

# **BUDGET, FINANCE, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

**Council of the County of Maui**

## **MINUTES**

**April 21, 2021**

**Online Only via BlueJeans**

**CONVENE:** 9:03 a.m.

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

**EXCUSED:** Councilmember Tasha Kama, Member

**STAFF:** Lesley Milner, Legislative Analyst  
Kasie Apo Takayama, Legislative Analyst  
Ana Lillis, Legislative Analyst  
Shelly Espeleta, Supervising Legislative Analyst  
Richard Mitchell, Legislative Attorney  
Yvette Bouthillier, Committee Secretary  
Jean Pokipala, Committee Secretary

Kate Griffiths, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Gabe Johnson  
Keisa Liu, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Gabe Johnson  
Lois Whitney, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Tasha Kama  
Davideane Sickels, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Tasha Kama  
Axel Beers, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Kelly Takaya King  
Diane Wakamatsu, Assistant to Councilmember Alice L. Lee  
Sarah Freistat Pajimola, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Keani N.W.  
Rawlins-Fernandez  
Gina Young, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Shane M. Sinenci

**ADMIN.:** Michele M. Yoshimura, Budget Director, Office of the Mayor  
Alex de Roode, Economic Development Specialist II, Office of the Mayor  
Kristina Toshikiyo, Deputy Corporation Counsel, Department of the Corporation  
Counsel

**OTHERS:** Adam Radford, Maui Invasive Species Committee  
John Dobovan  
Todd Yamashita

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David Dorn  
Arianna Feinberg  
Lisa Darcy  
Kai Nishiki  
Junya Nakoa  
Faith Chase  
Rob Weltman  
Brandi Corpuz  
Lucienne De Naie  
Others (5)

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

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CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: . . .*(gavel)*. . . Aloha kakahiaka kākou. ‘Ekolu minuke i ka hala o ka hōla ‘eiwa o ma Iwakāluakūmākahi o ‘Apelila I Ka makahiki ‘elua kaukani. ‘Eiwa ka lua kumakahi e ‘olu‘olu mai, e ho‘omalū ke Komike Mo‘ohelu Kālā a me Ho‘omohala Waiwai ‘o wai ka luna ho‘o malu *(audio interference)* o kēia Komike o Keani Rawlins-Fernandez. It’s 9:03 on April 21st, 2021. Will the Budget, Finance, and Economic Development Committee please come to order. I’m your Chair, Keani Rawlins-Fernandez. Happy Earth Day and Jambo kākou. I keia lā me kou kākou, e ia hope luna ho‘omalū, Tamara Paltin. Jambo.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Jambo, a me aloha kakahiaka kākou, mai Maui Komohana.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Jambo. Okay. Member Shane Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Aloha kakahiaka, Chair. Mai Maui Hikina and Jambo, everybody, on this Earth Day. Aloha.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Jambo. Okay. Mike Molina...Member Mike Molina.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Aloha kakahiaka, Madam Chair, and Jambo to you, my colleagues and everyone joining us on this very splendid morning, Earth Day of April 21st.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aloha. Council Chair Alice Lee.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Madam Chair, Jambo to...to you, and all of my colleagues and friends and family. And I hope everyone has a wonderful Earth Day, and a very productive budget meeting. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: That’s right. We’ll keep up the momentum. Member Kelly King, Jambo.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Jambo, aloha kakahiaka, and happy Earth Week to everybody. There’s all kinds of activities happening all week, and of course, they should be all year.

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We love our Earth. But happy to be focusing on some items that address some of those issues. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Absolutely. Mālama ka honua. Aloha, Member Gabe Johnson.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Aloha, Chair. Aloha, Councilmembers. Good morning, everyone...everyone here waiting to testify. I've got my strong coffee, so I'm ready to go as long as we can go. All right. Mahalo.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Sounds good, Member Johnson. Okay. Member Yuki Lei Sugimura, aloha and Jambo.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Aloha. Jambo, everybody. I got my double shot of what's it, Starbucks that we got as a gift, so we could start this budget session. Thank you very much, Budget Chair. That was kind of a fun, I guess it was a gift basket, or maybe it was a party favor, as we're all enjoying this process that we're going through. So thank you, everybody. I'm in Wailuku and looking at beautiful, blue skies today and ready to work hard. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Sugimura. It's a survival kit, so that we make it through budget session. And Pro Tem Tasha Kama is excused, and again our thoughts and prayers remain with her and her 'ohana. From Corporation Counsel, we have Deputy Corporation Counsel Kristina Toshikiyo.

MS. TOSHIKIYO: Jambo and aloha, Committee Chair and Members.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Jambo. And our Committee Staff, Committee Secretary Yvette Bouthillier, aloha and Jambo.

MS. BOUTHILLIER: Jambo. Good morning, Committee Members and Committee Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Committee Secretary Jean Pokipala.

MS. POKIPALA: Jambo. Good morning, Chair and Councilmembers.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Jambo, and good morning. Supervising Legislative Analyst Shelly Espeleta.

MS. ESPELETA: Aloha and Jambo, Chair and Members.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aloha and Jambo. Legislative Analyst Ana Lillis.

MS. LILLIS: Good morning, Chair. Jambo, everyone.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Jambo. Legislative Analyst Kasie Apo Takayama.

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MS. APO TAKAYAMA: Jambo, Committee Chair and Members.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Jambo. And Legislative Attorney Richard E. Mitchell. Jambo.

MR. MITCHELL: Aloha and Jambo, Committee Chair and Members.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. This online meeting is being conducted in accordance with the Governor's most recent emergency proclamation on COVID-19. Please see the last page of the agenda for information on meeting connectivity. Okay. We have our one item on today's agenda, BFED-1 Proposed Fiscal Year 2022 Budget for the County of Maui. We currently have seven individuals signed up to testify. Oral testimony via phone or video conference will be accepted. Please note that if you are signed in, you are on the list to testify, even if you did not request to testify. Please let Staff know in the chat if you are signed on and do not intend to testify. Testifiers wanting to provide video testimony, please join by going to the BlueJeans meeting link as noted on today's agenda. Testifiers wanting to provide audio testimony, please join by calling and entering the meeting code both noted on today's agenda. The Committee intends to keep the same meeting link and phone number for all BFED Committee meetings this term for the ease and convenience of the Members and the public. Written testimony is highly encouraged. Instructions on how to submit testimony can be found at [mauicounty.us/testify](http://mauicounty.us/testify). Oral testimony is limited to three minutes per item. When testifying, please state your first and last name. If you are testifying on behalf of an organization, or are a paid lobbyist, please inform the Committee. Staff has posted the testifier log in the chat, so that you may...so testifiers will be able to see where they are on the list. Please be mindful of the use of chat during the meeting. Chat should not be used to provide testimony or chat with Councilmembers or other testifiers. If providing testimony, please be courteous to others by muting your microphone and video while waiting your turn to testify. Once you are done testifying, you will be asked to disconnect from the call. However, you are welcome to continue to view the . . . *(inaudible)*. . . on Akakū Channel 53, Facebook Live, or on [mauicounty.us/agendas](http://mauicounty.us/agendas). And a warning that the meeting may go into the night, as it has been this week. Participants who wish to view the meeting only, without providing testimony, please also disconnect at this time and instead view the meeting on Akakū Channel 53, Facebook Live, or on [mauicounty.us](http://mauicounty.us). And we will proceed with public testimony, and as I stated, we are taking up BFED-1, the entire budget. Today we will be voting on the Office of the Mayor, Department of Parks and Recreation, Department of Personnel Services, Department of Planning, and hopefully Department of Police.

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

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. We'll proceed with public testimony. The first individual signed up to testify is Adam Radford, followed by John Dobovan. Aloha, Mr. Radford.

MR. RADFORD: Jambo, Committee Chair and Councilmembers. I thought that it was appropriate to testify this week, given that, yeah, tomorrow is Earth Day. And as you

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know, I'm the Manager of the Maui Invasive Species Committee, and that is our kuleana, is to...to help manage the Earth, but more specifically, Maui Nui environmental resources as a whole. I'll try to keep my testimony brief, but I'm just here to support the Members' priorities and recommendations as they've been set forth for environmental protection, and I'm hopeful that you see those recommendations through. I did want to bring up Department of Water Supply funding, and their grants program as well, and I know they're coming up, I think, Friday hopefully. So I'll just testify on...on that point now. But the Department of Water Supply grants program really goes towards more pristine watershed preservation, with the goal of ensuring fresh water availability in perpetuity. And so I just ask that the...the Council consider those grants as essential, as well as the other environmental protection grants that have been discussed previously. And then lastly, I did send the Members some background on MISC funding synopsis on April 9th, and just happy to take questions about that, or if you want to email separately or offline, that's fine. But I guess to conclude, I'd say that I'm available as needed, and then also, would just express my sympathy and prayers and thoughts for the Kama 'ohana. So mahalo nui loa, for all your hard work.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Mr. Radford. Okay, seeing no hands, seeing no questions, I will thank you for your testimony this morning. Aloha. Okay. And before I call our next testifier, I will say good morning, aloha, and Jambo to our Budget Committee Analyst that I missed, Lesley Milner. My apologies.

MS. MILNER: No problem. Aloha, Chair. Jambo, Members.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aloha, and mahalo for your hard work. Okay. Our next testifier is John Dobovan, followed by Todd Yamashita.

MR. DOBOVAN: Good morning, Madam Chair and Councilmembers. Can you hear me?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yes, and good morning.

MR. DOBOVAN: Yes, good morning. Thank you so much for taking the time. I am John Dobovan, I'm the president of the Maui Food Hub, and I...you know, I think it's very appropriate we're doing this right before Earth Days, because it's an excellent reminder that, you know, we have to become more sustainably focused if we're going to survive as a species. And...and nowhere is that more obvious than here on our little island of Maui. I'm testifying on behalf of the Maui Food Hub's request for \$259,000 as a one-time funding input to take us to the next level, so that we can be sustainable as an organization. I'd like to remind you, as I'm sure you're already aware, that 100 percent of the products that we...that we provide to the community are...are all either locally grown or locally produced, with an emphasis on Maui, although we do take some products from Big Island and other places in Hawai'i. And all of the funds that go into the Hub and get recirculated to the Hub go right back into the community. So we've become a...you know, a tremendous driver of economic activity. And what we're really doing is we're really working to build, you know, a vibrant, sustainable, ag...agricultural industry here. The Maui Food Hub supports local farmers, it supports consumers, and also those in need, and we've been doing this for over a year now, with...with great

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success. But we have got to scale up if we're going to be able to sustain this operation into the future post-COVID. And so I'm just asking that you, you know, consider seriously our request, and I thank you very much for your time.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Mr. Dobovan. We have a question from Member Sinenci. Member Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you, Chair, and aloha, Mr. Dobovan. Mahalo for your testimony today, and thank you for supporting the funding. I just had a question about, you know, this is some new funding, and we wanted to see is...I...I believe the Members would like to see maybe, like, an annual report, should you...should you receive funding. You know, this is a new...as we move towards more food sustainability and looking to...to process our produce and...and give it...send it out to consumers. Are you open to something like a report or...or...back to the County about the successes or some challenges?

MR. DOBOVAN: Yes, absolutely. In fact, I believe as a 501(c)(3) entity, I believe we're required to do that anyway. We'd be more --

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Okay.

MR. DOBOVAN: -- than happy to...to provide that to you.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: All right. Awesome. Thank you. Thank you, Chair.

MR. DOBOVAN: Thank you for your support. . . .*(timer sounds)*. . . Thank you, everybody.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Sinenci. Okay. The next testifier signed up is Todd Yamashita, followed by David Dorn. Aloha, Mr. Yamashita.

MR. YAMASHITA: Jambo, distinguished Councilmembers. My name is Todd Yamashita, and I'm president of O'ahu Energy Cooperative. I met with you guys briefly last week and I...I just wanted to take the chance to mahalo the Council again for supporting priority number 33, and helping us to support a clean, renewable, community-based energy future here on Moloka'i in Maui County. And I just wanted to say, you know, we're really looking forward to working with Director Inamasu and Energy Commissioner Alex de Roode. You know, they're...yeah, we're looking forward to, you know, helping...having them help us kind of develop this workforce model that will be preparing some of our Moloka'i citizens for this clean energy future. And you know, you guys, I just wanted to take...really quickly, just take a little bit of time to do my part as a Moloka'i citizen, and I wanted to also support priority number 1 for mobile voting units; priority number 3, which is a...a Charter Commission and Education Outreach; priority number 13, we definitely need an additional DMV person here on Moloka'i, if possible; and then number 25, the feral animal management and control. Moloka'i has been needing support in that area for years, so...just overall, again, just a big mahalo for keeping Moloka'i on you guys' radar. I...I know we're a smaller community, you know, but we got a lot of people here with big hearts and...and big dreams, so just thank

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you guys for putting in the good work for us.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Mr. Yamashita. Seeing no questions, we'll thank you for your testimony this morning. Aloha.

MR. YAMASHITA: Aloha.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Our next testifier is David Dorn, followed by Arianna Feinberg.

MR. DORN: Councilmembers, Happy Earth Day.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mr. Dorn? We...we can't hear you. We heard you say aloha and Happy Earth Day, and then the audio, for some reason, stopped.

MR. DORN: Let me speak --

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh, there, okay, we can hear you now.

MR. DORN: -- into my mic.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. I...I'll restart your time. Okay, please proceed.

MR. DORN: My name is David Dorn, I'm a lobbyist (*audio interference*) tax for long-term (*audio interference*) think it is important for all people (*audio interference*) --

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mr. Dorn.

MR. DORN: Yes.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh, okay. It...it...

MR. DORN: Many people are buying second homes. There are an estimated 5,000 second homes on Maui that are either rented or used (*audio interference*). Properties should be added to the total number of visitor (*audio interference*) --

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mr. Dorn, it...it keeps going in and out. Is there any way to adjust it so that we can hear it fluidly? Okay, we cannot hear you now.

MR. DORN: . . .(*inaudible*). . .

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, now we can hear.

MR. DORN: I'll do my best.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay.

MR. DORN: A second home is a luxury that should be taxed differently. Investment properties

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should be taxed at a higher rate. Many houses are being bought sight unseen (*audio interference*) Maui house prices are far cheaper than the mainland, for example, San Francisco. Taxes are also very low. Mansions are not being built for wealthy locals. Maui wages didn't suddenly go up overnight. Developers keep asking us to pay for their amenity (*audio interference*) build affordable home. That would be okay, if we really get the benefit of an affordable home. But developers should also be forced to pay back waived infrastructure fees (*audio interference*) not sold to locals. Developers should not be getting our public money in waived fees (*audio interference*) purely pragmatic standpoint, as just to help us pay for infrastructure, and we actually need to (*audio interference*) Our infrastructure is essential (*audio interference*) to raise the taxes and build more beach parking, public amenities (*audio interference*). In conclusion, please support this bill to raise taxes on second homes, long-term vacation rentals, to make sure that the money actually goes into creating (*audio interference*). If it is to be allocated to affordable housing, please make sure (*audio interference*) affordable houses (*audio interference*). Thank you for (*audio interference*).

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Mr. Dorn. Okay, and...and so I...so Mr. Dorn . . . (*timer sounds*). . . basically said that he supports raising taxes on second homes and to...to put toward infrastructure for affordable homes. And if it does go toward affordable homes, to try our...our best to do...to put that...to make affordable homes for locals...for local residents. Okay. Okay? Any questions, Members? Okay. Mahalo, Mr. Dorn, for your testimony this morning. Aloha. The next individual signed up to testify is Arianna Feinberg, followed by Lisa Darcy.

MS. FEINBERG: Hi, good morning. Hi. My name is Arianna Feinberg, and I'm here again to testify in support of a toddler playground at Eddie Tam. After our last meeting, I was very happy because Councilmember Molina put on his, like, second tier conditional priorities, \$60,000 in funding for this, and so I just want to thank you for that. Not sure how that's going to shake out, but anyway, I just wanted to put forward my support. Also, I wanted to let you know that yesterday I made a petition, like, at, like 2:00. My baby was napping and I already have 73 supporters. And it's not all people that I know. Most of them are other mommies and on the Facebook group...Maui Mommies Facebook group, it's like a lot of people that I don't know that are expressing, like, oh my gosh, thank you so much, this is so needed. So I just wanted to express that message, and let you guys know of a broad base of support and a lot of constituents that think this is also necessary. And also, I wanted to bring up with that, with playgrounds that kind of have...I know that they are very expensive, but I wanted to remind you that in Wailuku Heights, there was a bid for the new Wailuku Heights Park playground, and that one bid at just \$364,000. So that one wasn't quite 700,000, and I know that this was just for the planning, but maybe within the planning, they can keep in mind, you know, to be more modest. I just wanted to let you know I have modest aspirations. I mean, we can try to...you know, it doesn't have to be quite as extensive as the Kula one. Anyways, that's it. Thank you, guys. Have a great day.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo, Ms. Feinberg. Seeing no questions, we'll thank you for your testimony this morning. The next testifier is Lisa Darcy, followed by Autumn Ness. Aloha, Ms. Darcy.



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MS. DARCY: Good morning, everyone. My name is Lisa Darcy. It's nice to see everyone. And I am not a paid lobbyist, and I'm talking a little more slowly, because I didn't get a survival kit this morning, which I love that idea. I...I've missed seeing everybody. I'm still working up to seven days a week. It's pretty crazy being out with unhoused residents, and the...the...the piece I want to talk to you about today is the affordable housing. And you know, I came here 20 years ago because it was a crisis, and it hasn't gotten better. And my heart sings when I think that this Council is considering a five to six percent or...I think that's correct, increase...tax increase, in order to make an affordable housing fund. And this is a big, this is a bold, this is a necessary step in order to meet the...the...the level of crisis. And I know we don't really want to admit how bad it is, but it's really... it's really...it's in dire need of attention. And I just want to thank this immensely diverse Council. And I appreciate that I...I disagree so many times, and then I go back and I ponder it, and then I go wow, this is really important, and I'm so glad that this was shared. And I feel like this Council is...is really dedicated to turning those stones over. And I think the more stones you turn over, the more you're going to see that there hasn't been anything this bold, and that's why we're in such a crisis. And I really want to encourage the tax increase on individuals that...that have the ability to manage this, and that generally probably don't spend a lot of time in this community. But this is a way that they...they will give back, and it's really a necessary balance. So it's more just a perspective this morning, and excitement when I...when I followed this and seen that this is actually going to happen. So I want to thank you very much, for digging into everything and asking these questions, and I want to encourage, even if you're uncomfortable with such a big project, to really consider it. It's...it'll trickle down, and it's...I think it's something Maui County will benefit from on all levels. So thank you so much for the time this morning.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Ms. Darcy. Seeing no questions, we'll thank you so much for your testimony this morning.

MS. DARCY: Thank you. Bye.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Our next testifier is Faith Chase, followed by Kai Nishiki. Oh, okay, it looks like Ms. Chase may have dropped off the call. So we'll...we'll check later to see if she was able to reconnect. Okay, so our next testifier is Kai Nishiki, followed by Junya Nakoa. Aloha, Ms. Nishiki.

MS. NISHIKI: Hi, hi, good morning, Chair and Councilmembers. Sorry, I'm just going to plug in my headset. I wasn't ready, sorry. So I can actually hear you folks. Okay, thank you. I wanted to testify on a couple of matters. First, for I believe you guys are going to be looking at the Planning Department, and I just wanted to advocate for funding for the Coastal Zone Management Department. I strongly advocate for Tara Owens' position there. She is invaluable to that department. And also to advocate for increased funding for all items related to coastal zone management and coastal erosion and sea level rise. I really believe that the Planning Department should take the lead in...in regards to this issue because, you know, they have the Coastal Zone Management Department. It really needs to be expanded. We need to expand positions in enforcement for the shoreline,

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and to address all of the coastal erosion issues with studies and plans for the future. And there are a lot of great proposals coming out of that department, but I don't think that they're being given the priority that they deserve. You know, with all the talk about green jobs and green economy, this could be a great way to stimulate our economy, by creating jobs related to managed retreat and the construction industry moving all of our buildings off of the shoreline, and addressing all of our infrastructure issues; roads, sewer lines, water lines, all of that. But it's a...it's a great way to stimulate the economy. And let's be honest, the only reason why tourists come here is for our beaches and reefs and natural areas, and they are being degraded faster than they are being taken care of. So anyway, I could go on and on about that issue, but I'll stop now. I think you get the point. And okay, and related to tourism, how about you take all the money that the MVB gets from the County and put it into CZM, because that's real tourism promotion, right there. In...in regards to Member Molina's proposal about the parking lot in Pā'ia, thank you very much, Councilmember Molina, for putting a priority on that. In that area, you guys know the State took away all of the parking on Hāna Highway, which I...I fully support. We need to be moving into parking management for our shoreline areas, so we need to have them into parking lots, and so they can be managed properly. So you know . . . *(timer sounds)*. . . if there's any issue about the amount of money that's being proposed for this parking lot, just think about it as you guys are purchasing a bank machine. Because once this parking lot is put in and we can monetize it, all it's going to be doing is bringing in money for the County to improve our resources. Possibly implement the Baldwin Beach Master Plan, which the North Shore community has been waiting a long time for. And you know, how many people are on the road going to Hāna, to Pā'ia? It's thousands, it's probably the most well-traveled road. So thank you, Mike Molina, for your leadership and really addressing the concerns of the community in regards to shoreline access in Pā'ia and that entire coastline. I believe that this proposal will definitely be a great return on investment.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Ms. Nishiki?

MS. NISHIKI: Yes?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh, if you can conclude in a sentence?

MS. NISHIKI: Yes. Yes, ma'am. And then for Maui Visitor's Bureau, please defund them completely, or give them \$50,000 or \$100,000 only to do safety and awareness. Everything else should be going to our lifeguards and our shorelines. And thank you very much.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Ms. Nishiki. Seeing no questions, we'll thank you for your testimony this morning.

MS. NISHIKI: Mahalo. Have a great day.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: You too. Okay. Our next testifier is Junya Nakoa, followed by Faith Chase.

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MR. NAKOA: Good morning. Yeah, since we going talk about the planning, yeah, money, money, money. Yeah, like Kai...Kai just was done saying, the support of the Tara Owens. Is kinda funny is that last week Thursday, had some bags that was floating on the ocean in front Kahana, and went end up at . . . *(inaudible)*. . . and I went call up DLNR, I went call up the Planning Department, Michelle McLean, for come check 'em out, and I went over there Monday, and the buggah was still there. So yeah, so we gotta protect our environment and our shoreline and all da kine stuff. Because Michelle McLean was pointing fingers at somebody else, and then the DLNR went point finger at somebody else, and so now, I going grumble...I going go down to the Kahana Hotel right after this pau, and I going go yell at them. Maybe...maybe go...maybe they can do something. But we gotta go...Tara Owens, I support 'em. And then yeah, you guys know how I feel about the Visitor's Bureau, defund those buggahs, they don't need money. So they coming, whether we like it or not. And then the affordable housing, yeah, raise the...raise the taxes on those rich buggahs like the Hawai'i Community Assets guys was saying, the one...one of the ladies, the comment...one of the moderators was talking that we gotta tax, like, the people like, what was that? All the rich people that only get the house over here for a little while. And you know what I mean, and all da kine stuff, and they only stay in the house for one month out of the year. So yeah, tax those buggahs. And yeah, and then the Ma'alaea project, keep 'em open space. We don't need some more gentleman estates going up over there. We need...we need some, like, protection of all that, you know, the water. You guys know, you went approve something. So that's all. That's all was here for say. I going grumble every day, because you guys' Mayor no listen to you guys. He went defund the stupid bill...not the stupid bill, he was stupid for defund the bill 10. Sorry. Okay, good.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, mahalo, Mr. Nakoa. I see a question from Member Paltin. Member Paltin.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Thank you, Chair, thank you, Mr. Nakoa, for your testimony. I just wanted to clarify if you got any pictures of the sandbag? Mr. Sam Lemmo was requesting them for DLNR OCCL.

MR. NAKOA: I get.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Okay. Send 'em to me. Thank you.

MR. NAKOA: I will send it to you. Guaranz.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Seeing no other questions, we'll thank you for your testimony this morning. Aloha.

MR. NAKOA: Shoots. Have a good one.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: You too. Okay, our next testifier is Faith Chase, followed by Rob Weltman.

MS. CHASE: Good morning, Chair. Good morning, Council. I am returning to an item that I

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was sort of unsure of how to speak to it. I thought maybe it was a typo, but since I heard the Department of Water make their presentation to you last week, I understand now that, according to Mr. Pearson, that the Leeward Watershed Partnership had some hiccups...just...I'll just say that. So I just...I'm concerned that it is, and forgive me if I'm wrong, but I don't see anywhere else on the budget where that vast area is under consideration. And so I've got...I've gotten some information about Uncle Walter Kanamu, who is the founder/originator of LIFE, Living Indigenous Forest Ecosystems, that he is reestablishing his footing with his organization, with support of Department of Hawaiian Home Lands. And I would just encourage this Council body to maybe have a...create a pocket, with the expectancy that he might...or under his advisement, might be able to submit sort of that leeward watershed protection plan. I hate to see it just, like, puka, you know? Like, just go away. That's too important of a watershed. So I just wanted to express my concern for that now that I have the new information from the Department of Water's presentation. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Ms. Chase. I see a question from Member Paltin.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Ms. Chase, for your testimony. I just wanted to clarify if...that Mr. Kanamu had already reached out to the Water Department about this?

MS. CHASE: I...I can't say that for sure. I think these are some really, you know, elementary, premature sort of conversations going on. But it's also interestingly timely, judging from the information that was just reported last week from the Department of Water regarding Leeward Watershed Partnership. So I'm just taking the opportunity to make...make mention that, you know, he comes from a long line. His...his father was a botanist, and he's a generational botanist, and he's well renowned in our community. And also the Auwahi...Art Medeiros's Project and Leeward Watershed also received the benefits of his hard work and funding. So he...he's a stellar knowledge base. Thank you.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Thank you.

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

MS. CHASE: A hui hou.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: A hui hou. Our next testifier is Rob Weltman, followed by Brandi Corpuz and Lucienne De Naie, who is the last testifier signed up. Aloha Mr. Weltman.

MR. WELTMAN: Aloha mai. Aloha mai kākou. 'O Lopaka Weltman ko'u inoa. O ko'u makemake e paepae 'i elua mau kumu mana'o e pili ani 'i ka mo'ohelu ka lā. No ka make piho. There are two things I wanted to touch on briefly, in...in the budget discussions. One is the proposal for up to \$45,000 to ReTree Hawai'i. So in October of last year, we planted about 5,000 trees all around Hawai'i, and almost all of them on October 30th, one day, and the vast majority of them on Maui. And that was just by

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almost everything being closed. So many sites were not accepting people. So this year, we expect an order of magnitude more plants, including on Maui, and so those...that money will go towards both getting the word out and also buying plants. So I think it's well spent. And of course by planting trees, it's not just good for beauty...the beauty of the island, but also for erosion control and...and reducing carbon...greenhouse gases and many other things. And part of the money that ReTree Hawai'i gets will be used towards information about the climate crisis and what everyone can do. And the second thing is the shoreline access study which has been proposed. And the reason for that is that we have areas of the shoreline which become closed off and...often in a way which makes...makes it very difficult to reverse, because people build walls or even sea walls or other things like that, and then...and then gradually, maybe the population becomes used to it and they accept it. And that's not good, because State law says that we are entitled to access to our shorelines, and this study will say...will investigate and say which areas need to be protected, which...which currently do not have access, and what steps need to be taken, what the law allows, and what the right steps for Maui County to do are. But I think that would be money well invested. And then one additional point is that this comes out of the shore...the...the Special Management Area Revolving Fund, which has never been touched...never been tapped. And as far as I know, this request does not compete with any other request...budget request. . . .*(inaudible)*. . . Mahalo.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo. 'Ohe kani nau no lae la mahalo no kou... oh, Member King, are you raising your hand, or are you waving? Oh, okay. Member King has a question.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Just a quick question for Rob. Thank you for being here, Mr. Weltman. Can you just speak to...briefly to the follow up on the tree planting?

MR. WELTMAN: The tree planting from last year?

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Yeah.

MR. WELTMAN: Yes. So after three months, I...we...we rode to all the sites --

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh, I'm sorry --

MR. WELTMAN: -- they had planted, and asked them how many plants were still alive --

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Sorry.

MR. WELTMAN: -- and we got...we didn't get replies from everybody, but once we did get replies from...the vast majority had --

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: I'm sorry, Mr. Weltman. Member King, clarifying questions, and if you're asking for a specific bit of information, I'll...I'll allow that, but I...I don't want to unfairly extend anyone's testimony. So I'm going to unmute Mr. Weltman, and if you can ask your question for that specific information that you're asking for, and not leave it so open-ended and broad?

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COUNCILMEMBER KING: Yeah, just because you mentioned the previous planting, so it just specifically the follow up that you did on the trees that were planted.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh, I'm sorry. Like, the survival rate of the trees, or what...what is your question, exactly?

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Right. Survival rate.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mr. Weltman, do you have that information?

MR. WELTMAN: Yes. Yes, I was almost there. Of...of the...of the responses I got back from querying the sites where planting happened, they all had...had 100 percent survival or almost 100 percent survival, except for one. So far, the news is very good, and at the end of this month, we'll be going out with another query after six months to find out the survival rate. So far, the news is very, very good.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay, thank you. Appreciate that. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member King. That's awesome news. Very exciting. Seeing no other questions, mahalo no kou a leo i ke kakahiaka. Aloha.

MR. WELTMAN: Mahalo.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Our next testifier is Brandi Corpuz, followed by Lucienne De Naie. Okay. Ms. Corpuz?

MS. CORPUZ: Hello?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: I'm *(audio interference)* our end. Okay, aloha.

MS. CORPUZ: Oh, okay. Hi, aloha Councilmembers. Thank you for letting me speak today. My name is Brandi Corpuz, and I am a Kihei resident and homeowner. I am in full support of a tax increase for homeowners who don't live here, or for those that make a high income. I believe that this will increase our affordable housing for our local community, and possibly slow down the gold rush, is what I call it, for buying up all of Moloka'i lands and houses. I'd also like to say I didn't know that this meeting had anything to do with the planning of coastal zone management, but like Kai said, and so did Junya, I'd like to say that I support also, special management or shoreline coastal restoration and any kind of project that has to do with that, as I am part of that with my nonprofit, Rooted Kekahi Me Ka 'Āina. And I also want to do the ReTree planting this year, because I wasn't able to do it last year, because my site was canceled. So thank you guys very much, and I look forward to you guys passing this...this bill for the increase of...of taxes for higher wagers...or higher income people. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Ms. Corpuz. I see a question from Member Paltin.

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VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Ms. Corpuz, for your testimony. I...I guess my question was, when you said passing a higher tax for higher income people, if you were specifying, like, if that's just anybody, or residents or non-residents? Because we don't tax people's income, we only tax their property. So were you meaning like --

MS. CORPUZ: I'm sorry. Yes.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Yeah, I didn't understand what you --

MS. CORPUZ: I was meaning property. I wasn't meaning income. I just meant for the higher...higher income earners, you know, like people who are making millions of dollars. The millionaires who own property here and don't live here, like someone else said, they only live here for, like, maybe a week at a time or something like that.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Got it. Got it. Sorry. Thank you for clarifying. Sorry about that.

MS. CORPUZ: I'm sorry. I'm nervous.

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

MS. CORPUZ: All right. You guys have a great day. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: You, too. Aloha. The last testifier signed up is Lucienne De Naie. Aloha, Ms. De Naie.

MS. DE NAIE: Good morning to all, and thank you for all your hard work. I'm going to be testifying today on behalf of two organizations. Everybody's so busy at 9:00 in the morning. First, for the Ha'ikū Community Association. Would like to testify in support of there being funding in this year's budget for the additional staff for the Planning Department, so that we can move forward with our community advisory groups for Pā'ia, Ha'ikū, and also for the South Side of Maui. So mahalo for your guys' support of that. I know Planning is coming up some time today, maybe, and I hope you hear that the community is really looking forward to this experiment. It is something new, but it's something old, in a way. You know, there used to be a West Maui Advisory group to the Mayor. We...we...we need to hear from more people in a more convenient way. And also want to thank you folks for putting in additional funding for vehicle removal in the Hamakua lands, and we hope to extend that to some other County lands in the area, like Maliko, I mean, like the lighthouse property there. They're...they're very much of...of that regular service. Switching to Sierra Club, I'd like to testify in support of the funding for the Ma'alaea Mauka parcel. This is just such an important ecological area. It is the keystone, as you've heard from many different agencies and organizations, to managing both wildfires and flood control, and helping restore the health of Ma'alaea Bay. Also would like to support ReTree Hawai'i. It's a terrific program. It allows everyone to participate, and it did really well, considering it was in the middle of a pandemic last time. And the shoreline access study is so needed. I...there were so many places that we're supposed to have shoreline access that just don't anymore. There was one done

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back in the '80s, I have a copy of it and, you know, if...we really need to see what's happening now that we've had so much new construction. There is also a proposal to spend money on infrastructure for affordable housing, \$20 million. We...we should follow the footsteps of the late, great Elmer Cravalho, our Mayor. He couldn't tax higher echelon property owners because there weren't that many in the 1970s when he was Mayor, was just starting. But instead, he went to the big landowners and got land, and then invested in County infrastructure, so it could be developed. And so this time around, our choice is to get money from those who can afford to pay some higher taxes, and I just urge you to take this bold step. Mahalo.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Ms. De Naie. I see Member Paltin with a question. Member Paltin.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Ms. De Naie, for your testimony. I just want...had wanted to know if you could clarify the statement that you made about vehicles at the lighthouse and regular service of towing. Is that what you meant? Like, regularly tow vehicles from the lighthouse? Or is there no way to stop abandoning vehicles at the lighthouse?

MS. DE NAIE: Well, the towing is one step. Towing has been very sporadic in the past, so we need both. And you're...you're absolutely right. In Hamakua, we're installing some cameras, so we can see who's dropping vehicles off, and probably that's something that needs to happen at the other County property at the lighthouse. Right now, the solution has been, don't grade the road, but people still abandon cars just along the ungraded road. So both of these areas really need a program where we get the cars out of there, and we also keep an eye on who's dumping them and prosecute those people.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Okay, thank you for the clarification.

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

MS. DE NAIE: Mahalo.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: All right. Ms. De Naie was the last individual signed up to testify. We'll now open it up to anyone signed on wishing to testify at this time. Please unmute yourself, and you may proceed with your testimony. Okay. Hearing no one indicating their desire to testify, if there are no objections, Members, we will close public testimony for today and accept written testimony into the record. Any objections?

**COUNCILMEMBERS VOICED NO OBJECTIONS**

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Wonderful. Mahalo, Members. All right. Public testimony is closed.

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



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**ITEM 1:                    PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2022 BUDGET FOR THE COUNTY  
                                 OF MAUI (CC 21-30 and CC 21-173)**

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: We'll now proceed with our one agenda item, BFED-1, proposed Fiscal Year 2022 Budget for the County of Maui. Okay, we're on our third day of decisions week, and continue to be ahead of schedule. Congratulations and good job, Members. Yesterday, we reviewed or completed the following departments: Department of Housing and Human Concerns, Department of Liquor Control, Department of Management, and a portion of the Office of the Mayor. So today, I would like to complete the following departments: The remainder of the Office of the Mayor, Department of Parks and Recreation, Department of Personnel, Department of Planning, and possibly Department of Police. And we'll just kind of play that one by ear. We'll see where we're at with the Department of Planning, what time of the day, and make that decision together when we get there. Okay. So again, I'm looking at a lunch break at noon, and if we have a dinner break, at about 6:30, and we'll go as late as we're able to. Okay. Any questions before we proceed? We did review on OpenGov, DHHC. We didn't make any changes to Liquor Control, so we didn't review that on OpenGov. And then on Department of Management, we...I think we did not review it on OpenGov. So we can start with the review of Department of Management on OpenGov, and I believe we did make some reductions. So we'll review the spreadsheet that lists the reductions and the tally for that. Any questions before we start with that, and then the Office of the Mayor? Member Sugimura, you want to change the process?

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: No, no, no. So thank you. Are you also going to share with us our tally sheets like you did yesterday? Is that what tally means to you?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yes. Yes, the...so the reductions spreadsheet. That's what we're going to start with.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: And what each Member has in our --

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: -- in our spreadsheet? Okay, great. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Member Paltin.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: I just wanted to inquire if the tally sheet has included, today, the subtraction of the amount for the Affordable Housing Fund and the Open Space Fund?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: So the reduction spreadsheet just has the reductions on it.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Oh, okay.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yeah. So that's what I'll be sharing. Okay, I will check with Ms. Milner to see how BlueJeans is treating her this morning. Ms. Milner?

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MS. MILNER: Fingers crossed, Chair. I will try and share my screen.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Okay, Department of Management, Management program. So we...there was an attempt to reduce the program to track responsible...oh, oh, okay, okay. So we adopted Member Paltin's conditional language to develop a program to track responsible and transparent disposal of County vehicles and equipment. We added to the budget Member Molina's proposal for \$200,000 for the Clean and Safe program portion of Pā'ia. We added \$69,300 to the budget, Member Sinenci's proposal for a LiDAR drone for archaeological work. And we reduced the budget by \$10,000 to other services. We added \$34,000 for the Archaeologist Assistant II for eight months, which was Member Sinenci's proposal; and then Member Sinenci's other proposal for \$26,000, a raise for the principal archaeologist. Okay. And then in the Department of Management, the Information Technology Services program, we...we reduced the budget by \$15,000 to reduce the air fare and transportation line item. We reduced the budget by \$100,000, the life cycle replacement of computer equipment line item. And we added \$100,000 to cover off-hours support, and this was requested by the Department of Management.

MS. MILNER: I believe those were all the changes, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, Members, any questions or corrections, adjustments? Member King.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Yeah, Chair, I'm sorry if I missed it, but I...I thought I saw a zero under...I thought Member Molina proposed a \$10,000 cut in contractual or professional services that we had approved. Oh, I see, it's in there, okay. I...I was looking at the zero one underneath it. Okay. Or is that Member Paltin's proposal?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: That's Member Paltin's \$10,000 reduction for other services.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay. Yeah. Thank you. Sorry about that, I...for some reason, I had it under Member Molina.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: We discussed a \$10,000 software, and then we ultimately didn't get a majority for that. I don't remember if it was Member Molina.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Um-hum.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Okay. Oh, okay, there it is. Okay. So that was the services and contracts, and it was withdrawn to reconsider later under the ITS program, and that was...we're going to wait for information from Budget Director Yoshimura on the list of contracts, because she mentioned there were a number of contracts under that. So we didn't want to arbitrarily reduce that amount until we understand the...what contracts are under that line item. Okay. Any other questions, Members? Okay. Ms. Milner, will you please share the spreadsheet with all the reduction calculations? Okay, mahalo. All right. Okay, here are the three reductions: So for the

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reduction of \$10,000 to other services, all eight Members present voted in favor of that motion. The proposed reduction for IT air fare by \$15,000, seven of the Members voted in favor of that, so everyone but Member Sinenci received a portion of that reduction. And the IT life cycle for replacement of computer equipment received seven votes, so that \$100,000 was divided by the seven Members that voted in favor, and Member Sugimura voted against that motion. Okay, any questions on this? I see no hands, so we'll stop sharing. All right. And then any questions before we start with where we left off with the Office of the Mayor? Chair Lee.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: 'Ae. Be good...it's good to know how much we're...we deducted, but how much did we add? So...or should we be concerned, because these are individual adds, and the individual takes care of their adds?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yeah. So I'm not sure...Ms. Milner, are you prepared to share that spreadsheet?

