clerk. For those that don't...choose not to wear a mask, is there then another reporting mechanism in case we need to do a tracing on this person that may be contagious and spreading the disease? Do we have some kind of tracing protocol in place for those that choose not to be safe?

MS. KAOHU: I don't have, or am aware of any of that on the State level, and we don't have that in the County level.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay.

MS. KAOHU: We had a...we had a conversation among Staff, how far do we go with our voters? And there was like even concern whether we take temperatures at the door. We were able to incorporate that where we were taking temperatures at the door. Luckily, a lot of this protocol has already been instilled in individuals from banks and financial institutions to shopping centers, and so there is an expectation. So when we're talking about voting, it's a little bit different. It's kind of not optional whether we turn somebody away or not, so.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Yeah. Well...and again, you know, I hope...and like . . . *(inaudible)*. . . says, we also looking out for the welfare of our volunteers and our employees and staff that is...will be confronting, yeah, this unique situations of potentially being in a contagious environment. So we're also concerned about your safety, and the Deputy's safety, and your volunteer safety as well. So we have a concern about the tracing component. But thank you for that. Ms. Paltin, any question you'd like to ask?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. Aloha, Kathy and James. Good to see you guys. My question was, was there ever plans for a voter service center for West Maui or East Maui coming through for this General Election? And when do those start, the voter centers, service centers?

MS. KAOHU: No. There were attempts to do...if anything, do something in East Maui. But the staffing for the period of the voter service being required to be open was difficult to secure. And so we're just reserving that for the next election, and being prepared maybe to do that at the next election year. So for --

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay.

MS. KAOHU: -- East Maui, we'll again encourage the use of the postal service and the drop boxes, the drop box that is located at the Hana Fire Station.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And you were going to release a date at which we should more so utilize the drop box than the post office, like you know, to eliminate the confusion of folks who think oh, as long as I get it in the post office box November 3rd, 7:00 p.m.

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I'm good, but that's not true, right?

MS. KAOHU: Yeah. Voters need to...if using mailboxes or the post office, they need to be aware of the pickup dates, and that only really comes into play if they're dropping their ballots on September [sic] 3rd posted 7:00 p.m.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: November. November 3rd.

MS. KAOHU: November. I just told you September, sorry. November 3rd. The closer we get to November 3rd, the more voters will need to pull away from the postal service and shift to using the drop boxes.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And when did you say the service center was going to open? Sorry, I know I asked you plenty times, but I keep forgetting.

MS. KAOHU: On Tuesday, October 20th.

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

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank...excuse me. Thank you, Ms. Paltin. Ms. Rawlins-Fernandez, we happy to hear your questions.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. So the voter service centers open October 20th.

MS. KAOHU: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: People should drop their ballots in the mail by October 7 [sic], if not use a drop box or take it to the Clerk's Office or a voter service center. And when is the last date people should anticipate receiving their ballots by, and if they don't receive it by this date they should expect not to receive their ballots? Because I know people are waiting for their ballots all the way up until the day before elections, and they had no idea that...they were still waiting, and they weren't taking any other action. So I think that date should also be publicized. If you don't get your ballot by this date, you're not getting it, so go to a voter service center or to the Clerk's Office.

MS. KAOHU: I wouldn't go as far as saying you're not getting it because there were some cases that I received calls, and then three days after the concern was mentioned, I got the call that the voter received their ballot. And I don't...I'm not familiar with what's going on during the transit, but definitely, we marked October 16th as a date to contact our office if you haven't received a ballot. But at the same time, voters don't have to wait until the 16th. They can call us and double check, and we can easily go into the database or our returned address pile or, you know, we can try and pinpoint if it's an anomaly and the ballot is still floating around somewhere between Oahu and Maui, or if maybe we do have it in our office, or maybe there was something needed from the voter on their registration to advance them getting their ballots.

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COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. So October 16th is probably the date that I'll let people know that if they don't get it, like, contact the office and make plans. Because for those that live, you know, East Maui and, you know, even West Maui, if they're going to have to plan to drive into Wailuku to go to the voter service center to vote, then I think, you know, they're going to have to plan to do that maybe on one of the Saturdays if they work from Monday through Friday so that they can have an opportunity to get their vote counted. And so...my...for my follow-up question, for mail outs, are there plans to...so we talked a lot about mailing out the education for the Charter amendments? Is that also being mailed today, the Charter amendment education, we talked about putting money into the budget for the...for that mail out to happen? Is that also being mailed out simultaneously with the ballots?

MS. KAOHU: That's something that the Office of Council Services is handling, and I'm not sure if Lesley might be part of that group, and/or James, if you're aware or updated with when that's going out in the mail.

MR. KRUEGER: Chair?

CHAIR HOKAMA: Deputy Clerk?

MR. KRUEGER: No. Apologies. I'm unaware of any plans to mail out the...that educational piece. As far as the Office of the County Clerk, we're not planning to do anything on that subject. Thank you.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay. I'm happy to put in a Committee request on your behalf, Ms. Rawlins-Fernandez, if that is something you wish, to the Chair's office for a official response back to this Committee if you wish. And I can share that via Committee transmittal if you wish us to do it that way.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yeah. I would appreciate that, Chair, because I thought that...you know, this is something that the Council discussed and had planned for months and had anticipated it being mailed out simultaneously with the ballots. So I'm kind of, you know, surprised --

CHAIR HOKAMA: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: -- that it's...

CHAIR HOKAMA: Well, I could have one more meet before...on October 23rd, I believe, so. You know, I'll send out the request from Committee right away, Ms. Rawlins-Fernandez, and I'll post this item back for a status report, and we'll see if we can get again a response back from OCS or the Chair's office. Ms. Kaohu, anything else?

MS. KAOHU: No. I just wanted to add that for clarification that it wouldn't be something that we would include in the ballot package. We're not allowed to just add things like that. But I know the Chair's office and the Director were just having conversations

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about the postage and the mailing of the piece. I'm just not certain what date they're planning to get it out in.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay. Thank you for that comment, Madam Clerk. And so that is what the Chair will do in response to her request from Member Rawlins-Fernandez, and your Chair will forward that communication as quickly as I can.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay. Members, thank you...now we know. Then I guess with no objections, Members, I'd like to defer this item and bring it back next meeting for further status update, if you don't mind, with no objections, Members.

COUNCILMEMBERS VOICED NO OBJECTIONS

ACTION: DEFER PENDING FURTHER DISCUSSION.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay. We'll defer HFC-31. I'm going to take a quick five minute recess, Members, and get the resource person already for our next item regarding Waiehu Golf Course. So we'll be in recess for five minutes, and then we'll bring up the last items of the day. We are in recess. . . . *(gavel)* . . .

RECESS: 2:52 p.m.

RECONVENE: 2:57 p.m.

CHAIR HOKAMA: . . . *(gavel)* . . . Okay, welcome back, Members and our community, viewing public. This is the Council's Committee on Healthy Families and Communities of the 8th of October, 2020. We're going to take up now items HFC-14 and 13-13. With no objection, Members, it's...the Chair finds it kind of tied together in the overall umbrella discussion of turf management.

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

ITEM HFC-13(13): TURF MANAGEMENT AT COUNTY PARK PROPERTIES (RULE 7(B))

CHAIR HOKAMA: At this time, I'd like to ask our Parks Department, headed by our Director Karla Peters. Of course, we have our Superintendent Todd Allen, who made national publication notoriety by being in the American Superintendents . . . or Golf Course Association of America as in regards to our own Waiehu Golf Course, so we appreciate that very much. Ms. Peters, we are open to receiving your opening comments at this time.

MS. PETERS: Thank you, Chair. And thank you, Committee, for allowing us the opportunity

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today to present our turf management program for both the Waiehu Golf Course and County park sports fields. Here with me today we have our experts, we have Todd Allen, he's our Golf Course Superintendent. We have Chris Kingsley, he's our Park Maintenance Superintendent. And we have Bill Kahalekai, and he's our Beautification Manager. So I'm going to turn you over to our team here and they're going to do two presentations. And we also have some resource partners who are willing to answer questions and provide some great input. So I'll turn it over to Todd, and he'll start his presentation. Thank you all.

MR. ALLEN: Good afternoon, Chair. Good afternoon, Council. How are you.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Good. Mr. Allen, thank you for joining us.

MR. ALLEN: Thank you.

CHAIR HOKAMA: You have your screen up for us? Okay.

MR. ALLEN: There you go. Is that working?

CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay, now we can see it there. Thank you.

