

# **AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMITTEE**

**Council of the County of Maui**

## **MINUTES**

**June 7, 2021**

**Online via BlueJeans Link**

**CONVENE:** 1:32 p.m.

**PRESENT:** VOTING MEMBERS:

Councilmember Gabe Johnson, Chair  
Councilmember Michael J. Molina, Vice-Chair (out 4:12 p.m.)  
Councilmember Tasha Kama  
Councilmember Alice L. Lee (out 3:35 p.m.)  
Councilmember Tamara Paltin  
Councilmember Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez  
Councilmember Shane M. Sinenci

**EXCUSED:** Councilmember Kelly Takaya King  
Councilmember Yuki Lei K. Sugimura

**STAFF:** David Raatz, Supervising Legislative Attorney  
James Forrest, Legislative Attorney  
Shelly Espeleta, Supervising Legislative Analyst  
Alison Stewart, Legislative Analyst  
Ana Lillis, Legislative Analyst  
Rayna Yap, Committee Secretary  
Jean Pokipala, Committee Secretary  
Kristeena Locke, OCS Assistant Clerk

Evan Dust, Executive Assistant for Councilmember Tasha Kama  
Davideane Sickels, Executive Assistant for Councilmember Tasha Kama  
Kate Griffiths, Executive Assistant for Councilmember Gabe Johnson  
Axel Beers, Executive Assistant for Councilmember Kelly Takaya King  
Ellen McKinley, Executive Assistant for Councilmember Kelly Takaya King  
Stacey Moniz, Executive Assistant for Councilmember Gabe Johnson  
Roxanne Morita, Lanai District Office  
Sarah Freistat-Pajimola, Executive Assistant for Councilmember Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez

# **AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMITTEE**

## **Council of the County of Maui**

**June 7, 2021**

---

**ADMIN.:** Lori Tsuhako, Director, Department of Housing and Human Concerns (AH-21, AH-8)  
Linda Munsell, Deputy Director, Department of Housing and Human Concerns (AH-21, AH-8)  
Jordan Hart, Deputy Director, Department of Planning (AH-21)  
Shayne Agawa, Deputy Director, Department of Environmental Management (AH-21)  
Jeffrey Pearson, Director, Department of Water Supply (AH-21)  
Mimi DesJardins, Deputy Corporation Counsel, Department of the Corporation Counsel (AH-21, AH-8)

**OTHERS:** Darrilyn Alvarez (AH-21)  
Tom Cook (AH-21)  
Lisa Darcy, Share Your Mana (AH-8)  
Kaipo Kekona (AH-21)  
Kanani Higbee (AH-21)  
Junya Nakoa (AH-21)  
Tiare Lawrence (AH-21)  
Archie Kalepa (AH-21)  
Kekai Keahi (AH-21)  
Kai Nishiki (AH-21)  
Stewart Matsunaga, Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (AH-21)  
Andrew Choy, Planning Administrator, Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (AH-21)  
Julie-Ann Cachola, Planner, Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (AH-21)  
Blossom Feiteira, beneficiary advocate (AH-21)  
Kekoa Enomoto, Director, Pa'upena Community Development Corp. (AH-21)  
Paul Cheng, USAI Investments, developer of the Pulelehua Project (AH-21)  
Preston Cheng, USAI Investments, developer of the Pulelehua Project (AH-21)  
Toni Eaton (AH-21)

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

---

CHAIR JOHNSON: . . .(*gavel*). . . Aloha. Will the Affordable Housing Committee of June 7th, 2021 please come to order. The time is 1:32 p.m. I'm Gabe Johnson, Committee Chair. Thank you all for joining us today. If you would please silence your cell phones and other devices at this time. Please also note that the information on online connectivity and related procedures can be found on the last page of the agenda. Members, today...we have with us today Committee Vice-Chair Mike Molina.

VICE-CHAIR MOLINA: Aloha, Mr. Chairman.

**AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMITTEE**  
**Council of the County of Maui**

**June 7, 2021**

---

CHAIR JOHNSON: Aloha.

VICE-CHAIR MOLINA: I hope everyone is having a good day. I forgot our greeting of the day again. Is it wala wala [sic], I think it was?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Hala wallah.

VICE-CHAIR MOLINA: Hala wallah. Okay. Wala wala, that's a name of a place, I think, on the mainland, yeah?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Yeah.

VICE-CHAIR MOLINA: All right. Thank you. Good to be here.

CHAIR JOHNSON: Walla Walla, Washington, right? I think that's what you're referring to.

VICE-CHAIR MOLINA: There you go.

CHAIR JOHNSON: All right. Next we've got Committee...or Councilmember Tasha Kama. Aloha.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Good afternoon, Chair, and hala wallah to you and everyone else.

CHAIR JOHNSON: Hala wallah. The pronunciation is on point. Good afternoon. Next we have Councilmember Kelly...oh, Kelly Takaya King might be a little bit late today. Moving on, we have Council Chair Alice Lee.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Mr. Chairman, hala wallah to you, and to everyone.

CHAIR JOHNSON: Hala wallah. Next we have Councilmember Tamara Paltin. Hello, Councilmember Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Hala wallah...I mean, aloha 'auinalā kākou, mai Maui komohana.

CHAIR JOHNSON: Okay. Then next we have Council Vice-Chair Keani Rawlins-Fernandez. Aloha, hala wallah.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aloha 'auinalā, Chair, mai Molokai nui a Hina, and hala wallah kākou.

CHAIR JOHNSON: All right. Next we have from Hāna, Councilmember Shane Sinenci. Aloha, hala wallah.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Hala wallah, Chair. And aloha 'auinalā kākou, mai Maui Hikina.

CHAIR JOHNSON: Okay. And today we also have Councilmember Yuki Lei Sugimura excused. Okay. From the Administration, we have Deputy Director of Housing and Human

**AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMITTEE**  
**Council of the County of Maui**

**June 7, 2021**

---

Concerns with us today, Linda Munsell. Aloha. Next we have...let's see here...Managing Director Sandy Baz, even though I know he's on a limited time, he should be here. Let's see, next we have Planning Director Michele McLean. Aloha. From the Department of Environmental Management, we have Shayne Agawa. Aloha, Shayne. And from the Deputy...or Department of Water Supply, we have...Director Pearson is here today. Aloha. Then we also have Deputy Corporation Counsel Mimi DesJardins.