MS. MILNER: Not yet, Chair, but if you can give me a few moments, I can get it up and ready.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. How about we...we'll wait for this afternoon, and then we can review? I want to be able to also review it before I share it.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay, because it's great...it's...it's great to...to see that we're...we're reducing, and we just did, what, 135...125,000 or whatever. But if we adding, you know, like 5 million to it, you know, we have to get down. Start to get serious about either more cuts or more creative ways to...to add to the budget.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. So right now, it's probably a little over \$1 million, including the requests from the Department. We...we...the really large items fell under the Affordable Housing Fund, and we have deferred decision making on the Affordable Housing Fund to the end of the week --

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: -- so that we can take it up with RPT. So --

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Thanks.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: -- for now, everything is under what came over the projected amount from Certification or RPT. Member Molina, question?

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Yeah, thank you, Madam Chair. No, no, just to reaffirm my support for the process. I like this idea where Members, if they're willing to make the tough decisions to support a cut, then those cuts, the monies that you get, can offset your adds. So I think that's very innovative. So this way, you...you offset those adds by making cuts, so to lessen the blow, so to speak, that we adding to the budget. We're not adding, we're offsetting with cuts, so this is why I've stated before. Members, don't be shy about proposing cuts. Then this way, it can offset those adds. And again, this

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is to help, to have respect for the taxpayers. I think they appreciate what we're trying to do, because not only...it...it's always seems to be mentioned that, you know, oh, we got to watch what we're doing as a Council, but also, we got to look at the departments that they're proposing. Because it can be argued the same way, that departments may be having some bloated proposals as well. So if you're going to point fingers at ourselves for the making adds, then look at the departments too, and Administration. So it works both ways, Madam Chair. But I just want to state my appreciation for this process, where those that are willing to, you know, step up and support a cut or initiate a cut, that's the way you can offset your adds and still come out with a budget that's lean, and addresses many of our important priorities in the community. Thank you, Madam Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Molina. Mahalo for your support of the process. Okay. Seeing no other questions, we'll move forward with reviewing the Office of the Mayor, and I encourage Members to track, you know, the reductions that you vote in favor of. And then that way you have a number to reconcile to our Committee Staff number, and then when we do that reconciliation, you're able to make corrections, if corrections are necessary. And also to track the...your priority proposals that do receive a majority of votes, and that way, you know where you're at, at all times, as far as how much funding you'll need to cover your priority proposals.

**OFFICE OF THE MAYOR**  
**Administration Program**

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, seeing no other questions, we'll continue with the Office of the Mayor. We completed our review of the budget program, okay, as well as the three pieces of legislation that fall under this department. So we will start with the Administration program. And the Administration program starts on page 11-3 in your budget details. Are there any proposals to...for reductions in the Administration program? Member Molina.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Thank you, Madam Chair. For the Members' information, page 11-10 Budget Details, Sub-Code 6132, Renewable Energy Programs, professional services, move to reduce by 100,000, from 200,000 down to 100,000. And if I get a second, I can explain my rationale.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh, okay. Moved by Member Molina, is there a second? Okay, second by Member Sinenci. Discussion? Member Molina.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Yeah, thank you Madam Chair. Again, this is a proposal. The...a new...a new grant. I'm...I'm not aware of any specifics or what the specific goals are and objectives, so we should have an extensive narrative of how these funds will be used, and how this program will operate, inclusive of staffing, contract services, and so forth. So depending on the kind of information I get, I think it should be, for the future, practice from all the departments to be as specific with these, you know, proposals. Because otherwise, I'm in a cost-cutting mode right now during decision-making week,

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so if I see something that's, you know, high, without any detailed explanation, I...I'm not shy about proposing a cut. And I'm certainly open to hearing what Director Yoshimura has for us on behalf of the Department. Thank you, Madam Chair.

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

MS. YOSHIMURA: Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aloha.

MS. YOSHIMURA: Good morning. So for the professional services, it is to support renewable energy programs, energy sufficient...energy efficiency projects, and a greenhouse gas inventory update. As you know, we are putting in EV stations, that is to...for the support that program as well. So I can get you more information, but that's the information that I have now. But I could reach out to Mr. de Roode and get a...further information for you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Budget Director. Member Molina? Did you have any...anything you'd like to add before I ask the other Members for comment?

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: No, I'll...I'll wait to hear comments from the other Members, then I'll throw my thoughts in after I hear from the Members. Thank you.

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

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: I kind of have a hard time with supporting this, especially too, on Earth Day. But I thought that Mr. de Roode and Ms. Makala...Makali...Ms. Ane had...had presented their program when...when the Mayor's Administration came, that...you know, some of their goals and initiatives, and it...it did sound well, and...and I have been a fan of their work to date. So I just...I...I have a hard time with this one. But I see that Mr. de Roode joined the call, so I'll yield.

MR. DE ROODE: Yes, aloha, everyone. So sorry, I just signed on, so I'm not sure (*audio interference*).

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aloha, Mr. de Roode. Okay. Members, I...the preference of the Chair for this process was not to speak directly to the departments or the...yeah, the departments. So I see that Mr. de Roode is on. If we can make it very quick, I'll accept a quick question. So the question...Mr. de Roode, aloha and mahalo for being with us. Alex de Roode is the Energy Commissioner under the Mayor's Office. Okay. So right now, the professional services item for \$200,000 to support renewable energy and energy efficiency projects and greenhouse gas inventory updates. If you can briefly provide the Members a bit more detail on what this \$200,000 will achieve for the County, Mr. de Roode?

MR. DE ROODE: Sure. Yes, Chair, thank you. Happy to. And apologies, I wasn't sure if...if we were expected to join today, but thank you for the opportunity. So this \$200,000

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will help to support any recommendations that would come out of energy audits or investment grade audits that would not be covered under our energy savings performance contracting initiative. That anything under that would be paid through savings, which...so we're trying to get, you know, as much as possible covered under that program. This additional funding would cover anything outside of that program, as well as any smaller-scale...supporting any smaller-scale renewable energy or energy storage. So this could help to support, for example, deploying some pilot projects at resiliency hubs that are also in development, as well as EV charging or other...other items that may be identified through the Climate Action Plan and Resiliency Strategy that will be, you know, fairly far along here in FY'22. So that's really the...the bulk of what that would support.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Mr. de Roode. Okay, Members, any...Member Molina?

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Yeah, thank you, Madam Chair. Just a quick question for Mr. de Roode and...how will...can you give us an example of how gathering this information will result in energy savings under this proposal or program?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: As quickly as possible, Mr. de Roode.

MR. DE ROODE: Sure. Yeah, so the...the first step is really understanding what the opportunities are, and that would be done through an audit. So we would be having engineers going through facilities looking at data, utility data, and also look...and tying that to emissions. So tying that to a greenhouse inventory, so we know what the emissions impact of those items are. So that's kind of the information-gathering stage. And then from that, we develop recommendations of what the best projects are with the funding we have available.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Okay. Thank you, Mr. de Roode. And you anticipate spending all \$200,000, or can you get by with say, 100? Or a little over? Or do you think you need all 200,000?

MR. DE ROODE: Yeah, unfortunately, these...these projects, even though they do save us money, the upfront costs can be quite expensive, it can be significant. I expect we would be able to, you know, be needing to spend all 200, and even that, we would probably...we could probably spend more, but I...I think it would be hard to, you know, do much with a reduced budget from 200.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Okay. Okay, thank you, Mr. de Roode. Thank you, Madam Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Mr. de Roode. Aloha. Member Molina, with that additional information, do you want to continue with your motion, or would you like to withdraw?

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Well, you know, I don't know how the other Members feel, but

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I'm kind of...if there's a way to gauge how the Members feel, I mean, I'm willing to go through with the motion. But if Members are reluctant to pursue this, then I'll yield. But just would like to get a pulse feel from the Members on this before I make a final decision on this proposal.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Molina. Members? Member Sinenci, followed by Member Sugimura, and I think Member Paltin already expressed her position.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Yeah, mahalo. Mahalo Chair, and yeah, thank you for...to Mr. Molina for asking the question. I, too, just wanted to get that feedback, but I remember now, Mr. de Roode and Ms. Ane coming to and presenting all of their programs. So I'll...I'll support the Department, but mahalo for the discussion.

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

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Yeah. Thank you Mr. Molina, for trying to, you know, cut expenses. I believe that the Department's basically presented to us a flat budget, and that from...from previous conversations, as well as what Mr. de Roode just said, that I believe we're lockstep in line with what the nation is trying to do with climate change and trying to cut back on overall expenses and...and lean towards the future in renewables and greenhouse gases. And so I...I appreciate what you're trying to do, but I cannot support the motion either. Thank you.

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

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Thank you. And also, appreciate Member Molina. I...I mean (*audio interference*)

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Member Paltin, you froze. Okay. I'm going to call on Member King while we figure out the technical difficulties with Member Paltin. Member King. Oh, Member King, please unmute.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Oh, okay. Just real quickly. Thank you, Chair. Just wanted to say, yeah, I...I think this is really important because this is our...part of our contribution to climate action. So this is something I see as pretty urgent as well, because you can't cut what you can't measure, and we need to measure our baseline data so that we know where we're at. Because this is not something I think we can put off for another year. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member King. Yeah, and...and then, yeah, for...for me, I...I also extend my gratitude, Member Molina. I...I agree, there's...you know, there's not a whole lot of detail in that, so it's something to bring up. Something for us to further discuss, so we understand what the expectations of the funding that's being allocated is. So mahalo for identifying that amount of money and bringing it for our consideration.

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COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Okay.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Member Molina.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: All right, Madam Chair. Well, you know, I can count, so...and I respect the Members' wishes. And certainly, it's ironic this falls on Earth Day. So I'll withdraw this request, but I do have another proposal under the Administration Program when you deem it appropriate for me to make my proposal. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Molina. Okay, Member Molina has withdrawn his motion. Member Sinenci, his second?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Yes, withdraw.

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

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Thank you, Madam Chair. I have another consideration. Budget Details page 11-11, under Admin Program, Sub-Code 6132, Resilience Strategy, Professional Services. Make a motion... I...I move that we reduce by 75,000 from 150,000 to 75,000. And basically, it's for the same reasons as the previous consideration. This is a new grant, but you know, Madam Chair, I'll wait for you to see if you get a second, and then I'll further explain. So that is my motion.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Molina. Okay, moved by Member Molina. Is there a second? Second by Member Johnson. Member Molina.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Thank you, Madam Chair, and thank you Member Johnson for providing the second, so I can briefly explain. Again, same reason like the previous consideration. A new grant. Until we know more of the goals and objectives, in my mind, we need to tighten our belt where we can. And so again, just for the future, if...extensive narratives would be helped...would be helpful on how these funds will be used. So again, at this time of year, we're in a cost-cutting mode, seeing other ways we can further adjust our budget. So that's my proposal, 75,000 reduction. Thank you, Madam Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Molina. Anyone wishing to speak to the motion? Member Johnson, as a seconder of the motion...the motion?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Yes, Chair. Thank you. I...I seconded the motion because I love what Councilmember Molina proposes. He don't be shy, and I want to hear the discussion, and that's where it's at for me, so mahalo.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Johnson. Member Paltin.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: You know, when West Maui had, in 2018, the fire and the flood, and then it was like nearly a year at least before people got back to their homes, or like, a



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home after how many homes burned down and whatnot, that's what we're...we're talking about in resiliency, and future climate change ramifications. And we do need strategy because at that time, the County's response to our residents who were in disaster was...was sort of lacking. And...and you know, we just seen it up...up...Kapalua, with these things that are coming every year, and...and you know, resiliency is us being able...our residents being able to bounce back from these increasing natural disasters, where we're kind of in the middle of the Pacific, miles away from...from any other land mass, so it's basically us that we have to rely on. And so in...in my perspective, we do need to build up our resiliency strategy, because we're not there yet from the...the events that seem to be occurring more annually. Like, not just a 10-year flood or a 100-year flood, we're seeing natural disasters that happen more than once a year. So you know, I'd...I'd love to take part in the sharing of this money, but I think that this isn't an Administration thing. This is a resilience for our residents type of thing. So I regretfully won't be able to support it, but I appreciate the sentiment.

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

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Madam Chair, I was going to ask you to get the input from Director Yoshimura, but to save time, my colleague from West Maui really hit home on those comments, and thank you for reminding us of what happened out there in your district. So certainly, I can agree with the need for funding for a program like this. So I'll...I'll go ahead and withdraw the motion, and thank...thank you for your thoughts, Member Paltin. And I appreciate Member Johnson for providing a second to allow me to at least make this proposal. So I'll withdraw the motion. Thank you, Madam Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Molina. Okay, and then I...I'm hoping that the Appendix that I'm...I'm proposing to create will help to give us that additional information, so that we understand at the forefront what the goals and objectives are for these professional services, contractual services, more vaguer [sic] line items. Mahalo, Member Molina. Are there any other proposals for the Administration program? Okay. Seeing no hands, I will ask for consensus.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Consensus.

**Economic Development Program**

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Right. Okay, the next, and last, program under the Mayor's Office is Economic Development Program. I see Member Johnson with his hand up. Member Johnson.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Thank you, Chair. I have seven cuts. We'll start with MVB. So I'll make a motion... let me see here. So I would... I move to reduce the current MVB funds on page 406 by 540,000.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Moved by Member Johnson. Is there a second?

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COUNCILMEMBER KING: Second for discussion. Was that 540,000?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: That is correct; 540,000.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, seconded by Member King. Member Johnson, speak to the motion.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Thank you, Chair. I would like to take these monies towards helping our most vulnerable living on our streets and public places. I believe that this will indeed help our tourism industry, as I see comments on tourists' Facebook posts regarding our homeless situation and how it's impacting their experience. We are way beyond the time that we can just look away and ignore our most vulnerable. Let's expand the services that they desperately need. Mahalo.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Johnson. Member King, as the seconder, if you'd like to speak at this time, or you're also welcome to wait. Okay. Members, any other discussion to the motion? Member Paltin.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: I'd like to propose an amendment to the main motion.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Please proceed, Member Paltin.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: I move to amend the main motion increasing the decreased amount by \$460,000.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: For a total of...

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: 1 million.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Moved by Member Paltin. Is there a second to the amendment to... the motion to amend the main motion? Second by Member Johnson. Member Paltin.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Thank you. In addition to the things that Councilmember Johnson mentioned, this past year, I believe the Maui Visitors Bureau had a similar amount, and we...from the way things are right now, we don't need to promote Maui. They're...they're coming back in droves before we're ready. Things haven't been coordinated, you know, restaurants are at 30 percent capacity, hotels are at like 80 to 100 percent capacity. We don't have enough rental cars. People are posting that they're here and their rental car got canceled. You know, hotel swimming pools are full with kids. Meanwhile, our kids can go to school, like two days a week. They can't even swim at the public pool. And with the previous 1.5 mil that we had allocated to the Maui Visitor's Bureau, I would have hoped that some of these types of kinks would have been worked out. That you know, many residents knew, because they work in the hotel industry, that during spring break and beyond, we're over 80 percent capacity on all of Kā'anapali. Were there any calls made to the rental car agencies, you know, hey, we got this big thing going, but you guys took all your rental cars. Or you know, any types of coordination made. But

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in my first year, when I...when we came on, and I think the Visitor's Bureau got like 3 mil or something, and at that time we had a conversation with Ms. Duong and...and she said that's not her mission to manage tourism, and...and money was put in for education, and she's all like, that's not what we do. And...and you know, now they have the Destination Management Action Plan, but all it's really doing is asking the visitor industry. And if the visitor industry doesn't want to comply with the Destination Management Action Plan, they're just like, no, not going to do it, you know? And so I think that continually throw millions of dollars to this Visitor's Bureau, when...when Maui sells itself. And what we need to invest in is Maui and the quality of life and the quality of tourism. There's nothing that we can throw money at to say we only want this type of tourist; we want tourists that care about the culture, care about the environment. There's nothing amount of money you can throw at something to make that happen. As long as we subscribe to the United States Constitution idea, we can't cap tourism, we can't say only these people can come, we can't say any of that because the United States Constitution prohibits it. And so throwing more money at that problem is...is a bad idea in...in my opinion. And not just for homeless initiatives, but for all of the other initiatives that our residents are asking for. So we have a lot of folks out there that are willing to work on the Destination Management Plan, and they're not asking for 1.3 million. They're not asking for 1.5 million. They're doing it for the passion and for the results that they want to see. So that's...that's kind of my reasoning for that proposal.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Member Paltin, so the amount that you would want to reduce the MVB line item is 1 million? So that there would be \$300,000 remaining in the budget?

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: At least. I mean, more than 540,000. That's where I'm at. If somebody wants to increase it, I got no qualms about that. But you know, also, we did spend...we do spend money on the cost of government commission, and they did issue a report that said, you know, no more than 500,000. And you know, in line with what HTA is getting, like, we need to make sure that we get our fair share of whatever HTA gets. And look at what all the other counties are appropriating. Even if we do appropriate 500,000, we'll be far beyond any other county. And...and you know, we have to believe that that 3 million that we've been putting in for so many years does have a payoff, and I...I believe it does. Just look at how fast we're bounced back from tourism right now. Look at...look at all the people going back to work that can't even request vacation right now, because they're so booked. So --

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, Mahalo, Member --

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: -- I believe in the investment that we've already made.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo, Member Paltin. Okay. Members, I know this is going to end up being a very robust discussion, so I will put three minutes on the clock for everyone. Member Paltin was the maker of the motion, so I let her speak to her motion. If you want to have more than three minutes, I can increase it. Would you like more than three minutes for each of you to be able to speak to this motion? Three

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minutes, and then you can speak a second time for three minutes if you want. And then that way, we can keep this conversation as tight as possible. And then just so that we can all figure this out together, if you can say where you're at on how much you think that the MVB...this line item, how much should remain in the budget. And then that way, we can all figure this out where we're at together. Okay. Chair Lee.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Thank you, Madam Chair. I don't need three minutes. All I want to say is that I agree that there should be an adjustment to the appropriation, but not that much. And I...you know, I'd like to hear other...other people's suggestions, because whether there are other organizations out there to help manage tourism and educate them, the MVB already has a massive network, has relationships with the airlines, has relationships with most of the big hotels, et cetera. It has a relationship with the government, unlike anybody trying to do the same thing, coming in with...you know, to volunteer. So again, I'm open to adjusting that amount, but not slicing it to that degree. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair Lee. Okay, and then I'll share my thoughts. I didn't see anyone's hands, so I put three minutes on the clock. So I have a couple proposals for Members' consideration. My first, where I was landing, was 1.1 million reduction from this item. And the 200,000 would remain for tourism management. We are not getting TAT from the State, and that's where the justification for putting the large amounts of money had come from in the past toward this item. We learned when we reviewed OED last week, that this is not for personnel, so this doesn't cover the costs for employees, this is purely for promotion. As we've seen in this last month or more, visitors, tourists, don't need to see ads and don't need to be appealed to. They just need cheap airfare, and they will be here. And even if it means they'll need to pay \$300 to \$500 for a rental car, they will be here. Maui Island, Maui County, Hawai'i as a whole, sells itself, and I don't think we need to invest more. We've...we've seen what the tourists need, and that's air fare. What we need as residents, is management. We need management through education, we need management through establishing caps in certain areas, and that's what we've started to do. And our...I believe our residents have suffered long enough without necessary action being taken. And so I'm...I'm proud of this Council for taking that action. And then the last thing...so then I thought that perhaps another approach to this is, we would...I would support the motion for \$1 million reduction, and instead of leaving the line item exclusively to Maui Visitors Bureau, that we make it for tourism management. And so we would strike MVB as the line item here, and we would put the funding toward tourism management instead, and create that as a pot of money, and MVB can apply for that funding. I may even support a little more for tourism management here, if it was open to those that we know are doing the work, and then that way, MVB can apply for the money; that they're not excluded from the process, they can. But so can other people who are doing the work to manage tourism on behalf of the quality of life for our residents. Okay. Anyone else wishing to speak to the motion for the first time? I'll go to Member King, followed by Member Sugimura, Member Molina, and then Member Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay. Thank you, Chair. The...I think the proposal, you said 1.3, but they actually have two line items in here, which total 1.5. So I think the proposal

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would leave them with 500,000. And you know, I like your idea of putting in you know, kind of like an RFP, but if we're going to cut...if we're going to cut...I mean, I would support cutting a million, because we'd still have...we were still supplying more money than any of the other counties, and we've known that for a couple of years now, since the cost of government commission studied that issue. But you know, when we...when I was proposing this back in my first term, and we kept...we got a lot of people that the Visitor Association brought out to testify against it, saying we're going to lose jobs, we're going to lose tourists, we're going to, you know, all these doomsday things, none of that happened. In fact, after you know, we...after the cut, then the pandemic happened, and then when the pandemic, people perceived it as almost being manageable, they all started coming back without...without that...you know, the activity that we had the year before. So I think we've proven that what everybody's saying about Maui being an attraction, that we don't need...it sells itself. And...and right now, we're in a...we're in a position where our residents are crying out. They're...they're crying out because there's too many tourists, and on top of being...having over-tourism, which is...numbers higher than what's described in our Maui Island Plan, it's a danger now. Because a lot of those tourists aren't masking up. They're not social distancing, we don't know who's been vaccinated, who hasn't. So on top of the inconvenience of, you know, trying to find parking and having all this traffic, and...and the...the extra bodies, it's...it's...there's...there's the added level of...of what...what's happening with this pandemic. So I would...I would support leaving...putting those two pots of money together as 500,000, and you know, because we do need...it will include education and outreach. And then letting...letting the Visitors Bureau apply for it, and then they can tell us exactly what they're going to do with the money. But I've seen huge amounts of money, in the hundreds of thousands, pull out just for advertising events, and events like the Maui Invitational that are owned by a mainland company. So you know, even though I understand that it helps our local businesses, we're spending a lot of money for an organization that's based on the mainland that's profiting hugely off its events, you know? And why do we need to help them advertise? I've heard a lot of complaints about people that can't even get tickets; people who live here who can't even get tickets because it's sold out before it even starts. So anyway, there's all...there's all those reasons plus more, but I think we're...we're...we'd be doing a very reasonable and responsible action by funding this for 500,000; still more than the Big Island does, and they have more people over there. It's still more than O'ahu does. O'ahu gives nothing to their Visitor Association...their...their Island Association. So anyway, that's my...my thoughts on that.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member King. Member Sugimura, followed by Member Molina, then Member Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: I believe that the...I...I hear...I hear the sentiments, I can feel the visitors back in our community, and...and hear the peoples' voices, right, in what I read. So I understand where people are coming from, the frustration. Even at the public hearing, there were like, testifiers saying the same thing, like, defund the Maui Visitors Bureau. But I really believe that they are our...the visit...the visitor industry is our economic engine, so we need to pay attention to it. And if we can have a say, so to speak, with that Destination Management Plan that was put out by Hawai'i Tourism

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Authority of how to manage the visitor component, that's where I believe we need to be. What you all are saying is, is the MVB the right agency to do it, and are there others out there that could do it. The proposals that I heard so far, between Gabe and Tamara, you're taking the...in the budget document, there's 1.5 million. You're taking it down \$1 million. Keani is saying to take it down 1.3? So there's going to be still the 100,000 for Maui Nui Marine Resource, 200,000 for the visitor education, and a leftover of 200,000 unaccounted for, then would be the remaining balance. So it would be just 200,000 left in the budget. I'm going to...I'm going to listen to where this is going. I believe we still need to manage our visitor industry. I think you're questioning whether MVB is the right entity, or do you want to set up something that...like what Keani did with the mini ag...ag grants? You know, to help build strength in the community in that way, and this way would be...are we trying to manage the visitors in...in a different...with a different lens. So that's all I'm going to say right now, and I look forward to hearing more from the Members.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Sugimura. And just a correction, I...I didn't say 1.3 million, the reduction? But I would support that too. Okay. Member Molina, Member Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Thank you very much, Madam Chair. Certainly, the MVB discussion each budget year is always interesting, and I appreciate everybody's points of view. But I...just before I provide my...my thoughts, again, the current proposals that's on the floor; how much was Mr. Johnson's? Was that 540,000 reduction, or that's the proposed amount to be left for MVB?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Member Johnson.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Chair, if I may. Yes, 540,000 cut, for...for...to go towards homelessness issues.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Okay. And then so that would leave them what, 700,000-plus? Am I correct with my math, Mr. Johnson?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Member Johnson.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Yes, that's correct.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Okay. And then, of course, Member Paltin was at a million, and Chair, you had 1.1 million, and then a 1 million consideration? (audio feedback) Sorry.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Member Paltin.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: I think where we're at is just 1 million, because Chair can't make a motion. She just gave her thoughts. I think if she could make a motion, it would be 1.1, if that's correct?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yeah.

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VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: So the motion...the amendment to the main motion that's currently on the floor is for a cut of 1 million. In...the Chair, in her thoughts, said she would like to see 1.1 million. I'm willing to entertain that as a friendly amendment, if Member Johnson wants to second that as a friendly amendment. Since that way, she could stay the Chair, and I don't have to be the Chair for her to make that amendment, if that's what she would desire.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Paltin. Okay, how about we...we do this. Let's withdraw all the motions on the floor. We'll start with clean. We'll have this discussion, so that each Member can just state what their position is. I asked Members to say where they're at, and what they would like to see remain in the budget, but not everyone has done that. So I'll...I'll ask Member Paltin to withdraw her motion to amend the main motion and Member Johnson to withdraw his second, and then withdraw his motion to... original motion, the main motion on floor. And I think that was Member Paltin with a second. So we'll just be a clean slate. No motions on the floor. Just speak for the three minutes, and what your position is, and then we'll just... we'll figure out together what will remain in the budget, okay? Member Molina, for your final 30 seconds.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Oh, final already? I'm sorry. Okay, well, yeah, the writing's on the wall. It's imminent the cut's going to happen. I appreciate what Ms. Duong is doing, but I was looking at an adjustment. A little bit less than Mr. Johnson's one at 400K, to leave them basically 900,000. Because I think we still need to foster that education of our visitors, and the whole direction from MVB has changed, so...and we've dramatically cut them from previous Fiscal Years: 3.5 million; then last year, what, 1.5 million? And now, you know, it's going to be a lot less than the 1.3 million. That seems to be the writing on the wall. So I'm at the 400,000 cut. Thank you, Madam Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Molina. And so that is for the 1.3 for MVB and does not include the 200 for the Maui County Visitors Association?

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: This is just strictly for MVB at this point.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Okay, mahalo, Member Molina. Member Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Mahalo, Chair, for the opportunity. And yeah, our EACP Committee last term really addressed visitor management, particularly on the road to Hāna. And we did see, you know, some response from MVB when we did proviso the funds for visitor management. I think when we put in 200,000 for education, we saw the reservation system at Wai'anapanapa come online, so that some of that monies went to that. We also had the...the placards that were put in the rental cars that had the...the County pledge that you, Chair, initiated. So those things kind of happened when we provisoed [sic] some of the money. And so I think, having said that, if we can kind of direct this...the Bureau to where we want some of the funds to do, then I'm...I'm open to leaving some monies in there. My community is highly impacted, and I agree with Member Paltin, where we haven't...we were told that, you know, it's going to take two

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years for this industry to bounce back, and that's not happening. They're back at a...a faster pace than anticipated. My community experienced a couple deaths, drownings in the stream beds. We were looking to...we had a conversation with Ms. Duong about possibly getting stream monitors during Lono season when we have flooding events, to help...to save some of the lives that we lost just, you know, this...this year. So I think, you know, putting monies into those safety precautions, I mean, that will always help us. I did visit the MVB email, and I don't see too much management on there. There's still...you know, we haven't seen that pivot that we wanted to see from MVB, you know, like having the rental cars smaller hubs at the hotels, and maybe hotels sending transportation to the...to the airport, to try and get their...because they're not going to use their cars throughout their entire stay. You know, they'll spend half the time on the beach. So if they...if we had less cars, or cars just parked at the hotels, then that would definitely help with congestion on our highways. So again, I'm...I'm open to the cuts, if we're going to leave some money, maybe proviso for more visitor education. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Sinenci. So you said "some money." So how much?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: I'll be open to 500,000.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Remaining in the budget?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Well, and that's with both the 1.3 and the 200,000 for MCVB.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. So...and then your position on striking the...naming it and making it a tourism management grant pot.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Support it.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Member Johnson.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Thank you, Chair. Let me just...of course, I love this debate, take no offense. I'm just going at what I see, and I feel that whole idea. Like, I'm getting gaslit. Like, I...I feel like the tourists are back, right? There's the...people tell me, don't believe your lying eyes, that we need some kind of help with these folks. They're coming. That you can...we...look at the price of the car rentals. The Lāna'i people tell me all the time, I'm trying to go to Maui for, you know, doctors, Costco, Walmart, I can't even get a rental car. Because guess what? The tourists are back. We need to manage them. So when...when the industry tells me, oh, we need this, and we need to help...help encourage people to come, and I'm like, don't you see? You can't see the beaches? You know, you can't see...you listen to the testimonies? You can't...you're telling me that...that's...that they're not here? They are here, and it's...I think that this money should...should go towards things that...that are besides what it's going towards right now. So that's my stance on it. I...I feel that like, you know, there's, like, a two-tiered system; the rules for the tourists and the rules for us. And this is not...I'm...I'm tired of that. I don't...I don't think that's fair. So if you look at the testifiers, they've been saying



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it until they're blue in the face. MVB, defund it. Defund it. The people know we're here. I just got a letter from the Hawai'i Tourism Authority, said Maldives, number one in the...Maldives are the number one tourist industry right now, and Maui island is number three. I mean, that's...we're doing a-okay as far as our...our brand. So I think that that is where I stand on this week, where it's a tight budget, this is one that doesn't need it. Mahalo.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Johnson. Okay, so your position is to leave 760,000 for MVB and 200,000 for Maui County Visitor's Association, or what is your position? And your position on leaving the named entities and...or creating a grant pot for tourism management.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay. Thank you, Chair. To clarify, I...my original proposal was 540,000. After hearing the Members, I would be willing to go up to 1 million, and also, I would be a bit open to the idea of just making it a general pot that MVB can apply to. Mahalo.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Johnson. Okay. Chair Lee, did you want to clarify where you...what your position is?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: I...I did think that Mr. Molina had a...had a good suggestion, but...but can you repeat...Mr. Molina, can you repeat your suggestion?

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Yeah. Let me make, I guess, a modification now and considering the MVA. So that would be...so if we include the MVA, it's a 1.5 million total, if my math is correct. And I had initially proposed a 400 cut. I would be willing to go 600,000 down, so a total of 9...that would leave what? 700 for MVB and 200 for MVA as a compromise to what's being proposed.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: I can support that.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair Lee. And a quick clarification from Budget Director Yoshimura. The MVB Executive Director is Ms. Sherry Duong, and the Maui County Visitor Association is something...is a different entity?

MS. YOSHIMURA: Chair. So Maui Visitor...Maui County Visitor Association is what we have in the budget. Their DBA is Maui Visitors Bureau.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh, okay. So it's the same entity.

MS. YOSHIMURA: . . .*(inaudible)*. . . yes.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Ah, I see. Okay. Mahalo for that clarification, Budget Director. Okay. I think...Member King, I didn't hear your position on what we would want to leave in the budget, and how to structure the funds.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Yeah, you know, I...I agree with what's been said about...yeah, I

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haven't seen the results, even though we've been taking about visitor management for over a year, and you know, the fear was put into us that we wouldn't...that we needed to keep the pipeline full because we would get...we wouldn't have these tourists, but obviously we do. We had more tourists the first of April than we did pre-pandemic, first week of April. But my position would be to...I...I would go as high as a million dollars in cuts, and then just leave one pot of money since it's the...since basically their name is on both of them, for 500,000 for...for...you know, and...and stipulate that...that there has to be visitor education involved, but we don't have to necessarily describe how much they have to...you know, that...that...that they have to use the whole amount. I mean, they can use some of it for promotion, I guess. That's what they do. I just...I just think that we...we've always given this organization an exorbitant amount of money. I don't know how it got so out of balance with the other counties and what they were offering, but we're still going to be offering more than any other county even at 500,000. So that...I would, you know, I would...that...I would support that.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo, Member King. All right. Okay. And then, Member Sugimura, did you want to clarify your amount or did you not want to do any reduction?

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: I hear where the discussion is going, and again, I believe that we're talking about 1.3, which is designated for the MVB and the discussion...it sounds like what you're saying is to take that down to...Mr. Molina, are you saying take it down to 750? Is that the new number?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Member Molina? Member Molina said 700.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Oh, 700?

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: And then the rest of the money then for MVB would be then designated...I mean...I'm sorry, the rest of the money then would be designated to what you're talking about, Chair, of being an open pot for people to apply?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh, mahalo...mahalo, Member Sugimura, for the clarification. My position is to delete the 200...so I would remove the \$200,000 for Maui County Visitors Association Visitor Education and I would strike Maui Visitors Bureau from the...from being a named grantee, and I would create a tourism management grant pot of \$500,000. Mahalo, Member Sugimura.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Oh, okay. Okay. Okay. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: So your...your position...what was your position?

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: That I believe that we need to give the Maui Visitors Bureau funding, and what Mr. Molina suggested, so that we can keep them in terms of the management perspective of what the Destination Management Plan is expecting to

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happen. Because I still think that we saw the influx of visitors coming in with cheap airfares, and the reason why people are grumbling about no rent-a-cars is because a lot of them got sold during this period when there weren't any visitors over this last year. So that's an inventory problem. But we...I believe that they serve a role in...or there needs to have a...there needs to be a role for destination management. So I mean, I support 700,000 to go to MVB and that be the deletion.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo, Member Sugimura. Okay. Members, so I have Member Sugimura, Member Molina, and Chair Lee voting to keep \$700,000 under MVB, Maui Visitors Bureau, and \$200,000 for Maui Visitors Bureau for visitor education. And then I have Member Paltin, Member Johnson, Member Sinenci, Member King, and myself reducing the amount to \$500,000. The only...so that's the majority. The only thing that I...I...it's not clear, I have it from Member Paltin, Member Sinenci, Member Johnson...Member Paltin, Member Sinenci, Member Johnson, and myself to strike the grantee name and to make it a tourism management grant . . .*(inaudible)*. . . funding. Member King...

COUNCILMEMBER KING: I...I thought I said...yeah, I thought I said I supported that.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh, okay. So that's a majority. So the motion would be to remove \$200,000 from the budget for Maui Visitors Bureau - Visitor Education, and to strike Maui Visitors Bureau as a name grantee and to instead replace that with Tourism Management Grant Fund, and have \$500,000 for that Tourism Management pot of money.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Move.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Who...who...who made that motion? Okay. Moved by Member Paltin, seconded by Member Johnson. Okay. Do Members need to speak to the motion? Okay. Member Molina?

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Okay. So the running total now proposed by Member Paltin again, just quickly, because I don't think we're too far apart between the three of us who want a little bit more versus five of you who want, you know, less. I just would like to consider a compromise number somewhere in between. I think, you know, if Members would consider that. So what I'm hearing is, okay, my proposal was a \$600,000 cut leaving MVB and what...what have you, 900, then we're looking at proposals as low as 500, am I correct, Chair? I know with your proposal.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Molina. Yeah, so the motion is to keep \$500,000 in the budget for tourism management grants.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Okay. Well, I'd like to consider, let's...can we meet halfway, say 700 total? I throw that out there for consideration.

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

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VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. I have an acquaintance that literally just got out of a meeting with Ms. Duong, and the money that they want from the County is for their partnerships, to recruit for these big events. We...we had that golf event in the middle of the pandemic where, you know, the...the Mayor was on the...on...in the newspaper and he had these crowds of people. The Maui Jim Invitational, the way it works is there's these crowds of people. And...and we're sitting here discussing basically giving them money to promote these big events while my kids aren't getting an education. We walked through Kā'anapali this past weekend, crowds of people around the swimming pool, kids bombing, having great time, but I can't let my kids go to the public pool, you know. And...and there's definitely, definitely a double standard when it comes to enforcement. And...and I'm not trying to blame the Police or anything, but that's how our residents feel, that's how I feel, that people are coming here on vacation, and we haven't had a chance to educate our children in school. We're...we're...I mean my kid was a little bit behind before. My daughter goes two days a week for like three hours. This is our children's future, and...and I'm not going to sell them out like this, you know? Like all...all we're asking for is one year of hard pivot, one year not to like promote these big events that we're going to see in the newspaper while we tell our kids sorry, you can't swim at the pool, sorry, you can't go to school. The first day my kid went to real school, the very next day it got shut down and they were bawling. My daughter was crying for two hours because she couldn't go to school, but we're promoting huge events for people to come over here. And it's like well, you guys have a problem, yeah, but we want to...we want to do our thing. You know, it's not...it's not managed tourism, it's back to business as usual, and business as usual wasn't working for a lot of us for a long time. And if we want to put the emphasis on our residents, we need to put the emphasis on our residents. And if they want money, then . . . *(timer sounds)* . . . they need to come and show us what it's going to be used for. And right now, we know it's going to be used for Maui Jim Invitational, PGA. Sorry, thank you.

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

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Oh, I don't have anything. No. Sorry about that.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh, okay, I saw your hand up. Okay. Chair Lee?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay. The question on the floor is...is there any room for compromise. I don't have any particular relationship with MVB, but I certainly wouldn't blame them for all the problems we have with regards to rent-a-cars and the numbers of people coming. My thought was we're going to support them to continue to educate the tourists coming in. And obviously, with three million tourists coming a year, one little agency can't educate all of them, but they can start now and continue to build their...and spread their...their networks and...and...and spread the message. Just as they were successful in promoting Maui, now...over like 30 years, now they...they have to pivot and they have to focus on education. And because they have...they've already started in this regard, that's the reason why I'm supporting them. I'm not supporting them to bring more tourists to Maui, of course not. I don't think anybody is. So that's

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where I am. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo, Chair Lee. Shucks, Member Molina just left, I was going to answer both of your questions about compromise and finding some middle ground. \$500,000 in the budget is my compromise, that is my compromise. And I think Chair Lee nailed it, that one little entity cannot do all the work, which is why I've proposed to open it up to more entities to apply for this funding for \$500,000 for tourism management so more entities can do that really monumental task. Member Sinenci, I saw your hand.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you, Chair. And I think I've already voiced my...my needs for...for more management during their visit. I...I remember...and I don't know if CARES Act or American Rescue funds can go towards, you know, addressing tourists as they come in at the airport. I...I remember if...if MVB was...if they could also help to, you know, the intakes of...of tourists or check in their...whether they...they got their tests or...or getting a second test on arrival, those types of things. I think we want to look at more that kind of help for incoming tourists. And also, you know, if...if they can help with that. So I'm...I'm open to it, but these are some of the things that we want to see from the industry. We want to see...I was hoping that they would come up even with some ordinances, you know, as...as far as keeping tourism in commercial areas and not...and not within our local neighborhoods. Those types of things, I was hoping that the industry could come and present to...to us, to legislators like ourselves so that we can help to...to really address those problems that we've seen with the visitor industry. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Sinenci. Member Johnson, followed by Member King.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Thank you, Chair. Councilmember Shane Sinenci brought up a valid point, and I just want to...this has been something I've been thinking about for a while. We're funding these folks to...to advertise for...for, you know, to come to Hawai'i. And it's like if we want legislation, we shouldn't go to the industry and ask them for...for legislation, this body can do it for free. Why are we paying the...the industry and the...and the lobbyists to go and come up with legislation for us to...to...to review? Let...let this body come together and write legislation. That's one thing that this body is good at, is we write legislation that manages our industries. And what is our big industry here? It's tourism. So that's where the...the legislation should be coming from, is from this body. So that's...I...and we don't have to put that in a line, in the budget. So that's...that's my cents on it. Mahalo, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Johnson. Member King?