MR. ALLEN: Okay, thank you. Welcome to Waiehu Municipal Golf Course Turf Management Program. This is one of our signature holes, number 6, right along the ocean. The goal of every turf grass manager is to provide a safe and playable surface that's aesthetically pleasing turf grass. Achieving the latter involves a reciprocal balance between soils, fertility, moisture, temperature, humidity, grass species, and mowing techniques, cultural practices, all in cooperation with Mother Nature. These aspects must be working in sync for turf grass to perform properly and be appealing in color. Well, one of the major things in the Hawai'i Golf Course BMP, and BMP programs across the nation, and any conscientious superintendent would be your irrigation management, right, and proven efficiency. So these are a few of the things that I've done over the last five-and-a-half years with our staff to get Waiehu Municipal Golf Course to where it's at currently. You know, in order to have healthy turf grass, you know, you must have a properly maintained irrigation system because it's the heart of your golf course. This is providing life to the soil, to the grass, and to the plants surrounding the facility. So we went through, we did a complete assessment of the irrigation system, the pump station, well pump, identified all the sprinkler heads, the pressure, the nozzle type that it has. We have greater than 1,400 sprinkler heads on Waiehu Municipal Golf Course. We went in and we installed a weather station, which gives us correct weather information on a 24-hour period, every single hour it uploads new information. And it's based on ET, which is a evapotranspiration, right; the evaporation, the loss to the environment, and then transpiration, which is the amount that the grass and the soil would possibly be using. I had to go in and change the entire program. Went in and changed all of the watering programs to incorporate deep and infrequent watering. So instead of watering everything every single night, we water every two days and alternate between the areas that we water. We installed and programmed a remote control device so that we can operate the irrigation system with

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our phone, which is improving time and efficiency for the employees that utilize it. We updated all that data in the computer, and then we created sprinkler head mapping within the Rainbird software. And we also use POGO pro-turf irrigation analysis, which I will go through in just a second. This is what it looks like in the morning first thing before golfers get out there and start playing. We're spot-checking areas that are showing signs of deficiency, or we're going through and just identifying that the sprinkler heads are operating correctly, the nozzles are working, et cetera, et cetera, et cetera, there's a bunch of different reasons. So I just wanted to show you this picture of what it would look like. And this is on our Rainbird computer, our irrigation computer. This is the map that I was speaking to earlier that we've gone through and painstakingly identified each individual sprinkler and the nozzle, making sure that the pressure is at 80 PSI, the rotation speed is correct, right? All of those lead to efficiency, irrigation efficiency, which reduces your watering, reduces the need to overwater. On the left-hand side, you have all of the programs that we've put into the computer. We utilize the top 12 for our normal irrigation practices, and then everything after that are special programs we created as far as cultural practices or aerification identifying sprinkler heads, any kind of fertilizing programs, anything special. Our irrigation system is currently 25 years old, and it's close to the end of its recommended lifespan. So we are having heads that are stopping the rotation and in constant need of repair. We are replacing nozzles on heads that are 25 years old that are still operating, and we're just replacing the nozzle to get as much life out of them as we can. But there will come a time when we'll need to think about replacing the irrigation system. The POGO is one of the things I was referring to earlier. This is the POGO ProTurf [sic] on the right-hand side of the screen. It is our visual insight to the golf course. So the map that you see in front of you, we've GPSed all of these locations. We went through and GPSed the entire golf course--greens, collars, approaches, fairways, tee boxes, roughs--and we can take this POGO, connects the Bluetooth through our phones, and on the end of the POGO there that you stick into the ground, there's four probes that are about two inches long, and that will record the data that you see here in front of you. Records moisture, EC, which is electroconductivity, it records the salinity index, and it records the ambient temperature of the location that you're taking it. Each one of those numbers on the green surface shows you where we actually inserted the POGO device. So this helps us. I can't stress enough that this is optimal turf grass performance, right? The golf course's optimal turf grass performance, it requires optimal, timely decisions. As Gina Rizzi was talking about earlier, through the Hawai'i Golf Course Best Management Practices and the Integrated Best Management Programs, Hawai'i Golf Course BMPs incorporate the Sustainability Hawai'i Initiative, which is ambitious goals to promote environmental, social, and economic sustainability for our state. We are committed to these goals, which are integrated within our handbook, and the golf course operations at Waiehu. The BMP, the best management practices, covers everything from archaeological awareness to wildlife protection. At Waiehu, because of the budget and the environmental awareness and being conscious of the product and our location, we utilize MLSN, which is known as minimum levels of sustainable nutrition. Where you might have the Agronomy Department, or the United States Golf Association, or any universities stating what the recommended usage of nitrogen is for the turf grass, we're sustaining Waiehu's turf grass at much lower levels. Last year, for instance, we

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applied less than two pounds of nitrogen on our greens, collars, approaches, and tees. On our fairways, it's mostly Bermuda grass, and Bermuda grass requires between 8 and 12 pounds of nitrogen annually. We applied less than five pounds of nitrogen on Waiehu Golf Course's fairways. And the roughs were at two. And common Bermuda grass, 328 Bermuda grass in the roughs, it's the same thing. It's requiring 8 to 12 pounds of nitrogen. We use both granular and foliar products, right. Granular is feeding the turf grass and the soils; foliar is much like being put on the IV. It's what the plant absorbs right off the bat, and it helps it fight off stresses. We use organic acids, amino acids, glycolic sugars, antioxidants, vitamins, hormones, micronized silicon, and we also use what's called VAM in the industry. It's vesicular arbuscular mycorrhiza, right? That's your fungi, and we use beneficial bacterias. Through some of the cultural practices that we do, whether it's verticutting aggressively or verticutting lightly, we're controlling army worms, tropical sod web worms, we're also reducing thatch levels, which help control diseases to some point. When the conditions are right, and when these practices can't be utilized or are not effective enough, that's when we do have to step in and use the lowest rate and the least dangerous pesticide to the environment. And we go from there, right? We're talking about 30 to 40 percent of an area being lost to insects or to disease damage, something the golfers would consider unfavorable. We do frequent mowing. We're mowing our turf grass at an eighth of an inch down to a tenth of an inch, right? That grass is under a lot of stress because that's what produces the desired ball roll that we love as golfers. We also roll them. And when we're rolling greens, we're doing quite a few things. We're smoothing out the turf, we're potentially crushing any bugs, insects, or caterpillars that are hiding in the turf canopy, and we're also helping to control dollar spots to some degree. If we didn't mow them and we just rolled them, we're rolling off the dew. The dew causes a lot of disease problems early in the morning. Aeration like normal are done two to five times a year. We utilize a aeration machine, which is called Air2G2. It inserts probes into the ground at 6 and 12 inches, and it pumps solely oxygen into the soil base, right, to provide healthy oxygen and gas exchange, which is beneficial to our microorganisms, all of our fungi, our bacterias that we were speaking about earlier. We do traditional aerations where you pull a plug or you use a solid tine to just poke a hole. We also use Shockwave and Rotoknife, both of those are linear aerification. There's several benefits to those: one of them being that it's not quite as disruptive as normal aeration; another one, second one being that as this device is aerifying the soil in a linear direction, it's exchanging your beneficial bacterias and your fungi throughout that soil colony. And whatever it does, you're utilizing the machine. So you're creating a more diverse and broad based population and colonies within your soil system. Is this the world's record goosegrass plant? I'm not sure, but it's pretty darn close. This goosegrass plant was pulled off of number 8 tee box. And number 8 tee box was just renovated prior, and was very soft and healthy turf. This was...this goosegrass was pulled out in the middle of February this year. This plant span is 61 inches, right...61 inches, a goosegrass plant. And that was in healthy, uncompacted soils with a normal, healthy watering schedule, and it's right on the ocean. So it's taking intense salt, breeze, and blasts and splash...sea water splashing on it from the ocean. So this is pretty intense. This is what Waiehu is facing, is this kind of plant. And it's pretty devastating when it comes to being all over the entire golf course. No one wants this in their yard. No one wants this on their