MS. DESJARDIN: Aloha, everyone.

CHAIR JOHNSON: So our Committee Staff here is Legislative Analyst Alison Stewart. Next we have Committee Secretary Rayna Yap, Legislative Attorney James Forrest, and Assistant Clerk Jean Pokipala. All right. So today we have an agenda. So let's begin with our public testimony. Today we have two items on the agenda: AH-21 Water and Sewer Credits to the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands for Homestead and Agricultural Lots in Lāhainā; and AH-8 County-Owned Parcel on North Papa Avenue (Former College Dorm Site (Kahului)). Testifiers can join the BlueJeans meeting using the information on the agenda. Written testimony can be sent using the eComment link at [mauicounty.us/agendas](http://mauicounty.us/agendas). Oral testimony is limited to three minutes per item. While waiting for your turn to testify, please turn off your microphone and video. When you are called upon, please unmute yourself and state your name for the record, and if you are testifying on behalf of an organization or if you are a paid lobbyist. If you have joined this meeting on BlueJeans, Staff will add to your name the testifiers list. The link to the list will be posted in the chat. The BlueJeans chat should not be used to provide commentary or engage in conversation during the meeting. If you do not wish to testify, or once testimony is closed, you will be disconnected from BlueJeans. Please continue to view the meeting on *Akakū* Channel 53, Facebook Live, or on the [mauicounty.us](http://mauicounty.us) website. Mahalo for your cooperation. Members, I would like to proceed with oral testimony. Ms. Stewart, will you please call the first testifier.

**. . .(BEGIN PUBLIC TESTIMONY). . .**

MS. STEWART: The first person on the testifiers list is Darrilyn Alvarez, to be followed by Tom Cook.

MS. ALVAREZ: Aloha.

CHAIR JOHNSON: Hello.

MS. ALVAREZ: My name is Darrilyn Alvarez of Lāhainā, Maui. I am submitting testimony in support of the renewal and extension of water and sewer credits to the DHHL for Hawaiian Homestead and Agricultural lots in Lāhainā. This Resolution provides the County of Maui and any other respective members of Hawaii State's Legislature to do right by and provide support to the Hawaiian population and the DHHL by providing water rights, agricultural lots, and most importantly, the opportunity for the Hawaiian people to become self-sustainable, self-efficient and self-determining within Pae 'Āina O Hawai'i, just as Prince Kūhiō intended and outlined in his introduction of House

**AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMITTEE**  
**Council of the County of Maui**

**June 7, 2021**

---

Resolution 13500, the Hawaiian Rehabilitation Bill. It is my intention to also hold the County of Maui and its Members accountable to uphold the Countywide Policy Plan approved by Ordinance 3732 that includes the following policy: Support the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands Development of Homestead Lands. It is my understanding that the Resolution would alleviate houselessness, food insecurity, and improve the quality of life by waitlisters. It would assist in revitalizing the local economy that has been hugely impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic by capitalizing on the collaboration between the States, the County, and private entities to provide sources for housing and agriculture. I am pleading with the Councilmembers to please consider the thousands of Hawaiians who die on the DHHL waitlist or grow too old to malama the lands they are awarded. I ask that you please do everything in your power to kākou all Hawaiians everywhere. Mahalo for your time.

CHAIR JOHNSON: Thank you, Darri (*phonetic*), for that informative testimony. I want to ask the Members if they have any questions for you. Members, any questions for Darri? Seeing none. Thank you for your testimony. Aloha. Thanks again. Alison, will you please call the next testifier.

MS. STEWART: Next on the list is Tom Cook, followed by Lisa Darcy.

MR. COOK: Aloha, Council Chair, Councilmembers. Can you hear me?

CHAIR JOHNSON: Loud and clear, Mr. Cook. Go ahead with your testimony. Aloha.

MR. COOK: Aloha. Excellent. I am taking a break of work. I felt strongly about this. I'm supportive of both of the issues today. Although our State and local Government are separate entities, and DHHL is for the Hawaiian Homestead, we are one community, and I think that sharing the resources is appropriate and necessary. I am very supportive of both issues and I hope that you vote the same to be supportive. Aloha.

CHAIR JOHNSON: Thank you, Mr. Cook. Do we have any questions for our testifier? Seeing none. Thank you for your time, Mr. Cook.

MR. COOK: Thank you all.

CHAIR JOHNSON: Alison, will you please call the next testifier. Thank you.

MS. STEWART: The next testifier is Lisa Darcy, to be followed by Kaipo Kekona.

MS. DARCY: Good afternoon, Chair and Council. My name is Lisa Darcy. I'm the founder of Share your Mana, and I'm here to testify on AH-8. I hope you're having a lovely afternoon, and your lunch has settled. I am very much looking forward to the presentation regarding, I believe it's Hui Au, the dorms that were refurbished. One of the pieces that I do hope that this presentation will address is access to the information and how to actually...hey Shane, get back here, where did you go. Anyway, I'm hoping that we will get answers to understanding how people access these new and wonderful additions to our community. Many community members ask me how to apply, and why

# **AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMITTEE**

## **Council of the County of Maui**

**June 7, 2021**

---

they aren't chosen, and why they aren't selected. And this is a major issue throughout all of our housing. It's very hard to figure out who is eligible for what, and it's also very hard to figure out where people go to actually sign up for these. Are there waitlists? And if there aren't waitlists, we should have waitlists for everything because it's just so hard for people who are unsheltered or living in any of these conditions to keep following up. So I do hope that this presentation will take that very seriously and address the lack of transparency in who gets selected, how people get selected, where do you even find the application. I looked at some websites, I couldn't find anything. If I can't find it, I know somebody who is living unhoused isn't going to be able to. So please take this into consideration. And anything that you can do to help the community to access this kind of information and have a lot more transparency will go a long ways to helping people feel supported. So thank you very much.

CHAIR JOHNSON: Thank you, Ms. Darcy, for your testimony. Members, do you have any questions for Ms. Darcy? Seeing none. Thank you for your time once again, Lisa.