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Thank you, Chair. Yeah, I agree it is our mission to...for legislation, but we also charged the Maui Visitors Bureau when we did the cuts last year and tried to get them to pivot toward management to help us in that respect, and I haven't seen...I haven't seen that happen yet. In fact, on the...on the mauicounty.gov website, it still says the mission of the Maui Visitors Bureau, which includes the Lānaʻi Visitors Bureau

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and Moloka'i Visitors Association, is to market the islands of Maui nui as viable and attractive destinations to visitors from the mainland and beyond. It doesn't say that their...their mission is to manage tourism or to educate tourists. So that has not been changed, and I think as long as that mindset exists, we're not...we're going to be...you know, all the money is going to go towards bringing more tourists here, that's the mission, and it's stated there. And also, I wanted to remember Council...I wanted to remind Councilmembers that we did have a response from the Mayor on the Maui Visitors Bureau and how much other funding they get, and so they get 139,000 from the Hawai'i Visitor...the HVCB, Hawai'i Visitors something Bureau for discretionary marketing for Maui nui. And HVCB also spends at least 25 percent of their marketing PR travel trade budget in supporting Maui nui. So this could be anywhere from 3 to 5 million annually. There's...there's a lot of money that's going into marketing Maui that we're not having to put in, and it's from this association. So that's why the other counties don't put that much into their visitor bureaus, you know, and that's why O'ahu puts nothing in because there is money coming from the actual people running the visitor industry, the hotel owners and, you know, whoever else is associated, the activities and everything, which I think is a smart thing to do, it should be a partnership. But just the bottom line is...is I think we tasked the Visitors Bureau to...to pivot, and we saw a lot of really nice words and a lot of nice documents. But if you read the County website, they're here to market Maui, they're not here for management. . . .*(timer sounds)*. . . Good timing.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Perfect timing. Okay. Members, I think everyone had an opportunity to speak to the motion. Member Molina, when you jumped off really quickly, I just...and I'll just quickly recap, I just...I just said that I...that this \$500,000 for tourism management grants is my compromise. So I...I'm not willing to go up. I'm willing to go down, but not up. Mahalo, Member Molina.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. All right. I will call for the question. Okay. All those in favor of striking the 200,000 for Maui Visitors Bureau - Visitor Education and...

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Oh, Madam Chair? Sorry, before you continue. I...I just wanted to say, you know, I've heard the majority, and I certainly have some reservations about the cut, but I'll respect it. And I was hoping that there could be some compromise, so if it is the will of this majority to go for...I mean, I agree with you in creating this new pot without naming it specifically after one organization. But I will then honor the will of the majority then, if this is the case, we'll go with the 500,000...I will go with the 500,000, and then we'll see what happens from here on in. Certainly MVB has the option to come back and state their case as to why they may need a little bit more. But yeah, I...I can feel...we can all feel it out there in the community with some frustration out there. So I'll...with reservations, I'll support the proposal. Thank you, Madam Chair.

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

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: I just want to say I'm going to support the motion with strong

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reservations. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair Lee. Okay. I'm going to call for the question. Oh, Member Sugimura, are...are you voting? Or...

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: No, I just want to...I just want to say that I too can hear the sentiment of the majority to cut back the Maui Visitors Bureau. I...I really like the idea of a tour...tourism management grant so that people who are actually doing things in the community can...can ask for money. And I just wonder, Keani, is 500,000 enough based upon the needs of the community that...you know, there seems to be a lot of need if you have all these people grumbling now and we haven't even started really kicking back. So I wonder if you would consider increasing that 500 to a larger amount so you can have more people applying and solving people [sic] like the Hāna Road issues or, you know, like, you know, Iao Valley, you know, all over that people love to visit, and Wai'anapanapa, State parks, our beaches. There seems to be a lot of concerns, and how can we increase that pot so that it's more than 500 to address the many problems that we're all hearing frustrations about.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Sugimura, for your question. To answer your question, no, I'm...I'm not...I wouldn't support increasing it from 500,000. One, this is kind of a test, this is pilot, we're piloting this new grant pot. Two, MVB can apply for this funding, and I would like to see if more than MVB gets this funding because \$500,000 could potentially go all to MVB, which is not what I would like to see. I would like to see other entities who are doing the work get funding, and so that's the intent of this pot of money for not all 500,000 to go to MVB. So I'm stating that on the record, so if there's a need for legislative clarification, that is the legislative clarification. Not all 500,000 . . . (timer sounds). . . will go to MVB, that I would like to see other entities get that. So with this pilot grant program that we're doing right now, I would like to see it next year, and to see who applied and who got funding before I continue to put funding toward this new pot that we're creating. And as Member Johnson said, as a legislator, I have been doing this work. Many of the Councilmembers have individually been going out with members of the community who are volunteering their time because of the impacts that they're experiencing so that we can mitigate the impacts and truly manage this tourism crisis that we're in. And so to answer your question, no, I...I would not support more. I don't know about the other Members, I'm not speaking for them, but that...that would be where my vote would be if you made a motion to amend the main motion. Mahalo, Member Sugimura.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. I see no hands, so I think we're ready to take the vote. All right. I'll call for the question, and I'll repeat the motion so that we are all clear on what we're voting on. The motion is to strike the \$200,000 for Maui County Visitor...Maui Visitors Bureau - Visitor Education. It's to strike Maui Visitors Bureau from the grantee program and to instead replace it with Tourism Management Grants, and to reduce the 1.3 million to \$500,000. Okay. All those in favor of the motion please raise your hand and say "aye." Okay. I see eight "ayes." Any "noes?" All right, eight

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“ayes,” zero “noes,” one excused.

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

**NOES:**        **None.**

**ABSTAIN:**        **None.**

**ABSENT:**        **None.**

**EXC.:**        **Councilmember Kama.**

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**ACTION:    APPROVE**

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Members. That was painless. Okay. Member Johnson, you had another proposal.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Mahalo, Chair. I would like to make a motion to cut the 600,000 grant for the Maui Arts and Cultural Center Capital Improvements on page 404.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: In the Program Budget page 404, what was it?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Thank you, Chair. It's the 600,000 capital improvements for the Maui Arts and Cultural Center.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: I see. Okay. There's a motion from Member Johnson. Is there a second? Okay. Second for discussion? Okay. Mahalo, Member Paltin. Member Johnson?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Thank you, Chair. My office went back over the minutes to see the origins of this line item, and we recall being told this was a one-time deal. However, that being beside the point, back in 2018 when the times were good, the MACC offered to defer funding to the next year. And now times are tight, I'm asking them to defer so we can divert these funds towards our homeless crisis. They may be the jewel, as I've heard them say, but right now we need to help those who don't even have two pennies. Mahalo, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Johnson. Okay. Anyone else wishing to speak to the motion? Chair Lee?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Yeah, I'll be voting against the motion. The Maui Arts and Cultural



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Center is...provides services to all of our kupuna, our adults, our children, our schools, the list is endless. And you know, I'm a little concerned that of course, the homeless problem is a priority, but if we are going to divert funds we need to identify specific projects. Just like we expect the Administration to provide specific projects, otherwise it's just going to go there and be parked there and then left there for next year in Carryover/Savings. So that's my concern that if we don't have a specific project that the Administration is going to spend, then I would be concerned about just diverting monies because it's a priority, but there's no specific project attached to it. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair Lee. And really quickly before I call on Member King I'll just clarify. So on page 404 of your Program Budget there's a Maui Arts and Cultural Center line item and that's for 318,000. There's the Maui Arts and Cultural Center Capital Improvements and that's for 600,000. And then the Maui Arts and Cultural Center for Arts in Education and Innovative Programs for \$424,360. And the proposal or the motion on the floor is only for the \$600,000 that are related to the capital improvement projects, not to the MACC as a whole or to their cultural programs. Member King? Chair Lee, did you want to say something after that clarification?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Well, the facilities...the condition of facilities are directly related to the ability to provide services, so that's all I wanted to say.

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

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Thank you, Chair. First of all, I don't think that we're...when we made...we just made the cuts to MVB, we didn't just put that money somewhere, that money is part of the overall cuts. So I don't think we're talking about taking that 600,000 and putting it into another program if the idea is it would be part of these cuts we're making to the overall budget. And then...

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: I'm only talking about the homeless program that was just mentioned. Only these --

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Oh, right.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: -- particular...

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Really...really...really quickly, really quickly, I'll just make a clarification. Members, when you make your motion, it's just for reduction, we are not associating it with our priorities because we are splitting the reduction for all of our priorities, so it's not necessarily only going to go to one thing, it's going to go multiple things that everyone is proposing. Okay. So when you do your reduction, just state your reduction, and then we're going to keep it simple. Okay. Member King?

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Thank you. That...that's exactly what...great clarification. Well, you know, when we...a few years ago when this money first came up, I was told it was for air conditioning and it was going to be done in two tranches. And so I think Member Johnson is right, it was supposed to be a one-time thing. Somehow it's gotten on

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this...onto this thing about us needing to support the MACC for their capital improvements every year, and we don't do that for every other nonprofit on the island. We don't do that certainly for some of the neediest ones. We don't...we don't give capital improvement money just as a...as a blanket line item to Ka Hale A Ke Ola or to, you know, to other organizations, Aloha House. They have to come when they have a special need and ask for that. So that's what worried me when I first saw this money that, you know, are we perpetuating this yearly assistance? You know, if it was for finishing up this air conditioning project or something, it should have been specified. So you know, I...I'm...I'm not comfortable with that full amount. And you know, I would be willing to look at a compromise, you know, half of that or something, but I think we have to get away from...you know, as much as I do think it is a jewel, I think that our social services are jewels too, and they're jewels that help people, you know, lift them up out of poverty and unfortunate circumstances. So yeah, arts and...arts and culture is really important, but why we should do this on a regular...I...I just don't feel like we should do this on a regular basis. I think especially for the MACC, that they have an opportunity to raise money probably more than any other...you know, any of the social services certainly, because that's what they do, they...they put on shows and they raise money. So anyway, I would...if...depending on what this body wants to do, I would be willing to compromise and...and maybe make it \$300,000. But I think Member Johnson is on the track, that we...we don't want to be constantly funding...you know, at some point we have to be asking these...these organizations to be self-sustaining and do their own capital raises for their...their capital improvements. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member King. Anyone else wishing to speak to the motion? Member Sugimura, followed by Member Molina.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you. I'm going to speak against the motion. And I see the value with this...what the Maui Arts and Cultural provides, and it's...it's because of being able to be the facility that it is that it has the ability to touch, you know, the other programs that they do, which is education and...and...and the Hawaiian community, all the arts and cultural. The high school performance bands that I've seen them, you know, doing that. But it's a comprehensive facility that provides outreach to many levels in our community. So I...I'm not going to be supporting the motion because I see the value of what they do. And it is to our benefit at many, many different levels that we're able to have a facility like this. It is...it is...it is greater than, you know, like a normal community center or something that we can take care of. And the...the reach that they have in the world is...is really huge where we have like Yo-Yo Ma or people like that who've come to perform here, so that our residents can have a touch of what's out there that normally is...is not able to have something in person. So the facility provides the opportunities that are available to us. I think all of us have seen, you know, shows of different kinds, whether it's the...they've been doing the like drive-in theater where you drive your car in because of the pandemic. I mean, they've...they've pivoted to allow for us to still interact with the organization and...and enjoy its benefits. So thank you, Mr. Johnson, and I will not be *(audio interference)* your...your motion.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo, Member Sugimura. Members, I received a request and a reminder that I did not take our morning break this morning. I am so

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sorry. Maybe I'm cracking the whip a little too hard. So I...there's been a request for our morning break. Are Members...do...does anyone have an objection to taking our morning break now, and then we'll resume this discussion on the motion when we return. Is ten minutes okay, or do we need 15? It is 11:33 and so I'm thinking maybe we can go...I would like to complete OED before we take lunch.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Yeah.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: We'll see. Okay. Member Molina?

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Yeah, Madam Chair, I'm with you on the break. We go to think about Staff too, yeah. And...and certainly we can continue this...for me, I'm okay with continuing discussion after break because I think for myself, I need a lua break too. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: My apologies, Members. Okay. So we'll...we'll take a break. It's 11:34. So we can go to 11:45 or 11:50, the Members' preference?

COUNCILMEMBER KING: 11:45.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: 50, or whatever majority rules.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: 50 sounds good.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. All right, Members, we'll go to 11:50, and then we'll...we'll feel it out when we get back how long. Like I said, I would like us to complete the Economic Development Program before we take lunch, but if we're too far from that then, you know, we can just take our lunch and then return and complete that. Okay. It's 11:34 on April 21st, and the Budget, Finance, and Economic Development Committee is now in recess. . . .*(gavel)*. . .

RECESS:           11:34 a.m.  
RECONVENE:       11:52 a.m.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: . . .*(gavel)*. . . Will the Budget, Finance, and Economic Development Committee please return to order. It is 11:52 on April 21. And we currently have a motion from Member Johnson, seconded by Member Paltin, to reduce the budget by \$600,000 related to the Maui Arts and Cultural Center Capital Improvement Project, and we were on Member Molina for discussion. Oh, there's Chair Lee. Okay. Everyone's here.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Thank you very...thank you very much, Madam Chair. And thank you for that break. With regards to the proposal, I thank Member Johnson, it's bold. Hey, you know, that's how we got to do, we got to look for areas where we can tighten our belts. This one...the Maui Arts and Cultural Center has a feeling of hitting home. You know, this is not just a place for visitors and just only attracting all these big mainland performers, but our local halau, you know, people like Keali'i Reichel,

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Uluwehi Guerrero, this is a world-class venue for their halaus to showcase their performances. And then our school kids, you know, the DOE, private schools, this is the one place on Maui that is really community driven. And to me, we should provide a facility that's world class and well upkept. Facilities naturally get old. So I...I...I can't support a...a deep cut like that, but...but I am in agreement that yeah, everybody got to tighten their belt. I wish Mr. Vento was here to see...like I would propose maybe a \$300,000 cut, at least give them something to start on the area of most need that needs to be fixed or maintained to world-class standards. And again, it's...when I say world-class standards, this is for us, this is our showcase community venue. So I'll just throw it out again as a compromise if Members would go...well, say 200, \$300,000 cut. At least leave something in the pot for them to at least begin some areas of improvement for the center. And you know, we have all of these economic-driven events local...that promotes local economy. What is it called for...in November? I'm sorry, Maui...

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: County Festival.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Made on Maui.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Yeah, yeah. There you go. There you go. Made in Maui, there you go. So that's all the kinds --

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Maui County.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: -- of stuff we have to consider. So it's not just entertainment but it's also a venue for...to help promote our local economy as well. So again, I'd just like to get some feedback from the Members on a compromise number.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Is that...Member, is that...Member Molina, is that a motion?

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Yeah, go ahead. I'll go ahead propose that as an amendment to the 600,000 from Mr. Johnson to amend the cut to 300,000.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: I'll second the motion.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Moved by Member Molina, second by Member King. Member Molina, did you need to speak more to the motion to amend the main motion, or you're good?

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: No, I...I...I'm good. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo. And then for the record it's Made in Maui County Festival, including the other islands.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Thank you for the clarification. Yeah.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Let's see, did I see a hand from Member Johnson or was that just...okay. Member Johnson, followed by Chair Lee.

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COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Thank you, Chair. I...I appreciate that amendment and I...I'll rise in full support. But I just want to let you folks know, remember, this is a deferring for only one year, next year they can come back and ask full for 600 grand. It's just for now. And I just want to make a second point now. As a member of working poor, I never...never go to the MACC because hey, those tickets are expensive. I don't get to go to those kinds of things. So that's where my thinking is, is like when you got to make those cuts, I'll use Mister...Mike Molina's I won't be shy quote. So for a place that I never go to because I can't afford it, I won't be shy on that. Mahalo.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: You're learning fast, Mr. Johnson. Great job.

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

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: I'm going to be voting in favor of the motion. I just want everybody to know from here on out, there are times I'm going to have to vote in favor of motions I don't particularly support wholeheartedly because if I don't, then I'm going to be sacrificing another project for my community. So that puts us in a squeeze. And so just to be honest and clear, you know, I...I support. In this particular case, I don't...I don't mind the...the compromise because it's not as severe as some of the others, but in the future, I'll probably vote aye on almost everything because I don't want to sacrifice anything for my community. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair Lee. Okay. Anyone else wishing...Member Paltin?

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Member Johnson and Member Molina. I can support this motion. And I just...you know, putting it in perspective, like we have Iao Theater, and imagine how world class that could be if they got 600 grand every year. And you know, Iao, historic, Wailuku Town. So just, you know, just trying to put it in perspective. It's not that I don't think the MACC is a very worthy place, but we have so many worthy places, programs, and priorities for the total of Maui County that I'll be supporting. Thank you.

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

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: So did I hear Member Johnson say that he would put the 600,000 back in next year to take this pause as we go through this pandemic?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Member Johnson?

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Is that what you said? Did I misunderstand?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: I...I would encourage them to come and apply because I, you know, I...of course --

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Oh, I'm sorry.

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COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: -- you know, we got to look at...

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: I should say you support. Yeah. Okay. You're right, they would apply, but I just wanted to hear you say you...you would support them to come back at 600,000 next year. Thank you.

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

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Oh, just for clarification. I...I...I took it from Member Johnson that if...if the 600 went through this year, then they would come back next year for the entire 600. So I believe, Member Johnson, you meant that if we weren't halving that and the total 600.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Yes, that's correct.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo, Member Sinenci. I think everyone has spoken once. So really quickly, just a few thoughts on my position. I appreciate Member Johnson bringing this to our attention. I...I did...when we had Mr. Vento before us testifying, I did ask him at what point would all these improvement projects stop and at what point would, you know, they would not need support from the County, and if they would ever be able to be independent and self-sustaining. And...and...and it sounded like the answer was...was never, so you know, this is something that we would see in the budget every year. And again, speaking to after Budget Session, you know, really going through all these grants to see what is the return on investment of our taxpayers' dollars going to these projects. And you know, we...we need to know that, we need our public to be able to know that and to...to support these initiatives that we're funding every year. For this capital improvement project, after hearing Member Paltin share her comments on this, I was thinking maybe this is something that we could also make into a grants pot of funding for historic landmark to have capital improvement project grants so that places like Iao Theater would be able to apply for some funding to help with, you know, their location and other areas that would need funding, and not make it exclusive to the MACC. The MACC could apply for it as well, but you know, it would be able to open it up to more historic places that may not get...you know, may not have the same kind of political connections, and you know, have...have an opportunity to apply for some of these funds for capital improvements that would benefit our County countywide, including Moloka'i and Lāna'i. So that...that's an idea that I throw out to the Members. I...I would support 300,000, the amendment that was made. Mahalo. Member King?

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Thank you, Chair. Yeah, I support the 300,000, which is why I seconded the motion. I also want to point out to Members that with what's left, we're still funding the MACC over a million dollars, so we're...we're funding their programs. We understand the value of the programs. But when we look at other historic, you know, jewels in our community, we just approved...you know, we agreed that there was a historic church that we wanted to help with their capital improvements, we only gave them 150,000 and they're doing their own capital raise. So...we gave them 200,000?

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Oh, I thought it was 150. But it's a lot less than...than the MACC. You know, I mean, that's what you do if you have a facility like this and you need to constantly keep it up, you do capital raise, you...you create an endowment. I mean, we were trying to do it...when I was on the board of Hui Malama Learning Center, we were trying to do that for Hui Malama. And that's...you know, that's a pretty small not-glorious building, but we recognized that, you know, as a board, that we had to do capital raise constantly so we could...we could fix things there and we could keep the program going. So anyway, I...I think that's fair, I think 300,000 is fair, you know, and we look at it next year in the context. But just wanted to, you know, just remind everybody that we do expect these...some of these entities to do some of their own capital, you know, raises themselves. And also, I wanted to say, you know, I contribute to the MACC as a member, so you know, I give back personally, and there's a lot of us on the island who do that personally, so there's other monies...there's other people that they tap into and other sources that they, you know, probably could even tap into more.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member King. Anyone else wishing to speak to the amendment to reduce the MACC Capital Improvements from 600,000 to 300,000? If not I'll call for the question. . . .*(timer sounds)*. . . All those in...Member Sugimura, are you voting, or do you...

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Yeah, I just want to say a few words just in closing. I...I hear where the discussion's going--if I could, Chair--for the 300,000. And I just want to also say that the...the MACC provides opportunities, as I said before, for high school students, halaus. I mean, it...it does...it's not only for, you know, huge concerts, but they reach all levels and have meeting space and other areas that they can reach out into the community. And I believe that the funding that we do provide them, they also fundraise on their own, so it's not like they're only asking the County. But I...I look forward to learning more, I guess, is what the Members are saying about what the MACC is doing in more detail. This pandemic has been a little bit difficult for all of us in our normal things that we do. You know, First Friday is not happening anymore or different things like that which was kind of like, you know, a given for so many years, if I could just say that. I think I did it for like ten years. But you know, things have changed, right? But I think this provides a solid base for entertainment and education. I mean, it's more than just a facility that we're supporting. So thank you, Members.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo, Member Sugimura. And just a correction to myself, it is 150,000, Member King, you are correct, it's not 200,000, which makes me even further like the idea of opening it up to historic landmarks, you know, having this capital improvement as a grant, as an open grant instead of just a line item to the MACC. I will call for the question. All those in favor of the motion to reduce 300,000, raise your hand and say "aye."

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Aye.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Aye. I...any "noes?" All right. . . .*(timer sounds)*. . . Eight "ayes," zero "noes," one excused.

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

**NOES:**      **None.**

**ABSTAIN:**      **None.**

**ABSENT:**      **None.**

**EXC.:**      **Councilmember Kama.**

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**ACTION:**      **APPROVE amendment to main motion**

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. So we're now on the motion as amended. Anyone wishing to speak to it, or to make the motion to amend it to a capital improvement pot of grants other...

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: No.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, okay. Well, I just wanted to check, see if maybe. . . .*(laughing)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: We want our lunchbreak, that's what we want.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: All right. I won't hold it hostage then. I will call for the question. All those in favor please raise your hand and say "aye."

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Aye.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Okay. All right. Any "noes?" Okay. The motion passes with eight "ayes," zero "noes," one excused.



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

**NOES:**        **None.**

**ABSTAIN:**        **None.**

**ABSENT:**        **None.**

**EXC.:**        **Councilmember Kama.**

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**ACTION:**        **APPROVE main motion as amended**

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Members, it's 12:07. I think we have about 15 more amendments from Member Johnson. Just kidding. I think it was like maybe about four, yeah. . . .*(laughing)*. . . Okay. Three, three more proposals, and I'm sure other Members may have proposals as well. Would Members like to continue going until we complete this section, or shall we take a lunch break to 1:30?

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Lunch...lunch please.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: All right, all right. I don't want anybody to be hangry. All right, so we'll...we'll take our lunch break now, and we'll reconvene at 1:30. Any objections? Okay, awesome. All right, it's 12:08 on April 21st, and the Budget, Finance, and Economic Development Committee is now in recess. . . .*(gavel)*. . .

                 RECESS:        12:08 p.m.  
                 RECONVENE:        1:35 p.m.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: . . .*(gavel)*. . . Will the Budget, Finance, and Economic Development Committee please return to order. It's 1:35 on April 21st, and we will continue our review of the Office of the Mayor, Economic Development Program. Let's see, where did we leave off? We left off by completing our vote on the last motion on the MACC capital improvements. Okay. And I think Member Johnson had one more proposal? Okay. Member Johnson.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Chair, I have five proposals, do you want me to do one at a time?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. How about you...you can present your proposal, all five of them, and if Members would like to...if Members prefer to have them separated, then we'll...we'll tell you so.

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COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Got it. Okay. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: So on page 401 is where I'm coming from, your budget three-ring binder. Grants and Disbursements for Business Development and Technology. I've pulled 50K from the Small Business Promotion, which is a 25 percent cut; 65,000 from Technology Business Promotion, which is a 10 percent cut; 50,000 from Sports and Events, which is a 25 percent cut...

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Sorry. Member Johnson?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Yes?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Just a little slower.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay. I beg your pardon.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: So that we can all follow. Okay. So on page 401...all five of them are on page 401?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: No, three of the...of the five are, so I'll go through the three ones that are on page 401.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Go ahead.

MS. ESPELETA: Excuse me, Madam Chair?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Oh, okay.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh.

MS. ESPELETA: This is Staff. Hi.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Espeleta.

MS. ESPELETA: Madam Chair, I apologize. Lesley and, I believe Kasie, they're both restarting their computers. They're not on the meeting as of yet, just to let you know.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yes.

MS. ESPELETA: Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo, Ms. Espeleta. Okay. Okay. Member Johnson, the first one?

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COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay. The first one is 50,000 from Small Business Promotion all on page 401...

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh, okay. Start with...start with...sorry, start with the...the program description first --

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: -- and then --

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Beg your pardon.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: -- *(audio interference)* Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: So on page 401, the program is under Economic Development Program, Grants and Disbursements for Business Development and Technology, and from the Small Business Promotion, 50,000; from Technology Business Promotion, 65,000; and from Sports and Events, 50,000. Those are all increases, by the way, from the Mayor's proposed budget. So I was only looking for where he would increase, I would decrease his increase, so I'm not just, you know, cutting too much . . .*(laughing)*. . . because this is tricky, I appreciate that. So those are the three on page 401. I can go to page...

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo, Member Johnson.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: One moment.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: All right. That's...

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. So it looks like Members would like to have it separated, is that why you're raising your hand?

COUNCILMEMBER KING: No, I had a question on those three. Those three I'm good with addressing together, unless somebody else wants to separate them.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Together? Okay. Because Member Johnson has two more.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay. I'll wait. I'll wait to see what the other two are.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Member Johnson, next page?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Thank you, Chair. The next page would be on 404, 404, on Grants from Culture, Arts, and Tourism, and that's only 5,000, and I have a bit of a reason behind that, but we can get to that in a later date. The last one is on page 413

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under Grants and Disbursements for the Film Industry, 5,000 from Film Industry Promotion. That is all.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Could you go back to 404? Where was the 5,000 coming from?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Thank you. Grants from Culture, Arts, and Tourism from the Maui Film Festival, \$5,000.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: So for the...the two film allocations, 5,000 each?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: That is correct, Madam Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Members, any request to separate? A request to separate. Okay. Member King?

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Yeah, I'd like to...

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: What was the...

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Well, my preference would be to separate the first three from the second two.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Then we'll do that. Okay. Member Johnson, we'll take up the first three first, and that's on page 401 Small Business Promotion, a reduction of 50,000; Sports and Events, 50,000; and Technology Business Promotion, 60,000. Okay. Member Johnson, would you like to speak to your motion? And then Chair Lee.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Thank you, Chair. Yes. So I...I touched on it a bit. All of these programs here had a bit of a bump of an increase since last year, I'm trying to reduce that bump. I also believe that there will be Federal funds coming down the pipeline, we all talk about the money that's coming, and I think these programs could reach out and recoup those...those losses. So that's...that's the logic behind that. I know this is a very tight budget, and I...that's why I was very particular on these particular cuts. They are already getting an increase. So that's my logic behind it, Chair.

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

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay. As you know, I am going to go vote with the majority; however, my concern is we are trying to divert businesses and activities away from the visitor industry and to build up the tech industry, the sports and the film, agriculture and so forth. So that is my only concern. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair Lee. Okay. Anyone else wishing to speak to the motion? Member King?

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COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay. So the motion is...we're just on the first three right now?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yes, on page 401 of the Program Budget.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay. Yeah, I...I tend to agree with Member Johnson that these are items that probably can be covered by the American Rescue Plan. There's a lot of...there's going to be a lot of support in there for small business and for diversified businesses. I actually personally don't support cutting the film industry because I think that's something that's fledgling in our community and needs to be supported, but...

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Member King, only...only the first three, not the film.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: We're...we're going to take up the film after.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay. But I...I...I do...I support...these don't look they have been prescribed already, they're just pots of money that are available, and I think the same kind of money is going to be available...well, is currently available from the Federal Government. And we'll...we'll...we'll be getting a lot more after the American Rescue Plan gets disbursed. So that's why I would support these three on this page. That's all.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member King. Mahalo. Anyone else wishing to speak to the motion? Member Paltin? Oh, one moment. Sorry. Mahalo, Staff. Okay. So Member Johnson made the motion, is there a second? Okay. Second by Member King. Mahalo, Ms. Bouthillier. Okay. Member Paltin?

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: So I wanted to say like, you know, I...I...the Sports and Events, I'm okay with cutting it just because, you know, it's...it's a new thing and, you know, we need sports and events, but I guess the biggest complaint from the community is that we're not being allowed to have sports and events. It's not that we need money for it, it's like we'd like to be allowed to have them. So I don't have a problem with that one. The Small Business Promotion, I think, you know, it's something that we really need like for our small businesses that have been hit hard. But I don't think 200,000 is enough to go, you know, Countywide, and so if that's the case, then who are we helping with this 200,000, and what are the guidelines, and is it fairly distributed? So I would like...like how Member King said, like you know, for us to...to have a plan and to possibly bring in the Federal money, and like, you know, just make sure that it's something that everyone can apply for. Like if we're helping five, ten businesses for 200,000, is that...is that fair? And...and does it create like, you know, the type of things we want to see? And then Technology Business Promotion, at the rate that it's been jumping and we're not having like, you know, how MEO has all their Head Start people come in like testify like this made a difference in my life. Like I don't even...I mean, I like the title of it and the sound of it, but I'm not sure of what it actually does, and so I'm okay with that. It's the small business promotion one that has me the hardest because I really want us to help with that, our...our small businesses, our local businesses that have been hit hard,

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but what makes me tend to agree with Member Johnson is that like, is 200,000, what is that really going to do Countywide, you know? Like so I mean not saying that I want to increase it without knowing how it's going to be distributed and what the criteria is, but I think we do need money for that, but I'm not sure if this is what it is. So there you go, that's my...where I'm at.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo, Member Paltin. Okay. I see Member Sinenci. Before I call on Member Sinenci, a quick clarification for Member Johnson. For the Technology Business Promotion, was that 60,000 or 65,000?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Thank you, Chair. That was 65,000.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo for that clarification. Okay. And then, Budget Director Yoshimura?

MS. YOSHIMURA: *(audio interference)*

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Aloha. Would...would you be able to speak to the three items in the motion right now? If you have additional information on what the increases to Small Business Promotion, Sports and Events, and Technology Business Promotion would hope to achieve. One of the things that I...I thought I remembered from our review at the Department was that the Sports and Events funding was to try to make it safer so that there could be sports and events, but maybe I'm...I'm misunderstanding.

MS. YOSHIMURA: Chair, so for Sports and Events we...we have been having sport activity here in Maui County, and we would like to see if we could attract more regional, State type of tournaments for our students. Rather than traveling to the mainland, having tournaments be brought here instead, and looking to diversify in that area. Small Business Promotion, we are looking at helping the small businesses through different types of ways to market their...their...their businesses. Business Technology, I think that one was a new one for us, it started a couple of years ago, but looking at the tech industry for that type. And I know last year, in Fiscal Year '21, there was a big push to do job training and trying to develop our workforce, and so these grants will help in that area. Today was the first...was the kickoff for the grant applications for Office of Economic Development. They did have a workshop to work...to educate the community with how to apply for grants, what documents you'll need, and what types of grants will become available. The funding sources or the funding amount would depend on what the Council approves, but we did have a workshop today to get people prepared so that when the grants do become available July 1, we will already have the applications pretty much submitted to us. Did you want me to go into like detail as to what grants were provided with the subsidies?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: So your question is which entities received a grant for FY'21 under these three categories? Well, Sports and Events is new, but Small Business Promotion and Technology Business Promotion? Okay. I see nodding heads, and I think one of the concern was that Small Business Promotion would help more than ten entities and make sure that it's equitable Countywide. Okay. Mahalo, Budget Director.

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MS. YOSHIMURA: I need to get all of my paperwork here. I'm going to start off with Technology...the...Technology and Business actually. So there was funding for that in Fiscal Year '21. One of the grants was to Maui United Way for the Maui ESG Project, Avelo Labs for advanced Maui-based scuba dive technology, to the Girls Scouts of Hawai'i for a leadership experience and afterschool leadership program, and to the Maui Economic Development Board for Maui business contact. It was a mentoring program to support a cohort of 20 Maui tech businesses focusing on business survival strategies. So those were the grants that were issued in Fiscal Year '21. Small Business Promotion, we did grant subsidies to...sorry, Hale Makua Health Services for a health impact assessment and master plan. That was for the development and implementation of County...community awareness plan for Hale Makua's future vision of expansion of services and workforce development efforts to care for kupuna. ClimbHI, that one was...it's a necessary tool to connect educations and businesses safely and efficiently online with the goal of inspiring our keiki to achieve economic self-sufficiency through the exploration of diverse income sources as jobs and entrepreneurial opportunities for...for residential areas. And then the last one is the Maui Chamber of Commerce, they did a small...and that one was a small grant of \$8,000 to recognize and honor outstanding small businesses, nonprofits, and small business people in the community.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo --

MS. YOSHIMURA: Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: -- Budget Director. Mahalo for that additional information. Member Sinenci had his hand up, and then Member Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Mahalo, Chair. Yeah, just a clarifying question for Budget Director. So for the Small Business Promotion, this is to start up new businesses, not for existing businesses?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Budget Director?

MS. YOSHIMURA: Chair, it's for both.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Oh, it's for both. Okay. Because I understand that existing businesses also qualified for CARES Act funding, I believe, through the MEO...oh, the Maui Chamber of Commerce?

MS. YOSHIMURA: Yeah. For small businesses, we did offer a number of programs. With the CARES Act fund, we did one with the Maui Chamber of Commerce for small business loans. We did one with MEDB for them to do an adaptability type of program. And we did one with the credit unions, which assisted small businesses with rental assistance, utilities, that type of...I'm not going to say transforming --

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Transition.

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MS. YOSHIMURA: -- using them...transitioning their business to adapt to --

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Online.

MS. YOSHIMURA: -- the COVID environment. Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Okay. And then do...do we anticipate using some of the American Rescue Plan Act funds to continue with supporting small businesses?

MS. YOSHIMURA: Chair, yes...

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: I'm just looking if we still have some monies that could also supplement this fund.

MS. YOSHIMURA: So the CARES Act...the CARES Act monies are all spoken for, right? If you're talking about the next set of the American Rescue Plan, so that, we're still...we haven't made any commitments for those funds yet until we get the guidelines on the use of the monies.

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

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

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Thank you, Chair. So you know, once again if I may defend my position, these are not major cuts, these are only 25 percent to 10...or 10 to 25 percent of the cuts, so I think there's...there's room to move. And also, remember that MEDB gets over \$1 million, and that's on page 400, that is there to specifically address those concerns that I'm hearing the Councilmembers been talking about. So that's...that's my stance on it and I hope that helps clarify. Mahalo.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Johnson. Okay. Anyone else wishing to speak to the motion? Okay. Member Sugimura for the first time, and then if anyone else would like to speak for the first time, if not, Member King. Okay. Member Sugimura?

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you. So I'm going to vote against this, although I understand Gabe Johnson's intent in...in this economic times, but I think these are the kinds of pots of money that the Office of Economic Development can use to reach out to more people and...and develop businesses. As we all know, as the visitor industry is taking...is...is changing and we want to grow ag, but there's still a lot of other businesses that are out there that may need our support. So I want...I want to keep the pots of money available to reach out to people that we normally would not reach. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Sugimura. No one else raising their hand, Member King?

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Thank you, Chair. I just wanted to support, again reiterate that



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these are all pots of money that I would anticipate the Administration maybe adding to from the American Rescue Plan, hopefully doing another tranche of business loans for small businesses like we did with the first CARES Act. We have even more leeway on the second...the second tranche of funds that's coming directly to the County as far as what we can spend it on. So economic development is one of them, and lost revenue is another one. So I...I...I don't...I...I mean, if I...if I could I would...I would suggest that we...we just replace these cuts with ARP funding and...and, you know, since we haven't...we haven't sequestered or we haven't...we haven't conditioned, really, the 10 percent that we had a plan to originally. But I think this should...I think it'll be this and probably more that we're going to need in these pots of money. And it's certainly right up the alley of the American Rescue Plan. So that's where I think that money should be used for to help us diversify our economy and support small business. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo, Member King. No other hands raised. Okay. I will vote in favor of the motion. Echoing a lot of the sentiments that's been shared, that my hope is...so while I do want to diversify our economy, I think that the amount of funding that has been increased, so from...in Technology Business Promotion, it would go from 400,000 in 2021 to 540,000 for this year with the proposed reduction. For Small Business Promotion, from 100,000 that was allocated in FY'21 to 150,000 for FY'22. So there are still going to be increases, and as other Members have pointed out, with the additional flexibility of the American Rescue Act funding. Like we did with the CARES funding, we did the adaptability in helping small businesses to transition to expanding their market and their equipment to be able to have a stronger online presence. And I...I...I like that direction that we're going. I support MEDB in their support for our County in our small businesses and developing our workforce, and developing our next generation, our children, in getting them into these different industries so that we can diversify our economy and not be so heavily reliant on over tourism. And I see Member Molina is very eager to speak, so I will call on him. Member Molina?

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Yeah, thank you, Madam Chair. Upon hearing the arguments for and against the cuts, I appreciate. But you know, now with the mention of the CARES [sic] Act that you and Member King have brought up, I think it's a good point. We can do these cuts or actually the reductions on the increases, and as you Members recall the other night, I proposed a proviso on the CARES [sic] Act for the restriction for those funds as far as using it on subsequent testing for visitors. It would...if that passes, it frees up additional monies that we could use to supplement, you know, the small business promotion, sporting events, and...and everything for our community. Because again, the...my feeling with the CARES [sic] Act, it's residents first. So I will support the proposed reductions from Mr. Johnson. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Molina. And just a correction for the record and for those of the public watching, so the CARES Act is complete, the next Federal funding will be called something else like the American Rescue Plan and --

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Yeah.

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CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: -- you know (*audio interference*) all...HEAL --

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Yeah.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: -- and all these other acronyms.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Yeah. Different monikers --

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: But COVID related.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: -- yeah, but same purpose. Yeah.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yeah. COVID related response funding from the Federal Government. We...we got you. Okay. Anyone else wishing to speak to the motion? Member King, real quick?

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Yeah, just a quick correction. When you said for the Technology Business Promotion that we...be 540,000, it's actually 535 because the request will...the motion was for 65,000, so I just wanted to make sure that is on the record.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo. Yes. I wrote down 65...60 and didn't correct it to 65, mahalo for that catch so that I can repeat the motion correctly. Okay. Seeing no other hands, I'll call for the vote. So again, the motion is to reduce Small Business Promotion from 200,000 to 150,000; Sports and Events from 200,000 to 150,000; and Technology Business Promotion from 600,000 to 535,000. All those in favor of the motion, please raise your hand and say "aye." Okay. All those opposed, please raise your hand and say "no."

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: No.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. All right, seven "ayes," one "no" Member Sugimura, and one excused.

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

**NOES:**        **Councilmember Sugimura.**

**ABSTAIN:**        **None.**

**ABSENT:**        **None.**

**EXC.:**        **Councilmember Kama.**

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**ACTION:        APPROVE**

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: All right. Okay. Member Johnson, page 404 and --

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Yes, Chair, that is correct.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: -- 413?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Yes.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Please make your motion.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay. I move to take \$5,000 on Grants from Culture and Arts, and Tourism from the Maui Film Festival.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Members, is there a second? Okay. Moved by Member Johnson, seconded by Member Sugimura. Member Johnson?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Thank you, Chair. I did not jump into this lightly. I reached out and spoke with Barry Rivers, and he was...and I told him that this money was going to go for the community's needs, and he was amicable. In fact, he really is an outshining example of a leader of our community who cares about helping out folks who need it the most in the time of a pandemic. And he was amicable to 5,000, so that is my proposal on the floor. Mahalo, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Johnson. Anyone else wishing to speak to the motion? Okay. All right, I will call for the question, and again, the motion is to reduce the Maui Film Festival from 100,000 to 95,000; and the Film Industry Promotion from 130,000 to 125,000. All right, all those in favor of the motion, please raise your hand and say "aye." All right. Okay. All right. Okay. Let's...okay. Okay. Any "noes?" . . . *(laughing)*. . . All right. Okay. Eight yeses, zero "noes," one excused.