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park fields or football fields or anything because it takes over, right? Turf grass utilizes energy different. Weeds, on the other hand, through the process of photosynthesis, they're using most of their energy to reproduce seeds because that's their goal, is to reproduce to spread and take over all of the area around them. Whether it's healthy, uncompacted soils or compacted water-logged soils, they still grow. This thing is kind of slow. Sorry, this thing is kind of slow. So goosegrass is our number one enemy on the golf course, and it was identified as such in the USGA reports for the last, I don't know, 20 years. But more recently, in the USGA report from August 2019, Larry Gilhuly, who is the agronomist for the United States Golf Association, stated Waiehu putting greens were some of the most weed infested greens visited on a regular basis in the western United States. Now, due to the change in grass type to Seastar seashore paspalum, we have some of the best greens he has seen. The challenges continue though, because over the last 30 years or more, this weed has been contributing to a seed bank in Waiehu soils. So if you look at that plant that I'm holding in my hand on the 17 fairway, I just pulled that out four weeks ago prior to an application. Look how big that is. That is growing on a fairway that is mowed at a half inch, a half inch height of cut. But it's intermingling underneath and inside of the 328 Bermuda that we have on the fairways. So it...what I'm...I guess what I'm trying to say is that it behooves us to stay diligent on a preemergent program. Anytime...if we want to be successful at Waiehu, we need to continue using preemergence to keep these weeds from emerging all over the golf course because the seeds are existing all over the golf course. Not only are they spread by the plant via wind, they're transported by birds, they're transported on turf equipment, on my mower's tires, through my mower's reels and decks, on golfers' shoes, on golf carts, you name it, this seed gets moved and is mobile all over the place. And this is just one of the types of weeds that we currently face when we're trying to produce healthy, sustainable turf grass. The golf course's quality and playability is directly related to the use of its facilities, its popularity, which we all know that increases our bottom line, our revenue, correct? With everything that we do for our employees and our residents, human safety and the protection of our native environment is the number one concern. This is exactly why Hawai'i Golf Course best management practices were published, so that we can make the public aware of what it is that I have been doing at every golf course that I've been at for the last 26 years. This is not something I take lightly. I don't just say, okay, today I'm going to spray pesticides. It's very few and far between, and it's an intent. I have an intended goal in mind, and I make sure that everyone that's around me is going to be safe. So for safe, effective pesticide usage and fertilizer, this is just a basic plan for Waiehu Golf Course. This is what I've utilized over the last four to five years since I've been there. And every year, there is a safer product, or a better product, or my soil reports, or my water reports change, right? So I can incorporate something new into my program as long as I can fit it into my budget and it's going to benefit my soils, it's going to benefit the turf grass, and it's going to benefit the community and the environment altogether. I use very low rates, right. If we look at greens and collars we're treating, yes, we're spraying them every two weeks, but it's very light fertilizer, like I talked about. It's like an IV. It's not even 500th of a pound of nitrogen. It's just a little kick-start to keep them growing. Along with that, it has all of those beneficial products that I talked about earlier, the humic acids, the fulvic acids, so on and so forth, to help drive roots, to help condition for

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stress. Because I only have \$354,000 a year in agricultural supplies. \$354,000 a year of the \$1.9 million budget is spent on fertilizers, chemicals, sand--sand encompasses 100,000 of that, \$100,000 on sand--and then I have seeds, sprigs, mulch, all the other stuff that go along with agricultural supplies that we need to use, that's...all has to be done with \$354,000 a year. The product that we produced at Waiehu, from what it was to what is now, is a night and day comparison. And myself and the staff were doing that for \$189 an acre, right, \$189 an acre is what we're spending. I have a fiduciary responsibility to the County and to the constituents and taxpayers of Maui County to do the best job that I can, and be as safe as possible. So when you look at my herbicide applications...my herbicide applications, we are only doing a broadcast herbicide application two to three times over the summer months. The reason for that is because that's when the grass is most actively growing. In the wintertime, it would not be able to rebound and recover when we're trying to make it a more playable surface by removing the weeds consciously throughout the facility. So when you look at what I spray, I'm using 1.5 ounces...1.5 ounces per acre of land. And that is mixed into 30 to 45 gallons of water, with fertilizer, and with iron. Every time that we spray a herbicide, we're going to be spraying fertilizer because that promotes healthy growth of your Bermuda grass, or your paspalum, or whatever grass it is that you're trying to improve. And it also helps remove the weed a little bit quicker because it tricks the weed, right? The weed thinks that it's getting fertilizer, but here comes a little bit of pesticide along with it, and it'll take it in, where most of the time it might just have a hard waxy cuticle and it sluffs it off and then it's not going to do as good of a job. So 1.5 ounces of an acre for Pylex, four ounces an acre of Syncore, those are very low rates. Extremely low rates. And both of those products have a caution label. When we spot spray, we're not broadcasting pesticides all over the property. We're not broadcasting in the roughs, right? We don't spray 133 acres of rough, we're just using a 15-gallon sprayer tank, and we're mixing very little product into that, and it's precision application. All of these pieces of equipment that I'm taking about that we use are calibrated on a regular basis so we know exactly how much product they're spraying per 1,000 square feet or per acre. Same with the 15-gallon sprayer, we know exactly how much product it sprays every time we pull the trigger on the wand, and we're just targeting the weed in the spot spray application. So onto one of the most beneficial things that we're doing as well at Waiehu, we are planting Sunshine Vetiver grass along the ocean. And for two years now, we've been working on this project, and we will continue to work on this project as we propagate more plants and we improve the irrigation right along the shoreline. This is providing environmental and erosion protection, right? This grass is phenomenal at growing into a dense hedge, creating very deep dense, interlocking roots up to 12 to 14 feet deep in the first year. And that's much like having a 12-foot deep steel plate in the ground. It's used in over 120 countries throughout the world for the last 200 years. Vetiver thrives in tropical and subtropical climates, making it ideal to face Hawai'i's ever growing concerns when it comes to erosion. It thrives in the harshest of environments, and the most extreme soil conditions. It does not pose a risk of spreading, it's not an invasive plant. It's a non-fertile plant, so it's sterile. It can only be propagated by vegetative parts of the plant. Vetiver grass is used to remove nitrates and phosphates from contaminated water. It's used to reclaim soils. It's used in wastewater lagoons. It's used in landfills to control the leachate and toxins through its bioremediation ability. So when

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this hedge locks together properly, you create an economical bio-engineered alternative to steel and concrete that is environmentally friendly. So on to...oh, I'm almost done. Almost pau.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay.

MR. ALLEN: This is one of the more important things that I want to share with you, right. This slide here. It shows as of June 6th, the reporting date, that I have extremely healthy soils. With the use of synthetic fertilizers, with the use of organic fertilizers, and with the use of limited pesticides when needed, right? You're looking at your total bacteria populations, you're looking at Encino bacteria, your total fungal populations, your fungal to bacteria ratios, your phalanges or amoebas, I have the majority of them in excellent range, and I have three that are in danger, undesirable range. The bacteria feeding nematodes, there currently isn't any known available bacteria feeding nematodes that can be imported into Hawai'i or Maui because the HODA importation laws. We would need to try to source it locally on the island, which is going to exist in a lot of testing. The ciliates and oomycetes that's contributing to waterlogged soils and contributes to dollar spots, and that's addressed through aeration, and the use of the Air2G2, and then trying to continually improve the populations of my bacteria and my fungi. When...I'm sorry. When I sent this sample in and we started communicating through the labs, her response, her first response on the email back to me was, this was the best turf grass sample that she had ever received as far as soil conditions, right? Healthy soil. That's one of the big claims, is that we're killing the soil. I'm showing you here through the use of all these products on the left and a traditional hybrid program with the use of what's needed to maintain a good golf course, that it is possible, and I do have healthy soils. Let's see. One of the things I did not remember to share with you was through the use of organic acid and stuff...so by using organic acids, amino acids, gluconic sugars, antioxidants, vitamins, hormones, natural fertilizers, plants are taking in sunlight as their energy source via photosynthesis, right? They're absorbing carbon dioxide, they're fixing that carbon into the soil. Grass roots are very important for carbon storage. Nineteen percent of the grass biomass is above ground, 71 percent of grass biomass is below ground...oh, I'm sorry, 81 percent is below ground. For a tree, the biomass, for instance, is 71 percent is above ground, and 29 percent is below ground. So grass is a much greater in density, and that's what helps filter out some of the pollutants that come through through your stormwater runoff, any of the fertilizers that we use. During this process, our grass is producing simpler sugars, proteins, and carbohydrates, which it then dumps out into the soil. I mean, this is really, really nutrient rich material. Why would it be doing that? Why would the grass plant dump that out into the soil? What, I got stupid plants? They don't know what they're doing? Why would your plant take all of that energy that it just made in its awesome little factory, and then dump it back into the soil? I mean, if you think about it, these are like the ingredients for chocolate cake. Simple sugars, proteins, carbohydrates. That's like brown sugar, eggs, and flour. It's a recipe for chocolate cake or chocolate chip cookies. In return of the grass plant dumping that out into the soil and fixing carbon into the soil, which is part of our climate change, our greenhouse gassing, right, it's fixing the carbon into the soil, the beneficial bacteria and fungi, they're feeding the grass plant what it needs from the