MS. DARCY: Thank you.

CHAIR JOHNSON: Alison, will you please call the next testifier.

MS. STEWART: The next testifier is Kaipo Kekona, to be followed by the caller with the last four digits...oh, sorry...to be followed by Kanani Higbee.

MR. KEKONA: Aloha 'auinalā. My name is Kaipo Kekona. I live in Nāpili, Lāhainā, Maui. I just wanted to, you know, thank you guys first for having this on the agenda. I'm testifying on behalf of the issues with DHHL, water credits and sewage credits. You know, for as long as I know of this project in Lāhainā, first of all, it's the only homestead...normally, you know, we get really bad locations for our homestead properties awarded to the beneficiaries, and this is by far, in my opinion, throughout the State one of the best locations to be in, as far as our rain consistency, of course the solar health is depleted and abused, but you know, the County's water treatment facility rests on top of DHHL properties. And when that . . . *(inaudible)*. . . was made, the facilities was established, there was an agreement with DHHL and the County, and I believe water credits was within that agreement. And somehow those water credits were lost along the time frame, and ended up gobbled up by some larger hotel developments in Kā'anapali and in the area depending on that system. And, you know, it's unfortunate that we even have to come to the point where we have to not...I don't want to say ask to have these credits considered, it should already be required of the County to provide those, based on the historical track of what took place to have that facility established there on DHHL lands. And as great as the place may be, it can be as great as we want it to be; but without any water, was even more of a challenge for us to have water, is not going to...is not helping with us to be successful as natives on our own lands that we have...what little we have left. And I hope that you guys all can see that this is...shouldn't even be a debatable issue, and I'm hoping that it's just on the agenda to go through the proper requirements and get that line item back in place. And yeah, that's what I think needs to be done. And I appreciate all of your guys' time and effort and making the opportunity available to hear from us in our community. It's the only

# **AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMITTEE**

## **Council of the County of Maui**

**June 7, 2021**

---

homestead ag lots that we have left. We're supposed to have them up in Leiali'i as well, and those kind of went through with different development situations through Kā'anapali Development Corp., and I'd just hate to see anything else hinder us any further. The people that are applicants on this list have dreamed and waited for a long time to actually have...you know, many of them are people of Lāhainā. Many of them have waited a long time for this opportunity, and I hope that that can still continue forward and we have an opportunity to be a little more self-sustaining and . . . *(timer sounds)*. . . continue to share with our community. Mahalo.

CHAIR JOHNSON: Mahalo, Kaipo, for your testimony. Members, do you have any questions for Kaipo? Seeing none. Thank you once again for your informative testimony, Kaipo. Alison, will you please call the next testifier.

MS. STEWART: The next testifier is Kanani Higbee, to be followed by Junya Nakoa.

MS. HIGBEE: Aloha. My name is Kanani Higbee. I'm testifying on AH-21, I believe, the water credits. The reason for my testimony is my family and I, we have many people on the list of Hawaiian Homes. We're all waiting for Lāhainā. My family is from Lāhainā, and we would like to live here. We're very involved with the community. And we have some of our family that moved away from Hawai'i because it's just been very expensive living here. I work for the Census every ten years, and half of the Hawaiians that exist, exist outside the State of Hawai'i because the cost of living is too expensive. Real estate is too expensive. Hawaiian Homes is an opportunity for us to be able to live here, and it was passed...the Hawaiian Home Commission Act was passed in 1920 because the State saw fit that--well, actually, it was the United States because it wasn't a State then--that Native Hawaiians needed rehabilitation from being pushed out of their land, their resources, they didn't have water. So this was an opportunity to rehabilitate. And the State has failed considerably. Only 9,000 lots have been honored for the past 100 years, 28,000 people are on the list currently, tens of thousands have died. In order to clear the list, it'll take over 100 years. People guarantee will die because you have to be 18 to be on that list. So with that said, I strongly urge the County Council to allow us to have the water credits because that's one of the largest obstacles to getting on the land. And rather than put so much money into prisons...because 40 percent of the inmates are Native Hawaiians, and they're suffering from substance use disorder, which they have gotten because they are a displaced people from their lands. They are people who are suffering, and they're more susceptible to substance use disorder. And a way to help that...help them prosper is to honor the Hawaiian Home Commission Act. Get them on the land so they can reconnect with their identity. Land is a huge part of the Native Hawaiian identity. It would be a very good way to help the Native Hawaiian people. And...yeah, so if you can do that. . . . *(timer sounds)*. . . Thank you very much for your time.

CHAIR JOHNSON: Thank you, Kanani, for your testimony. Members, do you have any questions? Seeing none. Thank you once again. Alison, will you please call the next testifier.

MS. STEWART: The next...the next testifier is Junya Nakoa, to be followed by Viola Gasco.

**AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMITTEE**  
**Council of the County of Maui**

**June 7, 2021**

---

MR. NAKOA: Howzit. Can you hear me? Yeah.

CHAIR JOHNSON: Yeah, we can hear you Junya.

MR. NAKOA: . . .*(inaudible)*. . . Yeah. Give us the credit for the water and the sewage. No give the Hawaiian Home Land guys one excuse not for give us this project. You know, help them out. Just give us the credits or whoever the credits, so we can get on the land 'cause I know plenty people been passing away on the list. I been on the list for 45 years, and I like go live over there. So sell it quick, build the buggah. Give them water credits, I mean. Shoot.

CHAIR JOHNSON: Okay, Junya. Members, do we have any questions? Seeing none. Thank you for your testimony, Junya. Aloha. Alison, will you please call the next testifier.

MS. STEWART: The next testifier is Viola Gasco, to be followed by Namea Hoshino. Chair, it seems as if Viola has disconnected. So the next testifier is Namea Hoshino, to be followed by Tiare Lawrence.

CHAIR JOHNSON: That was Hoshina is that was the name that you used?

MS. STEWART: Hoshino...

CHAIR JOHNSON: Hoshino.

MS. STEWART: ...and they also just dropped off.

CHAIR JOHNSON: Okay.

MS. STEWART: So the next testifier is Tiare Lawrence.

MS. LAWRENCE: Aloha. Can you hear me?