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

**NOES:**        **None.**

**ABSTAIN:**        **None.**

**ABSENT:**        **None.**

**EXC.:**        **Councilmember Kama.**

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**ACTION:**        **APPROVE**

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. And I think that completes the proposals from Member Johnson.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: That is correct, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo, Member Johnson. All right. Any...okay, Member Paltin?

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: I just have one, and I feel like I propose it every year, but I'm just going to propose it one more time this year. And I'll get everyone on the page that I'm on. Page 11-44 of your Budget Details, Index Code 903047B, Sub-Object 6317. This is the grant to Sister City Foundation, and I move to decrease the amount by 25,000.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Motion...

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Could you please repeat?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh, okay.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Sure. The whole thing or just what my motion is?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Well, what page and, you know, what page and...

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Sure. Okay. I'm on page 11-44 of the Budget Details. This is Index Code 903047B, Sub-Object character type is 6317, and the title is Grant to Sister City Foundations, and the motion was to decrease by 25,000.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: . . .*(laughing)*. . . So the whole...the whole amount, yeah?

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VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Well, I...I make this motion every year. I mean, if you want to amend it to decrease by 10,000, I'll entertain that. But okay, if I get a second, I'll explain my stance.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: All right.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Second.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Moved by Member Paltin, seconded by Member Molina. Member Paltin?

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Okay. So like Member Johnson was saying, we're trying to fund needs for our residents and things like that. I don't even know who our sister city is. Does any of our residents know who the sister city is and what...what this is about? Like you know, I mean, if I was like, oh, Aotearoa is our sister city and we're Pacific nations and we're Oceania and this is what we're getting out of it and, you know, we exchange culture and ideas and like that. But you know, basically what I see is pictures from long ago when we were able to travel to other countries and establish like relationships, and we haven't been able really to travel like that. I don't know who the sister city is right now or what...what it's all about. And...and I see real needs within my community, so that's my spiel, and...and...and so yeah. Thank you.

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

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Yeah...yeah, Madam Chair. Yeah, I think the sister cities typically would establish it with overseas cities, so not so much with mainland cities. I know there's requests from other cities to be...establish a sister relationship with us, but now that we live in a time of COVID where travel is quite limited, you know, I think this year, Member Paltin's consideration for a reduction is certainly worth listening to. I'm kind on the fence as far as taking out the whole thing, but I'm certainly amendable to...to a reduction. So yeah, let's see how this plays out, because right now travel is really...overseas is not really a, you know, at the top of a lot of people's priority list right now. So I'll just say I'm amendable to a reduction. As far as the whole thing, well, I'm on the fence, but I'll...I'll wait to hear some comments from the other Members. So Member Paltin, you have a chance this year.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Member Sugimura, followed by Member King, and then Chair Lee.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you. I...may I ask Budget Director to give us a summary of the kind of expenses that are paid? Because I...I don't remember sister city funds being used so that a group can travel there, I think more people would come here. And it's...all of it is displayed, the sister cities is in the lobby here on the 8th Floor so you can see all the different sister cities that we have relationships with. But I wonder if Director could provide us some information.

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CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo...mahalo, Member Sugimura. Yeah, it's for like gifts and...and stuff, exchanges. Budget Director?

MS. YOSHIMURA: Chair. So Councilmember Sugimura, yeah, it is for...they do have exchange of gifts if they do come to visit us. We also host a reception for our sister city representatives. But I know this past year because of the COVID...COVID pandemic and the...the restrictions to travel, we did not have any in-person visits, although we did have virtual visits and conferences. So those events were taken...were...were participated in. If...if we do get invited to one of our sister cities, the funds could be used for that, but very rarely. It's mostly to host the sister cities when they come to visit us here in Maui County.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Was it also for insurance, Director? I remember that coming up, that part of the money that we provided the Sister City Foundation was to also...I remember insurance. So there's some business elements that they needed to maintain; is that correct?

MS. YOSHIMURA: Chair?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Budget Director?

MS. YOSHIMURA: Councilmember Sugimura, I'm not sure about the insurance, I can check on that, but yeah, I'll...I'll get back to you on that one.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo, Member Sugimura. Member...Chair Lee, followed by Member King, and then asking if anyone else would like to speak first and then I'll call on you after, Member Molina. Okay. So Member Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Member King? Oh, sorry, Chair Lee.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: No, no, no, no. I...I was going to ask, I thought somebody else was ahead of me, but...

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Yeah, I think I was after...

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: No, it was...

COUNCILMEMBER KING: I was after...

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: It was you and then...

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Yeah, originally you said I was after Member Sugimura.

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CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh, okay. Member King and then Chair Lee.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay. So I wanted to make a motion to amend the proposal to reduce that...that item by 15,000 so we leave 10,000 in there for whatever activities they may need to engage in if that helps them with virtual connections and...and --

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Second.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: -- *(audio interference)*

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Moved by Member King, seconded by Member Molina to reduce the \$25,000 allocated to \$10,000. Member King?

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Just you know, what I said, I don't want to cut the program completely, I think that there's value in having relationships with other cities, but I don't think that we need that full 20...I mean, the 25,000 I believe was...was...had grown over the years, it wasn't really...there wasn't that much in that pot. And I think some of it was used for travel, which we're not doing right now and certainly not to Japan, which is where I think we have one or two of our main sister cities.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member King. Member Molina, as the seconder of the motion?

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: No, yeah, I...I...I support the amended proposal from Member King. And...and if Budget Director, she has that information, what was the expenditure from...currently for this fiscal year for the sister city? Because obviously, you know, very little, next to nothing occurred, so just curious if they expended, I guess they got 25,000 last year, last...last budget session. So if you have that information, how much it was expended. And I don't foresee much traveling occurring over the next year anyway, so...and most of the time we're hosting, you know, so very rarely do, you know, do we go over to whatever sister city, you know, that's interested, such as in the Philippines, Japan, Korea, et cetera. So if we could get that information, if not today, at a later point, just for curiosity's sake. But I support the \$15,000 reduction. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo, Member Molina. Anyone else wishing to speak to the amendment to the main motion? Member Paltin?

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: So I can feel something happening, but stoked still. Ms. Yoshimura, I guess my question would be for you. And you know, if we haven't expended the 25,000 from last year, could we defund this and just use Carryover/Savings here?

MS. YOSHIMURA: Chair?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Budget Director?

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MS. YOSHIMURA: Councilmember Paltin, so if the funds aren't used in this year, then it will be calculated into the Fiscal Year 2023 Carryover/Savings. To answer Councilmember Sugimura's question on the insurance, in their grant application they do have \$1,500 for insurance because they need some type of coverage. And to answer Councilmember Molina's question, there was an expenditure of \$2,249, and that may have been for a gift exchange or some type of conference that they went...that we attended virtually that we had to pay for. So that's the...that's the expenditures to date.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Okay. Mahalo, Member Paltin. Chair Lee, was that your hand? Oh.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: That was my hand. This one right here.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Yeah.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: I saw...I saw it.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Yeah.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Chair Lee?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay. Very good, very good. Two things, I just wanted to say that if anybody makes a...and most people have been doing this, if you're going to propose a cut or something, please start with I'm cutting 25,000 from 100,000 so that the public knows what...what the proposal is. Okay. That's one. And then the other one is, I am in support of the motion. I'm not a party person as you folks know, so it's not a big deal to me. But I think it would be good to maintain some kind of fund for visiting, you know, city officials, government officials if we have to host them. Okay. Thanks.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair Lee. All right. Anyone else wishing to speak to the motion? Member Sinenci? Motion to amend.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Yeah, thank you, Chair. I...I speak in support of the motion to amend. I think there are a couple variables. Whoever our sister city is, we're not sure if...if they have any traveling restrictions as well. And I...I...I can support continuing with the virtual exchange. And also, I think we've been speaking all day about, you know, being good hosts. And again, echoing Member Johnson about taking care of...of our communities first, especially our vulnerable communities before...we want to be good hosts, so I think if we cannot clean house first before inviting any more people into our house then yeah, I...I think we can stick with that theme. Thank you, Chair.

MS. YOSHIMURA: Chair?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Sinenci. Budget Director?



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MS. YOSHIMURA: A list of the sister cities is provided on our County's website, and if you would like me to submit a list of the sister cities, I can transmit that to the Committee.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. I saw thumbs up. Even though it's available on the website, so Members want that posted on Granicus? Okay. Okay. All right. I'm seeing more noes than yeses, so we'll just let the, you know, public know and the Members know that it's available on the website. And you can Google it, Maui County sister city, and then I think it'll probably come up, and then you can see all the list. Because I don't think it has...it's nothing personal against these cities, so I...you know, for...for me I...I don't...it's okay, whoever is on that list, and if I would like to have some...if I would like to make, you know, a city a sister city I...I will, you know, try to, you know, adopt them to be a sister of ours if that's what we would like to do. So no need, Budget Director, no need to transmit that. I think we can all find it on the website. I'll speak really quickly to the motion. I...I support the motion. I was thinking about going to 5,000 just because it's all online, but I guess I can...I can support 10,000 if that's the majority. They're...that's where we're at. Just because, you know, part of it is hosting receptions, and like we've all stated, we're not going to be having or we shouldn't be having in-person receptions and hosting foreign dignitaries right now. And yeah, so I think...yeah. So I...I can support it. I would have gone down to five. Member Paltin?

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Just a point of information question. Does anyone know if we're still not supposed to have gatherings of more than five people outside of your immediate household? Because how are you going to have a reception with following the proclamation like that? So I'll move to amend it to 20,000 decrease—or...oh, we gotta vote on this one first?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yeah. Okay. Only one motion at a time. One motion to amend the main motion at a time procedural.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: But just saying that...

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: One of...oh, go ahead, Member Paltin.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: This is...this is one of the cases I think that our residents are feeling. Like oh, we can't have gatherings outside of the house with more than five people not in our own household, but there's 25,000 in there for a reception for visiting dignitaries, you know like. And if there's more than five people from whatever, then they're going to be needing 25 grand of stuff or...I don't know, I mean. it just...the...the feel of it with the current times and the current frustrations of our residents, it just doesn't sit well with me. I mean obviously, if I propose this cut every year it never did sit well with me, but this year more so than others. So I won't be supporting the amendment.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Paltin. A quick question for Budget Director and that's regarding the \$1,500 for insurance. Is that so that the Sister City Foundation is compliant with our County Code requirements for grants for entities to have insurance?

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MS. YOSHIMURA: Chair, I...

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: In order to be *(audio interference)*

MS. YOSHIMURA: Oh. Yeah, it is for compliance, and it does cover when we have events or hosted events. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: All right. Mahalo for that information, Budget Director. Member King?

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Well, you brought up a good point, Chair, because my understanding is that all the other organizations that we give grants to, even if they're provisos, have to have insurance in order to get that grant. So we don't give them money to get...to buy their own insurance, we're telling them they have to already have their insurance. So I don't understand why we're giving...the sister cities is a nonprofit, we're actually giving them money to buy the insurance they need to get the money. Just it seems a little backwards. Because that's one of the biggest complaints I've heard from folks trying to get grants that are even in provisos that the Councilmembers have added in the previous budget is it takes forever to get through the process, and one of those processes is getting insurance which they don't...it's my understanding they have to have before they can actually get the grant.

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

MS. YOSHIMURA: Chair, maybe I need to clarify that then. So this isn't the only grantee that will charge us back for an insurance...a portion of the insurance. So there's other grantees that will, as part of their grant, include a portion that will pay for the insurance that'll cover the program that they're...that they're utilizing or program that they're providing for the community.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay. Do all grantees know that they have that option?

MS. YOSHIMURA: I believe that it's on the grant application on their budget worksheet that...as an item that can be...hang on, let me...so on the grant application, when they provide their itemized project budget, there is an area that you can put in for the operational costs, and you can put in for the insurance.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: So they can get reimbursed for that?

MS. YOSHIMURA: Yeah. And I'm sure that's being covered in the grant workshop that's going on now.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay. I hope so because I...I...I'm pretty sure there's a couple people out there that don't know that, but that's good to know. Thank you. Thank you for the information.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo, Member King. Okay. Seeing no one else

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wishing to speak to the motion to amend the main motion, I'll take the vote. All those in favor of the motion to amend the main motion to reduce the \$25,000 to \$10,000, please raise your hand and say "aye." All right, all those opposed please, raise your hand and say "no." Okay, one "no" Member Paltin; seven...seven yeses; and one excused.

**VOTE:       AYES:       Chair Rawlins-Fernandez, and Councilmembers Johnson, King, Lee, Molina, Sinenci, and Sugimura.**

**NOES:       Vice-Chair Paltin.**

**ABSTAIN:   None.**

**ABSENT:   None.**

**EXC.:       Councilmember Kama.**

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**ACTION:     APPROVE amendment to main motion**

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. So now we're on the main motion to...as amended to reduce the Sister City Foundation from 25,000 to 10,000. Anyone else wishing to speak to the motion? If not I'm going to call for the question. All right, all those in favor of the motion to amend...sorry, yeah, amend the budget from 25,000 to 10,000 to the Sister City Foundation, please raise your hand and say "aye." All right, I see eight "ayes," zero "noes," one excused.

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

**NOES:       None.**

**ABSTAIN:   None.**

**ABSENT:   None.**

**EXC.:       Councilmember Kama.**

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**ACTION:     APPROVE main motion as amended**

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VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Thank you, Members. Shall I --

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member...

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: -- go into some more motions? You guys ready for me?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yes.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Okay. I move to collapse all Agricultural, Education, and Apprenticeship line items into one fund called the Agriculture, Education, and Apprenticeship Fund. And if I get into...if I get a second, I can go a little further.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Second.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Moved by Member Paltin, seconded by Member King. Member Paltin...oh, and Member Sugimura. . . .*(laughing)*. . .

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Thank you. So I think our Chair was talking a little bit about, you know, the return on investment, and so this would include both Hawai'i Farmers Union United line items and open it up to new applications. And just, you know, it would...it would keep the money for the purpose and just instead of like the same entity getting it every time, it opens it up to like maybe be more competitive to...to deliver a...be competitive to deliver a bigger return on investment instead of, you know, folks like okay, we got that money coming in, we got that money coming in, we got that money coming in. Like I can do better than them if I get that money in kind of a sense maybe.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: What page are you on?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: On page 408 in your Program Budget. Okay. Member Sinenci?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Chair, yeah, just couple clarifying questions. So Member Paltin, going ahead and collapsing all of the grantees under the...the Agriculture Program? So it totals...at the bottom, it totals \$3,775,000. So it would just be one pocket grant for that amount of money, is that what you're saying?

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: I...I believe the intent was for the...look at my notes, for the Agriculture, Education, and Apprenticeship line item specifically.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Oh, so...so not all of them? Okay. All right. Thank you.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Which ones?

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: So the FAM Program, both...both HFUU...let me look at my notes.

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CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: So that would be the...of 150,000 and the 225,000...

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: For HFUU.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Okay. Okay. And then that is for Ag Promotion...will...will you repeat that one? That was the...

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: That was one for Ag, Education, and...and Apprenticeship, to create one fund called Agricultural, Education, and Apprenticeship Fund.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Members wishing to speak...Member King, followed by Member Sugimura.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay. I...I agree with opening up the mentoring program to other entities that might want to do that because there are other entities in our County that do that. But I think it would be unfair for funding the Maui County Farm Bureau for 500,000, to take the 150,000 away from the Farmers Union. Those are the two entities that are...are farmer associations, and they...one of them kind of focuses more on traditional agriculture, and the other one focuses on more organic and regenerative agriculture. And so to me, it would leave an imbalance if we continue to support the Farm Bureau for 500,000 and then we don't support the Farmers Union. So I don't know what...what Member Paltin reaction.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo...

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Oh, thank you. Member King, I...

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Staff...Member Paltin, Staff is requesting a quick recess if we can just recess for about five minutes? Is that okay, Members?

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Okay.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, so...okay. Oh, well, just eight minutes then, so to 2:40.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: And I'll get back to you when we come back.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Paltin. Sorry, about that. Okay. So it's 2:33, and we'll reconvene at 2:40. 2:33 on April 21st. The Budget, Finance, and Economic Development Committee is now in recess. . . .(gavel). . .

RECESS: 2:33 p.m.  
RECONVENE: 2:48 p.m.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: . . .(gavel). . . Will the Budget, Finance, and Economic Development Committee please return to order. It is 2:48 on April 21st and we are on the Office of the Mayor. And we left off with a motion on the floor, collapsing the two Hawai'i Farmers Union line items. Okay. Who's going to...Member Paltin? Oh --

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VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Yeah.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: -- Member King, you were...oh, Member Paltin?

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Oh, I was just thinking in responding to Member King's question, it might be best for me to withdraw the motion and then explain the entirety of the idea, and then so Members know what's going on, and then I can make the motion.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Withdrawal of the motion from Member Paltin, and I think Member King made the second. Member King, withdraw the second?

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Yeah, I'll withdraw.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo, Member King. Okay.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Okay. So --

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Member Paltin?

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: -- before I make any motion, I just wanted to give like the 30,000-foot view so that when we go in on the ground level, it's clearer. But basically, it's the same premise as stated earlier about opening up the theme of the grant to more applicants so that we can make it be a little bit more competitive. So the overall vision is like if you look on page 409 of your Program Budget, and you look at Hawai'i Farmer Union's two...two blurbs, it's kind of saying the same thing, apprentice program, education skills, support network, farmers, you know, outreach network, farm apprentice mentoring. So the idea is to collapse it into one, and open it up to all sorts of folks to apply. The second part is to take the food security programs, like farm installation, that would be like Common Ground Collective, Food Security Hawai'i for 105,000, collapse that into one program because they do similar things, and open it up for anyone to apply. And then the next motion would be for ag promotion and ag tech types of programs, collapsing the first two on page 408, Ag Promotion, Ag Tech, Hawai'i Taro Farm, Maui County Farm Bureau, and CTAHR into one big pot of 1.31 million, and opening it up for everyone to apply. Because it's kind of duplicative services, but it's something that we need a lot of services Countywide, and so just, you know, not line iteming or calling out one specific entity, but opening it up and seeing how many folks we can help.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: And then can I follow up, Chair? On the second part of my question.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Member King?

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Thank you. So are you leaving the Farm Bureau then?

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: That would be in the second motion of ag promotion and tech. The five entities or lines that I wanted to collapse and make one big pot would be Ag Promotion

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and Ag Tech Programs at the top, as well as Hawai'i Taro Farm, Maui County Farm Bureau, and CTAHR. And all of those entities would still be able to apply for the money that they're line iteming in here, but so would other folks.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo, Member King.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Any more questions before I make the motions?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Any other questions for Member Paltin? Chair Lee?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: So you're going to make two motions. One with one set of agencies, and the other...so the...can the first...your first motion, can you repeat who's in that list again?

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Sure. So the first motion has two parts, and the first part would be collapsing the two grants that go to the Hawai'i Farmers Union United for education and apprenticeship, and that would make one pot of 375,000 and, you know, opening it up for folks to apply to that pot of 375,000 for their education and apprenticeship farming needs. And then the part two of the first motion would be the food security portion, collapsing Food Security Hawai'i, Ohana Garden Project, and Common Ground Collective into one pot of 105,000, and allowing various entities to apply for that. And that's the two parts of the first motion.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Chair Lee?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Any other questions for clarification? Okay. It looks everyone's on...oh, Member Sinenci, you had a question before we have the motion? Okay. Member Sinenci?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Yeah, thank you, Chair. So would having it open up to more farmers, would the names of those...so Member Paltin, you would say like the mentoring program for the first collapse? Because we would taking out the...the HFUU in the title?

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Yeah. So it would be...it would be one fund called Agricultural, Education, and Apprenticeship Fund. And then the second fund would be called the Garden and Farm Installation Fund.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Member Sinenci?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Okay. Yeah, thank you for the clarification.

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

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Yeah, I just wonder if you can separate those two into two different motions.

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VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: I think I could accommodate that.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Because you know...and...and because I...I would support...I know there's a lot of farm mentorship programs, but I think the other two are specific programs, and probably things that they're already working on that they're...they have come before us and testified and are counting on that funding. So I would support the first part of that, but probably not the second. But we're not talking about any cuts, we're just talking about rearranging the funds.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo, Member King. Member Johnson?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Thank you, Chair. I love the out-of-box thinking that this...Councilmember Paltin has proposed. I just have a little bit of concern, if I can totally be honest with you. Is these...you know as a farmer, when I would apply for grants, the amount of effort it took to apply for a grant and get to back me, and this...and I'm just afraid that OED and the grant distributors might be overwhelmed with this amount of people that would probably come and apply. That's my only concern is that I don't want them to get overwhelmed with the amount of applicants, but I do like that idea. So that's kind of where I'm going in my mind right now, where I'm balancing it out. So I'd like to hear more. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Johnson. And for that...part of that reason, this Council approved a Grants Manager and a Grants Writer for OED last year, so we did resource them more so that they would be able to handle more capacity. Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Great to hear.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: I think...I think we're ready for the motion, Member Paltin, and so we'll take each collapse up separately starting with the first one, and I think that's for the...on page 408 of your Program booklet, Hawai'i Farmers Union United Four Maui Chapters for \$150,000, and Hawai'i Farmers Union United - Mentoring Program for \$225,000. So collapsing the two into Agricultural, Education, and Apprenticeship Fund for \$375,000. So the fund's the same, but it's just removing the...the entity's name. Okay. Is that correct, Member Paltin?

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: So move.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Moved by Member Paltin. Is there a second? Second by Member Sugimura. Okay. All right. Anyone wishing to speak to the motion? Okay. Member Sinenci? You're muted.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Oh, thank you. And thank you...mahalo, Member Paltin, for right, thinking out of the box and collapsing it. I understand where she's going. I just have, right, concerns about some of...and I know we have an East Maui Hawai'i Farmers Union here, and so...and our support of them and the other chapters was just kind of the specific things that they...they did in the...in their respective communities. I don't



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know about...you know, we would still have the agriculture program administrator to kind of pick and choose some of the grantees, and so that's why I personally like naming some of them who've...who've...have proven their worth throughout the years and...and...and have continued to support our efforts. So I would...I would probably want to look at maybe at the...the agriculture micro grants program and to open it up to more. Maybe looking at the policy of less than 2,500 of their annual income, and maybe opening those...that section up for more smaller grants. But I can see where this is more for educational, so...

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Yeah. And...and the intent is not to take away from Hawai'i Farmers Union United per se, I mean obviously, they...they probably would be applying for it and they mostly likely at this time would have the best proposal because they're...just putting a line item on it doesn't mean we're just going to hand them out the money, they still have to do the proposal and go through the application process. And so they'd be best suited probably like prepared, but you know, looking down the future, are we going to continue to fund the same folks over and over and over again and...and let them get kind of complacent? Or just say hey, this money is for education and mentoring, let's have the best proposal come forward. And so, you know, at this time, most likely they would have the best proposal because they have been doing it, but it's just kind of opening the door to bring in that competitive aspect to bring us to a higher level is the way I...I see it.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Sinenci. Okay. And then seeing no hands, I'll...I'll share my thoughts on...on this. As you all know, I've been saying it throughout our Budget Session that I would like to figure out how to better streamline our grants process, provide more transparency, provide more inclusivity and accountability for all of our grants. In the past, there have been Administrations that have been a little more political, and have not...were not open to being broader in selecting entities for these grants. And so for that reason, I understood why previous Councils would line item entities so that they would get a chance at County grants. With the current Director of the Office of Economic Development, sorry, OED Director JoAnn Inamasu, I've had such a...an easy and wonderful time working with her. I find her to be very fair, and I think she likes to give more entities an opportunity, especially for the first time. And so I think by opening up this...this...the grants instead of line item...instead of naming entities, we name the purpose of what we're hoping to achieve. And so for this, we're hoping to achieve more education and apprenticeship opportunities, and that way we understand what the return on investment is for this pot of money. I...I would like us to...our Council to set up a process so that we will review these to ensure that the entities that apply for the funding are providing the deliverables that meet the objectives and the goals of this funding. And so I...I support this motion. It's not taking away any funds, it's not taking away the opportunity for HFUU to also apply for the funding. As Member Paltin said, because they've, you know, done this process multiple times, they understand how to apply for the funding. This would...for those entities that would like to also provide education and apprenticeship opportunities, they would be able to apply for this funding, and then perhaps more entities will be able to provide this type of service to our County. Our Charter states consolidate...so the Declaration of Policy in our County Charter under Section 3-9 states...section...Subsection 3 that we would

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consolidate services, activities, and functions of similar nature. And so here, we have items that have similar services, activities, and functions. And so really, our policy is to consolidate. And so that...that's the effort that we're making with this motion. And so that's why I support the motion. Chair Lee, you had a --

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Oh, I have --

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: -- you want to speak to the motion?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: -- comments to make, okay, on the motion. I do support the motion, but I honestly believe, as you seem to intimate, that there needs to be an overhaul of the whole grant process, whether it's Economic Development, Human Concerns, or whatever. On the...on the one hand, you have certain nonprofits who come in and apply for grants; and to their credit, they have learned the process, they have...and by their experience with the...the County and those who implement the process, they have gained a certain level of proficiency and efficiency over time. So that's great, that's a big, big plus for them. We also have to make room for new people who have a different perspective or a new energy to bring to the table; but oftentimes, these people need to learn the ropes. They don't have the proper tax clearance, they don't have a one-year audit, they don't have lots of things, so they have to go learn the process just like the people ahead of them learned the process. And that is why I'm hoping that somebody, some Committee will take this on because, you know, no matter what the grant is for, it's the same process. And we need to have a good grading system so that we...that the Member...all of us know who are the good grantees, you know, who are the reliable ones, who are the responsible ones. But I believe that our overall policy should be weaning them off the County. In other words, let's say those who have been very good grantees and have...get...get good scores may get 100 percent the first year; but over time, their allotment lessens, is reduced. Like for instance maybe the next year it be 80 percent, maybe the following year be 60, percent, and they...and then they get to 50 percent, and then we re-evaluate the whole thing. But I...I firmly believe not everybody should be getting 100 percent every single year. But it should be based on a nonpolitical, impartial, objective type of procedure so that everybody gets a chance, but the folks who follow the rules do get rewarded. So for...for now, we're just talking about improving one aspect of it, and I support that and will vote for it.

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

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Thank you, Chair. Yeah, I support this proposal. And I...I was going to actually say the same thing as Chair Lee just said about weaning folks off of the...the County grants. This...the Farm Apprentice Mentorship Program has been getting County funding for...I believe for at least four years, maybe five years, and so, you know, I think it's a good time to broaden that...that pot of money and make it available to others. The reason why, you know, the...the next one gives me a little bit of heartburn because it's specific entities that have not been funded...one of them has not been funded before, but this one I can support. And I...and I think there's been a little bit of, you know, stuff happening with this program too in the past. So this is a good way to add in that accountability that Member Paltin talked about. And I do think that

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if we want to revamp it, we should revamp it ahead of time and...you know, I mean, I'm going to vote for this one but the other ones I feel like we should get...give people fair warning before they get put in as a line item and then we take it away from them. So that's just my take on that. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member King. Anyone else wishing to speak to the motion? Okay. Seeing no one else speaking, I'll...I'll share my final thoughts. So in echoing both Chair Lee and Member King and Member Paltin's comments, two points that I...I forgot to reiterate. One, that by not naming the entity, it does provide for the accountability process that the Administration can provide. So if the deliverables or not all the funding was spent, it's not all locked into that one entity. So if the entity is thinking, you know, because of COVID this year, we're going to apply for, you know, \$10,000 less or \$20,000 less, then that would give the Administration the flexibility without coming to the Council for a budget amendment to allow the Administration to provide that excessive funding...or excess in funding to other entities that may like to get started with...with a...with a program like this. And the second is like what we did with the Tourism Management Grant Fund, this would be a pilot, you know, program. We can just do this this year, see how it works, and if it doesn't work then, you know, next year we'll have the opportunity to make the necessary adjustments. And I've...I've already, you know, committed to continuing the work that I...I have been doing with the grants program to ensure more efficiency with the scorecard or the spreadsheet that I worked on from DHHC. And one last point is with the Human Services grants, I understand that they fill a gap and a need for social services that the County doesn't provide. So if they, you know, remain funded by the...the County, I...I understand why. With Economic Development, the whole purpose of economic development is growth. And if these entities are not growing and becoming self-sustaining, then I don't...it kind of is contrary to the vision of economic development, of...of growing. And so with the Economic Development grants, those particularly are grants that I would like to refine the process. Even with the watershed grants, I think those are necessary. But we want to make sure that we progress and move forward each year, and are not just doing the same thing. We would like to see more deliverables and more performance. Those are my final thoughts. I'll call for the question. All those in favor of the motion, please raise your hand and say "aye."

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Aye.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: All right, I see eight "ayes," zero "noes," one excused.

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

**NOES:**      **None.**

**ABSTAIN:**      **None.**

**ABSENT:**      **None.**

**EXC.:**      **Councilmember Kama.**

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**ACTION:      APPROVE**

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

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Can't hear you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. One moment. Okay. Member Paltin?

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Can you hear me now? Oh, okay. Okay. So now this would be the second of three motions. I move to collapse all garden and farm installation line items on page 408 into one fund called the Garden and Farm Installation Fund for \$105,000.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Moved by Member Paltin. Is there a second? Okay. Seconded by Member Johnson. Member Paltin?

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Thank you. And similar premise, this one would include Common Ground Collective, and Food Security, Ohana Garden line items.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Paltin. Okay. Members, anyone wishing to speak to the motion? Member King?

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Thank you, Chair. I'm not going to support this. These...both these entities are only in their second year of getting County funding. I would be in favor of...if we're going to be going forward doing this of letting folks know that we're either going to...after the first year of funding or the second year of funding, we're going to be looking for them to become self-sustaining. But you know, all these...these...I think...I thought Member Paltin added the Hawai'i Taro Farm to this one too, but you're just...now you're just...just these two or three?

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: That's going to be my next motion.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: That's your next motion? Okay. Anyway, I...I support getting

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these...these entities off the ground before we abandon them since we started with them last year. And I think they're...they can be successful. And I think if we let them know that they will not be guaranteed as a line item after this year, then we can promote that issue of, you know, these entities becoming self-sustaining. But they're...both of these entities as far as I know because I know the people in them are on a good pathway forward and have done a lot of good in the community, so I'd like to continue to support them one more year. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member King. Chair Lee, followed by Member Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay. Didn't we have a line item for the something hub? The something food hub? 200...

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Maui Food Hub is one of the priorities Member  
(audio interference)

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Oh, it's not...not listed. I don't know who that (audio interference)

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: (audio interference) Chair Lee. Member Sinenci's staff. Chair Lee?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Oh, no, no. I...I was just wondering if that included that, because I thought that was a really good project. So...so it's not included in what you're talking about. Okay.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Member Sinenci?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Yeah, just to answer Chair Lee's...yeah, the proposal was just for a one-time funding request. Yeah, and on this motion, I think I'm kind of leaning more towards Member King. I know that some of these main nonprofits, they've already kind of established their budget for the year, and so I don't know if...without their input, if their budgets are already, you know, incumbent to some of these. So at this time I'm not going to support the motion. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo, Member Sinenci. Okay. I'll...I'll...I'll share some of my thoughts. Okay. So I support the motion for all the reasons I said with the first motion. And then just a reminder to Members that just because the entity name is removed, it doesn't exclude them from applying again. And I think that this Council...I totally supported us doing this last year, getting, you know, these entities' foot in the door. And as Member King said, they are off to a successful start. And being that they're off to a successful start, they will have more of an advantage of getting funding again. And so it doesn't, you know, preclude them from applying for the funding. And since they're doing good work, I can see them getting the funding again if they apply for it since they've...Member...Chair Lee stated, you know, gone through the process, have figured out how to apply for the funding and access the funding, and so they have a higher chance of getting the funding again. The second point of...so that's about

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accountability and ensuring deliverables. The second point is...so the proposed budget from the Mayor is a proposed budget. There's no guarantee that any entity that's named in the budget, as we go through this process, is guaranteed funding. There's no guarantee. So when creating your budget...I've...I've been on several nonprofits, I've worked for several nonprofits before, and it's always TBD, pending funding, especially when it comes to governments, that the funding is not guaranteed. And so you...you cannot create your budget with a guarantee of, you know, whatever is being proposed in the...in the budget. I think that's presumptuous to do. There's no guarantee that there will be a majority to support that line item. And I think that's...you know, that's one of the things that Member Paltin spoke to is that, you know, we've created this, you know, grant system giving entities that may not be doing a great job guarantee to funding. Because once they get into our budget, they (*audio interference*) rely on it and then they're in our budget, you know, permanently after that. And we will be, you know, doing a reform of our budget process, and I'll work with the OED Director and the Administration on this. But again, this is just for this year, and if this process is not a good process, we can change it next year. But I support the motion. Mahalo, Member Paltin. Anyone else wishing to speak to the motion? Okay. Seeing no hands, I'll call for the question. All those in favor of the motion, please raise your hand and say "aye." Aye, I see Chair Lee, Member Paltin, Member Sugimura, Member Molina, and myself, and Member Johnson. Okay. All those opposed, please raise your hand and say "no." Okay. Member Sinenci and Member King. So it's six "ayes;" two "noes" - Member King, Member Sinenci; and one excused.

**VOTE:**       **AYES:**       **Chair Rawlins-Fernandez, Vice-Chair Paltin, and Councilmembers Johnson, Lee, Molina, and Sugimura.**

**NOES:**       **Councilmembers King and Sinenci.**

**ABSTAIN:**   **None.**

**ABSENT:**   **None.**

**EXC.:**       **Councilmember Kama.**

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**ACTION:    APPROVE**

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Member Paltin?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Can't hear you again.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Can you hear me now?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Member Paltin?

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COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Now.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Okay. So my third motion is also on page 408, Program Budget. I move to collapse the Agriculture Promotion Fund, and the Agricultural Technology Program's Fund, along with all agricultural technology and...all agricultural promotion line items into one fund called the Agricultural Promotion and Agricultural Technology Program Fund. This would include collapsing the two existing funds, Maui Farmers Bureau, Hawaii Taro Farm, and UH CTAHR. . . .(coughing). . . Sorry. That's my motion.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Moved by Member Paltin, seconded by Member Sinenci. Discussion, Members?

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: And so --

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Member...

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: -- similar...similar discussion, similar that these named entities would likely be the ones to receive the money because they're prepared, they have a program, they have a situation, and we're just...this is the first move to open it up to the broader public. So you know, it kind of...while we're on agriculture and farming, we're planting seeds in folks' minds about applying for these types of money in the future and getting themselves ready, because it's not just guaranteed to a certain entity. Whereas of course, these entities that are named have the best shot because they've gone through the process, they have the paperwork, they know what they're doing.

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

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Okay. Thank you, Chair. Just, yeah, which were the...the other programs? I...I heard CTAHR, and which was the other ones that was included also in the promotion, ag promotion?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Member Paltin?

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Maui County Farm Bureau, Hawai'i Taro Farm, and then the top two lines for a total of \$1,310,000. And you know, if I could just add on, you know, other ideas we could implement in the future is a requirement for matching funds so that we can leverage County funds. When...oh, I still am the Executive Director of Save Honolua Coalition, but we applied for quite a few grants. And like, you know, at one time, Hawai'i Tourism Authority, you couldn't get awarded it more than like two years in a row or something, or more than three times in seven years, and you had to have like so much matching funds, and only so much of it could be in...what is that called when it's not money?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: In kind.

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VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Sweat equity. In kind, in-kind donation, but a certain percentage had to be cash match. So I mean, there...these are things that other legit entities already do, and it...it's kind of like, you know, in...in that way we're doubling what we're putting out there by saying we're going to put this much, we want to see like some evidence of matching funds, in-kind donations, and...and whatnot. So that's...just trying to make a more fair, more transparent, and more leveraged process. But I mean, not saying do that right now about the matching funds and leveraging, but it...it's a good direction to look at in the future, plant the seeds for the farmers, grow the trees.

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

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Yeah, thank you, Chair. Sorry, I just heard the...the top two that I was supportive, and...and only because I've had some meetings with Hawai'i Taro and CTAHR. So my only concerns was, you know, again, them coming to testify in support of...of theirs and then...and then we're changing it up on them. So that's my only concern. Thank you, Chair.

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

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you. So excuse me, Tamara, but can you read...I have ag promotion for 200, agriculture technology programs for another 100, Hawai'i Farmer...Hawai'i Taro Farm for 360, Maui County Farm Bureau for 500, and CTAHR for 150. Is that what's in your motion? Okay. So I also wanted to ask, because it has that promotion, is Moloka'i, Lāna'i Agriculture Promotion, and that's for 100,000 to add to this? Did you overlook that, Tamara?

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Sure, we can add it.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Okay.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Friendly amendment.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Okay.

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

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Did you deliberately leave out Maui School Garden Network? Since the idea is not to have anybody get a line item to be...is that the idea?

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: The first one.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Shucks, that should have probably gone in the education, the first motion.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: I see. Okay. What is two?



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CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Garden installation.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Oh, the second one.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh, the second motion.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Oh, second motion.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Because they...that's what they do, is garden installation for the schools.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay. I was just asking for clarification.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: That's...it's kind of difficult because it's like farm installation for schools, which is for education, so I...it kind of straddles the two. I...I guess it could go in...in either one. Education...I guess...I guess it's up to the body to say if it's more installation or it's more education. I kind of...you know, with the school part of it, feels...feels educational.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair Lee. Yeah, I think for those it kind of...it didn't fit neatly in the...the categories that Member Paltin described, but if the body would like to choose one, you know, we can...we can do that too. Okay. Member King?

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Yeah, I...I had that question too, why you didn't add Maui Nui Botanical Gardens or School Garden Network, but...not that I want you to, I just was curious as to why you...you didn't. You know, I...I still kind of feel like...you know, I understand about the Farm Bureau because we did that to the Farmers Union, made that a broader pot of money. I'm a little worried about the CTAHR position because we...we are funding the position in our budget separately, and that's what this position does basically, is oversee these grants. So if we're not going to put the grants in there as line item, then I wonder what's going to happen. Maybe...maybe the Budget Director can speak to that? Will...how that connect...how the positions connected to these grants, CTAHR Grants.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Budget Director Yoshimura?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: She left.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: And then while we're...while we're...

COUNCILMEMBER KING: I see the square but I don't...but...

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: She wouldn't leave.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Yeah, I see her square.

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CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. While we're...while we're waiting for Budget Director Yoshimura, Staff reminded me that the...that additional proposed \$100,000 under Maui County Farm Bureau had a conditional language of up to \$100,000 must be for a vacuum cooling plant. So the --

MS. YOSHIMURA: Chair?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: -- intention was to...oh, keep that. Okay. Budget Director?

MS. YOSHIMURA: Chair. Yeah, so Maui County Farm Bureau we did propose \$500,000, \$400,000 for their operations and \$100,000 to upgrade the vacuum cooling plant. And Chair, while we're at it, same thing for the Moloka'i Livestock Cooperative. Normally we give them \$10,000, this year we added \$125,000 for them to do upgrades at the slaughterhouse, I believe.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Did you hear my question, Director?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Member King?

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Did you hear my question that I asked earlier?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Can you repeat your question --

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: I guess not.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: -- Member King, please?