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soil that I have provided and inputted or that they have made, right? These bacteria, this grass, this bacteria, this fungi, they can't distinguish between organic or synthetic fertilizers. They don't know the difference because they're elemental nutrients, right, that's being provided. As long as you're using products that are low salt index products that don't burn and don't have a high potential to burn, that relationship, that synergistic relationship remains the same. So back to my last slide. Thank you for being patient with me. Air is everything to anything that lives. This is hole number 8 at Waiehu at one of its finest points. It fluctuates from this year to year, month to month, day to day. We can't maintain it at the most pristine levels at all the time. Why? Because Mother Nature is in charge. We are here to help her out in any way we can, and she's here to help us out. So where does the oxygen that you breathe come from? I mean, if you think about it, does everybody know where the oxygen comes from that you breathe? Are you aware that for every acre, every single acre of healthy turf grass, healthy functioning turf grass, it's taking in carbon dioxide, it's sequestering this carbon into its soil, and it produces enough oxygen for 64 people to live throughout the day. That's enough oxygen...oh, my mouse pointer keeps jumping back and forth. At Waiehu Golf Course, with 175 acres of healthy, functioning turf grass, that's enough oxygen for 11,200 people in a 24-hour period. This grass that I've been talking about, 19 percent above ground and et cetera, it's not emitting pesticide back into the air, not even in the smallest of quantities. Because it's utilizing that stuff, the fertilizer that we put out, the products that we sprayed on, it's utilizing that within its tissue and its roots. The plant is only providing safe, healthy, pure, breathable oxygen. Safe, healthy, pure, breathable oxygen for Waiehu and for all of us golfers to benefit from. I'm not knocking on trees. I love trees, and they have their purpose and I've always loved them. But one acre of trees, one entire acre of trees can only provide enough oxygen for 18 people annually. So I'd like to leave you with this. By having extremely strong and healthy well-functioning turf grass from a sustainable turf management program utilizing best management practices, utilizing integrative management practices, right, Waiehu provides an excellent physical wellness program, burning nearly 2,000 calories around. It provides mental clarity and wellness, it provides safety for our golfing community, and through the use of BMPs and integrative pest management, it provides a wildlife sanctuary that's environmentally friendly. At Waiehu, we have 175 acres of land, green space, that produces enough oxygen for 4,088,000 people every single year. Four million people a year can breathe fresh, healthy oxygen from Waiehu. Thank you.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you, Mr. Allen, for your presentation regarding your turf management at Waiehu. I'm going to ask Mr. Kinzle, Chris, as the Park Maintenance Supervisor, is there any additional comments that you would like to provide regarding turf management on the other park facilities, whether it's the ball fields, soccer fields, baseball?

MR. KINZLE: Yes, Chair. I've got a little presentation together here.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Are we doing HFC-13 now?

CHAIR HOKAMA: We're combining it, Ms. Paltin so that--

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COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Oh, okay.

CHAIR HOKAMA: -- the questions coming, so you can have a greater parameter to propose your concerns or questions if you wish after this.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay, thank you. Mr. Kinzle, yeah, if you would give us your parks...other park facilities perspective.

MR. KINZLE: Yeah, thank you, Chair, and Councilmembers. So our presentation isn't quite as in-depth as Todd's. A lot of the stuff Todd covered actually is also covered in our turf sports fields. So we do a lot of the same integration managements in how we manage our grass. You know, they kind of go hand in hand. What we've done to just kind of give you guys an idea of what our normal schedule is like is on our slides here. So our turf management program, actually we manage 107 acres out of our parks, 2,500 total developed acres. For the most part, our schedules are all the fields are the same. We have a few difference between some of our fields. So between our rectangle fields, which is our football, soccer, and then we have our diamond fields, which are baseball and softball, the only difference that we really have between these types of fields is when we have our off-season, we rebuild the mounds, leveling of the infields, cutting of the arcs and the running paths. So the schedule that you have there is our football off-season schedule. So this happens when we don't have anybody on the fields. Like Todd had mentioned, we don't spray herbicides in the wintertime because our grass can't handle it. So when we spray herbicide on the football or soccer fields, we have nobody out there playing...that's scheduled to be playing at any time. So they have time to...the plant has time to absorb it. So now, off-season, just go run down it real quick. So they herbicide, they fraze mow, they shockwave, they top dress, fertilize, and mow. These schedules are very important because quite a few of our fields are used up to 70 to 80 percent of the year. A few of these fields, the high-use fields are all of the Keopuolani fields, so that's baseball, softball, the football field at Keopuolani, that one is used about 75...all fields are 75 to 80 percent of the year are occupied. Papohaku softball field is another one. The War Memorial Little League field is in constant use. Lahaina Rec fields, they are scheduled usually about 75 percent, if not 80 percent of the time. So these maintenance schedules that we have provided, the Parks Department has...and hopefully the County will have some sense of pride. So some of the events that we host throughout the past years that we're proud of. We've had the senior softball state tournament, it's always a big hit with the seniors. We have our high school baseball state championships, the kids love to come play on our grass fields. We have our high school football playoff games that come over...every other year they come over. The picture you see now was last year's renovation after our off-season reno. A lot of times we get comments when we have tournaments coming. I know when I was a park caretaker way back in the day, we had guys that came for the senior softball or came over for Little League games and they would just be amazed at how well-maintained our fields are. They would be like, I wish we had these fields. How do you guys do this? How do you guys maintain all

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these things? You know, and that's the sense of pride that, you know, as a Parks Department, and then our beautifications team, and also our park caretakers out there take to heart. Another example that I'd like to share that kind of shocked me a little bit. Last year's high school football playoff game, the Oceanic team came over. They were set up to do their cameras. They came in and looked at our field, and they did not believe that our field was grass turf. They stood up there and they said, no way, that is not grass. That is artificial. There's no way you guys can do that. We actually had to take them down there and have them walk on the field for them to realize that it was actually grass. I believe, and I think all of my team also too, Bill and all his staff, we believe we have the best grass football field in the State of Hawai'i right now...and probably close to being one of the best baseball fields. Some of the other benefits that we as a Department like to boast a little bit about having a healthy and well-maintained grass turf is this reduces related sports injuries. This includes head injuries, ankles, and knees. Also, there are many environmental benefits to having healthy and well-maintained turf grass, which Todd had mentioned earlier about the air quality. The grass takes in and creates oxygen for us. Also, the grass is actually pollutant filter. It also helps with our storm management system. An average soccer field can absorb...sorry, I got to look at my number, I want to make sure I give you the right number here. Well, the average soccer field can absorb up to 50,000 gallons of water during a rainstorm. So I look at it as Keopuolani with our baseball fields, and our soccer fields, and our football fields, we absorb, and we take in all that water instead of just dropping it into the ocean or running it through. Also too, with the turf grass, a healthy turf grass, it actually lowers the environmental cooling. So on an average day, if you go out and you walk on asphalt, and then you walk on a nice, well-maintained grass field, it's going to be 30 degrees cooler on top of that grass field versus that asphalt. And then if you're on a field that is not well-maintained, it is ugly and dirty, it's 20 degrees cooler than that field. But also, that being said, a nice, green sports field or just any green space promotes wellness and reduces stress, which I think right now, in all these times, we all need to have some sort of stress relief. So in the close, I would like to thank you guys for your time, and encourage you to consider about how important a well-maintained sports field is for our community. Thank you.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you, Mr. Kinzle, for your portion. To be fair, I want to ask Bill, Mr. Kahalekai, you're a beautification superintendent or manager. I would ask if you would like to say anything under your jurisdiction or your experience for parks and turf grass?

MR. KAHALEKAI: We just take pride in our fields on Maui. And basically, like Todd and Chris had to say, we maintain a strict program.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay. Yeah, I appreciate you being present for the Committee Members this afternoon. And so again, we appreciate you bringing us...so the Members need, you know, additional...if you haven't gotten all the documents that they were referring to, Members, please make the Committee Staff aware of it. We'll make sure you get those documents for your review, for your future needs as well.

MR. ALLEN: Chair Hokama --

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CHAIR HOKAMA: Yes.

MR. ALLEN: -- one thing, we do have Gina Rizzi on with Arcus that has the BMPs if you wanted to hear more of her presentation. We also have Dr. Jim Brosnan, and we have Dr. Joe DeFrank with the UH of Manoa. And they're all part of our presentation and willing to speak on anything that you have questions about.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Oh, wow. Well, yeah. We thank you very much. Okay, we already heard from Ms. Rizzi, per se, through the testimony, and we are awaiting her transmission of her document regarding the BMPs. So we happy to now, if they are available...excuse me, Members...to have Dr. Joe DeFrank or Dr. Jim Brosnan, to share their comments with us at this time. Why don't we hear from Dr. Jim Brosnan. My understanding, Doctor, you're the turf grass and research scientist at the University of Tennessee?