CHAIR JOHNSON: Yes, we can, Tiare.

MS. LAWRENCE: Okay. Mahalo for having this meeting today. I just wanted to testify in support of AH-21 for DHHL credits. And I just wanted to say, my mother passed away almost two years ago. She was on the list for well over 30 years, and she was on the list for Honokowai Farm for ag lots. And it really saddens us because a lot of families that...from the West side, a lot of people have died on the list and unfortunately . . .*(inaudible)*. . . 50 percent Hawaiian, we are unable to receive that lot now. And I'd hate to see another Hawaiian die on that list waiting for a home. Secondly, you know, when we talk about affordable housing, the best way that the County could...and the County and the State could achieve affordable housing lots is by supporting DHHL because we have the land. We have thousands of acres available statewide to put people on 'āina. And it's unfortunate all the bureaucracy that happens, you know, with DHHL. But one way that the County can be very supportive of affordable housing is to honor these



# **AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMITTEE**

## **Council of the County of Maui**

**June 7, 2021**

---

credits and to also consider putting in funding to support infrastructure upgrades and installation of the infrastructure needed in these developments. You know, we're taxpayers just like everybody else, and we should be entitled to those same benefits that you would give any private developer on island. And you know, if...and, you know, some people say like oh, yeah, but that's only for Hawaiians. You know what? Most Hawaiians, we marry into different cultures, yeah. You're not just supporting Hawaiians getting onto ag lot, you're supporting Filipinos, Japanese, poe haole...we're all...we're all mixed in, right. We...you know what I mean. So just think about that when you're supporting...or just think about that. But I'm just in strong support. I wish that me and my siblings would be able to move to Honokowai because that was a dream of my mother's, was to have a plumeria farm one day. Unfortunately we won't see that in her lifetime, but I hope to see other people that I'm related to from Lāhainā be able to move onto an ag lot with Hawaiian Home Land. So please support that, you know. Affordable housing...let's talk about affordable housing, but let's talk about DHHL too, because that's the easiest way to achieve true affordable housing on Maui. Because we get the 'āina. All we need is the infrastructure, and the political will to make it happen, yeah. So mahalo. Thank you.

CHAIR JOHNSON: Thank you, Ms. Lawrence. We have a question from Councilmember Paltin. Go ahead.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Chair Johnson. My question was just to clarify. If there was a way to award the lots before the infrastructure, would you be supportive of that?

MS. LAWRENCE: Absolutely. Absolutely. I mean, if...even if...you know, I don't understand why Hawaiians cannot even be awarded a lot. I mean, we...you know, you get people around Maui living off the grid. Why can't we just temporarily at least have a space for people to live in the meantime. I mean, we can make...yeah. I would support that. I am going on a tangent, but I would strongly support that.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you. Thank you for that clarification.

MS. LAWRENCE: You know because if my Mom was...yeah. And if my Mom was awarded her lot, we would be able to still have that lot.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you.

MS. LAWRENCE: So yeah, I would absolutely support that. Thanks, you guys.

CHAIR JOHNSON: Okay. Ms. Lawrence, we have a question from Councilmember Molina. Go ahead, Mr. Molina.

VICE-CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Thank you, Mr. Chair. Good afternoon, Ms. Lawrence. Nice to see you. You mentioned in your testimony about, you know, Hawaiians being...you know, we have all mixed blood from other ethnicities. So would you suggest like maybe a blood quantum? And if a blood quantum, what percent of...percentage would you

**AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMITTEE**  
**Council of the County of Maui**

**June 7, 2021**

---

suggest.

MS. LAWRENCE: There has been efforts by the Hawaiian community to decrease that quantum to 25 percent. I would strongly...I mean, I don't have enough blood quantum. I think if you kanaka, you kanaka, it shouldn't matter how much percentage of blood you have. But I know there's an initiative to decrease it to 25 percent at least, you know, because then a lot of these people that have died on the list, their beneficiaries or children were unable to assume that lot now, you know, because you have to have 25 percent in order to...and you have to have been awarded that lot to inherit that lot from your parents or kūpuna. Yeah. It's a struggle.

VICE-CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. All right. Mahalo, Ms. Lawrence. Yeah. That I agree with you, for sure. Yeah. Mahalo. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

CHAIR JOHNSON: Okay. Members, any other questions for Ms. Lawrence? Seeing none. Thank you once again for your testimony.

MS. LAWRENCE: Aloha.

CHAIR JOHNSON: Aloha. Alison, will you please call the next testifier.

MS. STEWART: The next testifier is Archie Kalepa, to be followed by Kekai.

CHAIR JOHNSON: Okay, Mr. Kalepa.

MR. KALEPA: Aloha, Council. This is Archie Kalepa. How are you guys doing today?

CHAIR JOHNSON: Very good. Thank you. You can continue with your testimony. Mahalo.

MR. KALEPA: Okay. Thank you. You guys can hear me. Yeah. I just want to show my support for AH-21 for water and sewage credits for the hopeful development of DHHL, Hawaiian Lands. And you know, I currently live in Hawaiian Homes in Lāhainā and, you know, it's really nice to see a lot of original families from Lāhainā be awarded these homes because it's allowed them to stay in this community for...now it's multi-generational. So I would just like to cast my support that hopefully can convince you guys to make a good decision in supporting these credits for both water and sewage for the development of Hawaiian Home Lands. And you know, hopefully we can put more Hawaiians on these good lands that they can do things with to help support their community. Thank you.

CHAIR JOHNSON: Okay. Thank you, Mr. Kalepa. We have some questions from you...or for you. Let's start with Councilmember Paltin, followed by Councilmember Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Mr. Kalepa. I have the same question that I asked Tiare Lawrence. Would you be in favor of awarding the lots before the infrastructure is in?

# **AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMITTEE**

## **Council of the County of Maui**

**June 7, 2021**

---

MR. KALEPA: Yes, absolutely. And I think, you know, like DHHL is just going over 100 years. The first place was Moloka'i, and I think that's what happened on Moloka'i was the first awardees were just awarded the lots. There was no infrastructure in place and, you know, 100 years later, people are still thriving and using those parcels. So I would be in strong favor of awarding these lots, even without infrastructure.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR JOHNSON: Okay. Thank you. Councilmember Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Mahalo, Chair. And aloha, Archie. Nice to hear from you.