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay. So Director, I was asking about the CTAHR...you know, we're talking about collapsing the CTAHR grants into the larger pot of grants, but I...and I...so my question to you is, we have that position funded in our...in our overall budget, and so how does...how is that position connected to these grants? Because I thought that's what basically that position did, was oversee these grants, the 150,000.

MS. YOSHIMURA: Sorry, Chair, the position...Councilmember King, the position that you're talking about, we do fund the CTAHR grant, and that grant funds a position.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: The 150,000?

MS. YOSHIMURA: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay. So that 150,000 includes the position? I thought that was just the grants that that position oversees. So we're on page 408, Director, for...looking at the grants. The University of Hawai'i College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources, and there's \$150,000 in the Economic Development Program under the Agricultural Program, but I thought that was separate from our funding of the actual position.

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MS. YOSHIMURA: No. So the \$150,000 does go...a portion of it goes to a...for salaries, about \$25,000 for salaries, about \$85,000 for materials and supplies, \$2,000 for travel, and because this is a grant under the University of Hawai'i, they do take an admin fee of 10 percent.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay. And then they contribute to this position as well?

MS. YOSHIMURA: Chair, yes, I believe a portion of it does come from...I'm looking at their grant application, and it doesn't show anything...any other sources of funds other than the County's funds, but it does show that there is a project assistant for 22,624 and 9 percent fringe cost.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: But it doesn't show how much the...because I'm pretty sure for this position the university would share this funding for the actual position at the university. I didn't realize it was in the grant, I thought it was separate line item, but you know, to me this is what we were talking about as far as cost sharing, that this is something that's bringing university dollars into Maui as well. Or am I wrong about that?

MS. YOSHIMURA: Yeah. So yeah, we don't have a separate appropriation for an E/P or any personnel costs, it's all through this one grant for 150,000. And I believe that's the...we did increase this grant a couple of years back to accommodate for personnel costs as well.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay. But is it true that the university also shares the cost of that position with us?

MS. YOSHIMURA: Chair, I'm not sure on that, I can check. I know that's the case with the UH...the Sea Grant in the Planning Department, but I will check on the CTAHR grant. Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay. Thank you. So --

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member King.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: -- thank you, Chair. That's...that's kind of a big concern for me, so I'll wait until we get the information.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Yeah, I...I...I thought the same as you, Member King, I thought it was all grant funding. I thought it was kind of a passthrough from the County to CTAHR to distribute to the community. I didn't realize 25,000 goes to salaries, 85,000 to materials and supplies, 2,000 for travel, and 12,000 for administrative fee. Anyone else wishing to speak to the motion? Okay. Member Paltin?

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: I'm not sure if we talked about the Maui Farm Bureau's vacuum cooling condition. It may be good to pull that out and make that just be its own line item about Maui County...or Maui County Farm Bureau, 100 grand for their vacuum cooling specific...because that's like a...we know that's a one-time request...because, I mean,

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how many vacuum coolings can you...I guess a lot, but they're only asking for it just this once time.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Good idea.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, Member Paltin. So Member Paltin has amended her motion. I think Member Sinenci seconded the motion, so if you support the amendment. What the amendment would do is the same as the first, except \$100,000 to the Maui County Farm Bureau for that vacuum cooling...let's see...for vacuum cooling plant might be separated. Okay. So Member King, do you need that additional information from the Budget Director in order to make a decision on this motion?

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Not on the amendment, but...we're on the amendment, right?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: No, there's no motion to amend because that was Member Paltin's motion...so she friendly amended her own motion.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Oh, okay. Well I...then I...you know, yeah I do need that information but I'd like to actually make a motion to amend the motion that's on the floor, if I may?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Member King.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: To remove the CTAHR line item from this proposal...allow it to stand on its own because it's...

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Moved by Member King. Seconded by Member Sinenci. Member King.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay. Yeah, I think that this position is also supported by the University of Hawai'i, but I also have heard in the past we've had farmers come forward talking about how important this position was and the work...the research that they do over there has helped a lot of our local farmers including Bobby Pahia, who was one of the ones who said he would never even be in farming if it wasn't for the CTAHR program. So I'd feel more comfortable with taking that program out and letting it stand on its own. And then if we want to collapse that in the future, I think we should go back to the University of Hawai'i and, you know, have...let them pull out their support for it if that's what they need to do.

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

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Okay. Thank you, Chair. Yeah, I can be supportive of Member King's amendment. I think it gives them some...just some extra time to let them know. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Sinenci. Anyone else wishing to speak to the amendment...the main motion? Member Paltin.

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VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: I guess my only comment would be is that I hope all of the people that we fund think that same thing about the grant monies they receive, and not just CTAHR...that's just my only comment...like I mean, if we're funding these things, I hope that it's making a big difference in people's lives...all of them, not just one. That would be my comment.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Paltin. Okay. Seeing no other hands, I'll call for the question to amend the main motion. All those in favor of the motion to amend the main motion by removing \$150,000 of CTAHR line item, please raise your hand and say "aye." Okay. I see Member King, Member Sinenci, Member Paltin, Member Johnson. And the "noes," please raise your hand and say "no." Chair Lee, Member Sugimura, Member Molina and myself. Okay. So the motion fails to get the five votes.

**VOTE:       AYES:       Vice-Chair Paltin, and Councilmembers Johnson, King, and Sinenci.**

**NOES:       Chair Rawlins-Fernandez, and Councilmembers Lee, Molina, and Sugimura.**

**ABSTAIN:   None.**

**ABSENT:    None.**

**EXC.:       Councilmember Kama.**

**MOTION FAILED.**

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: So we're back to the motion...the main motion.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Chair, can I ask a question?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Member King.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: So since we're not going to be supporting the CTAHR line item, do we remove that EP position then and just put up a total of 150,000?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, I'm sorry Member King, what was the question?

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Well, the item...

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: 150,000...

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Yeah, the item had an EP position in there. And so are we taking out all the specifics of that...of that line item then, and then just putting in 150,000

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towards the ag promotion...so there's no...there's no expectation of the...of CTAHR having that EP...I think that . . .*(inaudible)*. . . used?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Right. So CTAHR would be like everyone else, and would apply for a funding, \$150,000. And if in their budget it includes \$25,000 in salaries and \$85,000 in material and supplies, then it would be up to the Administration to determine if the proposal has a...you know, a substantial, you know, return on investment, and would fund that position.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: All right, anyone else wishing to speak to the main motion? If not, I'm going to call for the question. All those in favor of the motion, please raise your hand and say "aye." All right, I see Chair Lee, Member Paltin, Member Molina, Member Johnson, Member Sugimura, and myself. All those opposed, please raise your hand and say "no." Member King and Member Sinenci. Okay, motion passes, six "ayes," two "noes," Member King, Member Sinenci, and one excused.

**VOTE:       AYES:       Chair Rawlins-Fernandez, Vice-Chair Paltin, and Councilmembers Johnson, Lee, Molina, and Sugimura.**

**NOES:       Councilmembers King and Sinenci.**

**ABSTAIN:   None.**

**ABSENT:    None.**

**EXC.:       Councilmember Kama.**

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**ACTION:    APPROVE**

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay...whoof...all right. Warmed up. All right. Are there any other proposals? I think those were the three that Member Paltin had for this section. Any other proposals, Members? Okay, I think we've reached that time if there are no proposals on the Economic Development Program, I'm going to ask for consensus.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Consensus.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Consensus.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay...whoof...all right. Okay, we can go to the next portion of this Department, which is CIPs. There are no CIPs. Done. Rates and Fees, there is only one, and that is the Kula Ag Park Rental. Any amendments? If not, I'll ask for

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consensus. All right, I hear no objections and see lot of hands, so consensus.

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**MEMBERS' PRIORITY PROPOSALS**

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, now we're at the priorities. Okay, the first priority is number 31, and that's from Member Paltin. It's for Hawaiian Cultural Restoration Revolving Fund...oh, this is a Bill.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Oh, I think we took this up already.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yeah, yeah.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: The Bills...we took up all the Bills.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yeah. Okay. . . .*(inaudible)*. . . making...speedy. Next one, Member Johnson. Number 33, Climate Change, Resiliency, and Sustainability to Establish an Agriculture Grant Writer. Member Johnson, your motion.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Thank you, Chair. I move to create an Agricultural Grant Writer.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Moved by Member Johnson, seconded by Chair Lee. Member Johnson.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Thank you, Chair. So last year, the Council passed a Bill to create a much needed Department of Agriculture. As a former farmer and advocate for food sovereignty, I fully support this new Department and believe it's important to give it the best start possible. I propose we fund an Ag Grant Writer position for the fiscal year, start finding and applying for Federal, State and NGO grants in Fiscal Year 2023. That will not only support the new Department, but will farmers, agricultural and community, and ultimate, our community as a whole. I do not like to be behind the eight ball, and believe forward thinking goes a long way...this is a smart move and will be necessary if you want to have a Department up and running, supporting our farmers in Fiscal Year 2023. Just to remind you folks, it's an eight-month period...so, yeah. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Johnson. And this is for \$35,304 plus \$31,096 in fringe.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: That is correct, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Anyone else wishing to speak to the motion? Member King.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Thank you, Chair. I support this, but I'm not sure that it belongs in the Climate Change, Resiliency and Sustainability Office. I think it belongs where

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the Ag Specialist is, which I think is still at this point under OED? But I think this person needs to work closely with our Ag Specialist, and it looks like the Director has a response.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member King. Budget Director.

MS. YOSHIMURA: Thank you, Chair. Yeah, I think this position, if you're going to add it, would be more appropriately added to the Office of Economic Development where they are going to administer the grants. And they also have a couple of grant writers, so they could all work as a team at grant writing. So that would be my suggestion. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Budget Director. Okay...let's see. To those who haven't spoken...or Member King, were you done?

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Yeah, I'm supportive of it, I just think it needs to be in a little closer proximity to our Ag Specialist so...as Director...if Member Johnson is amenable to that.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Member Johnson.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Thank you, Chair. I'm very amicable to that. I just spoke with Makale'a and that was her recommendation, so I figured I'd...that's where the logic is coming from. But if the body wants it closer to those grant writers, I support that. Mahalo.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Johnson. Member Sinenci, followed by Member Molina.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Mahalo, Chair for the opportunity. I too agree that it should be under the Mayor within the Ag Department. So supportive of that, and also supportive of Member Johnson bringing this up and having the foresight, moving forward, to establish food security. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Member Molina.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Thank you, Madam Chair. If I could ask Budget Chair Yoshimura...currently, how many grant writers are there in the Mayor's Office, total?

MS. YOSHIMURA: Chair, I believe there's two funded positions, and we use one of the other Economic Development Specialist half-time to assist us with grants. But I know there's going to be a lot of grants that are going to become available that we would want to pursue, so this would greatly help us a lot.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Okay, I ask that because it's going to be a while before the formation of the Department of Ag, and I think we have until...maybe Member Sinenci can correct me or Budget Chair...we have until December of 2022...end of 2022, yeah. So it'll be a while, yeah, before the Department gets into full gear...so, okay. Thank you.



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

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Oh, thank you. Just a question for clarification. This person would be writing grants on behalf of the County to bring in revenues from other sources, or would it be for...and also writing grants with our residents to help them apply for grants from the County or other source...just...I'm not sure, that's why I'm just trying to clarify like what...what's the intention and who...who they're going to be writing grants for, and who they're going to be requesting money for those grants from.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Is that a question for Member Johnson?

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Yeah, because I wanted to know the intention of the position.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo. Member Johnson.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Thank you, good question. Yeah, I...as a former farmer, I knew how long it takes to write a grant. So I need help...I need the County to help write the grants, and then they can have the pot. You know, if I've got to apply for that, that's fine, but I think the best thing is for the grant writer to go out and reach those long, time-consuming grants that all of us as farmers know...as anybody really knows who works in that kind of industry, yes, it takes forever, and we need the County's help in that regard.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: So wait...Member Johnson...okay, now I'm confused. Oh, so Member Paltin's question is, would this position help bring outside funding in, or help residents apply for funding.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Yes.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Okay. Mahalo for that clarification. I'm not confused anymore. Okay. Members wishing to speak to the motion. Okay. All right. So I have follow-up questions on how this would work. Okay. So right now...or your proposal was for it to...this position to...this grant writer position to go to the Climate Change, Resiliency and Sustainability Office, but you've amended it to...under the Agricultural Specialist.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Yes, that is correct, Chair, per the...

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Sorry, I just need clarification.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Yes. Yes, that is correct.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. And I guess Budget Director Yoshimura.

MS. YOSHIMURA: Chair, so if this position is added, it would be added to the Office of Economic Development, not under the Ag Specialist, but working with the Ag Specialist and the other grant writers. Thank you.

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CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo for that clarification. Member Johnson, that is...that will be your motion for it to be in...

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Yes. In OED, yes. That makes better sense now. Thank you for helping me with that.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Okay. And then my last clarifying question is, is the intention of this grant writer to be...so it's an Agricultural Grant Writer...I'm not sure if we have a position with that description. Budget Director Yoshimura, does that position exist in the State, is that something that we would need to create with personnel, or would it just be a grant writer?

MS. YOSHIMURA: Chair, it would be a grant writer, and in the position description, we can specifically say that it would be to primarily focus on agricultural type grants.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Member Johnson.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Yes, that's perfect.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Will that be your motion?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Yes, that's my motion.

MS. YOSHIMURA: Chair?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh, Budget Director.

MS. YOSHIMURA: Sorry, I know we normally fund these positions for eight months...I think we just did a position description for the grant writer that you folks gave us in 2021, so it would be relatively quick for us to get this position moving. If you wanted to fund it for ten months instead of eight, I'm sure we will be able to do that. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Budget Director. Member Johnson, your response.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Yes, please. I like these kinds of questions.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: All right. Okay. Any other clarification so that we have the...we're all on same page on the motion that we'll be voting on. Everyone's on the same page? Okay, let's see. Ms. Milner, she's so on top of it. So the new salary would be...for ten months is \$44,130, and then fringe would be \$38,870, so those are the new numbers for the motion. All right. Mahalo, Ms. Milner. Okay, any other questions for clarification on how this would work? And if...okay. Okay, so I will repeat the motion so that we're all on the same page. The motion is to add 440...\$44,130 in salary and \$38,870 in fringe for a Grant Writer position that would write for agricultural grants, which would be under the Office of Economic Development, and the salary would be for ten months. Good? Okay. I'll call for the question. All those in favor, please raise your

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hand and say “aye.” All right, I see eight “ayes,” zero “noes,” one excused.

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

**NOES:**        **None.**

**ABSTAIN:**        **None.**

**ABSENT:**        **None.**

**EXC.:**        **Councilmember Kama.**

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**ACTION:**        **APPROVE**

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: All right. The next priority proposal is from Member King for an Economic Development Specialist for ten months. Okay. Member King, your motion.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay. Thank you, Chair. I move to add...the ten-month figure is 46,000 plus fringe costs, which I just calculated at 88.8 percent, which is what we were told was \$40,848, for the Office of Climate Change, Resilience, and Sustainability, which is page 381 of the Program Budget. If I can get a second, I'll speak to it.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Second.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Moved by Member King, seconded by Chair Lee. Member King.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay. Thank you, Chair. So the proposal adds an Economic Development Specialist II for ten months at \$4,600 a month salary to the Climate Change, Resilience, and Sustainability Office, and provides 5,000 for office equipment for the new Staff member. The new personnel will be responsible for managing, drafting, and issuing requests for qualifications and request for proposals to identify a parcel of land in the County's portfolio to dedicate as a manufactured housing plant, and to pilot research and development of locally source building materials with an emphasis on sustainable practices. And talking to --

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Do you have a copy of that proposal?

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Pardon?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: What number?

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COUNCILMEMBER KING: It's number 34.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: 34.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Oh, on the matrix. So...and in speaking with Alex de Roode, he didn't feel like that was a full-time, you know, they think that person would also be able to assist them with the circular Economic Development and other Climate Change, Resilience, and Sustainability projects as needed by the office. So they're...they've been fairly well understaffed since they were created. He is fairly ready to go because the job description is already there, and the position of Economic Development Specialist II has already been described, and so that's why we're requesting ten months.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo, Member King. Members, discussion? Okay. Seeing no discussion. Okay. And then just a quick add on, so the fringe is...

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Is that...was my fringe off?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: \$40,517.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Oh, 517? Okay...so I was off a little bit. And then with the 5,000...do you need...you want the exact total?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Sure.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay, so 40,517 plus 5,000...so that's 91,517.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member King. So I have a question. Okay. So we're funding this new Economic Development Specialist II for ten months...you said part-time?

COUNCILMEMBER KING: No, it's a full-time position, but it's ten months because it'll take them a couple of months to get somebody onboard.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Full-time position...and so it will become an EP, which will be a permanent position. So in this proposal, you're assigning this EP a task...if...so two questions: one, what happens to this EP after that objective is achieved; and two, once this position is part of the Administration, I'm not sure how it would work as far as Council directing Administrative EPs.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Right. Yeah, this was in the original description, and it is a badly needed third person in that office because they are having a hard time. And when we get into doing the Circle City Pilot Project, this position will really be focused on that as well. According to Alex de Roode, they need somebody else to get that project going. Yeah, and I don't know...I mean, this came out of the original, you know, request for the RFP and RFQ trying to propose it for the Housing Department, and then they clearly were not equipped to take on any more staff, and I wasn't the only one who proposed additional staff. But it actually is more of an Environmental and Climate Action

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position, so there's actually...we've talked about putting it in Planning, but this is a much better place for it, and this position is sorely needed. So that, you know...I think all we can do is request that this work be done in addition to the Climate Action...but you're right, we can't...we can't, you know, march down there and demand that they do something once they get hired, that's...you know, we're not allowed to do that, but we can hire them for this position. So, you know, I think, you know, we have a pretty good relationship...I have a pretty good working relationship with that office and they've been pretty locked in with the direction that the Council is going as far as Climate Action. So I have confidence that they're going to make good use of this position, and it'll probably go beyond just the circular economy as well, and it will probably be a position that can support the Renewable Energy Initiatives that office and the Council has.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. And then one clarifying question. This would...oh, sorry. This would be under OED or the Climate Change Office?

COUNCILMEMBER KING: The Climate Change Office, which is just...I guess it's just recently been separated from OED.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Okay, the Climate...sorry, Member Molina is having network issues. Okay, so that's the Climate Change Office, and this would be an EP and not an EA because the...Ms. Ane is an EA in the Budget, right?

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Yeah. That was the request from, you know, just speaking to Alex and Makale'a was...that this is the position. It's a Civil Service position, you know, the position that they described for this Economic Development Specialist II.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. So it's not an EA, it's an EP. And I see Budget Director Yoshimura, do you have additional information for my question?

MS. YOSHIMURA: Chair. So everybody in the Mayor's Office is not Civil Service...so if it's intended to be Civil Service, I'm not sure if this would be a better fit in the Department of Housing and Human Concerns under the Housing Program. Other than that, it will be...the position would be created in the Office of the Mayor, serving the term of the Mayor.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: So is it...is it preferable to be an EA since it's in the Office of the Mayor? Director?

MS. YOSHIMURA: An EA meaning an Executive Assistant, or is that the title you're looking for...or I know Makale'a and Alex, the two current employees in that Division, is Economic Development Specialists.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Right.

MS. YOSHIMURA: And that was their title when they were in the Office of Economic Development. We do probably have to redescribe them...the titles, but I guess it's...what

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salary range are you...well, the salary range that you're looking at could be an Economic Development Specialist, or it could be an Administrative Assistant.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Yeah, just...so my question to you was, are they Civil Servants or are they Assistants?

MS. YOSHIMURA: No, they are not Civil Service people...either they are appointed.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay.

MS. YOSHIMURA: So it's all up to you...if you want it to be an appointed position or a Civil Service position.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Well, I put...I...the reason why I described it as a Civil Service position is because I didn't think we were allowed to appoint positions to the Mayor's Office.

MS. YOSHIMURA: Chair. You wouldn't be appointing the person to the position, but you would be adding the position to the Mayor's Office, and then we would go through the hiring process.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay. So yeah, I think whatever works best for you...I mean, you know, if that's the position...that if...if it could...I didn't realize that Makale'a and Alex de Roode were both...had the same Economic Development Specialist title because I thought...and when they gave that to me with the description, I thought it was a Civil Service position, but it doesn't have to be. And I think it's smart to do it at the same level that Makale'a Ane and Alex de Roode are at because it would be the term of the Mayor. It wouldn't be a position that would stay on because if the next Mayor comes on and decides to do something different with that office, then that whole office is going to change. Is that what you're saying, that it would go with the term of the office, Chair?

MS. YOSHIMURA: Chair? Councilmember King, yes, that's correct. So you would create an Economic Development Specialist II at an SR-22 level.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo, Member King. Member Paltin.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Oh, thank you. Just a few questions for Ms. Yoshimura. So like when those guys are saying EA, that's a title...like that's their title is Executive Assistant, but when you're saying EP that's like Equivalent Position for anybody's job, right? And then I just was wondering, like when you said all the Mayor's Staff is appointed, so they're not Civil Service, I just was wondering in the secret documents, how come they have bargaining units like 3 and 13, is that...if you're a...if you belong to the Union in those units, are you not Civil Service, like you're not paying your Union dues because you're appointed?

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CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Budget Director.

MS. YOSHIMURA: Chair. So yeah, when you say an EA, I'm assuming it's an Executive Assistant. All of the employees in the Mayor's Office are appointed...we're all in classified positions. We follow the Bargaining Unit Pay Scale, so all of the titles in the...that we use all follow the SR or the HGEA Bargaining Unit at 3 or 13 Pay Scale. So we pay according to what that scale is, but we are exempt from Civil Service and exempt...so there's no Union dues.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Thank you. I've been wondering that for a real long time, so thank you for enlightening me.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Paltin. Okay, Members, any other questions or anyone wishing to speak to the motion. Yes. My final thoughts on this proposal. I really support the concept. I want to see this happen. I feel like it's not fully ready to be a part of the Budget, and that's just my opinion. Just the details of it, you know, being worked out to ensure that the goal of this proposal is achieved. So I'm not convinced yet that that would happen, so I won't be voting in support of the motion. Okay. All right. Member Paltin.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Sorry, I just wanted to clarify on what we finally landed on, that...was this going to be appointed or a Civil Service?

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Appointed.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Member King.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Appointed.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Thank you. So we're not appointing it, we're just funding it for the Mayor to appoint.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Right.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Okay, got it. Got it.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. So I see no hands for questions or comments, so I'm going to reiterate the motion, and then...Member King, will you tell me the full amount again?

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Full amount is...let me just double check...\$91,517. That's with the fringe.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. So the motion on the floor is for a full-time appointed position with a job description, Economic Development Specialist II, for ten months, SR-2 [sic] for \$91,517, and it's...and the purpose of this position would be to identify a parcel of land in the County's portfolio to dedicate as a manufactured housing plant and

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to pilot research and development of locally sourced building materials, with an emphasis on sustainable practices. Okay. Oh, Member King, did I say it not...

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Well, that's only part of the purpose...the other part of the purpose is to, you know, support the office and to help with the circular economy, private project that we have coming this summer.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. But everything else was stated correctly?

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Yeah.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. All right. All those in favor of the motion, please raise your hand and...oh. All right. Budget Director.

MS. YOSHIMURA: Sorry, Chair. Just wanted to clarify, did you say SR-24 or 22? Because Makale'a and Alex said 22.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: 22.

MS. YOSHIMURA: Okay. Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: She's promoting them already.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Member Paltin.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: I'm so sorry, I had a couple other questions. So this person would be at the same level as Alex and Makale'a, they wouldn't be supervised by them. And if...so that's the first question, it seems like that's a yes.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: That's a request.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Member King.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: The second question is like...the warehouse manufacturing parcel part, if the person never comes through on that, there's no recourse on our side, except, I guess, defunding it next fiscal year, or...

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Yeah, that would be my thought on that. But I think, you know, just as with every position that we fund, we have no recourse to make sure they do what they're supposed to do. We just can't fund the position and hope that, you know, we describe it correctly.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: I mean, I guess you could cut the funding next fiscal year would be the only way, really...realistically.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Well, we could bring them in front of the community too, and ask them for reports to, you know, that the progress they're making. I mean, that's basically



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what the Council does when we try to establish whether something's happening or not, you know, the best we can do is to bring...to create the item in the Committee, and then ask for an updated report.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Okay. Thank you. Sorry...sorry to hold up.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: It's okay.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: No, it's okay. Good questions. Okay. And I guess...yeah. So we know that the Council doesn't like to unfund positions after they've been filled, so that will be tricky. Chair Lee, you have your hand up?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Yeah. I'm really looking at this as long term. I mean, you know, those two work really hard in that section, and it's a growing section, and I...we may as well, you know, give them more support if we expect them to do the work, yeah.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yeah. Mahalo, Chair Lee. So it's the Mayoral term, and there's no guarantee of who will be the next Mayor, and if those two will continue to be there or not.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Well, if I ran, I would keep them. How's that?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Are you making an announcement, Chair Lee?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: No, I'm not. I was only joking.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. For the record, and for the media, that was not an announcement, that was a joke. Okay. Okay. So I'm not going to repeat the motion unless anyone wants me to repeat it? All right, I'm going to call for the question. All those in favor of the motion, please raise your hand and say "aye." Okay. Chair Lee, Member King, Member Paltin, Member Sinenci, Member Johnson, okay. All those opposed, please raise your hand and say "no." Member Sugimura, Member Molina, and myself. Motion passes, six "ayes"...nope...five "ayes," three "noes," Member Sugimura, Member Molina, myself, and one excused. Okay, motion passes.

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**VOTE:**        **AYES:**        **Vice-Chair Paltin, and Councilmembers Johnson, King, Lee, and Sinenci.**

**NOES:**        **Chair Rawlins-Fernandez, and Councilmembers Molina, and Sugimura.**

**ABSTAIN:**        **None.**

**ABSENT:**        **None.**

**EXC.:**        **Councilmember Kama.**

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**ACTION:        APPROVE**

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. The next proposal is number 35 on your matrix from Member Sinenci. OED Technology in Business or Climate Mitigation Program, \$150,000 for Maui ESG Investment project. Member Sinenci, your motion.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Mahalo, Chair. I move to earmark \$150,000 from the Mayor's Climate Mitigation Adaption...Adaptation Program to foster environmental, social, and good governance values to Responsible Markets LLC.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Motion by Member Sinenci. Is there a second? Second by Member King. Member Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Mahalo, Chair. The ESG project seeks to establish equitable, sustainable, and culturally appropriate 21st Century solutions based on Native Hawaiian perspectives and practices. At a previous Ahupua'a summit, the sponsors brought together Native Hawaiian farmers, local government leaders, and private investors, including our own Makale'a Ane, and also our State ERS representatives to address investments within our natural resources. And during the pandemic their ESG projects assisted in directing CARES Act funding for green jobs for displaced workers in rural communities like East Maui. So I ask the Members for their support. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Sinenci. Anyone else wishing to speak to the motion. Seeing no hands. I will call for the question all those...oh, Member King...oh, followed by Chair Lee.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Yeah, thank you, Chair. I just wanted to ask Member Sinenci if he could just specify what the money would be spent on?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Member Sinenci.

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COUNCILMEMBER KING: Is it a . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Right...and I apologize, we did not receive that. And we also did not receive that it was for any salaries or anything like that. But as you heard from testimony from Ms. Shay Chan Hodges, they are lobbying for some green energy initiatives up in Washington, including electrification of transportation, renewable energy, intellectual properties, and shoreline erosion, mitigation and other coastal resiliency issues.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: So this would pay for their travel or their...those kinds of activities?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: I can check for a breakdown.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo, Member King.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Same questions.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Chair Lee.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Same questions.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Same questions. Okay. Member Sugimura, followed by Member Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: I remember this grant had a matching requirement. Mr. Sinenci, is there a matching requirement for this?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Sorry, Member Sugimura, I'm not aware of any matching.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Yeah. I believe when it came up in Office of Economic Development, there was a requirement...I think it was...they had a conference or something, and they required a matching dollar for dollar for the...you know, for their funding.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: I can check if need to.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you.

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

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: I just was wondering if we could table this or withdraw it and then comeback to it when Member Sinenci has...what the money was going to be used for.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Sure, yeah, we can do that...towards the end of the agenda, Chair.

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CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yeah, toward the...we can take it up at the end of the priority proposals, and then hopefully you'll have that information by then. Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Okay, I can with...

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: So will you withdraw your motion?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Yes, I'll withdraw until later.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: You withdraw your motion. Member King, your second.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Yes, Chair, I'll withdraw my second.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Okay, the next proposal is from Member King. It's number 36 on your matrix for Environmental Protection Grant up to \$45,000 for ReTree Hawai'i. Member King, your motion.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Yeah, thank you, Chair. I move to fund the...it's a conditional priority to fund the ReTree event...actually, it's under Lokahi Pacific, the contract for the ReTree event is with Lokahi Pacific...for \$45,000, and the line item...out of the line item in your Budget Details, it's page 11-11, which happens to my birthday, but no...that's a coincidence. And that would be under the Environmental Protection Fund, that would be provisoed out of the 875,000, and that's a climate change initiative, as you heard.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Second.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, motion by Member King. Second by Member Molina. Okay, Members, discussion. Okay. Seeing no hands. I just have a quick question...same question that we had for Member Sinenci. Do you have the details of what the \$45,000 would break down to?

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay, so the...let me just read through the...let me read this justification that we have written up. The ReTree is an organization of nonprofit governmental and commercial organizations led by Rob Weltman, Chairman of the Sierra Club Maui Group. The program increases awareness among residents and visitors to Hawai'i with threats of climate change and . . . *(inaudible)*. . . to the health and well-being of people, plants and animals, and the losses it will cause to property and economic activity. The campaign focuses on things ordinary people can do to help mitigate climate change and emphasis on planting. The organization also provides education and expertise in native plants and the planting and maintenance procedures. It also follows up with the sites to monitor and assist with a maintenance plan. With the exception of DLNR's site in the Kula Forest Reserve, all the sites reported 100 percent or near 100 percent survival, according to organizing Rob Weltman...I won't go into that too much because you heard him talk about that. I don't have a Budget breakdown, but he is using it to buy plants and to educate the public and do outreach. Let's see if

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I have a breakdown. Okay, I do have...sorry. I actually do have a breakdown, it's...they had filled out this application previously (*audio interference*) so let me get to Budget.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, Member King. Would you like a few minutes to get that information because I know we've been going a long time without taking a break.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Oh, okay.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: So if Member . . .(*inaudible*). . . would like to take that time to gather that information, Member King, and recognizing that these are going to be questions that the Members will ask if you have, you know....so there's a you know \$300,000 for eradicating Miconia and other invasives, so all these items, it sounds like all the Members would like the breakdown of each of these proposals. So if all the Members will take a quick recess, if you can get that, you know, Budget breakdown, and then that way we'll have that information easily accessible when your priority proposal comes up. Yeah?

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Of course. Member Paltin.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Oh, just before...I like that idea. Just before we go on break, I just wanted to ask Member King one more thing about her proposal in case if she doesn't have the information, she could get it while we're gone as well. So the question would be is the ReTree intended to be a one-time grant?

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Yes.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Okay.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. So is 10 minutes okay or 15 minutes, Members.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Ten minutes is fine for me.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, it's 4:25 so we'll return at 4:35. Or do you want 4:40? All right.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: 4:35 is okay, but I think everybody wants 4:40.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, yeah, I think we've been going for like over two hours without a break. So you can have an extra five minutes...oh, now four minutes, sorry. Okay and I'll stop talking. It's...we'll return at 4:40. And it's 4:26 on April 21st. The Budget, Finance, and Economic Development Committee is now in recess. . . .(*gavel*). . .

RECESS: 4:26 p.m.  
RECONVENE: 4:44 p.m.

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CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: . . .*(gavel)*. . . Will the Budget, Finance, and Economic Development Committee please return to order. It is 4:44 on April 21st. And we are discussing Councilmembers' priorities under the Department of the Mayor. Before we continue with the discussion that we were having before we went on break, I'd like to set aside the motion really quickly to talk about our plans moving forward with our schedule, okay. So we have about ten more priority proposals under this Department. It's been taking us at least about ten minutes per proposal, and so that would be 100 minutes which would be about an hour and 40 minutes, which would take us to...oh, man, math...okay, 6:15. Okay. So, would Members like to continue taking this up, and then when we get to 6:15 we would...well, we can take a dinner break, and then I'm thinking...okay, we'll stop there. Okay. Is that a good plan for Office of the Mayor?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Yes.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Any objections?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: No.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Okay, all right. And that's if it we stick to ten minutes per item for the next ten proposals. All right. So the next question is, I'm thinking that wherever we're at...so it's going to be 6:15, 6:30-ish, and if we take an hour, then that will take us to about 7:30 after a dinner break. I would like to take up...out of order, Department of Personnel Services because I think that would be relatively quickly, probably as quick as Liquor Control was last night. Okay. All right. So we'll take up Personnel Services. And then I was thinking about taking up Department of Planning because there were less priority proposals and it's the priority proposals that are really taking us the longest. Are there any objections to taking up Personnel and then Planning.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Tonight?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: No.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: No objections.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay. I guess if everyone else is willing to go, then I'm willing.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. We'll assess where we are after we complete our review or decisions on the Department of Planning, and then make a determination on Department of Parks. Department of Parks and Recreation is what I had planned for us to complete today, but there are more priority proposals under Parks. So we can see where we're at after Planning, and see if we would like to take up a couple of programs first under Parks, but if it's too late we can, you know, adjourn for the day and then just take up Parks and Rec tomorrow. Any objections to that plan? Okay. All right. So in order for us to complete our decisions on the Office of the Mayor with the ten priority

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proposals that we have to vote on, I'm going to try to, you know, keep us on time for about ten minutes, and then I'll let Members know where we're at with that. I'll just put a timer on, and then we'll just do, you know, like a minute or two minutes for discussion...two, one?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Two...one round. Two minutes, one round.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: How about one minute, two rounds?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay, same thing.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Okay. All right. Okay. Okay, and then that way we'll kind of stay on track and we'll be able to take dinner before 6:30. Okay. Okay, so that'll be our plan moving forward. The motion that is on the floor is from Member King, and that is on priority proposal number 36. Okay, Member King.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay, thank you, Chair. So let me...I'll go over their Budget for this because they actually do have matching funds, so this is...they're not asking for the County to fund the whole project. But they've asked for up to 45,000 from the County, and they have donations of 4,850, other grants...10,000 in other grants, and then 30,000 in either plant...value plant reduction or plant donation by conservation organizations. And so the budget I'm going to give you is for the...what they budgeted for 89,850, but they're only asking the County to fund half of that...6,500 for advertising; 1,250 for Facebook posting; \$74,000 would go directly into the plants, 74,400; lease rental for 4-wheel drive vehicles for the one day of the ReTree event, \$1,000; 1,200 in tools and gloves; and then 5,500 for the fiscal sponsorship for Lokahi Pacific.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, Members. So that was the details of the 45,000. Questions, Member Paltin.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Thank you, Member King. I just was wondering if they're committed to planting native trees.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Yes, they are. They've got in here at least a minimum of \$20,000 in native plants in . . . *(inaudible)*. . . which I'm not sure what that is, but I think it's the whole thing that they plant...

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Yeah, yeah...I know what . . . *(inaudible)*. . . are. And then are...there is an effort to ensure that the right trees are being planted in the right places. I had a worker that put two cook pines right under his electric line and just, you know...

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Yeah, there's a whole narrative about how they're educating what trees to plant and where to plant them. So...I mean, I could send them to you if you wanted.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Okay, thanks. I wouldn't read it because I got stuff piling up for me to

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read.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: I got 12 pages of information here from them on the ReTree event and how they educate and how they make sure that the right trees are getting planted in the right place.

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

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Yeah, I support it. I have every confidence in the Sierra Club knowing exactly how to plant trees.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair Lee. Okay. Members, anyone else wishing to speak to the motion. Seeing no hands. I'll quickly share my comments. I support the proposal, and will vote in favor of the motion, and am excited about this. Mahalo, Member King. Okay. I'll call for the question. The motion is to...is for conditional language, \$45,000 for ReTree Hawai'i under Environmental Protection. Okay, all those in favor please raise your hand and say "aye."

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Aye.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, I see eight "ayes," zero "noes," one excused. All right.

<b>VOTE:</b>	<b>AYES:</b>	<b>Chair Rawlins-Fernandez, Vice-Chair Paltin, and Councilmembers Johnson, King, Lee, Molina, Sinenci, and Sugimura.</b>
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<b>NOES:</b>	<b>None.</b>
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<b>ABSTAIN:</b>	<b>None.</b>
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<b>ABSENT:</b>	<b>None.</b>
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<b>EXC.:</b>	<b>Councilmember Kama.</b>
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**MOTION CARRIED.**

**ACTION:   APPROVE**

COUNCILMEMBER KING: So, Chair, just an FYI...you want to put this in the budget that it should mention Lokahi Pacific as the fiscal sponsor. I just want to make sure that...

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo for that...

COUNCILMEMBER KING: So we don't have to go back in for a budget amendment later...I'm not sure who the money goes to.



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CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. So when we do the review on OpenGov, then we...we'll ensure that it's there.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Lokahi Pacific.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Everybody gets a tree . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: All right. The next item is from myself, it's number 37 on your matrix. Oh...okay, so I will say what it is, and then if someone would like to make the motion for me. If not, I can ask Member Paltin to Chair this section of the portion of the meeting, okay. Okay, so the motion would be to allocate \$200,000 in funding for Ho'āhu Energy Co-op Moloka'i under the Renewable Energy Program.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: So move.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Second.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, moved by Chair Lee, seconded by Member Molina. Okay, and then the breakdown is \$15,000 for salary and...okay, so I guess it would be \$21,000 for salary and fringe together; 12,500 for construction training in partnership with Makāha Learning Center; 35,000 in comprehensive microgrids training; 2,000 in outreach and marketing; 50,000 in microgrid and nanogrid projects; and 50,000 in interconnection studies. Any questions or comments, or anyone wishing to speak to the motion? Member King.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Well, of course, I support everything having to do with renewable energy, and I'm thrilled that Moloka'i is jumping in there because I remember at the meeting that you held, Chair, I think it was a couple of years ago, about the solar project that was being proposed and how local folks wanted to be part ownership. So I'm glad that that's...that they're following through. I just wondered what that means, back to flat, 275 total? Was it something that was originally in the budget and was cut?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh, mahalo, Member King, for that. So we heard from Mr. de Roode that it was allocated elsewhere. So the idea was to bring it back to the funding that it received in FY'21, but we learned that that \$200,000 wasn't removed from the budget, it was put elsewhere. So that was the....

COUNCILMEMBER KING: It was not used for this?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Right.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Oh, okay. So now we're going to stipulate that it must be used for this?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yes.

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COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay, got it.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, any other questions? Okay, seeing none. I'll thank Member...Chair Lee and Member Molina for...for making the motion, and for seconding the motion, and the Members for their support of Moloka'i's renewable energy future. All right, I'll call for the question. All those in favor. please raise your hand and say "aye."

COUNCILMEMBERS VOICED AYE.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, I see eight "ayes," zero "noes," one excused.

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

**NOES:        None.**

**ABSTAIN:    None.**

**ABSENT:     None.**

**EXC.:        Councilmember Kama.**

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**ACTION:    APPROVE**

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. The next proposal is number 38 on the matrix. It is from Member Sinenci, \$300,000 to eradicate Miconia and other invasive species. Member Sinenci, your motion.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Mahalo, Chair. Yes, I move to increase the Mayor's Administration Program by 300,000 to eradicate Miconia and other invasive species.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Second.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Moved by Member Sinenci, seconded by Member King. Member Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Mahalo, Chair. Yeah, just return funding to last year's to keep consistent effort and employment in combatting invasive species. It supports green job employment, and it retains Staff with experience, specific training, and expertise. And we did note that deer management receives its own dedicated funding. Thank you, Chair.