MR. BROSANAN: That's correct.

CHAIR HOKAMA: If you would--introducing yourself and sharing your thoughts with the Committee please.

MR. BROSANAN: Sure, I appreciate everybody's time this afternoon and allowing me to participate. You may wonder why someone from Tennessee is here participating in this session. My first job as a university professor was at the University of Hawai'i in Manoa in 2007. I was a turf grass extension specialist at UH, and worked closely with the turf grass industry at that time. And got to know not only Todd, but many other of the golf course superintendents and sports field managers across the state, and have a really good feel for the industry and the leadership that the industry has taken in trying to become more sustainable in what they do. Todd asked me to participate today to kind of speak to the science behind the presentations that you have seen this afternoon, and I'm happy to do that. As one who is a scientist, and is not only one who produces peer-reviewed scientific research, but also reviews peer-reviewed scientific research, this is something that's right in my area of interest and area of work. I provided Todd--and I think these documents have made their way to your Committee, and if not, I can send them to you--three peer-reviewed scientific journal articles that I think are relevant to the discussion. The first is a publication from 2020 that was produced by National Group of Scientists and published in the journal of Agriculture and Environmental Letters. And it outlines all of the environmental and societal benefits conferred by healthy turf grass, and for each of those benefits, gives you the peer-reviewed research to support that those benefits have been documented through thorough scientific practices. You've kind of heard about some of these in the presentations this morning, but they give you kind of a broad brushstroke picture of that. We have scientific data to show that optimally maintained turf grass improves air quality, it improves creativity in children, it improves cognitive skill in children. On golf courses specifically, we have a wildlife habitat for endangered species, we know that optimally maintained turf grass fixes carbon dioxide out of the atmosphere, improving our overall air quality. We have data to show that optimally maintained turf grass reduces stress, it reduces depression in people, which are now concerns more so

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than ever in the COVID era that we are all living in, and it lengthens life expectancy, specifically for participating in the game of golf. On the sports field then, and this was alluded to in Chris's presentation, my lab in...particularly at the University of Tennessee has published a paper in the Crop Science Journal, which I have provided to Todd, that outlines the safety implications of weeds on sports fields. That if we have a sports field--regardless of the sport that its used for, whether its football, whether it's soccer, whether it's baseball--we know that the presence of weeds on that surface increases the injury risk to the athlete. To explain this in real simple terms, when we have foot traffic on grass, which we've all seen, if we use a grass area, you can think about in between the hash marks of a football field or maybe in a park that's frequented on weekends, we lose turf cover, right? The turf wears away. And from that, we create an environment for weeds to come in, and they do not provide the benefits that turf does for cushioning that surface when someone was to fall on it, and that's where the increased injury risk comes from. And then the third paper that I provided to Todd is from the International Turf Grass Research Journal, and it provides an outline...or excuse me, it provides an overview of a seven-year study that was conducted at Bethpage State Park Golf Course in New York. And the objective of the study was to compare a conventional turf grass management program; an integrated pest management program, that we've heard a little bit about tonight from Ms. Rizzi; and then a complete organic program, and looking at that from a holistic perspective of what it did to the economics of the golf course, what it did to the environment, what it did to the quality of the surface, what it did to the impressions of the customer. And what that seven-year effort concluded is that what is being done at Waiehu was the optimal treatment, that an integrated pest management program was the optimal treatment of balancing environmental impact, reducing the labor needed to maintain the golf course, reducing the budget to a number that was sustainable for golf course management, and increasing the satisfaction of the golfers. And, you know, I'll close with, I hope, one of the things that the Committee has seen this afternoon, is that I think there's a lot of misconceptions about what's done in turf grass. And, you know, we've heard it in the presentations this afternoon that the intention of the turf grass manager is to spray as little as possible and as infrequently as possible. And this is even more so true in a County operation because I can imagine that one of the things that gets the most complaints in the County is when people are spraying, right? And if we are going to be using technology that is less effective, the reality is we'll have to do that more. And I know that Dr. DeFrank is going to speak to this here when I conclude. I think that the other thing that you can take away from what you saw in the presentations this afternoon is precision, right? That we have a lot of precision in what we do in turf grass management, and we want to spray as infrequently as possible and as little as possible to achieve the goals of the site. The term soil health was used not only in the testimony earlier, but in the comments that followed public testimony. And I'll remind everyone that the United States Department of Agriculture defines soil health as the ability of the soil to perform and function according to its potential in response to changes over time, be that changes from use or management. And if you think about that definition, that's where integrated pest management is needed. We have pathogens that can degrade turf grass quality that are soil borne pathogens, and we need technology to manage those pathogens in order to maintain optimal soil health. We think about the weed that

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Todd showed in goosegrass, a prolific seed producer. Those...that weed seed is in the soil. And if we want to maintain an optimally functioning soil, we need to target that pest, that goosegrass plant with timely applications. And I think that, you know, you should take note of the application rates that Todd shared with some of the practices that they're implementing at Waiehu. We're talking about applications of a synthetic pesticide in an ounce per acre diluted in 40 gallons of water. You know, if you think about that, if you took the cap off of a coke bottle and you filled that up with water, that's about how much product we're talking about. So think about taking that and putting it in 40 gallons of water, and then spreading that over a football field to estimate the size of an acre. The actual dose of what is being applied is quite low. So I've talked a lot, I'm going to pause here and let Joe DeFrank air his feedback.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay, Dr. Brosnan, we thank you for your comments from your specific field of acadamanian research for the University of Tennessee. And at this time, Committee, we'll let Dr. Joe DeFrank, who is from the University of Hawai'i Manoa, he's a professor there, to give us his comments regarding turf grass. Welcome, Dr. DeFrank.

MR. DEFRANK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. So just some background. I've been at the University of Hawai'i as a professional weed scientist for close to 37 years, and I've been working in most crops from taro to macadamia, to turf, to roadside vegetation. With regards to the turf grass operation on Maui, it seems like...I commend Todd and his staff for doing what looks to be, you know, the best possible job they can with the tools that they have. It looks like it's a premier course, and they take pride in it, and I think it shows. I don't know if all the turf grass on Maui is given the same luxury treatment, but I know on Oahu...on Oahu, it's not the same thing. We have a lot of different courses, I was just at a course today, West Loch, where I'm doing a demonstration with a spray man there, David. And I just asked him casually, I said, David, if you couldn't use any of your conventional herbicides that you have today and, you know, according to label instructions, what would happen to your golf course? And he didn't have to think too long. He said, within five years, it'll be a weed farm, and it'll be, you know, not very nice to look at, and not very nice to play on. And he told me he inherited that same weed farm when he first got there because the man who was the spray person took the mechanics job, he didn't do any spraying, the place was a mess. It took him ten years of using the products that he had, and according to labels, to regain that course to what looks to be a very nice course today, West Loch, if anybody knows about it. So when you're talking about, you know, using only organically approved products for your turf and roadside, which I'll cover in a second, I think you're going to be looking at some unintended consequences of degrading those sites. And over a five-year period, it could be, you know, something that you might not be very proud of. And then, once you turn that around, you're looking at ten years to restore it. So think about that. And number two, I know this is not talking about roadsides today, but I have what I feel is a fair amount of expertise on roadside management and establishing native plants on the roadsides. For the last eight years I've worked with a consulting firm, and provided the Department of Transportation with training. I've done two or three on Maui, so I know most of the crew, and I know most of the situations with regards to roadside maintenance. And it's a mixed bag of

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what they do...what they do right and what they do wrong. Everybody is generally trying to do the best job they can, but, you know, with management and engineers who are not agronomists telling them what to do, they get mixed messages, and it's hard for everybody to be consistent. But regardless of that, the materials that are available for organic farmers for weed control are basically burn down materials. You will be required to do more of that burn down story with your roadsides. And like Jim said, most of the complaints come from spraying. So if you're going to be using less effective materials, there's going to be more spraying, there's going to be more complaints. If you're thinking of using steam or hot water, that'll work. But if I had a choice between, you know, an accident that involves, you know, live steam and diluted Round Up, I'd take diluted Round Up any day of the week because steam doesn't wash off as easy as Round Up. So, you know, my comments may be seeming a little, you know, rash and uncouth but, you know, when I think of, you know, what the workers on the highways are exposed to in terms of an unsafe working condition...because it's in the road. And if your builder's through and they need to spend more time mowing, more time spraying less effective herbicides, then you're exposing them to a unsafe environment, work environment, and I wouldn't want that on my conscience. Because, you know, they have safe materials now. I think they're doing a good job. When you take that away, I think you'd be looking at unintended consequences that you may regret at some future date. So I hope that helps with your deliberations, and I will release my comments at this point unless somebody has any comments, any questions.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you, Dr. DeFrank, for your comments. Director Peters, is there anyone else you have under resource that you have...you wish to have share comment with the Committee? Because I'm ready to have the Committee ask their questions or give their comments.