MR. KALEPA: Aloha, Shane.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: You mentioned that you already live in a DHHL housing. Is this the first one in West Maui?

MR. KALEPA: Yes. It is the first one in Leiali'i in Lāhainā. And it's just really nice to see there's a lot of original...I would say 70 percent of the homes that were awarded in Lāhainā under DHHL were all people from Lāhainā, which is really nice to see.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Right, right. I know that was an issue with us trying to get families, those on Lāna'i, and in Hāna as well, to give those preference. And on that question, I guess, you know, we didn't get all the families. Have you seen Lāhainā families have to move towards Central or Upcountry just to get a lot there?

MR. KALEPA: Yeah, we've seen that happen. But you know, I do know that just by opening up this new area, it would allow more original families from Lāhainā to have the opportunity. And I know a few of them that are on the list actually to not only have a lot, but have the opportunity to farm and ag and be contributors to our community in Lāhainā.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: 'Ae pololei. Mahalo, Archie. Thank you. Thank you, Chair.

MR. KALEPA: Oh, okay. Thank you, Shane. Aloha.

CHAIR JOHNSON: Archie, we have one more question for you from Councilmember Kama. Go ahead, Councilmember.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you. Well, I don't have a question, I just wanted to make a comment, Chair, that you know, the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands does have a program, it's called an Accelerated Award Program, where they do award lots to the people in a particular area. And they did this in 1983. And that's why all the people up in Waiohuli-Keokea, Waiehu Kou One, those were all accelerated awardees. Before they even got the lot, they were given a lease in hand, telling them that this is where your lot will be.

**AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMITTEE**  
**Council of the County of Maui**

**June 7, 2021**

---

MR. KALEPA: Awesome.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: But at least they knew. And the purpose was to do exactly what Member Paltin is saying, you gotta stop the bleeding, you gotta be able to have a piece of paper that you can hand over to your children, so that when you pass, that they have something in their hand. And I'm not sure why the Department didn't institute that or continue to institute that, because for the longest time, that's what people were depending on was that awarded acceleration. And that's how I got my homestead, was through that program. So I think bringing it up is something that maybe can be brought forth again and reinstituted for other homesteads that maybe the Department might be looking at in terms of creating more areas for our people. So that's my comment, Chair. Thank you so much.

CHAIR JOHNSON: Thank you for sharing that.

MR. KALEPA: Pololei. Maika'i.

CHAIR JOHNSON: Yeah. Aloha. Okay. Any other questions for Archie? Seeing none. Thank you so much for your testimony.

MR. KALEPA: Thank you.

CHAIR JOHNSON: Alison, will you please call the next testifier. Aloha.

MR. KALEPA: Aloha.

MS. STEWART: The next testifier is logged in as Kekai, to be followed by Kai Nishiki.

MR. KEAHI: Hey, howzit. Can you guys hear me?

CHAIR JOHNSON: We can hear you loud and clear.

MR. KEAHI: Okay. So this thing with undivided interest with Hawaiian Homes, that's something I've been pushing and advocating for a long time. Hawaiian Homes did away it for a while. I guess there was issues with, you know, promises that they got their leases, and that they would be building out these homes in a certain amount of time in which Hawaiian Homes neva, and so they had some, had some pilikia because of that. I think the undivided interest and the paper in hand award is important 'cause people...when you look at the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act, it's not just the person who is receiving the award, but it's the people's...is that person and the person's family is to benefit from the award. And within the last, I'd say, five years or so, just me, myself and my family, I lost three uncles, an aunty, and they all neva get their awards in the last five years. I had two uncles that got Hawaiian Homes, but they had to move to the other side into Waihe'e. But they Lāhainā born, in fact they was born in Mala Village. And the only way they got to come home is when they died...is when they brought them home to be bury or scatter their ashes back in Lāhainā. And they neva like go da other side, they wanted fo' stay in Lāhainā, but they had no choice. It's either get 'em now,

# **AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMITTEE**

## **Council of the County of Maui**

**June 7, 2021**

---

or risk the chance that I may pass away and not be able to hand it down to my kids. And it's kind of a sad thing, you know, that they gotta leave the place that they from, only to return upon your death to be buried or scattered in the area you was born. And so the lease in hand is important. The lease in hand gives opportunity to if that person dies, he can hand it down to his kids and his family can thrive on that property. And that's something I've been pushing with Hawaiian Homes. They reviewing it right now, and they looking at it. Hopefully they go through with it, but it is something that I've been advocating and pushing for for a while. Anyway, I get my wahine, my boy's going to be 18 pretty soon, he's going to be a beneficiary, it's...you know, I think it's back in Lingle's time when she stopped Honokowai for some reason. I don't know why she stopped Honokowai, it was supposed to be built a long time ago, but it's overdue and we gotta get that doing. That should be a priority right now to get Honokowai going because we get plenty families on this side that need...we cannot pay 980,000 for one house, that's for sure. But these ag lots and these residential homes going help us a lot. But, yeah, I stay on the side of the road, I had to pull over, but I felt I had to stop and make...give my testimony. Okay. Thank you.

CHAIR JOHNSON: Well, mahalo for your testimony, Kekai. We do have a question for you, if you don't mind just staying on the side of the road, we've got Councilmember Paltin for you. Go ahead.

MR. KEAHI: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Chair Johnson. Thank you, Mr. Keahi. I just was wondering, you know, when you talk about awarding the lots prior to the infrastructure, if the Lāhainā beneficiary families have the capacity to assist with the infrastructure going in on those Honokowai ag lots.

MR. KEAHI: In like what way?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: You know, heavy machineries, like in the plan. Last I had heard that they wanted to make the roads and things like that. And if the lots are awarded, would the beneficiary families of Lāhainā have capacity to assist in those endeavors?