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CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Sinenci. Members, questions. Anyone wishing to speak to the motion? Member Sugimura, followed by Member King.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you. Mr. Sinenci, is this one that's dedicated to Hāna? I remember we had a whole discussion last term. Is this...

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Member Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: No, this is...yeah, this is a countywide, not a district one. So it looks like the funding was cut by 200,000 for little red fire ants, and 100,000 from Miconia and other invasive species. So we figured since as other invasive species under eradicate Miconia, we would just add the 300,000 to that section so that they can cover little fire ants as well.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: So this is not for MISC, it's just an open grant and then people apply, right?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Okay. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo, Member Sugimura. Member King.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Were you laughing because he said little red fire ants?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: I was.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: They are kind of red though...but no, I just wanted to support this because the last thing I want it to do is go backwards in our invasive species attack, and we really need to get...we can't add funding...I'd really like to keep it the same so we can keep making progress. This was actually on my original sheet until I saw that both of us had this as a priority. Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Yeah, thank you, Member King. We added your alternative as well to the proposal.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member King. Anyone else wishing to speak to the motion. Member Paltin.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Yeah, I support the eradication of invasives. You know, I think the last time I watched TV I seen it had Coqui frog infestation in O`ahu. And so, you know, even though that's on O`ahu, I really feel like those types of things affect us because things get shipped between islands, and so everybody got to do their part. Because once it's in the archipelago, it's going to flow around and we got to be vigilant. Thank you, Member Sinenci.

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CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Mahalo, Member Paltin. Keeping in line with our theme to clean our house and keep it...so that we're great hosts for our visitors, we want to make sure that our environment is clean of invasive species. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Sinenci. Anyone else wishing to speak to the motion. Okay. And then Member Sinenci, if you can just let the Members speak without you responding, and then we can get to the vote. Okay. Member Johnson.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Thank you, Chair. In a former life I worked in invasive species control, and this is such a sorely needed project, so I totally support this. I would...you know, our harbors are owned by the State, and that's a big bottleneck, is how do we work with the State with some kind of quarantine place, close the airlines. Because, you know, all of the plants that are getting shipped over from Big Island to the hotels for, you know, landscaping purposes that isn't food based, there's a lot of Coqui frogs, and a lot of fire ants...I mean, we all know the deal that that is a big entrance way for these species to get into our lands, and I echo what Councilmember Paltin was saying. So I agree with this proposal, and it gets my full support. Mahalo, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Johnson. Okay. Seeing no other hands, I'll call for the question. All those in favor of the motion to increase the eradication Miconia and other invasive species by \$300,000, please raise your hand and say "aye."

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Aye.

COUNCILMEMBERS VOICED AYE.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: All right, I see eight "ayes," zero "noes," one excused.

<b>VOTE:</b>	<b>AYES:</b>	<b>Chair Rawlins-Fernandez, Vice-Chair Paltin, and Councilmembers Johnson, King, Lee, Molina, Sinenci, and Sugimura.</b>
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<b>NOES:</b>	<b>None.</b>
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<b>ABSTAIN:</b>	<b>None.</b>
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<b>ABSENT:</b>	<b>None.</b>
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<b>EXC.:</b>	<b>Councilmember Kama.</b>
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**MOTION CARRIED.**

**ACTION:     APPROVE**

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COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Mahalo, Members.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Sinenci. The next is on your matrix, number 39, to increase Environmental Protection Grant by \$500,000. Member Molina, your motion.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Yeah. Thank you, Madam Chair. Members can look up under Budget Bill, page 13, Office of the Mayor's Admin Program, Environmental Protection, I move that we add an additional 500,000 for the Environmental Protection Grant, which will increase the appropriation by another 500,000. And if I get a second, I can explain.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Second.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, moved by Member Molina, seconded by Member Sugimura. Member Molina.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Yeah. Thank you very much, Madam Chair. The...you know, I'm asking for this increase...you know, last fiscal year the Council appropriated 2 and a half million for this line item. The Mayor's...or Administration, I guess, due to tightening their belts has reduced the appropriation. But I need to reaffirm that the additional 500,000, it's...goes into that pot of money that will provide grants not for any specific organization, but primarily to target the fire ants, Coqui frogs, as well as the Miconia that was proposed from Member Sinenci and other invasive species. And with the uncertainty of the tax revenue and slow recovery of the economy, the funding from the State is potentially looking at...we're looking at 20 percent less, so these additional funds should be able to help us, along with Member Sinenci's \$300,000. And, you know, to me, we're making a lot of great progress on this, so let's not stop the momentum to, you know, continue to address these invasive species because, you know, some...I've heard some Coqui frogs creeping up to Makawao now, maybe they're there already, and some folks has told me they can hear them. So let's just stay on top of the game, and continue the fight, and ask for the Members' support. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Molina. Okay. Chair Lee. Member Sugimura, did you raise your hand? . . . *(timer sounds)*. . . Okay. Chair Lee.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: I just...Mr. Molina, it just says earmark 500,000 from blank. So where are you going to do this from?

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Well, I guess we could use this from some of the cuts that we've been getting from that pot potentially.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Or we could through...maybe Real Property Tax, but I think at the end of the day, when we add up all of our cuts, you know, it could come from that as well.

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COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay. Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: And not have to be as an add in, yeah.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo, Chair Lee. Anyone else wishing to speak to the motion. Member Sugimura.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you. Now I understand what Member Molina is trying to do by looking at page 13. So I remember that when there was a really big push...I went to a Makawao Community Association meeting with Duane Hamamura, and it was saying if...and people were passing around petitions for MISC to get 2 million to get rid of Coqui frogs because the Mayor didn't, right. I still remember that. It was very impactful, there was a big community push, you know, by all the petitions that were running around. So where are we with that, do you know? Because I'm quite sure that MISC would be, you know, going after this much-needed money. So Mr. Molina, do you know?

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: You know, I think the best person to ask might be Mr. Adam Radford from MISC.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Oh, yeah...we could ask him...

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: But again, primarily, this is a pot, so any organization would have an opportunity that...besides MISC. . . . *(timer sounds)*. . .

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Sugimura.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Chair, if I could ask...

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Two rounds of one minute. I'll come back to you --

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Okay.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: -- on the second round. Okay. Okay. Member King, was that your hand? Oh, Member Paltin. Member Paltin, followed by Member King.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: My question is for Member Molina. And I heard Chair Lee's question earlier, but I don't think I understand the answer of like what are we voting on right now, like...

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Madam Chair, if I may, yeah. We're looking at adding another 500,000 to this. So I guess we already approved Mr. Sinenci's request for 300, so this would be an additional 500 if the body wants to do that. So that's what we're considering right now. And I would seek...depending on, you know, how much of my cuts I have from my share, I could pull the funding out of that.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Okay. Okay, got it.

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CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo, Member Paltin. Member King.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Thank you, Chair. This is for Mr. Molina. So the 500,000 is not earmarked for the...the narrative you have in here, just suggestions...is there anything that's environmental protection?

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Yeah. It's just open ended in terms of the money to be...what types of invasive species. I would guess primarily...well, I would think...I know Mr. Sinenci's primary target would be the Miconia.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: So does it have to be invasive species, I guess is my question.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Yeah, yeah, yeah. Definitely...

COUNCILMEMBER KING: The environmental protection grant...is that just invasive species?

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Now we could certainly proviso it, but I believe it's...that's the primary purpose of these funds, unless maybe we can get a comment from Director Yoshimura. Are there any restrictions or so forth on this?

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: But it's open to any organization besides MISC to apply for.

MS. YOSHIMURA: Chair. . . . *(timer sounds)*. . . So currently...

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Sorry. Okay I will get back to you, Member King on your second one minute round. And then we'll have that information from Budget Director Yoshimura.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Great.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay.

MS. YOSHIMURA: Thank you. Can I proceed? Oh.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Right after. Okay. Members who haven't spoken to this motion that would like to speak to this motion. Okay. So Member Sugimura first, and then Member King. Member Sugimura, your second one-minute round?

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Yeah, I would really like to hear if Director has any comments regarding MISC's success of getting rid of Coqui...I mean, I think I still hear Coqui frogs about it, but I wonder how successful that \$2 million were and the need for this, is what I'm wondering.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Budget Director.

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MS. YOSHIMURA: Chair, I would have to follow up on what their progress is on the eradication of the Coqui frog, but we do have an encumbrance of the 2.2...they have a current encumbrance of \$2.2 million from Fiscal Year '21...oh, sorry, 2020, and an encumbrance of \$1 million from 2021 available to them.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Oh, what does that mean, they haven't drawn it down yet...they drew it down...what do you mean, it's still available to them?

MS. YOSHIMURA: I'm showing that it's encumbered, but it hasn't been expended, so we haven't made the payments on those. I'm not sure if they're behind in their paperwork or . . . *(timer sounds)*. . . where they are with...I would have to check with the Department on that, but right now I'm looking at IFAS, and I don't show any expenditures.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Oh, okay...good. They have a lot of support. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Sugimura. Okay. Member Molina...I'll go to Member King, and then Member Molina. Member King.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Oh, I think the Director had a response to my question...whether that environmental protection is only for invasive species, the one that we're talking about?

MS. YOSHIMURA: Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Budget Director.

MS. YOSHIMURA: Councilmember King, so on page 13, item number 10, Environmental Protection, there is \$2 million that the Mayor has requested. Of the \$2 million, he has requested that \$500,000 be for little fire ants and \$400,000 be for the eradication of Miconia and other invasive species. The remaining funds, \$1.1 million, would be grants that are the competitive type where people could just apply with their projects.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: So if we put that extra 500,000, that's open to any environmental protection project.

MS. YOSHIMURA: Chair. Councilmember King, yes. If you put it there, then it would be \$1.6 million available for environmental protection grant.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay. All right. Thank you. . . . *(timer sounds)*. . .

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo, Member King. Member Molina.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Yeah. Thank you, Madam Chair. So if I'm correct, if we approve this, the running total now for...would be 2.8 million. And it's been brought to my attention that other uses for these funds include a restoration, conservation, and education...so not just invasive species. I just wanted to share that info.



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CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: It would be 2.5 million because Member Sinenci's additional 300,000 was conditional. Let me double...

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Oh, it was a proviso.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Okay. Okay. So yeah...so now 2.5, okay. I'm sorry, I thought it was an add from Member Sinenci, I just wasn't clear. But yeah, those are the other...that's the other primary purpose for uses of this fund; restoration, conservation and education.

MS. YOSHIMURA: Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Budget Director.

MS. YOSHIMURA: Sorry, just to add to that...Maui Nui Marine Resource Council for \$225,000 will also come out of that. I had missed that in the earlier explanation...so that brings it up to 1.125 million that has already been provisoed in the Mayor's proposed budget.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Anyone else wishing to speak to the motion. Member Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Mahalo, Chair. Yeah, just clarification that this is a countywide priority, so it can be applied to Moloka'i and Lāna'i as well.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Member Sinenci, yes. This is countywide.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Okay. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Anyone else wishing to speak to the motion. Member King. Wait, did you do two times? I think you did twice.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: I asked a question, it took two...my two times to get answered.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: I just wanted to speak in favor, and say that I support it, and I think it's nice of Member Molina to put the money into the pot that the conditional priority came out of for the invasive species, it'll help.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. All right. I think everyone spoke to it. Okay, I'll repeat the motion. So the motion is to...oh, it's a conditional language. Oh, Member Molina, this is a conditional language? Sorry.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: That would be to appropriate an additional 500,000 for an

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Environmental Protection Grant.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: So yeah, no, it wouldn't be a conditional.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: So I hear what you would like to do, but...so in following the matrix and the process, it says it's a conditional priority. And so I think that's where Chair Lee's question was coming from. If this is a conditional priority (*audio interference*) I don't see how we would be able to add \$500,000 because that would be new funding, that would be a funding proposal, and not a conditional proposal.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Okay, so...can or no can? . . . (*laughing*). . .

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: So conditional proposal would be using existing funding, and what your motion is seeking to do is add funding, and it was one of your conditional five.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Okay, maybe I got my wires crossed, but I guess...yeah, is not...it was not supposed to be a conditional proposal.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, because I think...there were five funding proposals, and then five conditional proposals, and this was a conditional proposal because you already had five funding proposals.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Ah, okay. So I guess I'm out of luck then. . . (*laughing*). . .

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: I'm sorry I didn't catch that sooner.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: You know, okay. Well, I guess this has to be left at 2 million then if that's the case, yeah, because doesn't qualify as a...I've already met my five proposals. Okay, so...

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, if you withdraw your motion, Member Molina.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: . . . (*inaudible*). . . I withdraw.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, then Member Sugimura, second.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Okay, I withdraw.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo, Member Molina. Member Sugimura, your second.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: I withdraw, but I don't have...can I give him my funding so he can do it...my slot? I can tell by your expression the answer is no. I was just trying to help Mr. Molina.

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COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Thank you. Yeah. Yeah.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Member Molina.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Yeah, Madam Chair, is there another mechanism? I mean, because of the importance of this, you know, the difference of 500,000, I mean...so can another Member propose it if they want to, or are our hands tied already with the process, or are we at, you know, we're done.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo, Member Molina. So the...

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Any way to pull a rabbit out of the hat? No.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: So all the Members had five priority proposals, and it was due last week Thursday, and so whoever's funding proposals, there weren't any funding proposals from the other Members to add more funding to the Environmental Protection.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Okay. Thank you. Just thought I'd ask, but thank you. And thank you, Members, anyway, for the discussion.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Sorry, Member Molina. Budget Director.

MS. YOSHIMURA: Sorry, Chair...for the record I just wanted to make a correction to a previous statement. We did make a large payment to...for the Coqui frog eradication in March, so they are down to \$336,000 for their Fiscal Year 2020 grant. And for 2021, they have \$1 million that's still encumbered and unspent. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo, Budget Director. Member Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you, Chair. Just for my second and final...a question for the Budget...

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: There's no motion on the floor.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Okay. I just had a question for the...well, we can wait. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. You can ask a question, I'm just letting you know that there's no motion on the floor. It's been withdrawn.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Okay, yeah. Thank you, Chair. So the question for Budget Director, for the Environmental Protection, of the 850,000 that's there, other groups can still apply for that grant funding, yeah? It's available?

MS. YOSHIMURA: For Fiscal Year '22, yes, it would be available.

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COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Oh, okay. All right. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Budget Director. Member Paltin, followed by Member King.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. I kind of feel like I'm missing a page in my program book. I don't know where the Environmental Protection section is...like on page 14...

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Member Paltin.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Yeah.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Member Paltin, in your Budget Bill, that . . . *(inaudible)*. . . appendices, it's on page 13.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Oh, no more in the program budget then.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Member King.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Thank you, Chair. I just wanted to clarify, you know, I think you said that Member Sinenci's was a conditional, but on my matrix it says it's a funding priority...so that would be adding additional 300,000 to that pot. That's good.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Member Sinenci. My matrix says it's a new funding proposal.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Yes, that's correct, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. All right. We made a rabbit appear, Member Molina.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Yeah, that's the rabbit that came out of the hat. You got an additional 300,000.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: All right. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. So for Environmental Protection, it'll be 2.3 million. It's not quite the 2.5, but it's the 2.3.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Very good, hey...better than nothing. Thank you. . . . *(timer sounds)*. . .

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Molina. Mahalo, Member King, for that catch. Okay. All right. Okay. So moving on to the next one. Oh, okay. Okay, the next is number 40 on your matrix. It's under Environmental Protection, so the same funding that we're looking at, for Sustainable Moloka'i. The motion would be to earmark \$150,000 for a Sustainable Moloka'i Food Pantry.

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COUNCILMEMBER LEE: So moved.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo, Chair Lee. Moved by Chair Lee. Is there a second? Second by Member King. Okay, mahalo, Members. Okay, and then really quickly, so this item would be to create a food pantry, like Maui has the Maui Food Bank, and there would be a refrigeration unit that would be able to have axis deer, so that we would be able to provide protein to the community via invasive species control. Okay. Anyone wishing to speak to the motion. Member King.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Just a quick question. So if you're going to have a...I'm going to say refrigeration for axis deer, is there a requirement to have a USDA certification method, you have all that worked out? Okay.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Because that's been going on Moloka'i, is that still going on, the USDA? Okay, excellent. I support.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member King.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: I think we should start counting all the axis deer as part of our food supply.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yes. That's right. Part of our food security program. Okay. Member Johnson.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Thank you, Chair. I also rise in full support of this. As a person...a single father on Lāna'i, I have been a recipient of Maui Food Bank, and this...you know, the cupboards were bare, so I could understand how Moloka'i was, and how...the fact that you're going for axis deer to get to bring the protein to folks that, you know, are struggling with bills...I appreciate that. So mahalo. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Johnson. Anyone else wishing to speak to the motion. Seeing no hands, I'll call for the question. All those in favor of the motion please raise your hand and say "aye."

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Aye.

COUNCILMEMBERS VOICED AYE.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Any opposed? Okay, I think Member Paltin is frozen. Oh, Member Paltin, I saw you move? In favor of the motion or opposed? Okay. Eight "ayes," zero "noes," one excused.

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

**NOES:**        **None.**

**ABSTAIN:**        **None.**

**ABSENT:**        **None.**

**EXC.:**        **Councilmember Kama.**

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**ACTION:**        **APPROVE**

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, the next is Member Sinenci. It's number 41 on your matrix, Agriculture Program, Grant Funding to Maui Food Hub for Refrigeration Truck, Truck Electric and Chiller Conversion, Half-Time Finance Manager, Facility Subsidy, and Equipment for \$259,000. Member Sinenci, your motion. Oh, you can say...

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Mahalo, Chair...move. Move to...so moved.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, moved by Member Sinenci, seconded by Member Johnson. Discussion?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you, Chair. Yeah, the grant funding includes just a one-time purchase of our refrigerator truck, what you said. And you know, as we grow our agricultural sector, it's important in growing our...the infrastructure as well, to process our food and produce value-added products. We do not have that infrastructure now, or at the scale that we want it to be, and so this grant will help to facilitate our move toward building more food processing facilities for the County. I ask for the Members' support. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Sinenci. Anyone wishing to speak to the motion. Okay. I'll call for the question. All those in favor of the...oh, okay. Okay. Member Johnson, followed by Member King and then Chair Lee. Member Johnson.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Thank you, Chair. I'll make this short because once again, I rise in full support, and the importance of Maui Food Bank delivering food to the folks who need it the most. I did a tour with those guys, I think, in February, and that's exactly what they were saying that they needed. So I'm glad that Shane Sinenci pulled that up and put it on the floor...so mahalo. I appreciate that.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo, Member Johnson. Member King, followed by Chair Lee.

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COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay. Thank you, Chair. This is the food hub, right, not the food bank. Okay. Just to clarify that. And my only question is...because I support this, and I actually have been a customer. Is this...is this...is the Maui Food Hub now independent nonprofit? Because I know at one point they were under the Farmer's Union. Do they get nonprofit status on their own, yeah?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Member Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Yeah, I believe so.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: They did...okay. All right, thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member King. Chair Lee.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: I was voting "aye." I have no questions.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Member King.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Yeah, I just remembered...and I don't know if this is a conflict of interest to vote on this, but our company that's associated with our farm actually has...our cooking oil, not used cooking oil, our new cooking oil, sunflower oil, in the box available as one of the Maui Food Hub items. So I don't know if that would preclude me from supporting this initiative, but I'll leave it up to you and the Members.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member King for that disclosure. Chair Lee.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: If you have no personal benefit, then you don't have to recuse yourself.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo...

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Well I have no personal benefit from the refrigeration truck because our product doesn't carry refrigerated, so I don't have that. But I do have...you know, I do have a product that's in the...in their inventory. I just wanted to disclose that.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member King. I think the...this proposal has enough votes to support its passage. So for...obviously to protect you, perhaps it would be good to recuse.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay. I'm good either way...I just wanted everyone to know I support it...I can't, you know...just to be safe.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Yes, I want you to be safe too, and then...because I agree with your position. The truck, you know, doesn't support your product, but we

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want to, you know, protect you from any, any assertions of otherwise...okay. So I'll call for the question. All those in favor of the proposal, please raise your hand and say "aye."

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Aye.

COUNCILMEMBERS VOICED AYE.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, I see seven "ayes," zero "noes," one recusal, and one excused. Mahalo, Members.

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

**NOES:       None.**

**ABSTAIN:   Councilmember King.**

**ABSENT:    None.**

**EXC.:       Councilmember Kama.**

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**ACTION:    APPROVE**

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Okay, the next...oh, okay, did we do this? Okay, we'll go to number 45, Member Sinenci, Environmental Protection or Open Space...oh, okay. So you'll make the motion for the Ke Ao Hali'i, Nā Mamo O Mū'olea. Member Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Mahalo, Chair. Move to increase the Office of the Mayor Administration funding under Environmental Protection by 50,000 for the Ke Ao Hali'i and then the Nā Mamo O Mū'olea Community Plan Land Management.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Second.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Moved by Member Sinenci, seconded by Chair Lee. Member Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you, Chair. And originally, Members, we had this...we do have open space listed, but we weren't sure if there was enough funds in the open space fund to cover the 50,000 for maintenance of the conservation lands that the County helped to acquire. And so 30,000 was going to go to Ke Ao Hali'i for safety and security, and 20,000 to Nā Mamo O Mū'olea. So I'm not sure...we did list two different funding options to add 50,000 to, whether it was the environmental protection or open space, and this was a district priority, Chair.



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CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Sinenci. Members, anyone wishing to speak to the motion. Oh, aloha, Ms. Toshikiyo. Do you have information for us?

MS. TOSHIKIYO: Yes, I...thank you, Chair. I'm not sure exactly what this proposal is for, I just did want to point out that under the Open Space Fund, because they have very specific requirements, it would have to be for performance, safety and security improvements, and I don't believe that maintenance is covered or aligns with this fund. But again, I'm not quite sure the specifics of the project, so I just wanted to throw that out there when you decide where you're going to fund this.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Ms. Toshikiyo. Okay, Member Sinenci, did you say Environmental Protection Fund, or did you say Open Space Fund.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Well, originally, we had it under Open Space Fund.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Wait, what is your motion? Your motion is Environmental Protection?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: That was my motion.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, so it's not Open Space Fund, it's Environmental Protection. Chair Lee.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay. Sorry, I thought his motion was to increase funding 50,000 for this purpose, which means you don't earmark an existing fund. So you have to figure out...because you're adding to the budget 50,000. It's her rules, not mine...it's her rules.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Yeah. This was adding to the budget.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Yeah, okay.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: It's our rules, Chair Lee. Okay. All right. Okay. Anyone else wishing to speak to the motion? All right. I'm going to repeat the motion. The motion is to add \$50,000 to the Environmental Protection Fund, for a new total of \$2,350,000, with \$50,000 conditioned for Ke Ao Hali'i and Nā Mamo O Mū'olea... Mū'olea. Okay, all those in favor of the motion, please raise your hand and say "aye." I see eight "ayes," zero "noes," one excused.

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

**NOES:**        **None.**

**ABSTAIN:**        **None.**

**ABSENT:**        **None.**

**EXC.:**        **Councilmember Kama.**

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**ACTION:        APPROVE**

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you. Mahalo for the support.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Sinenci. Okay, we're on our last three items. Member Johnson, number 46...oh, this is Open Space Fund. Okay, all right. I was going to share my screen for the Open Space Fund proposals, and I said that we would take them up together. One moment, Members, while I pull that up. In the meantime, while I get that prepared, Member Sinenci, do you have the information for your number 35...priority number 35, conditional language for 150,000 to Maui ESG Investment Project. Do you have that information that the Members requested?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Yes, thank you, Chair. So it looks like numbers are 74,880...

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Real quick, Member Sinenci. One moment. Okay, okay. So I'll entertain your motion at this time for the 150,000 for the Maui ESG Investment Project.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you, Chair...move to earmark 150,000 of the Mayor's Climate Action Adaptation Plan to Responsible Markets LLC.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, moved by Member Sinenci. Is there a second? Member King, with the second. Okay, Member Sinenci, the information that the Members requested.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Okay, thank you, Chair. To answer Member Sugimura's question, no, they did not receive any matching funds last year. Yeah, and for the breakdown, the Strategic Consulting, \$74,880; Technology Expertise, \$12,000; ESG Expertise, 18,000; Project Management, 25,920; Communications, 4,200; and Administrative costs, 15,000.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo, Member Sinenci. Member King.

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COUNCILMEMBER KING: I guess my question...thank you for that information, Member Sinenci. My question would be what is the actual project? Is the project creating a COC or, you know, like we talked about in the community? I'm not clear on what the project actually is...if there...

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Right, we did mention that...

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Member Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Oh, thank you, Chair. Stream monitoring, community engagement projects like what the Department of Water Supply is looking at towards reaching out to Wailuku residents with the acquisition of the Wailuku water system. Establishing equities, sustainable and culturally appropriate 21st Century solutions. As you know, during the pandemic we hired some displaced workers out in East Maui to help to monitor stream flows out in East Maui. The second phase is for continuation to environmental, social, and good governance at our meeting with Ms. Ane . . . *(timer sounds)*. . . she mentioned climate action.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo, Member Sinenci. Mahalo, Member King. Anyone else wishing to speak to the motion. Member Sugimura.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Sinenci. My question was actually...I recall that they were required to get matching funds in order to receive the County funds. That was my question, not if they got...I'm sure they must have got a lot of matching funds just because they're good fundraisers, I think.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Oh, that's what I got from...it just says no matching funds last year, that was...

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Required.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Right...and so this one wouldn't require any matching funds, it's just an increase of 150...oh, an earmark from the 1 million Climate and Mitigation and Adaptation Fund.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Sugimura. Anyone else wishing to speak to the motion. Oh, Budget Director, you have information.

MS. YOSHIMURA: Chair, to address Councilmember Sugimura's question, in Fiscal Year 2020, they were given a grant of \$75,000 and at that time, they were asked to provide a one-to-one matching funds. So that's maybe where you're getting it from. In Fiscal Year '21, they were given a grant for \$150,000 with no requirement for matching funds.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you.

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CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Budget Director. Okay, anyone else wishing to speak to the motion? Okay, seeing no hands, I'll call for the question. All those in favor of the motion, please raise your hand and say "aye." Any opposed, please raise your hand and say "no." Okay, I think...I don't see Member Paltin. So it's seven "ayes," zero "noes," two excused, Member Paltin and Pro Tem Kama, unless someone sees Member Paltin.

**VOTE:       AYES:       Chair Rawlins-Fernandez, and Councilmembers  
                                  Johnson, King, Lee, Molina, Sinenci, and  
                                  Sugimura.**

**NOES:       None.**

**ABSTAIN:   None.**

**ABSENT:    None.**

**EXC.:       Vice-Chair Paltin and Councilmember Kama.**

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**ACTION:     APPROVE**

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Mahalo, Members.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Sinenci. Okay, I...I will...so we have four items for consideration for Open Space Fund. Let me share my screen. All right. So we have 2 million proposed by Member Johnson; 5.5 million proposed by Member King; 400,000 proposed by Member Molina; and 1.25 million from Member Paltin. Are these all still accurate, Members? Okay, if there's...okay, are there any corrections? Okay. All right. Okay, so I will stop sharing for now. All right. Under the Open Space Fund, Members, there are...there is a total of...well, an anticipated amount of \$15,725,781. There are five proposals from the Mayor on conditions for Open Space Fund: 1 million for the Lāna'i Agricultural Park; 1.5 million for Ke Ao Hali'i land acquisition and...in Maka'ala; 200,000 for security and maintenance of Ka Ehu, up to 2.1 million to Ke Ao Hali'i for Mokae and Kakio; 50,000 for the 50-acre park site in West Maui Community Plan area.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: And how much is that...what does that total?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: One moment.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Plus it sounds like there's duplication, yeah.

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CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yes. So we'll need to do the math.

MS. MILNER: Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Budget Director.

MS. MILNER: No, this is Lesley.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Ms. Milner.

MS. MILNER: I have a total of 5,150,000 before adding any of the Members' proposals.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: 5 million...

MS. MILNER: 150,000.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Okay, so I'm going to add this here. Okay. I will share my screen again. All right. So...okay. So with the...oops. Okay. All right. So the Mayor's proposal is a total of \$5.15 million, and then...oh, shoot. And then I've removed 1 million from Member Johnson's proposal because 1 million already is included in the Mayor's proposal, if we vote in favor of it, okay. And...okay. So then there's 50,000 in the Mayor's proposal for the 50 acres in West Maui. That was one of them that I just read. So if we were to approve all of the Mayor's proposals, which add up to 5.15, and we were to approve all of the Councilmembers' proposals, it would be \$13,250,000. And the total that is projected to be there in Open Space Fund is 15,725,781. And so that would be the balance that would be left in Open Space Fund if we approve everything. Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Member King.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Is that after you added back in the additional monies from the RPT certification, those additional monies to be added back in, you know, to make it...

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Good question. No, it doesn't.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: So we can...I can make that adjustment. Okay, Chair Lee.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Yes, these numbers, can we find out if they are firm numbers? Like, for instance, the 2 million for the Lānaʻi Agricultural Park, I mean, is that...what is that based on? And, you know, the others, are they just, like, broad estimates, or they're, you know, somewhat firm numbers?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair Lee. And the...your question is for the

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Members or for Budget Director Yoshimura?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Well, for the Members because we have the most...for the Members.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, Member Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: And for...and after...maybe after the break, Director Yoshimura could also give us further information on the Mayor's breakdown.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Member Paltin.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Yeah, I had intended to add 1.25 to the existing 50,000, and the way that I got that number was from...the 1.25 was from Mister...Director Teruya, and the phrasing in the condition about Ag Land Rates. I guess when Mahi Pono purchased from A&B, they kind of set the Ag Land Rates at 25,000 an acre. So 25,000 an acre times 50, 1.25, add that other 50,000 placeholder for, like, closing costs or any additional fees, put up to, and hope...cross your fingers. But I do have, like, a little back-up plan, I guess, maybe, but I think that's for another time.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Paltin. . . .*(timer sounds)*. . . Okay, Member King.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay, so to answer...thank you, Chair. So to answer your question, Chair Lee, it's up to 5.5 million. There has been an application put in for Legacy Lands for a million dollars, and if that grant comes through, then that would be, you know, instead of County money. They were not giving grants out last year during the pandemic, so the grant application is still available. And then, of course, we'll wait to see what the appraisal comes out and...you know, so that's why my proposal says up to 5.5 million. So hoping...you know, just like Member Paltin said, hoping that, you know, we get this other grant, then we can come in under that as far as County contribution. Does that answer your question?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Yes, it does. Thanks.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Sorry. Okay, Member Johnson.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Followed by Member Molina.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Thank you. So the numbers I ran, it costs 293,000 for a six-acre predator-proof fence. The Lānaʻi Ag Park will go through that like water. The...we have so much...we have special invasive species. We have wild turkeys, and we have to put bird netting around the perimeter, we have deer, the axis deer, you know, massive amounts. And so farmers need protection, and that's why \$2 million is the number I came up with. I can go down more, but I know we're short on time. But I want to just let you know that the community's excited about it, the people are already...the farmers

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are up there surveying the land, and I said, will you calm down, but they're just really excited about it. The...I'm a big fan of food sovereignty, and I think 90 percent of the food getting imported, we have room, and we should really invest in these folks. It's really important. Mahalo.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo, Member Johnson. Member Molina.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Yeah. Thank you, Madam Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yeah? Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: A question either for you or Director Yoshimura. The \$15 million that you had just shown us, does that...that's the projected revenue based on the 1 percent set-aside on Real Property Tax, or is that the current balance right now? And if you can refresh my memory, I believe it's 1 percent, yeah, of Real Property Tax that's set aside for this fund? Or is it 2 percent?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Budget Director.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Okay.

MS. YOSHIMURA: Yes, by Charter, it's 1 percent that's required. If you look on page 45, item I, Open Space Fund, the current balance anticipated at the end of Fiscal Year 2021 is \$12 million. Anticipated revenues, \$3.74 million; that, of course, is going to be adjusted based on the certified values that we just got, and anticipating a balance available for Fiscal Year '22, \$15.7 million.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Okay. Thank you for that clarification, Madam Director. Thank you, Madam Chair. . . .*(timer sounds)*. . .

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo, Member Molina. All right. Okay. So I have the certified numbers, and I can share screen again and I made the adjustment for Member Paltin. All right. Okay. So the 2 million condition, which is an additional 1 million from what was proposed by the Member...by the Mayor, 5.5 million for the land acquisition of Mā'alaea Mauka, 400,000 for Hāmākualoa Open Space Preserve Master Plan, 1.25 million for the 50 acres at West Maui, for a total of 8,150,000. Adding that to the Mayor's 5.15 million, for a total of 13.3 million, subtracting that from the projected total after certification for \$15,765,418, for a remaining balance of \$2,465,418. That's the big picture. And then we'll...so we'll take up each proposal so that everyone knows what it will look like, and how we will move forward. Okay, Member Johnson, number 46, 2 million for the Lānaʻi Agricultural Park conditional language.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Thank you, Chair. Do you want me to make a motion out of this?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yeah, please make your motion.

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COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Sure. I move to proviso 2 million for the acquisition and related cost for the Lānaʻi Agricultural Park.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, moved by Member Johnson, seconded by Member Paltin. Member Johnson, followed by Member Sugimura.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Thank you, Chair. I...as you folks know, I'm a former farmer. And when we import as much food as we do, there is a wide lane for local farmers. The upcoming Department of Agriculture is a very important path for us to go through once we get this thing up and running. So deer, wild turkeys, rats, and mice, we lose so much as farmers to the invasive species, and we don't have MISC on the island. I know we've been talking about MISC. MISC has not come to the island of Lānaʻi. So that is the need that...the infrastructure's going to cost . . .*(timer sounds)*. . . a little bit more because of that. Okay. . . *(timer sounds)*. . . and then the last thing I'm going to say is the price of these things are really out...really high. It's 290,000 for a six acre predator-proof fence. So mahalo.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Johnson. Member Sugimura.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: I was going to ask you about the fencing, putting up the fence now because of the feral animals. So you're already planning...even if you have no farmers there, is that what you saying? You putting it up in the beginning?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Member Johnson.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Chair. Thank you, Councilmember Sugimura. The farmers are there on the land right now. I said, will you guys calm down, but they're so ready to farm. But, yes, as you know...your Kula Ag Park's, you know, struggles with these very issues that this ag park's going to struggle with. So yes, there is infrastructure need to be put in, the farmers, as you've seen in the testifiers, are there for it, and it's a long time coming. Okay, this...remember, let's understand this. This Ag Park was promised to the Lānaʻi folk when they built the golf courses in 1990. So now we're just...it's due. So that's why I moved on it as fast as I could, and that's why I'm here before the body today. Mahalo.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you. . . *(timer sounds)*. . .

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Sugimura. Anyone else wishing to speak to the motion? Chair Lee.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: I'm still trying to understand this, Member Johnson. Okay, the farmers are there, but we still have to buy the land.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Member Johnson.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Thank you, Chair. That is a really important point that you've brought up, Chair Lee. So when the hotels were built in the 1990...or, I mean, I beg



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your pardon...the golf courses were built in the 1990s, there was language put in that, okay, the State is going to get 100 acres. The DLNR was going to get a 100-acre ag park. They have not moved on it since...to this day. So when I came in in November, I went to the DLNR, I said, hey, Ag Park is coming. The Department of Agriculture Countywide is coming. So I...they have the lease, and they're going to sublet the County, and then we're going to go on from there. So that's the path forward.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Oh, okay. So what is...the \$2 million . . . *(timer sounds)*. . . is to lease the land?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Sorry. Mahalo, Chair Lee. We'll put a pause on that question, and then we'll come back on round two. All right. Anyone else wishing to speak to the motion? Member Paltin.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: So is the \$2 million to lease the land?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay. No, it's not. It's to preserve, and that's under the Open Space Funds language. We need the...if you're going to put a ag park out there, we need soil preservation, we need conservation...water conservation, water preservation. And plus, for the crops. So as you know, the infrastructures for ag parks is very expensive. I...it's in...of course, it's in the Chapter 3.88 Open Space Funds, and the purposes is...of specifically for preserving important land areas. So that's where I got the language from. That's what the money is for, for the infrastructure that's required of that.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: You're welcome, Chair Lee.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Thank you very much, but it doesn't say for land acquisition. Try ask him that question. . . . *(laughing)*. . .

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: . . . *(laughing)*. . . Okay, mahalo, Member Paltin. All right. Anyone else wishing to speak to the motion? Okay, Member Sinenci, followed by Member King.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you, Chair. Just clarification, is this the one that's being reduced to 1 million because it's part of also the Mayor's Budget as well? Okay, thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo. Member King.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay. That was actually going to be my question. So how...do we own the land, or who's paying for the lease?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Thank you for that. Chair, if I may. The land is...it's a 100-year lease for \$100 a year. So that's...that land is going to be sublet from the DLNR, who hasn't done anything with it for this whole time.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: So where...so the County's going to lease it from the DLNR, and

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then the farmers are going to lease their plots from the County?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Yes, that is correct.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay, and can we...oh, so that's only \$100 a year so that...the 2 million is not really for the lease, it's for...it's for all the peripheral stuff.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Yes, it's going to include...it's not going to be cheap, it's going to cost a lot for all the things I mentioned beforehand.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: All right. Thank you, Chair. . . .*(timer sounds)*. . .

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member King. Okay, Member Sugimura.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Just because I love ag parks. So the...we don't have the ag park yet and therefore, can we save a million dollars, and not tie it up here, and do your fencing...if that was your estimate of the other things. So do you need the 2 million now? I mean, you don't have the park yet, right?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Member Johnson.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Thank you, Chair. Yes. So remember...let's start from square one. This is a million dollars in the Budget that has been...the Mayor put in, and I'm just adding to it. So the money is there and the land is there, the DLNR is right now writing up the lease to give to the County to sign. And that...I've met with Mr. Ornellas from the DLNR side, and he said it's a full go. I've had many meetings with him. He's all in support and, of course, they're aware of what we're doing, so we would love to hand...the DLNR would love to hand it off to the County. I've had long conversations with them. . . .*(timer sounds)*. . .

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Sugimura. All right. I'm going to share my thoughts on this proposal. Okay. Okay, so I support creating or reserving space for our community members to farm for food security, increasing food security. The Mayor proposed a million dollars, and I think a million dollars is a lot to start within this year. And then next Budget, we can see where we're at and allocate or condition another million at that point. I think a million dollars is a lot of money to get started. I would...I...my personal opinion is that there's time to do a million dollars' worth of work, and then next year, you know, . . .*(timer sounds)*. . . I would be open to supporting another million. So I won't be supporting the motion. Anyone else? Member King.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Yeah, just a question about your thoughts. If they do end up spending a million dollars, say, in six months, couldn't they come back for a budget amendment for the remaining million dollars if they're ready to spend it? So you know, if we do that then we're not unnecessary putting a million dollars in there in case it takes them a year to spend the first million. But, you know, the money is still going to be in the Open Space Fund if you need to come back before the end of the year for a Budget amendment.

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CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yeah, so the...