MS. PETERS: Thank you, Chair. We...those were the three resources. We still have Gina on the line, Ms. Rizzi, in case you wanted to hear more from her. Thank you.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay. No, thank you very much. No, I'm going to, you know, the Members of the Committee went through a lot over the last hour of presentations, and so I'm sure they have their points they would like to bring up for clarification or discussion. I just want to say that this is what I got from your documents and whatnot, that the County made an investment for Waiehu and for Parks and Recs overall under turf management. And that one of the things in our investment was in how we dealing with addressing of pesticides and fertilizers is one. We finally came to terms with getting the right type of grass for the conditions of Waiehu, and we not so hard-headed, we sticking with hybrid Bermuda, Tiftons, that wasn't really working for us. Maybe that was the grass of the '60s and '70s, but not for the 2000s. And so we made investment in picking a better grass that fits our environment. We've picked a grass that takes less nitrogen requirements for fertilization. We've picked a grass that if it is grown healthy, is in itself a deterrent to weed growth because it'll choke out the potential of weeds to grow because of the healthiness of the turf grass. And so my question to our superintendent, Mr. Allen, I noticed on your chart you shared with the Committee some of the applications, trends, you talked about a fertilizer booster of 4-

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4-4 component of nitrogen, phosphates, and potash, is that one of your more regular levels of fertilization, the 4-4-4?

MR. ALLEN: That is one of my least regular, actually. I do that two times a year, and only when I aerify because of the smell that's associated with the fertilizer. The golfers complain if I use it more frequently.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay. No, no, and I just bring it up because again, you know, when we were in the FFA program, I bring that up because that was something great during my high school era. We grew two things that we felt was Hawaiian, right, Hawaiian orchids and Hawaiian anthuriums. And I just bring that up because two thing, one...couple of things I learned from that is in regards to your turf grass is that interesting, anthuriums take very little fertilizer for Hawai'i. And usually it's a minimum of a 5-10-5 mixture of fertilizer. So very little nitrogen, little bit more phosphate, and very little potash, and they usually recommend one-fourth of the recommended dosage. But on the other hand, we have orchids that needs to be fertilized every week or two, and their requirements are 20-20-20 levels of nitrogen, phosphate, and potash, which is five times more than what you're using for your grass. So I just share that because it's interesting what we're allowing other growers to use for their needs of whether it's ornamental foliage or what, but it's interesting what we allow on our lands. I'm going to limit the discussion, Members, to turf grass. I know that Dr. DeFrank brought up roadsides and whatnot, that is not for this Committee. I'll leave it to either Mr. Molina or Ms. Sugimura's Committee to take up Public Work issues, such as easement and road shoulder maintenance and Public Works does it because they're into killing weeds. Parks is into growing grass. So I'll say that that's how I'm going to set the parameters for the Committee. I'm going to start in reverse...yes, Ms. Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I just was wondering, is it one question per item, or one question and that's it?

CHAIR HOKAMA: Well, I'm going to open the round and you'll have one question. If you need a follow up from your primary question, please do so. And then, you know, after you get your response we'll go to all the Members, and then we can start the next round.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: So are we on 14 or 13 right now?

CHAIR HOKAMA: I'm going to leave it up and have it open. You can either talk about specifically Waiehu or any other park facility within the County. So if it's Lahaina parks, you can bring that up. If Ms. Rawlins-Fernandez wants to talk about Moloka'i parks, that's fine. Duke Malio Field or whatever it be, that's fine --

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Got it.

CHAIR HOKAMA: -- because it's turf management overall, and Waiehu is the biggest one, of course. So saying that, you know what, I'm going to start and reverse it. We going

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with Molokaʻi ahina first, Ms. Rawlins-Fernandez.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. And mahalo for everyone's presentations. Where to start, there was so much information. Okay, I think I'll start with whether turf management schedules have changed at all since the pandemic, since usage and has it...is it the same or, you know, has it been reduced?

CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay, Parks Department?

MR. ALLEN: It's two questions. Are you addressing the sports field turf or the golf course --

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: All of it.

MR. ALLEN: -- or both?

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: All of it.

MR. ALLEN: Both. Well, for the golf course, it has changed on my end based on the amount of play, right? We, over this first quarter, July, August, September, we are 35 percent higher on rounds played and revenue made than we have been in the last six years. We're 35 percent higher than the six-year average, the last six-year average. So it has increased our mowing frequency and the conditioning of the course, and it has decreased some of our cultural practices to a sense that we don't have the time to get them done before we're swamped by golfers in the morning.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay.

MR. KINZLE: Parks Department, while the fields were closed, we were able to go inside and do major aeration, where we couldn't if the parks were actually open. So we did some aeration and top dressing.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Ms. Rawlins-Fernandez?

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. Okay, so parks maintenance...sorry, the golf course maintenance went up, and parks in general was able to do some long awaited maintenance due to it being closed?

MR. KINZLE: Yes, that's correct.

MR. ALLEN: That is correct.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Awesome. Okay, great. Thank you. Mahalo, Chair.

MR. ALLEN: Ms. Councilmember, you have that correct.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you for your portion of this round. Ms. Paltin, you have a question

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you would like to ask at this time?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you. Yeah, I was really impressed with Mr. Allen's presentation. I don't know nothing about golf or science, and it made me feel kind of smart that I was following along. I especially liked that Air2G2 thing, that was very cool. But my question was, it seemed like a lot of the focus was on the pesticide, and I understand that you guys are trying to use as little as possible so that it's, you know, effective and not run off into the ocean. But I didn't really hear too much about the fertilizer usage, and I was wondering if it's all organic or if it's synthetic petroleum-based fertilizer that's being used, either by the golf course or the turf management.

MR. ALLEN: Thank you. That's a great question, Councilmember.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Go ahead, Todd. Respond please.

MR. ALLEN: I am not using any petroleum-based fertilizers, right, that's a misnomer. It's not petroleum based, it's...it would be fossil fuel.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Oh.

MR. ALLEN: So everything that we have in Maui runs off of fossil fuel. Everything that's delivered to Maui runs off of fossil fuel or is petroleum based. The fertilizer that I use, the nitrogen is fixed out of the air and then adhered through a process to the fertilizer granules, which phosphates I don't use that much of, potassium I do, but that is adhered to the mined minerals that are abundantly available in the earth's surface. So I use both organic and I do use synthetic as well. There is a substantial increase on organic fertilizer. So if I was to use...like, my fairways for instance, I said I use five pounds of nitrogen or less per year, two of those are actually foliar fed, so I'll go out at a tenth of a pound of nitrogen, which is about...I think it's actually nine pounds of fertilizer per acre. That is mixed into a spray tank, a 300-gallon spray tank, and I'm spraying 10 acres with that product, and it actually comes out to less than...the plant grass receives less than a tenth of a pound of nitrogen. When I do granular applications, depending on the ratios--like Chair Hokama was talking about, whether it's a 4-4-4 or 16-16-16 or greater--the pounds per acre could change, but the nitrogen content that's received, as long as the spreader is accurately calibrated and the speed is accurate, we know what we're delivering. We're trying to deliver 4.5 pounds of product over 1,000 square feet, right? And then we turn around, and we come right back, and we're trying to throw...that same 4.5 pounds of product per 1,000 square feet, we're trying to throw that back to either the wheel-to-wheel application or kiss-to-kiss, depending on how far the fertilizer throws. So it's very, very low rates. If I use organic, I'm looking at 25 pounds per 1,000, not four pounds of product per 1,000. And the budget that I would receive at the golf course, it would increase for three applications of one pound of nitrogen, each application with an all-organic fertilizer, it would be over \$540,000 a year for just the fertilizer. I don't even have...I shared with you my agriculture budget earlier, I got 354,000, right.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Right.

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MR. ALLEN: That's taking up all of my agriculture budget and then some. And that doesn't address any of the other issues that I might have on the golf course that need to be addressed. I hope that answers your question, did I? Councilmember Paltin, did that answer your question?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Yes, and just waiting for the turf side answer. Thank you.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Dr. Brosnan, you had a comment on the turf side?