MR. KEAHI: Maybe. Maybe in some way. I cannot really...I know a lot of Hawaiian families is construction people. I mean, I know a lot of them work heavy equipment and they're carpenters and stuff li' dat. So, you know, I think in a way they could help push the development through, but would be one coordinated thing that gotta happen, you know what I mean. You know, a lot...I know for sure if given the chance, they probably would be in there digging in and putting infrastructure for sure. But yeah, I think it's going to be something that going have to be coordinated between DHHL, maybe even private, maybe the homesteaders or whatever...I mean, it's a possibility. Maybe.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR JOHNSON: Okay. Thank you, Councilmember Paltin. Any other questions for our testifier? Seeing none. Thank you again for your testimony, Mr. Keahi. Alison, will you

**AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMITTEE**  
**Council of the County of Maui**

**June 7, 2021**

---

please call the next testifier please.

MS. STEWART: The next and last testifier on the list today is Kai Nishiki.

MS. NISHIKI: Good afternoon, Chair, Committee Members. Thank you, Councilmember Tamara Paltin, for bringing up this very important issue. And like Tiare said, there is no better housing to support if you're trying to get local people on the land than Hawaiian Homes. And another reason for that is we know in the affordable housing world that it is incredibly hard to maintain an inventory in perpetuity because they are constantly timing out and then selling at market rate. So Hawaiian Homes, DHHL properties, will remain affordable in perpetuity, and provide housing for local people also in perpetuity. My children...or rather their father is still on the waiting list, so this issue hits very close to home. And I had an opportunity to work with the community and Paul Cheng, the developer of Pulelehua, in partnering with DHHL and the County to put in infrastructure, hopefully this year, to support the development of DHHL. And so, you know, we can see that right now, we're needing to basically have other people help DHHL get this housing built. And that's why we really need...or I would hope that the County would prioritize, and not just prioritize, but put money towards putting in the infrastructure for DHHL projects. I think that really should be a priority. And I just want to applaud Paul Cheng of Pulelehua for putting...for putting his money where his mouth is and actually putting in that infrastructure. That is a great thing. And he has also started a fund of over a million dollars to provide down payment assistance for those in West Maui who want to purchase a home, and this would help the DHHL awardees in Honokowai. So these are the kinds of things that we need to look at moving forward, is incentivizing and providing assistance and help with infrastructure and whatever roadblocks are in the way of getting Hawaiians back on the land, especially in Honokowai, especially in West Maui. Mahalo.

CHAIR JOHNSON: Well said, Ms. Nishiki. Does anyone have any comments for our testifier or questions? Seeing none. Thank you for your testimony. Alison, do we have any more testimony?

MS. STEWART: No, there are no more testifiers signed up, Chair, but if you would like to make a last call.

CHAIR JOHNSON: Certainly. This is a last call. If you wish to testify, please unmute your video and your audio, and then identify yourself. Okay. Seeing there are no other individuals wishing to testify, without objection, I will now close oral testimony and receive written testimony in the record.

**COUNCILMEMBERS VOICED NO OBJECTIONS.** (Excused: KK, YS)

**... (END PUBLIC TESTIMONY) ...**

# **AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMITTEE**

## **Council of the County of Maui**

**June 7, 2021**

---

### **AH-21 WATER AND SEWER CREDITS TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS FOR HOMESTEAD AND AGRICULTURAL LOTS IN LĀHAINĀ (MISC)**

CHAIR JOHNSON: Okay. So let's move on to the agenda, Members. Today we have two items in our agenda, AH-21 Water and Sewer Credits to the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands for Homestead and Agricultural Lots in Lāhainā; and AH-8 County-Owned Parcel on North Papa Avenue (Former College Dorm Site (Kahului)). AH-21 was referred to the Committee by Member Paltin, and it relates to Resolution 21-31 adopted by the Council on March 5th, where we urged the Administration to do the following: Renew and extend water and wastewater credits to DHHL for the Villages of the Leiali'i Project; follow through on perpetual license for water allocation from Mahinahina Water Treatment Facility in Honokowai; and develop public and private partnerships to develop infrastructure for housing, agriculture on DHHL lands, and neighboring parcels specific to West Maui. I'd like to offer this time for Councilmember Paltin to speak to the Resolution. If you'd like to read it, you may, or summarize, however you'd like. Member Paltin, I yield the floor to you.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you so much, Chair Johnson. And with your permission, I would like to read the Resolution in memory of my mother-in-law, who was a waitlister and passed away last month on the list.

CHAIR JOHNSON: Certainly.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Resolution Number 21-31, Urging the Administration to Renew and Extend Water and Sewer Credits to the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands for Homestead and Agricultural Lots in Lāhainā, Maui, Hawai'i. Whereas, Prince Jonah Kūhiō Kalaniana'ole was elected in 1902 as the Territory of Hawai'i's delegate in the United States Congress, where he served until his death in 1922; and Whereas, on November 13th, 1914, Prince Kūhiō devised the original plan to rehabilitate Hawaiians upon the ceded Crown and Hawaiian Kingdom lands, according to an article, Exhibit "A," by University of Hawai'i Professor Davianna Pomaika'i McGregor; and Whereas, in April 1920, Prince Kūhiō introduced House Resolution 13500, the Hawaiian Rehabilitation Bill, as a response to the desolation of the Hawaiian population, loss of land, and need for Hawaiians to be able to grow traditional crops such as kalo; and Whereas, the Hawaiian Rehabilitation Bill laid the foundation for the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act of 1921, a Government-sponsored homesteading program to return Native Hawaiians with 50 percent or more blood quantum to approximately 200,000 acres of ceded Crown and Hawaiian Kingdom lands, held in a land trust to support self-sufficiency and self-determination; and Whereas the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act also established the Hawaiian Homes Commission, whose primary responsibility was to oversee management of that land trust; and Whereas an act to provide for the admission of the State of Hawai'i into the Union of 1959 commonly known as the Admission Act states, "As a compact with the United States relating to the management and disposition of the Hawaiian home lands, the Hawaiian Homes Commissions Act, 1920, as amended, shall be adopted as a provision of the Constitution of said State"; and Whereas, the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands administers 99-year residential, agricultural, and pastoral leases to Native Hawaiians; and Whereas, as of June 30th, 2020, DHHL has