COUNCILMEMBER KING: I could support that.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: That's correct, Member King. So the...there would be 3 million something...\$3,465,418 that would remain if we were to approve of the other projects. And so I...so we can...the Mayor's...the Mayor can...and Budget Director can submit a Budget Amendment to us to condition more funding from the Open Space Fund, and I feel like there's still a lot of questions that Members have about, like, ownership of land, and how we would get the ball rolling finally after years of not. So that's...I think . . .*(timer sounds)*. . . yeah, it still needs to be discussed more in Committee. Mahalo, Member King. Anyone else wishing to speak to the motion? Member Johnson.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Well, thank you, Chair. I hear your concerns, and I would be willing to go a million five, because there's still...there's the idea of the fence as well as the water, I mean, we're not doing any...I mean, the water and the irrigation lines is going to be a huge cost as well. But I would be willing to go to a million five or along those lines.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Johnson. Anyone else wishing...Chair Lee.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Oh.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yeah. Chair Lee.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: You know, Member Johnson, it's pretty obvious that all of us support you and what you're trying to do, it's just the timing of things. You may need irrigation lines, you may need extensive fencing and all kinds of things but, you know, you just don't go to the store and buy these things. You have to draw up plans and get permits and all the...you know, there's a whole process. And the money's going to be waiting for you in the Open Space Fund when you need the next million. So, you know, I think this first million should suffice for the first phase. That's my thinking. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Ms. Toshikiyo.

MS. TOSHIKIYO: Yes, thank you, Chair. I just...I did want to remind Member Johnson about the uses of the fund. So, you know, fencing could fall under performing safety and security improvements. . . .*(timer sounds)*. . . You know, I'm not too knowledgeable about your water lines, but it would still have to fall in line with the purpose of the fund. So any of the related costs that you're looking at will still need to look at it through the lens of the requirements in the Charter.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Ms. Toshikiyo. Okay, Members, anyone else wishing to speak to the motion? Oh, everyone's frozen. Okay. Member Johnson...oh, you've spoken more than twice. Member Sinenci.

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COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Mahalo, Chair. Yeah, just for clarification, this funds is for the DLNR, the one that we're writing the letter to, to access?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Member Johnson.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Okay. Yeah, I can support the million that the Mayor had put in, and then if we need to come back for the second million for the Lānaʻi Ag Park, I can support that at a later time, come back for the second million. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo, Member Sinenci. All right, seeing no one else raising their hand to speak to the...Member Molina.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Yeah, no, I just want to echo the same thing that Mr. Sinenci and Chair Lee. Project's certainly not going to be dead, I'll certainly support it down the road. But just got to start off small just pay what can be done for right now. And, you know, there's next Budget session to complete the final phase, so it's just taking it by phase and little by little. And that's something that I learned during my first few years on the Council way back when. Sometimes you got to take small bites, and then you get the big bite later on. But the main thing is keep the momentum going with your proposed project so there's still funding in there. It may not be the large amount that you want, but in terms of trying to balance the Budget and, you know, that's...it's a start. So please don't take it like, you know, just because we're not supporting a larger appropriation doesn't mean we're not in support of the project. But I think I can safely say all of us certainly want to support this project as it moves along, just in little baby steps. . . .(timer sounds). . . Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Molina. Member Sugimura, I think you've spoken more than twice already to the motion. Okay, and I think everyone has spoken to the motion, so I'm going to call for the question. All those in favor of the motion, please...

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Chair, I'd like to withdraw my motion.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh, okay. Okay, Member Johnson has withdrawn his motion. Who was the second? I think Member King?

COUNCILMEMBER KING: I think it was me, so I'll withdraw my motion...my second.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo for withdrawing your second. All right...

MS. BOUTHILLIER: Excuse me, it was Councilmember Paltin that made the second.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh, mahalo, Ms. Bouthillier. Member Paltin has withdrawn her second. Mahalo for covering all the bases, Member King. . . .(laughing). . .

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COUNCILMEMBER KING: Just in case.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: . . .*(audio interference)*. . . So many motions. Okay. All right. So the next is number 47 on the matrix. It's a conditional...in the Open Space Fund from Member King for 5.5 for the acquisition of Mā'alaea Mauka. Member King, your motion.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Thank you, Chair. I move to place a condition on the Open Space, Natural Resources, Cultural Resources, and Scenic View Preservation Fund, for up to 5.5 million for land acquisition and related costs for 257.7 acres of the area known as Mā'alaea Mauka. You don't need the TMK, do you?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Second.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Moved by Member King, seconded by Chair Lee. Member King.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay, well, this is...this is something that we've been working on for almost a couple years now, to complete the purchase of this property. And it's...the main purpose of this is to...for future conservation and watershed, stormwater and wildfire mitigation management. We...the Council contemplated an ag subdivision there, and decided that was not the best place. The community has come out against any subdivision or any development there because of the fire and flood issues, as well as the drainage issues. And we have the DLNR poised to...has offered to do the management of the property if the County purchases it, and we have the Trust for Public Lands that stepped in to do the . . .*(timer sounds)*. . . final negotiations. My time's up.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member King. Okay, anyone else wishing to speak to the motion? Member Paltin.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. And you know, I'm all for the Open Space and the oysters and cleaning the bay and reducing the sedimentation, but the personal benefit I get off of this and Member Sugimura's request is it comes off my master agenda. Thanks, everyone.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Paltin. Anyone else wishing to speak to the motion with added benefit to the West Maui Community...no, master agenda? Oh, you have the . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER KING: . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: -- agenda. Oh, that's right. Okay. Member Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you, Chair. Yeah, just want to pledge my support for this acquisition. I think we heard a lot from the Mā'alaea Community, and also the Pohakea environmental stewards. And so, you know, we always see this place as a

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funnel before you get onto the Pali Highway. And so it's seeing all the fires, particularly in this location, the windy air...conditions, this can help to just kind of...you know, kind of accommodate traffic, should they have to stop due to any fires prior to going onto the Pali. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Sinenci. Anyone else wishing to speak to the motion? Member Sugimura.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Kelly, did the Trust for Public Lands commit money, or are you negotiating with them? You mentioned their name.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Yeah, they don't commit money, but this project was originally under the Hawaiian Island Land Trust. And if you recall, we had a budget amendment to change the name of the entity negotiating part to Trust for Public Lands.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Oh.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: And the reason for that was the Hawaiian...the HILT doesn't have experience with buying land for the State of Hawai'i, but Trust for Public Lands does. And since the management would go under the State, the State has given us full support, NOAA has given us full support for this purchase, that HILT decided the Trust for Public Lands would be a better agent to negotiate the sale.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: So will HILT maintain the lands if...you know, once purchased, who is going to maintain that...

COUNCILMEMBER KING: I just said that. The DLNR has committed to management.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: They are committed to do it.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Yes, and they're managing neighboring lands, so they put this into their . . . *(timer sounds)* . . . management plan.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Sugimura. Member...oh, okay. Anyone else wishing to speak to the motion? Member Paltin, for your second time.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: For my second and final, I just wanted to throw it out there about possibly collaborating with ReTree folks. Like, you know, I don't know, food forest or some trees, native trees, and like that. And then if people get stuck on the Pali, they can pull over and rest under the trees, and maybe do some weeding, pick some fruit. So I can see it, the vision is becoming very clear. And it's off my agenda.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Should I respond?

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CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: You have 25 seconds.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Just say I love that vision, and hopefully we can complete the purchase before the ReTree event this fall. So it's in public lands, not private.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member King. All right. Seeing no other hands...Member Molina.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Yeah, I was going to say something, but I know everybody like eat.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: But, no, I'll keep it short. Just want to thank the Mā'alaea community --

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: --and Councilmember King for shepherding this because I know she spent a lot of time and she's already got a full plate with other things. But thanks for your efforts and the community for coming out, and for preserving that open space, so now we can continue to see the mountainside, not have our views obstructed. Thank you. Full support.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Molina, for saying everything I was going to say. I will echo everything you just said. Okay, I'll call for the question. All those in favor of the motion, please raise your hand and say "aye."

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Aye.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: All right. I see eight "ayes," zero "noes," and one excused.

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

**NOES:**        **None.**

**ABSTAIN:**    **None.**

**ABSENT:**     **None.**

**EXC.:**        **Councilmember Kama.**

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**ACTION:**    **APPROVE**

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Thank you, Members.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Okay, so, Members, it's 6:20. I said that we would go to dinner, you know, between 6:15 and 6:30. I was hoping that we would be done with our review. I think if we take up the next proposal, it will take us past 6:30. So I'm thinking we break for dinner now, and then we come back at 7:30, and then we'll complete decision making on Open Space Fund. Any objections to that plan?

COUNCILMEMBER KING: No objections.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo, Members. All right. So we'll return at 7:30 from our dinner break. It's 6:21 on April 21st, and the Budget, Finance, and Economic Development Committee is now in recess. . . .*(gavel)*. . .

                 RECESS:        6:21 p.m.

                 RECONVENE:    7:35 p.m.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: . . .*(gavel)*. . . Will the Budget, Finance, and Economic Development Committee please return to order. It is 7:35 on April 21st. And we will pick off...pick up where we left off, discussing the Members' priorities under the Open Space Fund in the Office of the Mayor's proposed budget. All right. Okay, so we are on number 48, which is a proposal from Member Molina. Member Molina.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: . . .*(audio interference)*. . . space. . .*(audio interference)*. . .

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: I'm sorry, Member Molina? Oh, the 400,000 for Hāmākualoa?

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Yeah. Right, yeah. Okay. You want me to go ahead and make my motion?



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CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Please make your motion, Member Molina.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Okay, all right. Thank you. Okay, Members, on...it's under Budget Bill Special Purpose Revenue, Appendix A-II, through page 45 and 46. I move that up to 400,000 shall be for the Hāmākualoa Open Space Preserve Master Plan. And if I get a second, I can explain.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Oh, you're muted, Chair.

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

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, moved by Member Molina, seconded by Chair Lee. Member Molina.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Yeah, thank you very much, Madam Chair. You know, after review of this condition proviso with Parks, it was determined that once the archaeological and cultural study is complete, the master plan for the open space would be the next step, and the Parks Director reaffirmed that funding would be necessary for developing the master plan. So therefore, I would like to set aside the funding for the master plan so once the archaeological study and cultural study is completed, we can move forward with the master plan. So anyway...and I believe I touched upon some other things at the...an earlier meeting. So the...I'll just go on and save some time that the Director has noted that the cost of the master plan is estimated at 400,000. So therefore, to establish a very important presence on the open space, and to prevent further abuse of the land, and provide the County and community a direction for the open space, I wish to move forward with the funding of this master plan. Thank you, Madam Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo, Member Molina. Members wishing to speak to the motion? Member Paltin.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: I just was wondering about the shovel readiness of this, being that the AIS got a little bit held up with the COVID. Do they need to go on that AIS information before they move forward on the...what the master plan is? Like, do they need the information from the AIS in order to...hey, shut the door because the bugs going come in. Sorry. That's my question.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Oh, okay.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Member Molina.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Honestly, I think the best person ask would be Lucienne or the Director. Not real clear on the aspect of this proposal. All it is is, I think, you know, by provisoing the Open Space Fund for up to 400,000, and we can get the master plan to give...you know, establish the parameters of the open space. But...I don't know if anyone can answer that question here tonight, but I know Lucienne has been directly involved with this, so maybe Budget Director Yoshimura could comment on it. I'm not

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sure. . . .*(timer sounds)*. . .

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo, Member Paltin. Okay. Chair Lee, and then . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Yeah, it does say in the comment section that the Parks Director noted that the 400,000 is required to move the master plan, and that the archeologic...the archaeology...the archaeological study is near completion. And so this money won't even become available until after July 1st, so that should be sufficient time for the archaeological study to be finished. And that we can get confirmation from the Parks Department, but it sounds like, you know, this is...this is almost ready to go...at least in July or August.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair Lee. Anyone else wishing to speak for the first time? Member Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you, Chair. Yeah, just a clarification on the use of Open Space Funds for the master plan. That was...we get a thumbs up on it...on the use?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Deputy Corporation Counsel Toshikiyo?

MS. TOSHIKIYO: Yes. Sorry, I'm kind of...dry throat. Thank you, Chair. And thank you, Member Sinenci. So yes, again, I...sorry I sound like a broken record, but because of the restrictive purposes of this fund...so again, the two...let's see, purposes would be purchasing or otherwise acquiring lands or property entitlements, and there is a list of the purposes for the land acquirement. So that is one way you can use this fund. And the second way is, again, performing safety and security improvements. So again, it's for purchasing or acquiring the land . . .*(timer sounds)*. . . or performing safety and security improvements on the land that's been acquired.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Okay. Thank you.

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

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Yeah, Madam Chair. Member Paltin threw a curve ball at me. I'm not familiar with that acronym AIS. I presume it's archaeological inventory study? Okay. Okay, sorry, I'm not used to hearing that term. Okay, well, here's what I do know. Okay, the study was the first step in the effort to develop the master plan. So the funding and the archaeological study was already appropriated in the Open Space and Natural Fund...Scenic Preservations Fund. So anyway, it...that money's already been appropriated, so it's...I believe that the Director said it's, you know, pretty much as...and as Chair Lee reiterated, it's about ready to go. So I hope that kind of answers your question, Member Paltin, but sorry, I'm not used to hearing acronyms like that. I wasn't quite sure. AIS now, what is that? Okay, so now that I know it's archaeological inventory study. I'm kind of used to hearing all the words, and I'm not...I'm certainly not an expert in archaeology, so my apologies for not understanding that acronym. . . .*(timer sounds)*. . .

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CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Perfect timing. Okay, let's see. I'll take my minute. Budget Director Yoshimura, the question earlier...if you recall what Director Peters had said during our review, because I kind of recall a little bit of what Member Paltin was alluding to. Budget Director.

MS. YOSHIMURA: Chair. So Director Peters, I just contacted her. She had indicated that the study will be done at the end of this calendar year so she would be able to use the funds until probably early part of next year if the AIS, I guess, is delivered on time.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo --

MS. YOSHIMURA: Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: -- Budget Director. And then I guess a quick question for Member Molina, if you know. If it would, like...or, I guess Budget Director . . . *(timer sounds)*. . . all right, there went my minute. That's all right, I wasn't able to spit it out quick enough. Okay, Members, anyone wishing to speak to the motion? Oh, Member Paltin. Oh, Chair Lee or Member Paltin?

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: I yield to Chair Lee.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Oh, thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Chair Lee, and then Member Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: I really don't...I really wouldn't mind getting some kind of confirmation in writing from the Parks Director. I mean, nearing completion doesn't mean nine months from now. I mean, like, when did they start the...when do they start the study, and when is it really going to be completed? And if they use money from the Open Space Fund to do the AIS, then certainly, this master plan is eligible. Okay.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Chair Lee, for Budget Director or Member Molina?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: For Budget Director to get confirmation. Thank you.

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

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. My question would be for Member Molina. Just wondering, you know, like, we're doing master planning for Honolua as well, and we were working with the Summers Brothers but it...COVID. Anyways, just wondering if you have a community group already laying out the things that they want. Because the master planner can come in and make the plan, but have...is the community groups meeting, and do they have their priorities and their ideas, and it just needs to be put into a plan, or are they waiting?

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COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: No. Well, they've actively been planning. I believe it's involved the Sierra Club, Ha'ikū Community Association, and the Friends of the Hāmākualoa. They've been doing the cleanups, and they've been having meetings, from my understanding in discussions with Lucienne. So they have some ideas ready to go to implement into this master plan. So yeah, they haven't been...I mean, they already, you know, one step ahead at this point with what they would like to implement in the master plan. And with regards to clarify the AIS, the monies were already appropriated for the study back in Fiscal Year . . .*(timer sounds)*. . . 2020 for 140,000. So yeah, the study is in progress, and as the Director had mentioned, I guess it's now near the calendar year. So the previous...you know, last fiscal year, the study...funding for the study has already been put in.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Molina and Member Paltin. Anyone else wishing to speak to the motion. Chair Lee, is this bit of information something necessary for you to make a decision?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Well, it seems that people need to have some kind of confirmation on the timeline, so that's the reason why I asked the question.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo, Chair Lee. I'll do my second and final. I'm a little bit torn for this one. I'm wondering...maybe, Budget Director, do you know if after the AIS is complete that Director Peters intends to move forward with the next step of the master planning as soon as the Department is ready to conduct that master plan?

MS. YOSHIMURA: Chair. She did indicate that once that...the first...the AIS is done, then she'll be ready to move forward with the master planning.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. And then so...Budget Director, will you...are...is that something that you're looking to possibly do a Budget amendment for, to add to the Open Space Fund when the AIS is complete?

MS. YOSHIMURA: Chair. So that's something that we could consider doing a Budget amendment for. We did do a Budget amendment that was . . .*(timer sounds)*. . . effective February 28, 2021, it's Ordinance 5173, that appropriated funds for land management. including land and field surveying, map preparation, and point staking. So when the Department does need the money, because it's a Revolving Fund and we don't have to certify additional revenues, it's a Budget amendment that is easier to propose. And if the Department will be ready for the monies, then we can move forward with that.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Budget Director. Okay. All right. Seeing no other hands, I'm going to call for the question. All right. All those in...

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Wait. Wait, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Chair Lee, did you speak two times?

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COUNCILMEMBER LEE: I was just wondering if Mr. Molina wanted to make an adjustment on his motion. Just checking.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Well, I was going to state that if using the proviso in the Open Space Fund is a problem for Members, I do have a funding alternative, if that is the case if, you know...so anyway, but I'm hoping the Members...my preference, first preference would be to consider the proviso. So anyway, if we can do that, but I think it's just a matter of waiting for the information, which I'm very confident the Parks Department will come up. And I stated...as I stated before, the study has been already commissioned and, you know, the timing's there, the community's put a lot of time into this. These are very credible people, you know, Sierra Club, Friends of Hāmākualoa, Ha'ikū Community Association. So I...you know, I've gone out there with these folks and they're very committed . . .(timer sounds). . . and, you know, this land purchase was made, you know, couple years ago and so by...you know, couple of Councils ago. So these guys have put their heart and soul into it. So I think, you know, up to 400,000 is not that big of an ask, but I'll leave it to the body. And I'm ready to act on the motion, Madam Chair.

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

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Members, I came in kind of at the middle of all of this, but just listening to what Budget Director has said...so the Administration is committed to using whatever money is available, and then...do we need to do the Open Space money? It sounds like you're kind of rolling with all the activities that are going on already, Ms. Yoshimura.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Budget Director.

MS. YOSHIMURA: Chair. I'm...if the Open Space monies is available, we could proceed with that. If there's other funding available, we can also proceed with the other source of funding. But the Parks Director did say that they did start the project back in July of 2020, but there was some delay due to the access and master mapping to define the boundaries. So she anticipates the project being done at the end of this calendar year, and once that is done, she said they would be able to do the master plan for Hāmākualoa.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you.

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

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Aye. Okay.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. I see...yeah, okay. Any opposed? Okay, so eight "ayes," zero "noes," one excused. Okay.

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

**NOES:**        **None.**

**ABSTAIN:**        **None.**

**ABSENT:**        **None.**

**EXC.:**        **Councilmember Kama.**

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**ACTION:**        **APPROVE**

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Thank you, Members.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. The next is number 64 from the older matrix, and that's Member Paltin's for the West Maui Park. Your motion, Member Paltin.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: I move to increase the Open Space Fund appropriation for the 50 acres that was conditioned as part of the Pulelehua Project by 1.25 mil. If I get a second, I can explain why.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, moved by Member Paltin, seconded by Member Johnson. And it's not to increase the Open Space Fund, it's to increase the 50,000 that was allocate...or conditioned to Open Space Fund by the Mayor, and adding 1.25 million. Member Paltin.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Thank you. And so this project has been a long time in the making. My predecessor, Elle Cochran, put the condition on for the change in zoning for Pulelehua to be...occur during the community plan update, or during the community plan update right now. Parks Director Karla Peters picked out a parcel that fit the criteria. Director Teruya's been in talks with Maui Land and Pine, and I even spoke with our Deputy Director of Public Works, and he's, like, in full support because of some other reasons as well. And, you know, just the potential here is huge. So, you know, 50 acres, this is right between Maui Preparatory Academy and, like, Kahana Ridge area, right off the highway. . . .(timer sounds). . . And...yeah.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, mahalo, Member Paltin. Okay, anyone wishing to speak to the motion? Member King.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Just a question, because I don't see it on my matrix. My matrix only goes up to...

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CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: I have to get a new one.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Mine only goes up to number 60.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yeah, Member King, it was inadvertently missed on --

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Oh.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: -- the new matrix.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Oh, okay.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: That's why I referenced the older matrix, number 64. My apologies.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: No, it's okay. I just didn't...I didn't hear that you said it was left off.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, anyone else wanting to speak to the motion? Member Sugimura.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: I wonder if, Member Paltin, you could finish your comment about this is huge. Why is it huge?

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Oh.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Member Paltin.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: I would imagine, you know, the going rate...if they were to sell it without that proviso for ag land rates, it would be way more than 1.25 mil. That was Director Teruya's assessed value of the ag land rates per acre is 25,000.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Oh, okay.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: And the location is awesome too.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo, Member Sugimura. Member Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Mahalo, Chair. Yeah, just clarification for Member Paltin, was this to be kept in Open Fund, or Agriculture, or Housing? I mean...

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VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Oh, you're doing a spoiler. So, you know, I mean...I figure once we acquire the land, it belongs to us, and then we can start the planning of it within the community. Not like the kind like we need a master plan or anything but, I mean, you know. We don't have a ag park on West Maui, you know, we...if it becomes a possibility maybe, you know, under 15 acres you don't need to go to the LUC, maybe we can subdivide 15 acres, talk to Affordable Housing Fund. I don't know. But first things first is acquire the land and then, you know, I mean, the possibilities are endless.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Okay. All right. Mahalo for that.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member . . .*(timer sounds)*. . . Sinenci. Member King.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Yeah, I thought if you bought land with Open Space, you couldn't develop it. So I don't know that that's a possibility to rezone and develop it, but maybe we can ask Corp. Counsel.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Oh, I was thinking of . . .*(audio interference)*. . . open space portion from the Affordable Housing Fund. You know, if there is a desire to develop up to 15 acres for affordable housing, subdivide that off, sell it from the Open Space, buy it with Affordable Housing Funds to reimburse the Open Space for whatever portion, if that's what the community wants.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay, is that...can we just ask Corp. Counsel if that's a possibility?

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: When I checked with Mimi DesJardins, she said it was.

MS. TOSHIKIYO: Yeah. I don't see that the Charter prevents that. That's a very good question, and I'll double check with Mimi as well, but I would rely on her advice. . . .*(timer sounds)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay, thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member King. Okay. Give my one minute. Okay, so I support the motion. I think it's been a long, long time coming. I think...for me, I think we're trying to cross a lot of future bridges right now, and I'm willing to cross this bridge now. And you know, future bridges will come up when they come up, but for right now, this is what I'm voting on, which is to purchase the 50 acres to make good on conditions and promises that were made to the community, and then we'll cross the future bridges if we get there. All right, anyone else wishing to speak to the motion? Seeing none, I will call for the question. All those in favor, please raise your hand and say "aye." All right. Any noes? Okay, eight "ayes" --

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Thank you, Members.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: -- eight "ayes," zero "noes," one excused.



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

**NOES:**        **None.**

**ABSTAIN:**        **None.**

**ABSENT:**        **None.**

**EXC.:**        **Councilmember Kama.**

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**ACTION:        APPROVE**

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: All right. I...let's see where I'm at. Okay. Okay, I inadvertently skipped myself. So we're going to...it's one proposal, and I don't know --

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: -- how I did this . . .*(laughing)*. . . Okay...number 43 on your new matrix, and that's...what is it? Conditional language...hold on one moment. Is it...okay, number 43. Okay. The motion would be to add back the conditional language to the micro...farmer's micro...farmer microgrants, to give preference to farmers that did not receive funding in the previous fiscal year from this grant funding, and to tier the grant amount based upon farm size, in addition to the language we had in the...the first time, in FY'21. And I will get all of that language we approved it before. The only difference would be adding these two conditions.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Move to approve.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair Lee. Okay, moved by Chair Lee, seconded by Member Johnson. Okay. Discussion, real quick. So again, it...the language would give preference to women and minority-owned farm businesses. It would...it kind of adjusts so that it's not just limited to 12 acres, but will scale depending on the size. And...sorry, I'm doing this from memory right now. And then to ensure what the process would look like in guaranteeing that it would be...okay, Staff heard me. Okay. So 1.5 million to manage and distribute advanced grant payments of 25,000 or less, to be issued in full at the front end to grantees upon application approval, which must be distributed with efforts to ensure equitable distribution among applicants in Maui, Moloka'i and Lāna'i, and preference given to socially disadvantaged farming applicants, such as women and Native Hawaiians, and to food-producing farm businesses that operate on less than an aggregate of 12 acres...and that's the...where it would be adjusted within Maui County. Possess a County business or State General Excise Tax License for the farming business as of July 2021, or who can provide--and that's a big or--who can provide a copy of their

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IRS Schedule F form filed for the previous tax year, and whose business owners and any partners are Maui County residents for a minimum of one year prior to the date of applicant's grant request to pay for one, farm infrastructure upgrades; two, packaging materials and products; three, processing and storage equipment and machinery; four, farm equipment, including tractors, tillers, and lifts; five, marketing services such as packaging, label design, and printing and website development; and six, professional development, such as FISMA. Okay. All right, I saw Member King with her hand up, I think Member Johnson had a hand up? Okay, Member King.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Thank you, Chair. So I...my question is on the tier, the grant amount based upon farm size. Are you saying that you're going to do away with a minimum...or the maximum of 12 acre size? And then how would that tiering work?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member King. So I received feedback that really small farms, like, that were just a couple of acres ended up with, like, 25,000. And so the thought was that the amount would be tiered, and so that way it wouldn't guarantee, you know, 25,000, and it would be more equitable.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay.

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

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Are you...but are you...you said something about doing or allowing larger farms. So I know we have folks that were doing...you know, were raising cattle, and they were saying, you know, my operation isn't that big, but I have a big space because they have to graze. . . .*(timer sounds)*. . . So, yes . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: So, yeah, yeah. Okay. Mahalo, Member King. Member Johnson, followed by Member Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: I didn't have my hand up, but I will say I am in full support. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Sorry, Member Johnson. Okay, Member Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you, Chair. So yeah, just amending the smaller farm size. My question was, was there a revenue stream attached to this as well? I don't know if we received calls from farmers that said that they had to show a certain income for their farm. Is there a...is there a revenue requirement?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: No. So...I'm so sorry. I thought I was on mute. . . .*(laughing)*. . . Sorry. Okay. No, there's no income requirement.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Oh, okay. Because...we must have been confused. Because we got calls from some farmers that said that they had to show some kind of a revenue stream. Okay, thank you.

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CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Sinenci. Very ladylike of me. Okay. Any other Members wishing to speak to the motion? Now that I've completely embarrassed myself. . . .*(laughing)*. . . Okay, I'll call for the question. All those in favor of the motion, please raise your hand and say "aye."

COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, any opposed? . . .*(laughing)*. . . Okay, eight "ayes," zero "noes," one excused. Member King.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: No, I don't see Member Paltin, looks like she left the room.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Yeah.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh, yes, you're right.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: I don't see her --

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, so that...

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: -- or Yuki.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: I'm looking at . . .*(audio interference)*. . .

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: No, I see Member Sugimura.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: You do, okay.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: I'm here.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yeah, I see her.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: I see Yuki, but I don't see Tamara.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay, now I see Yuki.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, but I still don't see Member Paltin. So seven "ayes," zero "noes"...

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Oh, there she is.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh, okay. All right, I take that back again. Eight "ayes," zero "noes," one excused.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay.

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

**NOES:**        **None.**

**ABSTAIN:**        **None.**

**ABSENT:**        **None.**

**EXC.:**        **Councilmember Kama.**

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**ACTION:        APPROVE**

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. All right. Okay, and then for the record, Member Paltin withdrew her priority proposal number 42 on the matrix. Okay. All right, I think that is everything...all the priority proposals. Any Members object? Okay, all right. So that means we got them all.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Grant Revenue**

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: All right, so we're going to go to the next portion, and that is Grant Revenue. There are two grants; Work Force Innovation and Opportunity, and Community Development Block Grant Program. Consensus?

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Consensus.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Which document are you going to be working off of? The Budget document or the...what? Appendix A?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: I'm...no, I just asked for consensus, and there was consensus. So if you have amendments, then you can let me know what your amendments are, and then we can go to the document, but I didn't hear anyone with amendments.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Oh. Oh. Please, I do not want to extend any conversation. I just...

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: All right.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: You have my consensus.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: . . .(laughing). . . Okay, great. All right.

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COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Never mind about the document. . . .*(laughing)* . . .

\*\*\*\*\*

**Revolving Fund**

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: All right. Okay, so we'll go the next one, and that's the Revolving Fund. The first is Open Space, and then I'll go one by one. There are five conditions that we received from the Mayor. The first is 1 million for land acquisition and related costs for Lānaʻi Ag Park. Consensus?

COUNCILMEMBERS: Raised their hands in consensus.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: 1.5 million must be granted to Ke Ao Hāli'i for land acquisition and related costs at Makaʻala. Consensus?

COUNCILMEMBERS: Raised their hands in consensus.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Consensus.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Members. Up to \$200,000 for security and maintenance of Kaʻehu.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Yeah.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Consensus?

COUNCILMEMBERS: Raised their hands in consensus.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Consensus.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Consensus.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Up to 2.1 million for land... Ke Ao Hāli'i land acquisition in Mokae and Kakio. Consensus?

COUNCILMEMBERS: Raised their hands in consensus.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Madam Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh. Member Molina.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Yeah, sorry, no, no. Just as you go through these, you know, land purchases. If you could specify the area, like if East Maui, Molokaʻi, just --

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh.

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COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: -- for those who may not be too familiar with the area.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh, okay.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: I'm sorry, Members. Okay. So these are items that we have been talking about for the last two years. So it...they're all in Hāna.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Yeah, Hāna. East Maui. Okay.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yeah, they're all in Hāna, Ke Ao Hāli'i. Okay. Yeah, so all East Maui. All right. And then the last one is 50,000 for land acquisition and related costs...oh, scratch that one. So that one has been increased by 100...oh, sorry, 1.25, so for the total of 1.3 million for West Maui Community Plan, okay. And we already voted on that, so that passed. Okay. So that's everything in Open Space Fund. Okay. The next Revolving Fund is Economic Development and Cultural Programs Revolving Fund. Any amendments? If not, I'm going to ask for consensus?

COUNCILMEMBERS: Raised their hand in consensus.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, mahalo, Members. And that has a total of...or will...has a projected total of 230,000. All right, and that's letter Q on your budget document. Letter S on your budget document under Revolving Fund is Hawaiian Cultural Restoration Revolving Fund...there's one condition for up to 400,000 for a master plan, management strategy, and implementation for the restoration of Moku'ula and Mokuhinia through community input and participation. Consensus?

COUNCILMEMBERS: Raised their hands in consensus.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Consensus.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: All right. Okay.

MS. TOSHIKIYO: Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh. Aloha, Ms. Toshikiyo.

MS. TOSHIKIYO: Hi, sorry. I was just looking....if you want to go back to the Open Space, Natural Resources there was one more, I think, on page 45, that was up to 3,000 [*sic*] must be for debt service. I just was kind of looking through the list.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh. Okay, mahalo, Ms. Toshikiyo. Okay, so up to 300,000 for debt service on Launiupoko, that one?

MS. TOSHIKIYO: Yes.

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CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, consensus.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBERS: Raised their hands in consensus.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Very good. Mahalo. Good catch. Mahalo, Ms. Toshikiyo. Okay. All right. That is everything under this Department. Staff, did I miss anything?

MS. MILNER: No, Chair, you're good.

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**DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL SERVICES**

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: All right. That only took 16 hours.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: . . .*(laughing)*. . .

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: . . .*(laughing)*. . . Okay, Members, Department of Personnel Services. Okay. All right. So there's one program, Personnel Administration and Management Support Services Program. Any amendments? Okay, consensus?

COUNCILMEMBERS: Consensus.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Less than five minutes. All right, no CIPs, Rates and Fees, no priorities, no Grant Revenue, no Revolving Fund, and no bills. Okay, Department is done. All right. Uh-oh. Wait . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Did you say Planning is our last one?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Oh, okay.

\*\*\*\*\*

**OFFICE OF THE MAYOR**

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, Department of Planning.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: I'm sure Tamara has a list.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, Staff has informed me that I did miss one, and that is under the Office of the Mayor, under our priority proposals, Special Purpose Revenues.

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So that's the Hawaiian Cultural Restoration Fund, and that was asked...okay. And then Member Paltin proposed that the fund has the language, provided that the County work to ensure a fair, transparent, and respectful process, and take extra steps to maintain decorum in the process, protecting against community bullying and violence. Member Paltin, so move?

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Yes. You know, there was work done to try and get everybody on the same page regarding Moku'ula...

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh. Do you want to make this motion?

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Oh, so moved.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Second.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Moved by Member Paltin, seconded by Chair Lee. All those in favor? Okay, okay. All right, fine, fine, fine. Go ahead, Member Paltin. Okay, one minute.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Just saying, you know, it's such a passionate issue, and the community...you know, sometimes when it's super passionate, like, people get emotional and just...you know, that's okay as long as it's not expressed as, you know, violently or bullying. And so, you know, there were some comments during the community plan. and so I heard the comments. and let's just make sure that we address it.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Paltin. All those in favor please raise your hand and say "aye." Okay, eight "ayes," zero "noes," one excused. Mahalo, Member Paltin.



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

**NOES:       None.**

**ABSTAIN:   None.**

**ABSENT:    None.**

**EXC.:       Councilmember Kama.**

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**ACTION:     APPROVE**

\*\*\*\*\*

**DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING**

Administration and Planning Program  
Capital Improvement Projects  
Rates and Fees

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Ms. Pajimola. Okay. Okay, Department of Planning. There's one program in the Department, it's the Administration and Planning Program, and that starts on page 14-3 in your Budget Details. Are there any proposals for the Administration and Planning Program? Member Molina.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Yeah, Madam Chair, I'm referring to Budget Details page 14-8, Planning Administration. You know, Madam Chair, this is my...sorry, we're doing proposals?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Reductions.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: No, no, yeah. This is not a reduction. Sorry. Pass on that, sorry. I'll wait until we get to proposals.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Yeah, I don't have any reductions. Sorry. Lost my place here.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, mahalo. Okay, yes, it's been a long a day. Member Paltin. . . .(laughing). . .

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: I got a couple proposals, I'll just them and see where they go. I'll get everyone on the same page first. We're on page 14-10 of the Budget Details, and the

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Index Code is 909010B, Subject-Object Code for the first one is 6201. I move to reduce airfare and transportation by 5 grand.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Is there a second? Okay. Moved by Member Paltin, seconded by Member Johnson. Member Paltin.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Yeah, just saying, you know, in Fiscal Year 2020, they used 21,883 and, you know, we all just want to travel a little bit less. So throwing it out there.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, anyone wishing to speak to the motion? If not, I will call for the question. All those in favor, please raise your hand and say “aye.”

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Aye.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, I see eight “ayes,” zero “noes,” one excused.

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

**NOES:**       **None.**

**ABSTAIN:           None.**

**ABSENT:           None.**

**EXC.: Councilmember Kama.**

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**ACTION: APPROVE**

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, Member Paltin.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: The next one would be same page, same Index Code, Subject-Object 6221, Miscellaneous Other Costs, and I believe Member Molina and myself have mentioned about these. So I'm proposing to reduce by 5 grand again. My motion is to reduce Miscellaneous Other Costs by 5 grand, for a total of 20 grand.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Moved by Member Paltin, second by Member Sinenci.  
Member Paltin.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: And just, you know, it's just...if they need more money, come let us know...budget amendment.

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CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Anyone else wishing to speak to the motion? Seeing none, I'll call for the question. To reduce Miscellaneous Other Costs...I see Budget Director Yoshimura.

MS. YOSHIMURA: Chair. I was just going to give you information on what the funds is for, if you wanted.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Sure.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yes, please.

MS. YOSHIMURA: So they use that funding for postage, pre-employment drug tests, incidentals in their office, they use it for paper, their paper recycling and that shredding contract or service, to support the CPACs, the CPAC meetings, and to maintain their County vehicles. So again, this is a catchall kind of category. Once they do the expenditures, it gets charged to the appropriate sub-object code. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Member Sinenci, followed by Member King.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Mahalo, Chair. Just curious, Budget Director, of the increase between the 2020 and 2021.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Budget Director.

MS. YOSHIMURA: Chair. So this is where they charge the appropriate index code. So there may be other index codes that may have had a higher expenditure than actual budgeted. But this is where they will put funding when they're not sure of what will come up, how much monies will be needed to support the CPAC, how much monies they'll need to do...to address issues that come up in their office. So once they do know that, then they'll charge the appropriate index code.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Okay. Thank you.

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

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Another...thank you, Chair. Another question for the Director. Director, do you know if they expended all 25,000, or will expend it by the end of this year? This fiscal year?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Budget Director.

MS. YOSHIMURA: I can check it for you. Thank you. Give me a couple of minutes.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay. And then do you know how much it costs to do a pre-employment drug test? If you don't, that's okay. I was wondering because Member Molina and I are going to propose a couple of new employees, and I know how expensive those drug tests are.

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MS. YOSHIMURA: Sorry, I don't know what the cost is for a drug test.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: But the main question is, did they use all 25,000 in this category last year, or for this current fiscal year. . . .*(timer sounds)*. . .

MS. YOSHIMURA: Sorry, I'm checking for you right now.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. While we give Budget Director a little time to get that information, is there anyone else wishing to speak to the motion? Member Paltin.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: I just was wondering, like, do they need to take their cars to, like, the shop? And Public Works doesn't...like, there's no County entity that overall does County vehicles? Like, they got to take it to Ed's Union or something, 76, Tesoro?

MS. YOSHIMURA: Oh, they use it for...they do...they run their cars through the carwash.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Oh.

MS. YOSHIMURA: So those expenditures come out of there. But let me...hold on. I'm trying to run an IFAS report.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: So it's just car wash, it's not like lube oil filter or anything like that.

MS. YOSHIMURA: No.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Oh, okay, okay.

MS. YOSHIMURA: That they take to the County garage.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Oh, okay, okay. That makes sense.

MS. YOSHIMURA: Okay. And...

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: I got word that pre-employment drug tests are about \$150.

MS. YOSHIMURA: So...

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: And I thought that they pay for the...like, the applicant has to pay for their own . . .*(timer sounds)*. . . drug test. That's how it was when I was civil service, I had to pay for my own drug test.

MS. YOSHIMURA: I'm not sure. I think we...the County pays for the drug testing for pre-employment testing. But to date, as of March 31st, they have expended \$14,000.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Anyone else wishing to speak to the motion? All right. Okay, so the motion is to reduce the \$25,000 allocated for Miscellaneous Other Costs

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by 5,000, for a new total of 20,000. Okay. All those in favor, please raise your hand and say “aye.” Okay, any “noes”? All right, eight “ayes,” one excused. Oh. Oh, wait. Member Sinenci, are you a no? Oh, sorry, my apologies. Seven “ayes,” one “no,” Member Sinenci, and one excused.

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

**NOES:       Councilmember Sinenci.**

**ABSTAIN:   None.**

**ABSENT:    None.**

**EXC.:       Councilmember Kama.**

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**ACTION:    APPROVE**

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Member Paltin.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: That concludes my actions.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Members, any further proposals, proposed reductions for Administration and Planning Program? Okay, seeing none, I will ask for consensus.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Consensus.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. There aren’t any CIPs under this Department. Okay, Rates and Fees. Let’s see...Staff, is the proposed...Member Paltin’s proposal on Granicus?

MS. MILNER: Let me just double check the number, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo, Ms. Milner. Okay. Member Paltin has one proposed amendment. Are there any other proposals? Oh, okay. Chair Lee.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: No. No proposal.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh, okay.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Just checking if you looking at Appendix B with the Budget bills.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yes.

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VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Rates and Fees.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Rates and Fees, yeah. And then it's number 80 on Granicus. Okay, and then Member Paltin, I can share screen while you...okay.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Would you like me to make the motion or explain it before the motion so they can ask questions?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yeah, so this is new. So let's explain first and then...