MR. BROSAN: Yeah, I just wanted to add to Todd's comments that I think I would encourage the Committee to keep in mind that the use of, as Todd referenced, MLSN, a minimum level of sustainable nutrition is really important. You know, what that means in a practical sense is if there's a range of...for a certain nutrient, whether it's nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium, calcium, it doesn't matter, they're at the lowest level possible in order for the grass to be healthy. And that's important. And what was shared in Todd's comments was a lot about the amount of product applied to deliver that load, right? And then one of the things I talk to my students about in class is, you can think about this like we've all made Kool-Aid, right? And we know we have the Kool-Aid packet and you put it in the water, right. And if you put the whole packet in, it's going to be really strong and really dark. And if you put a third of the packet in, it's going to be less strong and it's not going to be as dark, right? Because there's going to be less of that in the amount of water that you're using. And what Todd's referencing in a practical sense is that the organic fertilizers, the amount of nutrient in those products tends to be lower than what's in a more conventional product, so then he has to apply more to a certain area of the golf course to get to that minimum level dose of nutrient needed for the turf to grow.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Got it. Thank you for that comment. Ms. Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Oh, I didn't mean that side of the turf, I meant I was waiting for the answer from the Parks side --

CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: -- not the golf course side. Same question.

CHAIR HOKAMA: It's a...Mr. Kinzle, can you respond to Ms. Paltin then please.

MR. KINZLE: Yes, so we also don't use a petroleum-based fertilizer.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Do you use organic fertilizer?

MR. KINZLE: We do use compost. So when we go in and they do their annual field renovation...when they go in, they use a top dressing, they do use that compost. But

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that compost, you can smell it from miles away. So like, when...we have our offices here at the War Memorial gym, when they're putting that on the football field, you can smell it. As soon as they start loading up and spreading that stuff all over, you can smell it. Probably Maui Memorial Hospital can smell it. It's not a very pleasant smell.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay, thank you.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay. Thank you, Ms. Paltin. One quick question, Mr. Kinzle, before I ask Mr. Molina. So with the smell, is there any pathogen concerns for this Committee regarding the use and that odor? Is there any pathogen concerns that we should be made aware of regarding the use of that compost?

MR. KINZLE: I don't know. We'd have to get back to you on that. I know actually, it all comes out of our EKO, from the landfill, but we would have to get back to you on that.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Yeah, that was an issue before Council maybe 15 years ago about the pathogens regarding the EKO compost materials. And so I just bring that up because it was a potential public health issue regarding pathogen impacts on general community. So I just bring that up for as a caution regarding also what we do use as organics and its impact on users. So thank you. Mr. Molina, any comments or questions, sir?

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Yeah. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. Well, you know, hats off to Mr. Allen and Mr. Kinzle. What a great presentation. I mean, I wouldn't describe it as presentations, it's more like a class, you know. I think you ought to teach this over at UH Maui College, but excellent, and I appreciate you breaking it down in layman's terms. Quick question with regards to the equipment. I presume you're using moisture sensors as far as water efficiency, you're using that. And the equipment itself you mentioned, I guess, it's been 25 years. I presume that's exceeded the manufacturer's life of the equipment. And I guess, how long more can you go with it?

MR. ALLEN: Thank you, Councilmember Molina, for the question. I believe that the general recommendation from the GCSAA and Golf Course Architect's Committee is an irrigation system that was purchased should last 25 to 35 years, depending on how well it's maintained. We're at the 25, 26-year mark. I know prior to this system being installed, it was manual quick coupler irrigation. So someone would actually go out all night long and plug in sprinkler heads and rotate them throughout the property. This was considered, in 1994, 1995, the Cadillac of the system, all automatic irrigation system that was controlled by irrigation clocks and computers. So we might be able to make it four or five years, maybe six years at the way that we're maintaining it now. We should...it's probably something that needs to come up in discussion within three to four years on potential for a new irrigation design consultant work and possible change out.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Okay, great. Well, thank you for that update on that. I'm sure down the road we'll get that discussion going. But keep up the great work on the

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course. Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

MR. ALLEN: Thank you, Councilmember.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you, Mr. Molina. At this time, I'm going to ask Ms. Kama if she has a question she'd like to ask.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Yes. Thank you, Chair. I think I heard mentioned earlier that the cost to operate the golf course, the 175 acres, is \$356,000? If that is correct, and we anticipate more usage over time because it seems like things have gotten...and we have increase in the usage, would that also...would that cost also increase?

MR. ALLEN: Councilmember...

CHAIR HOKAMA: Mr. Allen.

MR. ALLEN: Councilmember, thank you for the question. That is correct. We...the \$354,000 that I referenced, that was just for agricultural supplies, right? We have a \$1.9 million budget. Over one million of that is labor, so that would probably increase if the usage continues to go in the direction that it's going. Because we need to try to get as much work done in the first four hours of our operation as we can. When we're receiving 250 to 300 golfers a day after our lunch break, there's not a whole lot of time in between the golfing groups that come through every eight minutes to get a lot of work done, but we still do what we can and the best that we can. The expenses, I believe, is 800,000...811,000. So the 811,000 of the operation expenses, that covers water, electricity, repairs and maintenance of all equipment, all vehicles, all buildings, the irrigation system, the well pump and the pumping stations, it covers gas and diesel costs, safety supplies, you name it, right? That's all encompassing.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Right. Yeah.

MR. ALLEN: And in that 811,000, 350,000 or so is allocated for agricultural supplies. And then whatever equipment we receive or get approved by budget during...by Council during the budget session, that adds to...I think it was \$61,000 this year, we had 19,000 or so for a leased rough mower, and then we received another 43,000 or so for a heavy duty cart that we needed to replace. Those costs will go up each and every year over time as golf demand increases, right? But --

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Right.

MR. ALLEN: -- as golf demand increases, we're making a little bit more money, we're making more revenue. We do need to get in there and do those cultural practices that were talked about for best management practices. We're always doing the IPM, integrated pest management, every single day. I'm out there scouting for disease, I'm out there scouting for insects, I'm auditing the irrigation system, I'm reviewing the work that my awesome coworkers are doing, and making sure that we're setting forth the standard that we have in our capabilities to become the best municipal facility in the State of

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Hawai'i. And we are getting close. We are getting very close. We still have to switch over our fairways to paspalum so it's taking Waiehu in a more sustainable direction, right? There's so much...that's a very loaded question, and I got a loaded answer.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Right.

MR. ALLEN: But you're on the right page, Councilmember.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: So follow-up question, Chair. So do you anticipate, due to COVID-19 and due to the County's...we anticipate the budget being smaller than it was this past year, do you anticipate maybe a hike in rates or in fees?

MR. ALLEN: We'll have to get back with you, Councilmember Kama, to review that to see if that's a direction that the Parks would like to go in.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you very much.

MR. ALLEN: You're welcome.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you, Chair.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Chair, you're muted.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you, Ms. Rawlins-Fernandez. Ms. Kama, the Committee will follow up on that request for you with the Department and the course program. Yes, Ms. Rawlins-Fernandez.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair, will you also request the IPM information from the Waiehu Golf Course as well?

CHAIR HOKAMA: Yes, we'll have that, as well as the document from Ms. Rizzi also, regarding the best management practices regarding pesticides, fertilizers use, and any other pertinent information.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Ah, we have Ms. Sugimura. She's got a spook, I guess, with . . . *(inaudible)*.
. . .

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah, good to be in the Chambers, Chair.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay, why don't you ask your question if you have one please.

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah, I just...over the last term and this, and just seeing the progress of the Waiehu Golf Course, I must tell you, Todd, you have some of your employees that really respect your work, as I've gotten some emails from them of the progress you've made, but I can see you live and breathe this golf course. I just want

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to thank you, and I look forward to...in any way that we can help you during budget as we go forward. And if we can get some kind of report later on the number of golfers that you're experiencing once we opened up, I think it was May 1 that we opened up the golf course for this pandemic, during this pandemic...which is not on the agenda, but at some time later you can tell us about your progress. Thank you, everybody. Thank you very, very much, Superintendent. Excellent work.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay. Thank you very much --

MR. ALLEN: Thank you, Councilmember.

CHAIR HOKAMA: -- Ms. Sugimura. Go ahead, Todd.

MR. ALLEN: Chair, I was just saying thank you, Councilmember Sugimura. I really appreciate it, and I will pass it along to the guys.

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yes.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay, a couple questions to propose to...

VICE-CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you, Lesley.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay, thanks. So for Mr. Kinzle and Mr. Kahalekai, is there an intent because of our success at Waiehu with seashore paspalum or Stargrass, is there a potential request to Council, to this Committee or our Budget Committee, to do additional conversion of our other sports facilities to go to seashore paspalum?

MR. KAHALEKAI: No, Chair. About the recovery rate of seashore on a football field, after one weekend of seven football games, we're not sure that recovery rate is going to be well enough as, you know, Bermuda would be.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay. You say same thing for...

MR. KAHALEKAI: . . . *(inaudible)*. . .

CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay. What about soccer fields? Softball fields?