# **AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMITTEE**

## **Council of the County of Maui**

**June 7, 2021**

---

awarded 9,933 leases since 1921; and Whereas, as of June 30th, 2020, the DHHL applicant waiting list shows 28,730 statewide applications, including 4,724 agricultural applications, 634 pastoral applications, and 3,854 residential applications for Maui Island; and Whereas, on June 30th, 2020, *Hawai'i News Now* reported the Hawai'i Supreme Court ruled the State must pay its beneficiaries for the lengthy waitlist and described how one applicant died while on the list after 58 years, as seen in Exhibit "B"; and Whereas, while access to water resources for DHHL projects in West Maui has been an obstacle in developing housing or agricultural opportunities, this can be a year of change, in moving the County and DHHL forward in these areas; Whereas, the Countywide Policy Plans approved by Ordinance 3732 (2010), includes the following policy: "Support the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands' development of homestead lands"; and Whereas, on April 23rd, 2008, a wastewater allocation agreement between the DHHL and the County's Department of Environmental Management, Exhibit "C," established water and sewer credits at the Lāhainā Wastewater Treatment Facility for the Villages of Leiali'i, Phases I-A and I-B; and Whereas, the agreement has expired and is in need of renewal; and Whereas, the Department of Water Supply was in the process of establishing a perpetual license for the exchange of a water allocation from the Mahinahina Water Treatment Facility on DHHL lands in Honokowai; and Whereas, the Countywide Policy Plan includes an objective to "Improve water systems to assure access to sustainable, clean, reliable, and affordable sources of water," with supporting policies to: "Explore and promote alternative water-source-development methods"; and "Seek reliable long-term sources of water to serve developments"; and Whereas, the Countywide Policy Plan includes another policy to "Support ordinances, programs, and policies that keep agricultural land and water available and affordable to farmers" and a way to accomplish this could be through providing public incentive and encouraging private initiative"; and Whereas, on March 4th, 2020, Governor David Y. Ige issued a proclamation declaring a state of emergency to support ongoing State and County responses to COVID-19; and Whereas, by correspondence dated November 23, 2020, Exhibit "D," Councilmember Tamara Paltin sought the DHHL's cooperation with Maui Oceanview, LLP, developer of Pulelehua, a 304-acre master-planned green residential and retail community development in connecting to sewer and R-1 recycled water; and Whereas, on December 2nd, 2020, DHHL Commission Chairman William J. Aila, Jr. responded to Councilmember Paltin, indicating a partnership with Pulelehua would be mutually beneficial and DHHL would work closely with the Pulelehua team on a timely basis to coordinate development schedules and engineering requirements; and Whereas, a *Maui Now* article dated December 8, 2020, Exhibit "E," reported, "An online survey administered in June 2020 by the Native Hawaiian COVID-19 Research Hui showed that Hawai'i business owners and community members envision a post-COVID-19 local economy that prioritizes diversified industries promoting sustainability and support residents' basic needs"; and Whereas, the same article stated "the reports paint a 'clear desire for change'" and "Hawai'i residents indicate that economic future should focus on sustainable and diversified industries such as agriculture, aquaculture, forestry, and fishing and clean, renewable-based energy"; Whereas, 2021 is a momentous year for the DHHL, as it marks the 100th anniversary of the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act; and Whereas, on January 8, 2021, in a *Honolulu Civil Beat* essay, "It's Time to Acknowledge Native Hawaiians' Special Right to Housing," Exhibit "F," Professor Williamson Chang and Abby Seitz wrote, "This centennial landmark calls us to explore the original goals of



# **AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMITTEE**

## **Council of the County of Maui**

**June 7, 2021**

---

the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act," and "it's the kuleana of all Hawaii residents to transform the 100-year-old piece of legislation into a 21st Century land and housing program"; Whereas, while housing and agriculture opportunities have been curtailed globally by the novel coronavirus pandemic, the Council seeks to acknowledge and illustrate the efforts needed to advance collaboration, particularly for DHHL applicants seeking housing and agricultural opportunities in West Maui; Whereas, additional DHHL homes in West Maui will help more native Hawaiians attain housing in perpetuity; and Whereas, DHHL agricultural leases can also increase food security and provide native Hawaiians the opportunity to be self-sufficient and self-determined in the West Maui community; and Whereas, the Council finds that supporting housing opportunities for native Hawaiian DHHL applicants furthers the principles embodied within the Hawaiian Homes Act; Whereas, the Council further finds there is an urgent need to revitalize the local economy by capitalizing on collaboration between the State, County, and private entities to provide water sources for housing and agriculture; and Whereas, in addition, the Council finds the renewal and extension of water and sewer credits to the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands for Homestead and Agricultural lots in Lāhainā, Maui, Hawaii, would further numerous worthy public-policy goals; Whereas, the 'olelo no'eau, "Pupukahi i Holomua" translates to "unite to move forward" is appropriate and timely; now, therefore, be it resolved, by the Council of the County of Maui: That it urges the Administration to renew and extend water and sewer credits to the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands for homestead and agricultural lots in Lāhainā, Maui, Hawai'i. And certified copies were sent to a lot of very important people. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR JOHNSON: Thank you, Councilmember Paltin. As the Resolution points out, in 2021, that marks the 100-year anniversary of the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act...100 years. And our Native Hawaiian communities are still waiting and working for promises to keep that...to make that happen. Of course it is, and always be, a work in progress, but it's imperative that we act with urgency and move forward with projects that have significant impact for our Native Hawaiian residents and all of our members in the community. I agree with Williamson Chang, Professor of Law, Abby Seitz, professional community planner, and authors of the article in *Civil Beat* of January 8th of this year titled, "It's Time to Acknowledge Hawaiian Special Rights to Housing." The following sentences speak to me: "Hawai'i cannot be Hawai'i without Hawaiians. The Affordable Housing crisis is an existential threat to the Hawaiian Culture, as well as the spirit of aloha that makes these islands unique. We must be bold in proclaiming that for Native Hawaiians, accessing affordable housing in Hawai'i is the difference between life and death of their culture and way of life, and at a bare minimum we must acknowledge that the housing crisis is different from Native Hawaiians than any other group in the people of Hawai'i." This Resolution also points out that as of June 30th, 2020 the DHHL application waiting list shows 28,730 applicants statewide, including 9,212 for Maui island, 2,211 for Moloka'i and Lāna'i islands, and that's a total of 11,423 for Maui County. We'll hear more about this from our resources today, and receive status updates. Water and wastewater credits and allocation agreements for DHHL projects, pending and ongoing housing projects and infrastructure for West Maui, actions to be taken by the Council, the Administration, the DHHL, and others to expedite these projects and relate housing initiatives and opportunities. Without objection, I would

# **AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMITTEE**

## **Council of the County of Maui**

**June 7, 2021**

---

like to designate these following people under Rule 18 as a resource. Representatives of the Administration, we've got DHHL...Julie-Ann Cachola of DHHL, and Mr. [sic] Eaton, Blossom Feiteira, Kekoa Enomoto, and finally, Paul Cheng. No objections for making them resources?