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Got it.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh, wrong one. Okay. Let's try again.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Chair, what page on the Budget bill?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: This is on Granicus. It's number 80. Are you seeing it? Okay. It's not in your Budget bill, it's in Appendix B under Planning.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: It starts on page 28.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Yeah. Got it, got it.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Go ahead, Member Paltin.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Okay, thanks. So if you folks recall when we had Planning Department here for us to ask questions, I just inquired about making some minor changes, and so Director McLean was okay with it. The first one was just kind of off the cuff on non...oh, sorry, that's not the one...on fee per application unless otherwise stated and subject to exemptions below. And for the valuation of \$1,000,001 and up, I propose to do 3,093.75 for the first \$1,000,001, and then \$15 for each additional 5,000 or fraction thereof, to a maximum of \$10,000. And this is simply in response to, you know, residents' concern about so many luxury homes being built, and a little bit that we haven't been able to take up the Fee Study specifically. So I'm just kind of, you know, summarizing the direction that we'd like to go in, I guess, a little bit. When you're starting to build a house and its value is over \$1 million, it's not so much affordable as it is getting into the luxury category. And we know that the fees, as they currently are, are not cost recovery. And so I was just upping it a little bit.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. And then I'll show the next one if you can just explain what the next one is.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Sure. The next one is on page 31, and I'd like to bring the Shoreline Setback Appeal in alignment with Special Management Area Appeal of Director's decision. And, you know, the Shoreline Setback Appeal is, you know, you can't really...it's kind of where they set the shoreline as. And if you're going to appeal that

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for development, already we know that's not a good idea, so I don't think we should be making it easy. I think I proposed a really huge number last year, and it didn't go through, and so I'm just aligning it...

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Member Paltin.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Huh?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: If you can explain what your amendment is. So your Shoreline Setback Appeal, 687.50 --

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Yeah.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: -- from 312.50. Okay?

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Yeah. In alignment with the Director's Appeal Decision of SMA.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. And then the last Short-Term Rental Home Permit, if you can explain what your proposals are and then explain your rationale.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Okay. So --

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: -- my proposal is to change the new permit application fee from \$857 to 812.50; and if a public hearing is required, to change that from an additional \$687.50 to \$1,877. For the renewal, the application fee I'm changing from \$375 to \$700. Now, this proposal specifically comes straight from the Fee Study. And the information in the study was that if we want to go with a cost recovery approach, we should not jump straight to full cost recovery. We should start at 30 percent of the cost, and raise it 10 percent each year until we get to 70 percent of the cost. And based on the Fee Study, this is 30 percent of the actual cost of doing the Short-Term Rental Home Permit application and renewal fee. And so I don't feel like short-term rental homes are a necessity item. And I know we haven't had a big discussion about cost recovery, but no time like the present.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, Member Paltin. So we're going to take it up one amendment at a time. We'll start with the Table A Fee Schedule. So this is the easier of proposals, and that's the 1,000,0001 and up from 13.75 to \$15.00, and a maximum from 4,950 to \$10,000.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: So moved.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Moved by Member Paltin, is there a second? Second by Chair Lee. Okay, discussion. Member Paltin. Okay, and then I'll put on the one-minute timer.

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COUNCILMEMBER LEE: She already did.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Oh, was I on mute? Oh, you're on mute.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: You're fine.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Member Paltin, did you want to discuss further the first amendment?

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Sure. And this is just...you know, I know we're not on cost recovery and this is just trying to get us there.

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

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Yeah. I'd like an opinion from Corp. Counsel because when you're dealing with fees, they have to correspond to actual cost. So in other words, you cannot just pull numbers out of the air. So I'm assuming that Member Paltin did follow some kind of formula, but it has to be based on cost, okay.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Yeah --

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: So...

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: -- and in response to that, I ran these numbers by Director McLean during the question period, and she said it was okay. So that was what my basis was on.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay. She doesn't get to say okay. We need to know what is the actual cost. So if I can get an opinion from Corp. Counsel, you know.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Chair Lee --

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: How do we get...

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: --,the actual...

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Pardon?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: The actual cost of the permit?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Yeah.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: The actual cost of...

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: The actual cost of raising...whatever the fee is now that you're raising it to must be justified by actual cost, yeah? You cannot just pick a number, what I'm saying.



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CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh, okay.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: That is the way you establish fees. And I...and I would...I'm asking if we can ask Corp. Counsel to...to either say I'm wrong, or say I'm right, or something else.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Ms. Toshikiyo.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Can we ask her?

MS. TOSHIKIYO: Yeah, thank you for the question. Yes, Chair Lee, you are right. But as to whether or not I know whether or not there's a basis for the fees that Member Paltin is proposing, I don't know that answer. . . .*(timer sounds)*. . . But, yes, I do agree with that statement that you just made.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo, Ms. Toshikiyo. Okay, I'll do my minute real quick. So I remember having this discussion with the Director, and the Director...I don't...you know what, it's on public record, so I'm just going to quote her and it's...she stated to Member Paltin that she...that 13.75 seemed to be not...an arbitrary number. And so \$15 is also an arbitrary number, and all those numbers are rather arbitrary. But the...but we do subsidize a lot of the actual cost of these things. And so that was from the Director.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Yeah. And that's her opinion. I just...you know, we just need to see paper that shows cost. But, yeah, you know, who am I to stop the train. You folks want to base, you know . . .*(timer sounds)*. . . go on estimates, that's fine with me.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Member Sugimura.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: So I think I heard Member Paltin say there was a Fee Study done, and so we...you know, we can rely on that. I wonder if you can send it to the Committee so that we can have a discussion with the Fee Study and have the Department there so it can be substantiated and Member Lee's...it sounds like she knows what she talking about, right. It has to be substantiated. So...

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: . . .*(laughing)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: All your years of experience really helps. I would like to send this to Committee so that, you know, we can have a fuller discussion.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Sugimura. Okay, anyone else wishing to speak to the motion? Member Molina.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Yeah, no --

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

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COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: -- just for Member Paltin. The Fee Study was done when, just so everybody who's...may be questioning or, you know, why that fee increase, so this...at least the study that, you know, if you can give us who did the study, when, that kind of details in case, you know, we're asked by our constituents what did we base our, you know, decision on. Just so I know.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Okay. So --

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Member Paltin.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: -- this was transmitted to Chair Lee August 20, 2020. And I can read it...but basically Matrix Consulting Group, who performed also the 2009 study, Matrix and various Staff from the Department worked together to determine the number of hours required for the Department to process each type of permit application and every Staff position involved to calculate each permit application average processing cost based on current salaries and overhead. The result of this effort is attached for your review. And I believe it's, maybe, BFED-105, it's already in Committee.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: I refer these items, I don't generally keep them to myself.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Good job. Good job. . . .*(timer sounds)*. . .

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

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Thank you. Member Paltin, so do all these proposed increases represent 30 percent of the cost?

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Not all of them.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Which ones do?

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Just the Short-Term Rental Home. The Shoreline Setback Appeal actual cost is around \$5,100-something, and it's the same for the...in the Fee Study, the Special Management Area Appeal of Director's Decision and Shoreline Setback Appeal cost the same in the Fee Study. Both are like \$5,000-something. And so it's not based on 30 percent of that, but it's just putting the two in alignment with each other. And then for the Short-Term Rental one, since I didn't ask her, like, the exact rate during our thing, then I followed the Fee Study and the formula and the recommendation.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: So all of these numbers are at or below 30 percent of the actual cost? . . .*(timer sounds)*. . .

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VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay, thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo, Member King. Member Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Mahalo, Chair, for the opportunity. Yeah, I remember we raised, a couple years ago, the Rates and Fees by 25 percent as was indicated from the Fee...Cost Study. Because it said that the amount of work that we were doing and what we were charging, there was a discrepancy there. So that's why...that was the last time we raised it. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Sinenci. All right, anyone else wishing to speak to the motion? If not, I'm going to call for the question. All right, Chair Lee, Member King.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Yeah.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Your second and final.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay, just to verify. So Member Paltin, you're saying you're basing your recommendations on the fee...the results of the Fee Study, right?

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: The second two...

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Member Paltin.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: The...oh, thank you. The second two. The first one, I based it on the discussion with Director McLean.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, Chair King...I mean, mahalo, Chair Lee. Member King.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Thank you, Chair. And the other question, the last question I have is, where does the money all go? Does it go back into the General Fund? We don't have a revolving fund for this, right? The SMA appeals don't go into the SMA Revolving Fund, right? Is...do they? I thought they...

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: The violations. The violations go into the Revolving Fund.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Yeah, I just thought that was for violations. So this...all this money goes into the General Fund? All right. That's all I wanted to clarify. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: All right...

COUNCILMEMBER KING: There's so many revolving funds, I can't keep them straight, so I just want to make sure.

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CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: I will give an exam at the end of this budget session on all the revolving funds and what they are required and all the restrictions, and I expect you all to get an A-plus. All right, I'm going to call for the question. All those in favor of the motion, please raise your hand and say "aye." Aye. I see eight "ayes," "zero noes," one excused.

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

**NOES:       None.**

**ABSTAIN:   None.**

**ABSENT:    None.**

**EXC.:       Councilmember Kama.**

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**ACTION:     APPROVE**

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, Member Paltin, your second motion.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: My second motion --

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

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: -- is to change the shoreline...I move to change the Shoreline Setback Appeal fee from \$312.50 to \$687.50. And if I get a second --

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Moved by Member Paltin.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: -- I can...

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Seconded by Member Sugimura. Member Paltin.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Okay. So it looks like from the Fee Study, the actual cost for this is \$5,160. And in the Fee Study, the Special Management Area Appeal of Director's Decision and the Shoreline Setback Appeal are the same cost. And so I'm not going at 30 percent of that yet, but I'm just putting the two in alignment with each other like how it is in the Fee Study.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo, Member Paltin. Members, anyone wishing to speak to the motion? If not, I'm going to call for the question. All those in favor of the motion, please raise your...oh, okay. One moment. Budget Director. . . .*(laughing)*. . .

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MS. YOSHIMURA: Chair. Sorry, just...3.49 is a Special Area Management Revolving Fund, and I know the statement earlier was made about the application fees. So it does go into the Special Management Area Assist...so --

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Budget Director.

MS. YOSHIMURA: -- application fee for...yes? Application fees --

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Appeals.

MS. YOSHIMURA: -- for Special Management Area Assessments and Permits and Shoreline Setback Variances collected by the Department of Planning shall also be deposited into the fund.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Oh, no way. Awesome.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: But not appeals? But appeals?

MS. YOSHIMURA: So the appeals...any civil fine collected pursuant to Chapter 205A shall be deposited into the fund, along with the application fees for Special Management Area Assessments and Permits.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Budget Director. Okay, and then my one minute to the motion. So it's the SMA...we received the SMA Revolving Fund report, and I'm going to work with the Department on making the report clearer and more informative for us and the public. All right. That's all I got. Okay, anyone else wishing to speak to the motion? If not, I'm going to call for the question. Oh, Chair Lee.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Budget Director, so all the fees that we're raising collected would go into the Revolving Fund as well? I think that should be considered in the future. Have you folks thought about it?

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

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: No?

MS. YOSHIMURA: . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: I know you're a General Fund person.

MS. YOSHIMURA: I'm a General Fund person. . . *(laughing)*. . . So yeah, only the...what's established in 349010 in the County Code.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Budget Director. So the first motion goes to General Fund, this motion is regarding SMA, and it goes to the SMA Revolving Fund. Don't forget, you have a test at the end of budget session. Okay, any other questions? All

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right. I'll call for the question. All those in favor, please raise your hand and say "aye."  
All right, I see eight "ayes," zero "noes," one excused.

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

**NOES:**        **None.**

**ABSTAIN:**        **None.**

**ABSENT:**        **None.**

**EXC.:**        **Councilmember Kama.**

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**ACTION:        APPROVE**

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Shucks, I think...

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Member Paltin.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: I just...I mean, if we wanted to do what the Fee Study recommends and go to 30 percent, we should change both to \$1,548, but...baby steps, you know. We can discuss it in Committee unless somebody wants to make another motion. The number would 1,548.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: For the SMA Appeals?

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: As well as the Director's appeal, 30 percent of 5,160, I believe.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Oh, Member Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: So moved.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Second.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Moved by Member Sinenci, seconded by Member King for...to amend...Member Paltin, will you say...okay --

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: To amend --

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: To amend . . . *(audio interference)*. . .

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: -- both the Shoreline Setback Appeal, and Special Management Area

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Appeal of the Director's Decision from 687.50 to 1,548.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Both.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: All right. Any discussion, Members? Member King.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Thank you. I just thought of something. So this is just the fee for the actual applicant, the actual builder? Because I think, you know, when we have people in the community trying to appeal the Director's decision or the SMA decision, like what's happening in Nāpili with that giant house, they don't get charged this, right?

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: I think they would, but there's no way that we can appeal that because the time frame is long overdue.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Yeah, no. I was just using that as a hypothetical. But is that what this would...if you wanted to appeal the Director's decision on something else that you weren't actually building yourself, would you end up paying these fees?

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: I believe so. And the actual cost to process an appeal is \$5,160.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: So we're subsidizing it by 4,000-something.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: So the number that you...that we just proposed is 30 percent of that?

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Yeah. I can do it again on my calculator.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, mahalo, Member King. Chair Lee.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Yeah, I'll be voting no on the motion to raise it, what is that, almost three times or at least double. I think this kind of action requires more discussion before you raise anything to an extreme amount. And my thought is, who asked for the study? Because was it the Council that asked for the study previously? It was you. Okay.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: It was us, not Keani.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay, so...

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: All of us.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: No, no, no. My point is if we asked for the study, when we got the study, we should have...we should have reviewed and discussed it, and then spent a lot

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of time to come to these conclusions rather than do it in ten minutes. You see what I'm saying? So, I mean, you guys go ahead, vote for whatever you want, but I don't...I can't. Not go from 600 to 1,000, \$1,500. That's little too much.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, mahalo, Chair Lee. Member Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Yeah, thank you, Chair. Yeah, just to clarify, right, the Council did put in the money to the Planning two years ago to do the study, and it was to update an earlier one. And so that's why back then we raised it by 25 percent. Because the time...like Member Paltin said, the time to process some of these permits was costing the departments more than the actual fees that were being charged. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Anyone wishing to speak to the motion for the first time? Okay. I think you spoke for the first time, yeah, Member King? Yes. Okay, all right. All right. Okay, I'm going to speak for the first time. Okay. So to reiterate what Member Sinenci said, we asked the Department to conduct the fee rate...Fee Study for cost recovery because the old Fee Study was really old. So we wanted an updated one, and now we got an updated one, and I would like to discuss it in Committee. I...when we had Department Director before us...Planning Department Director before us, she did say that we would need to make decisions on this quickly because the recommendations from the Fee Study at...is such that it would require us to not drag our feet because it's 30 percent, and then 10 percent until we get to 70 percent. Last thing I would like to say before I run out of time is that I think when we start to incorporate more technology, then the cost . . . *(timer sounds)*. . . of the administration of some of these grants, I'm hoping...not grants, sorry, permits, appeals...all these administrative paperwork will hopefully go down, and then we can do an updated cost study, and then hopefully it won't cost over \$5,000 to process these applications for the various things. Okay, mahalo. Anyone else wishing to speak for the first time? Okay, if not, Member King. Oh, Member Molina.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Can go first.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Yeah.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Member Molina.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Yeah, yeah, Madam Chair. You know, I'm kind of teeter-tottering on this proposal. And certainly, we refer to the Fee Study, but I think it's important to emphasize that if, you know, the Department is supportive of fee increases, that the fee increases go along with good service too, yeah? Because I mean, the public expects that, I mean, if you're going to charge more, then the level of service should go along with that too. So, you know, and I understand to offset our own cost, but there are a lot of emphasis should be made that we raise the fees, but we also need to raise the level of service. And this would, you know, generally go for all departments that...whenever fees get raised. So just wanted to share my thoughts on that. Thank you.

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



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COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay. Thank you, Chair. You know, it's a really good discussion, and I do agree. I'm going to support Chair Lee on this one because I do think we need to have this discussion in Committee, and I . . . *(laughing)*. . . that's distracting. And I...yeah, I think that is...I...the one reason I would support this and why I seconded it was because of what was said earlier about shoreline setback appeals, I don't think people should be doing that because, you know, we have a shoreline setback, and no one should be building in front of that. But I get the point that we should be discussing this in Committee and probably having people be able to testify and, you know, watch the deliberation. So I'm going to...I'm going to vote against this now, hoping that it comes to Committee and actually have a full discussion, and then make a plan to move to 30 percent. If we're going to follow the recommendations, let's make a plan that people know we're going to move to 30 percent, and then 10, then 10 until we get to the cost recovery. So . . . *(timer sounds)*. . . oh, that's my time.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member King. Sorry, there's a roach flying around.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: . . . *(inaudible)*. . .

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: I have worse bug problems than you, I think, Member Paltin.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: I don't know.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Roach --

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: All right.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: --was crawling on my back last night.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh, yeah. That was a big roach that was flying around. So I'm sorry, I was going to try to kill it so I stop distracting you guys. Okay, anyone else wishing to speak to the motion? All right. Member Paltin.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: I just wanted to make a comment, like, you know, if you think those are bad, a sign variance actual cost per unit is \$6,037. Like, I mean, crazy stuff here. And just letting you know, I didn't try to change that.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo, Member Paltin. Right. All right, seeing no other hands, okay. Those in...I'll call for the question. All those in favor of the motion, please raise your hand and say "aye." All those...okay. All right, all right, okay, okay. All right, I see Member Sinenci, Member Molina, Member Paltin, Member Johnson, and I think I'm going to vote for it too, then...okay. All right, so that's five. And then all those opposed . . . *(laughing)*. . . please raise your hand and say "no." Okay, Member King, Chair Lee, Member Sugimura. So that's five "ayes," three "noes," Member King, Chair Lee, Member Sugimura, and one excused.

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**VOTE:**        **AYES:**        **Chair Rawlins-Fernandez, Vice-Chair Paltin, and Councilmembers Johnson, Molina, and Sinenci.**

**NOES:**        **Councilmembers King, Lee, and Sugimura.**

**ABSTAIN:**        **None.**

**ABSENT:**        **None.**

**EXC.:**        **Councilmember Kama.**

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**ACTION:     APPROVE**

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Member Paltin, were there any other amendments?

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: The STR one?

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Yeah.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. I'm going to share my screen again. Okay, and then just make the one that you really want to make so we don't have to do two motions on the same one. Okay, Member Paltin.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Oh, were you going to share the screen?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Sorry, it just takes a couple seconds.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Oh, okay. I can pull it up on mine. Okay. All right. I move...

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh, okay.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Yeah, it's on. I move to amend the Short-Term Rental Home Permit, New Application Fee...New Permit Application Fee from \$812.50 to \$857. And if a public hearing is required, I move to amend the additional \$687.50 to \$1,877. And for the Renewal Application Fee, I move to amend the amount of \$375 to \$700.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Moved by Member Paltin, seconded by Member Sinenci. Member Paltin.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: And this is straight out of the Fee Study, 30 percent first year.

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CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo, Member Paltin. Anyone else wishing to speak to the motion? Oh, anyone see Member Molina? Okay, Member King.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Thank you, Chair. No, I just see his square. Let's see, what...oh, my question was public hearing, who determines if a public hearing is required?

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: If you're asking me, I think if there are interveners, maybe, then you're required to hold a public hearing. But I think that most times it is a public hearing, they just have it as a public hearing because that's why they changed the rules up with the Planning Commission that you can't...everybody testify at the front, they want you to testify when your item comes up because for a public hearing, they need to be the applicant, or somebody has to be able to ask you questions too. So if everybody testifies at the front and the applicant's agenda is way down on the end, they moved it so that all the public hearing needs to be . . .*(timer sounds)*. . . maybe Ms. Toshikiyo can answer better.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yeah. Mahalo, Member Paltin. So I think what you're saying is for contested case hearings. So --

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Oh, okay.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: -- all of the...all of those that go before the Planning Commission are contested case hearings.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Don't they all have to go through Planning Commission? Because Planning Commission approves all short-term rental home permits, right?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: I'm going to call on Ms. Toshikiyo.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Ms. Toshikiyo?

MS. TOSHIKIYO: Thank you, Chair, for the question. I will have to say that I'm not familiar with the Planning Commission or Planning Department, so I would have to look up that answer for you if you could give me a moment.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo, Ms. Toshikiyo. Okay, my one minute. Okay. So to speak to the new application fee and then if a public hearing is required. So I think...oops, oops. So when there's new application fees...sorry, when there's new permit applications, it was...there was a ability for it to be...no, you know what, I'm not going to speak to that. All right. I'm just going to...I saw a hand. Member Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: I...we're trying to look it up. It was either neighbor opposition or within the 500 feet of another STRH.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: That sounds right.

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CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: I'm sorry, Member Sinenci, what were you saying?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: That either neighbor opposition or within the...oh, okay, it's 1965.050 Section. The applicant for short-term rental home permit shall submit an application. The Director shall approve or deny. And the...if the Director receives two or more written protests from the owners or lessees or have record of two or more lots adjacent to or directly across the street from the driveway access area, or the proposed short-term rental home.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Those trigger a public hearing? . . .*(timer sounds)*. . . Is that what he's saying?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Sinenci. Otherwise, it would be administratively approved by the Director. Okay. Okay, any other...anyone else wishing to speak to the motion? All right, seeing none, we'll call for the question. All those in favor of the motion, please raise your hand and say "aye." Okay, all those opposed? Okay. All right, Member Paltin, you didn't vote, but I'm going to assume that you said aye. It looks like Member Molina say aye.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Aye, yeah.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. And then we have one...one in opposition, Chair Lee. Okay, so, seven "ayes," one "no," Chair Lee, and one excused.

<b>VOTE:</b>	<b>AYES:</b>	<b>Chair Rawlins-Fernandez, Vice-Chair Paltin, and Councilmembers Johnson, King, Molina, Sinenci, and Sugimura.</b>
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<b>NOES:</b>	<b>Councilmember Lee.</b>
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<b>ABSTAIN:</b>	<b>None.</b>
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<b>ABSENT:</b>	<b>None.</b>
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<b>EXC.:</b>	<b>Councilmember Kama.</b>
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**MOTION CARRIED.**

**ACTION:     APPROVAL**

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: All right. So that is everything that we received in that...is this an ASF...in the proposal, in Member Paltin's proposal. Are there any other proposals to amend Rates and Fees? All right, I'll ask for consensus.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Consensus.

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COUNCILMEMBER KING: Consensus.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Consensus, but I have a question.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. All right, consensus. Chair Lee.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: How do you calculate that as income to the Budget? How do you calculate that?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: You mean, how do we project how much it would generate?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Yeah.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh, okay. So I asked Director McLean this question, and she said she doesn't.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Oh, no...never mind. Has nothing to do with them. I...every time you add to the Budget, it's split amongst the Members, right?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh, I see, I see.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Yeah, yeah, yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: . . .*(laughing)*. . .

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: So when I asked this question about how they estimate how much General Fund is generated from her Department...so when Member Paltin had the pre-Budget review, I asked Director...Planning Director, what kind of shortfalls she experienced, and she said that they didn't have shortfall because they don't do projections, and so they don't estimate revenue. So I...unfortunately, this is more of a policy decision that doesn't have any added...

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: I'm so glad. . . .*(laughing)*. . .

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: . . .*(laughing)*. . . You're welcome.

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**MEMBERS' PRIORITY PROPOSALS**

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. All right. We're on the next section and...Member Paltin --

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: How about --

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: -- are you speaking?

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VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: -- Prosecuting Attorney. That might be easy.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh, we're not done with Planning.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Oh, shucks. Okay.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: I know, I know. I wish we were done too. Okay. One, two, three, four...four proposals, and we can do the same thing. We'll do...so there's number 51 Member Molina, increase Planning by 3 EP, and this is...it goes with Member King's also to staff the new Advisory Committees. Okay --

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Okay.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: -- your motion.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Yes. Thank you, Madam Chair. I move to increase Planning by 120,000 for 3 EPs, two Planners and one secretary, for staffing the Advisory Committees. Members, this comes under Budget Details page 14-8 and Code 909010A, Planning Administration. And if I get a second, I'll explain my proposal.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Second. Second.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Moved by Member Molina, seconded by Chair Lee. Member Molina.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Thank you, Madam Chair. And thank you, Chair Lee, for the second. You know, Planning has indicated that if the advisory committees were to be established, additional staff would be required. And the Planning Director indicated that three EPs, a Planning Supervising Planner, Planner, and Secretary, are required to staff the advisory committees. My original proposal prior to this was 250,000 and...which consisted of 150,000 for three EPs and 100,000 for operation and equipment expenses. But according to the Director, the appropriation for staffing the committees for nine to ten months will be 240,000. So therefore, I'm revising my initial request for half at the recommendation of the Director and, of course, the other half will be coming to us from the request of my colleague, Member King. And so that is basically it. And the communities of both our respective areas, the North Shore and South Maui, have been very vocal about the need to establish these advisory committees so I'm hoping we can move forward . . .*(timer sounds)*. . . with this and get this going. Thank you, Madam Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Molina. Okay, shall I just call for the question?

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Oh, Chair?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Okay. Member King, and then...

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COUNCILMEMBER KING: Yeah, okay. Well, I was just concerned because we each put 120,000, but I didn't...we didn't have the fringe in here. So I don't know if that's necessary to try to calculate before we...I just put 120,000 plus fringe because I didn't know what the salaries were for those three EPs.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Is that a problem?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: So I think it's...

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Because some of this money here, I think, is equipment, right, Member Molina? Some of it's...

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: There's no equipment money?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Let's check with Budget Director.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Maybe she has some information for us. Budget Director?

MS. YOSHIMURA: Chair, there was a transmittal to the Committee dated April 15th from the Planning Director, PL-1. She is requesting additional funding, so a total of \$254,500. She gives a breakdown of the staff that's going to be needed, the supplies, and the office equipment, furniture, and additional rental space. So that's been transmitted to the Committee for your review. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo --

COUNCILMEMBER KING: . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: -- Budget Director. Okay. So it's 191,250 for the salaries, 168,453 for fringe, 63,250 for B and C accounts, for 254,500 plus the 127,250 for . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Oh, sorry, Madam Chair. So I guess I would revise my proposal to 127,000, and I presume that that would be with the equipment now with this revised figure from the Planning Director...Madam Chair, if I may ask the Director?

MS. YOSHIMURA: Chair.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Budget Director.

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MS. YOSHIMURA: Yes. On page 2 is the breakdown for office supplies, rent, office equipment, and office furniture. Thank you.

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

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Member King.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Didn't she...did you say that the fringe was 127,000?

MS. YOSHIMURA: Chair. Do, the...

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Budget Director.

MS. YOSHIMURA: Councilmember Molina, I think, said his share now would be 127,000 because it's the 254 divided by two.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay, so the 254 includes the fringe is what you're saying?

MS. YOSHIMURA: That does not include fringe. And fringe gets added to the Countywide cost in Department of Finance, right?

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay, so that's what I was asking Chair, is do we need to add fringe in too at this stage?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: The 254 includes fringe.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: No, she said it doesn't.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Ms. Milner, will you please share the letter? I was looking for it on Granicus, and I can't find it.

MS. MILNER: Yeah, just a moment, Chair. The letter had 191,250 for salary and 63,250 for the equipment. And then when you also add in the 168,453, that's when you get the 254 amount, but I will pull up that letter. Just give me one moment.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. The...

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Now, that's for two? For two? Is that for two, or one? Two people?

MS. MILNER: That's for three people.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Three people.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yeah, so we'll get the letter up in just a second. Okay. Does anyone...

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Is this a combined vote, or just...they're going to separate the vote?



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CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: So this is both of their priorities. Do any of the Members need to wait for the final fringe information? Because I think the Members are going to vote for this even if --

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Yeah.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: -- it was \$10,000 more. Okay, I'm going to call for the question Members because it's 9:18. All those in favor of the motion, please raise your hand and say "aye."

COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, eight "ayes," zero "noes," one excused. Ms. Milner, if you can just copy and paste it into the chat for Members to be able to pull up on their own?

<b>VOTE:</b>	<b>AYES:</b>	<b>Chair Rawlins-Fernandez, Vice-Chair Paltin, and Councilmembers Johnson, King, Lee, Molina, Sinenci, and Sugimura.</b>
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<b>NOES:</b>	<b>None.</b>
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<b>ABSTAIN:</b>	<b>None.</b>
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<b>ABSENT:</b>	<b>None.</b>
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<b>EXC.:</b>	<b>Councilmember Kama.</b>
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**MOTION CARRIED.**

**ACTION:    APPROVE**

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, I'm going to the next one --

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Thank you, Members.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: -- it's...mahalo, Member Molina. Mahalo, Member King. Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Is that both of them that we just approved?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Both of what?

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Mine and Member Molina's?

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CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: It's...

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Passed.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: We were going to do them separately.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: It's the same thing, right?

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Yeah. But they were just on two different lines. We just approved both of those?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Yeah.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: It's the same thing. Okay. All right. Number 52 is a proposal from Member King. Conditional language for the SMA Revolving Fund up to 175,000 for a shoreline access study to identify potential obstructed shoreline areas, and access [sic] lateral shoreline access and access point pathways, and make recommendations for County action. Would like to make that motion?

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Yes. I move that we approve up to 175,000 and this is a Countywide --

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

COUNCILMEMBER KING: What?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: So moved.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: You can just say so moved.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Oh, so moved.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Second.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, moved by Member King, seconded by Chair Lee. Member King.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay. Well, we discussed this in Committee, but this is basically built on the part of our Code that says the public has the right of access to and along all beaches and shoreline in the State situated below the upper region of the wash of the waves. It's actually HRS sections 115-4 and 115-5. And so we know that there's been obstructions in the access to beaches in some areas, and this would give us the start of the study to identify traps with shoreline that have the most troubles and make

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recommendations for actions to take to get that access back for the public. And this is Countywide.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Anyone else wishing to speak to the motion? Member Paltin.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: I just was wondering, you know in West Maui we have some lawsuits being brought forward by Na Papa'i Wawae 'Ula'ula, I think is who. And so if the study identifies landowners who illegally gated off beach access, would our Corp. Counsel be able to represent the County to say, hey, you're violating the State law?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Is that question for Ms. Toshikiyo?

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Yes, please.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Ms. Toshikiyo?

MS. TOSHIKIYO: Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Did you hear the question?

MS. TOSHIKIYO: Can you please repeat it, Member Paltin? And I would have to say that I don't know if I'm going to know the answer, and that's something that I would definitely have to check with my supervisor about since I don't handle the litigation side.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Okay. You know in West Maui, there's a group called Na Papa'i Wawae 'Ula'ula, and they have filed suit against some property owners who have illegally blocked access to the shoreline. And if this study were to identify areas that have been illegally blocked, could Corp. Counsel then, on behalf of the County of Maui, represent that they're violating the State Law?

MS. TOSHIKIYO: Okay, I can't speak definitively, but I can say that we would evaluate and, you know, decide and determine whether...what kind of the violations were, and whether or not we should proceed with any litigation. So I can't say yes or no, but it's certainly something that we would consider.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: And sometimes it's not even the State access, it's violation of a condition of a permit or other things too, but in the past...

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Member Paltin, your time is up.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Oh, okay. Never mind.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Anyone else wishing to speak to the motion? Member King, for your second and final.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: For my second and final, I just wanted to give you the scope of work which would be undertaken, which is in this proposal. Survey coastal access ability by

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the public in segments of the coastline, identify sections of private ownership where the public has physical access in accordance with State law, but which...where there is no signage indicating that this is the case or the signage indicates the public does not have access. Identify sections of private ownership where the public does not have physical access in accordance with State law, and propose action to rectify access for each of the sections identified as either not providing access in accordance with State law, or not indicating the public has access.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, mahalo, Member King. Anyone else wishing to speak to the motion? Seeing no hands, I'll call...oh, Member Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Yeah, just for clarification, there's two plan review permit inspection funds, and so this one would be the...

COUNCILMEMBER KING: SMA Fund. It's just the SMA Revolving Fund.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: SMA Fund. Okay, thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: All right. Anyone else? Seeing no hands, I'll call for the question. All those in favor of the motion, please raise your hand and say "aye."

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Aye.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aye. Okay. Any opposed? Okay, eight "ayes," zero "noes," one excused.

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

**NOES:       None.**

**ABSTAIN:   None.**

**ABSENT:   None.**

**EXC.:       Councilmember Kama.**

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**ACTION:    APPROVE**

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: All right. And then...all right. Okay. For the benefit of the public, I'll quickly share my screen for the previous motion that was approved. Okay. So here's the 255,000, 191,000 for those Planning positions...the three planning positions, the equipment and supply, 63,250, okay. Okay. And that was for the 3 EP,

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two Planners, one Secretary, for the Pā‘ia-Ha‘ikū and South Maui Advisory Committees. All right. We'll go to the last priority...we'll go to the last priority proposal. Okay, Member Paltin, conditional language. SMA Revolving Fund up to 67,000 must be used for Nāpili Bay and Beach Foundation for the construction of new above-grade TREX type decking path to spare more headland erosion by foot traffic. Would you like to make that motion?

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: So moved.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, moved by Member Paltin, seconded by Chair Lee, and everyone else, okay. Member Paltin, would you like to speak to your motion?

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Yes please. Pat Lindquist and the Nāpili Bay Beach Foundation has sent in written testimony a couple of times, and they have been working on this project for a little over two years now. The entirety of the project includes State and County funds, as well as private donations. The entire project also removed failed concrete stairs, design and permit new public access stairs resilient to erosion, public beach shower rain garden, and as well as the decking, which will prevent further impairment of water quality at Nāpili Bay by reducing sedimentation. This was my wildcard one, so if you hadn't heard of it before.

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

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Member Paltin, is this the project that when we were talking about the CFD, Pat Lindquist came and testified. Is this the same, or is it different?

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Totally different. The one she was...Nāpili Bay beach sand replenishment, I think that was.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Oh, okay. Okay. So this is in addition to.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo, Member Sugimura. Anyone else wishing...Member Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Yeah. Thank you. So is this just kind of like the plastic boardwalk, or this will be actually in the water?

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Member Paltin.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: It will not be in the water. On the south side of Nāpili Bay, there were a pair of stairs going down, it was concrete and for, like, long time they had just collapsed, and they were just rubble. And so they've already removed the rubble, but to get to where the stairs are to come around, you need to kind of get through all the hotels and things like that, and so it was...the way the path was, was kind of like...just like, you know, kind of like a worn, like, little kind of dirt foot path. And when it rains a lot...so the erosion...so this will be above-grade coming in from the south side TREX, TREX decking, it's like a trademark.

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COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Okay. Thank you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Member Sinenci. Anyone else wishing to speak to the motion. Okay. I will quickly just make note that in the SMA Revolving Fund, there's projected to be a total of \$641,177, in case anyone was wondering if the 175 plus the 67 would be able to be funded under this revolving fund. It has enough funding, okay. All right, seeing no other hands to speak to the motion, I'm going to call for the question. All those in favor of the motion, please raise your hand and say "aye." Okay. All right. I see eight "ayes," zero "noes," one excused.

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

**NOES:       None.**

**ABSTAIN:   None.**

**ABSENT:    None.**

**EXC.:       Councilmember Kama.**

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**ACTION:     APPROVE**

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**DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING**

Grant Revenue  
Special Purpose Revenue

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: All right, that was the last priority proposal from the Members. Okay, and Grant Revenue, Certified Local Grant [sic] Program, Coastal Zone Management Program. Okay, consensus?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Yeah, consensus.

COUNCILMEMBERS: Raised their hands in consensus.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: All right. And the last is the SMA Revolving Fund that we just added two conditions to. Any other amendments? Consensus?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Consensus.

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COUNCILMEMBERS: Raised their hands in consensus.

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CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Beautiful. Okay, and there's no proposed legislation under this Department. All right, Members, ready to take up Parks? Just kidding, just kidding, just kidding...or not? . . .*(laughing)*. . . I'm just kidding, I'm just kidding. For real kine. All right. And I won't ask if you want to take up Prosecuting Attorney either unless you want to. . . .*(laughing)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Yeah. No, don't ask. . . .*(laughing)*. . .

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: All right. Okay, Members. I hear you, I hear you. Okay, it's 9:30. Really quick. So we're kind of on schedule-ish. We were supposed to take up Parks and Rec today, but instead, we did a swap of Personnel Services and Planning, and so we'll take up Parks tomorrow, followed by Police and Prosecuting Attorney. And if possible, we can take up Public Works. We'll see where we're at. So for tomorrow, Parks and Recreation, Police, Prosecuting Attorney, and then maybe Public Works. Okay, any questions? Member Paltin.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: If the Members are amenable, I would a little bit request that we take Water...I mean, sorry, not water, Transportation up tomorrow just because of the second vaccine, if I'm going to be able to make my priority proposal at the appropriate time if I'm on the pali or puking or whatever it is.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Sure, why not.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, so...okay, so here's the plan then for tomorrow. Parks and Recreation, Police, Prosecuting Attorney, and then maybe Transportation. Okay, and then we'll save Public Works and Water Supply for Friday unless we're just like speeding ahead, and then we can just take it up on Thursday too. We'll see where we're at. We'll play it by ear. Okay, all right. Okay, so that's...that'll be the plan for tomorrow, Parks and Rec, Police, Prosecuting Attorney, and possibly Transportation. All right, and then Public Works and Water Supply for Friday. Okay, any other comments, questions before we adjourn?

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Question.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: One last question.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Member King.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay, sorry to prolong it. Just so...on the last day, is Friday considered the last day if we're finishing up with...is that the day you want to do the revisits? Put some of the things aside to...okay. Just checking.

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CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yeah, and so they're...they're not revisits, they're reconsiderations.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Right.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Or they are the items under the Affording Housing Fund.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Because we're going to be discussing RPT as well, and then that way the Members will have a full idea of how we would fund priority proposals, and then that way we can make an informed decision on the Affordable Housing Fund priority proposals.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay. I just...I had the one proposal that wasn't voted on, so I wanted to be able to talk about that...the SRF Fund.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh, okay.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Right, you said we'll take it up at the end.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Good night, everybody.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Good night.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Nice seeing you.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, it's...we'll see everyone --

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Come again soon.

CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: -- at 9:00. Okay, tomorrow morning 9:00. It's 9:34, April 21st. The Budget, Finance, and Economic Development Committee is now adjourned. . .  
*.(gavel).* . .

**ADJOURN:** 9:34 p.m.



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APPROVED:



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

bfed:min:210421:

Transcribed by: Kaliko Reed, Daniel Schoenbeck,  
Terianne Arreola & Crystal Sakai

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**Council of the County of Maui**

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CERTIFICATIONS

I, Kaliko Reed, hereby certify that pages 1 through 34 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.

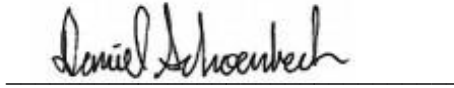
DATED the 7th day of June 2021, in Wailuku, Hawai'i



Kaliko Reed

I, Daniel Schoenbeck, hereby certify that pages 34 through 85 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 7th day of June 2021, in Kula, Hawai'i



Daniel Schoenbeck

I, Terianne Arreola, hereby certify that pages 85 through 128 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.

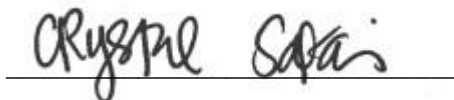
DATED the 7th day of June 2021, in Wailuku, Hawai'i.



Terianne Arreola

I, Crystal Sakai, hereby certify that pages 128 through 188 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 7th day of June 2021, in Wailuku, Hawai'i



Crystal Sakai