MR. KAHALEKAI: Soccer...yeah, soccer would be just as bad too because with the cleat marks and stuff. We could try it on the baseball fields where it might be less foot traffic and damage.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay. Okay. One thing that I want to bring up for the golf course side for Mr. Allen, as I reviewed the report from Mr. Gilhuly, who is the USGA agronomist, I agree with him. So Members, if you'd look at his summary, one of his statement...is there's a high need of advertising the return of high quality to your municipal golf course as it will bring back players, as well as increase revenues. So I'm sure our Budget Chair is happy to hear that comment from the USGA agronomist because that

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was part of the intent of why we made adjustments regarding funding and the investment in the improvements of the course was to get play back and increase the revenue stream to be able to provide future maintenance and improvements. So what have you done regarding the advertising component that the USGA has recommended, Mr. Allen?

MR. ALLEN: Thank you, Chair Hokama. One thing, Dr. Brosnan had a comment. I'll answer your question. We don't have that much money allocated for advertisement. I would like to work on a possible improvement on the logo, and then maybe Maui Golf Magazine is pretty inexpensive. There's been Australian, Canadian, and Japanese companies call on me for possible advertisement in their publications as well, but I think we should hold off until COVID-19 is figured out and put to rest. Would be the best thing --

CHAIR HOKAMA: Right.

MR. ALLEN: -- for Maui County.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Yeah, okay. So I ask that question, Superintendent, because in our budget deliberations, I think I'm ahead of our Budget Chair, I believe some of the Members was even supportive of using some of our advertising money we provide at Visitor's Bureau to help advertise our own County events and our County facilities because we using County money anyway. So I just share that with you because I know there's Members of the Council, this Committee, the Budget Chair's discussion in her Committee that, you know, we are open to assisting you to be more successful without taking away anything from the resident play components. So, okay. You might want to take a look at how we structure our advertising through our other types of grants that we provide either Visitor's Bureau or some other form of our hospitality monies. But I just share that with you. Okay, second and last round, Members. I know the time is precious to everybody, and I don't want to hold you longer than need be. So if you have a specific question, please present it and we'll get it addressed. So Ms. Rawlins-Fernandez, any last question you'd like to ask?

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. I think I cut in line earlier in requesting for the...Mr. Allen's IPM.

CHAIR HOKAMA: That's okay. Thank you.

MR. ALLEN: Can we take Dr. Brosnan's response real quick, Chair? I think he had a response on the sports turf fields, I believe.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Oh, sure, sure, yeah. Dr. Brosnan, yeah, happy to hear your comment.

MR. BROSAN: Yeah, I just wanted to interject quickly on two things. There was a question about labor and resources for golf course management, and I want to reference the research study that I provided to Todd that compared conventional integrated pest management and a total organic program at Bethpage State Park Golf Course in New

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York. And keep in mind that the data that I'm going to share with you right now are from New York, so it's a very truncated golf season compared to what you have in Hawai'i. And moving from what Todd's doing now to an all organic program--just to maintain putting greens, not the rest of the golf course--just the putting greens, which is probably...Todd can speak to the specifics, but probably about three acres, it's an increase of 200 to 600 hours per year in New York. So you could probably at least double that for Hawai'i in total labor hours, at least with the published research data that we have. And then on the sports turf side, the question was posed about seashore paspalum on athletic fields. And I actually researched this when I was at the University of Hawai'i. We had a research trial at Punchbowl Cemetery, this would have been in 2007 and 2008, and what was shared is correct, that the seashore paspalum grasses did not tolerate the foot traffic of football and soccer as well as hybrid Bermuda grasses did. And that's been published in the Journal of HortTechnology.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you for that clarification, Dr. Brosnan, yeah. I mean...yeah, we have no four seasons like the State of New York, no major autumn season or fall. So we appreciate that clarification point as it regards to the difference with Hawai'i and Maui's climate. Also, thank you for that. Ms. Paltin, any last question you'd like to ask?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. My question would be specifically for Mr. Kinzle. In some of the slides, it said that our fields are mowed at least three times a week year-round, and then baseball diamonds, soccer fields, two times per week year round. I just was wondering if that's accurate and Countywide, like even Napili, or like all the beach parks, two to three times a week at least all year; is that what you're saying?

MR. KINZLE: So this is talking directly about the turf managed fields, so it's not our beach parks. So we're just talking about sports fields. The two times a week, that is in the districts, and all the districts have their own mowers. So we have a schedule that we tell them that they need to cut it. Unfortunately, they don't always hit their schedule, whether it's due to mechanical issues, you know, or staffing issues. But I know for a fact that the War Memorial football field and the baseball field, those ones are mowed three times and two times. And, yes.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: So you mean like Napili Park baseball diamond, that's supposed to be two times a week?

MR. KINZLE: It should be two times a week.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay, just checking.

MS. PETERS: Hi, Chair.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you, Ms. Paltin.

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MS. PETERS: Hi, Chair, this is Karla.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Yes, Director.

MS. PETERS: So I just wanted to clarify a little bit. So our sports turf team here...that we have here in our meeting, they manage our sports program, and the day-to-day maintenance is done by our districts. So that's regulated out of our Recreation Division. So if they're short of manpower, or there's some sort of an operational issue, then they may not hit that benchmark. But it is the goal of the Department, you know, should we get our positions all filled, we don't have anybody out sick, we have a lot of employees who are taking advantage of the family leave because their children are at home doing distance learning. So those are the challenges that we face right now, but it is the goal. So that's the optimal goal that Superintendent Kinzle did mention, is that that's what we want to achieve. So yes, at some point in time, we hope to get Napili Park mowed twice a week, as well as all of our other fields. So thank you, just wanted to provide some clarification.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Director. And thank you for trying to fix the sprinklers. I'm not sure if they're working even after the second time they came out because the...it's not wet. But thanks for trying.

MR. KINZLE: Okay, well, we will definitely follow up on that because the pump has been replaced, so it should be functioning. So we'll follow up on that.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay. Thank you, Ms. Paltin. Mr. Molina.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Chairman, no, I'm done. No more questions, but thank you for having this presentation. Thank you.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you, sir. Ms. Kama.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: I have no more questions, Chair. Thank you.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay, I'm going...okay. I checked with Ms. Sugimura, and she doesn't have any remaining questions. So I would just like to thank Dr. DeFrank, Dr. Brosnan for your participation today with our Parks Department turf management personnel, Director Mr. Allen, Superintendent of Waiehu; Mr. Kinzle, our Parks Maintenance Supervisor; and of course, Mr. Kahalekai also, as part of the Department with the beautification management. So we thank all of your participation and information you provided, including Ms. Rizzi from the Association of Superintendents for the Aloha section. Members, I'm going to defer this item, with no objections, because I believe that in case there's anything else the Department would like to share with us, I'd like to give them that opportunity. So Department, thank you once again. I think we've helped our community also understand the difference between weed eradication and grass growth or turf management, in that there is benefits for our

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community when we do our management of our sports fields properly, whether it be with the amount of oxygen or CO2 conversion and the benefits per acre. Whether it's the reduction of nitrogen application to shoreline acreage, as well as drainage concerns that may impact the shoreline and reefs of our island. So we thank you for great work. And Todd, again, congrats on being part of a national publication and being recognized by your peers and your fellow golf advocates on a national level for bringing Waiehu back to the forefront. And as Waialua Golf Course on Kauai once did, maybe there's a chance for Waiehu to eventually one day host a United States public links tournament. Wailua did it as a public golf course on Kauai, there's no reason why Waiehu on Maui couldn't be just as good and be considered for such a venue. So stating that, Members, any last comments? Okay, no objections to defer the items this afternoon, Members, the remaining items?


COUNCILMEMBERS VOICED NO OBJECTIONS (Excused: KK)

ACTION: DEFER PENDING FURTHER DISCUSSION.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay, with no objections it's now deferred. Again to everyone, thank you for joining us this afternoon. With no further business, this meeting is now adjourned. Mahalo for being with us. . . . *(gavel)*. . .

ADJOURN: 4:39 p.m.

APPROVED:



RIKI HOKAMA, Chair
Healthy Families and Communities
Committee

hfc:min:201008

Transcribed by: Michelle Balala and
Crystal Sakai

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CERTIFICATIONS

I, Michelle Balala, hereby certify that pages 1 through 28 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 4th day of November 2020, in Kihei, Hawai'i

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Michelle Balala", written over a horizontal line.

Michelle Balala

I, Crystal Sakai, hereby certify that pages 29 through 53 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 4th day of November 2020, in Wailuku, Hawai'i

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Crystal Sakai", written over a horizontal line.

Crystal Sakai