**COUNCILMEMBERS VOICED NO OBJECTIONS.** (Excused: KK, YS)

CHAIR JOHNSON: Okay. Thank you so much. Each resource will have five to ten minutes to present following questions from the Members before moving on to the next resource. I would like to start by hearing from Managing Director Sandy Baz, if he's on the line, or any other representatives of the Administration with any updates or information on the status of any water or sewer credits for DHHL for Homestead or ag lots in Lāhainā. Mr. Baz, are you on the call? Well, I know Mr. Baz had an appointment, and he said he would try to make it, but if he didn't, then...let me see if I can find someone from Administration. Anybody from Administration is on here? Hold on one second.

MR. PEARSON: Member Johnson?

CHAIR JOHNSON: Yes, Jeff Pearson. Yes, Director...

MR. PEARSON: Jeff Pearson here, Director of Department Water Supply. Not that I'm volunteering, but I'm here if your help if you need it, so...do you want me to speak up on the water issues now, would that be...

CHAIR JOHNSON: That would be perfect timing, I know Mr. Baz was busy, so I'm so happy you could make it. Can you give the body an update on the water credits? Mahalo.

MR. PEARSON: If it's acceptable to you, would you rather I just read the questions that you had posed to the Administration, and I can read off our answers that...you know, of course we put them through Sandy Baz to get to the Council. Would that be acceptable?

CHAIR JOHNSON: Sure, that's fine.

MR. PEARSON: Okay. So your office sent four questions to the Department of Water Supply. I know you also sent questions to the Department of Environmental Management, but I'll just read these off. It's quite brief, a couple of pages. First question: What actions have been taken or are planned by the Administration and relevant County Departments to establish, renew, or extend wastewater and water allocation agreements? Of course, I'm answering on the water side. The Department of Water Supply and Department of Hawaiian Home Lands entered into a Memorandum of Agreement for Licenses dated November 15th, 2019, that provides 200,000 gallons per day of source allocation of potable water for DHHL lands in West Maui. Pursuant to the Agreement, DHHL has agreed to construct and install any necessary improvements for DWS to provide the 200,000 gallons per day to DHHL lands. As the agreement states, that the source allocation may be used until it is reduced to zero. So a renewal or extension of this agreement is not needed. So it's out there, there's 200,000 gallons a day that's out there right now per that Memorandum of Agreement for License, and it does not expire. Well,

**AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMITTEE**  
**Council of the County of Maui**

**June 7, 2021**

---

it expires when the gallons are reduced to zero. The second question: Please provide a timeline...a projected timeline for any ongoing or planned actions, and also indicate any obstacles that may cause delay? Well, I sure as heck don't know all the obstacles that cause delay, but our written response is: DHHL is proposing water system improvements to the DWS existing system so that a portion of their 200,000 gallons per day of source allocation can be used by DHHL's Leiali'i Phase I-B to address the terms of that Memorandum of Agreement for Licenses. DWS has not been provided a timeline by DHHL that they propose to construct said water system improvements for their Leiali'i Phase I-B lands. So in that question, the ball is kind of in DHHL's court to do what they do...what their timeline to do some improvements to our system so they can receive the water to the development. Question 3: What other actions, if any, is the Administration taking to expediate or provide water, sewer, or other necessary infrastructure for residential housing on homesteads and agricultural lots. For example, the Resolution that was just discussed establishing a perpetual license for the exchange of a source allocation from a Mahinahina Water Treatment Facility on DHHL lands on Honokowai? The other issue that we do bring up in the other answers is and here is our response. DHHL is proposing, excuse me, to develop its Honokowai well to serve as potable water needs in West Maui. It is also our understanding that the agricultural water needs of DHHL lands in West Maui will be served through a surface water reservation of two million gallons per day from the Honokohau Stream, approved by the Commission on Water Resource Management in their most recent meeting on May 18th, 2021. Further pursuant to the Memorandum of Agreement for Licenses, DHL...excuse me, DHHL agreed that the 200,000 gallons per day of source allocation of potable water to be served from the DWS source system shall not be used to serve any agricultural water use needs of DHHL. DWS is not aware of any action that is needed by DWS at this time. The last question: What other actions, if any, is the Administration taking to address the housing needs and rights of applicants on the DHHL waiting list? DWS is proposing...we've got as far as the exploratory well to the development of what we call Kahana Well situated in the Honolua Aquifer. It's more or less just mauka of the Mahinahina Treatment Plant. The Kahana Well is intended to serve future potable needs of West Maui and increase the reliability of the Department of Water Supply's existing system...you know, that same system that will be providing the 200,000 gallons a day. DWS is diligently working on addressing comments by SHPD to secure funding from the State of Hawai'i Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Program. The Department of Water Supply is also proposing to drill additional wells in West Maui to withdraw groundwater to reduce the amount of stream water DWS diverts from Kanaha Stream to address an earlier Commission of Water Resource Management interim instream flow standards for Kanaha Stream. As the purpose of these wells is to allow DWS to address the stream IIFS, any wells developed for this purpose is not anticipated to provide additional potable water to serve future water needs. The development of the groundwater source to address the Kanaha IIFS will be challenging, and it has already been challenging, just the fact that it's difficult to locate well sites in this area, you know, further South portion. The extensive improvements it's going to take, meaning access, piping and electrical to these sites, and also ,as everybody knows, the high capital costs. So, you know, we're kind of two-fisted here where we're chasing the Kanaha IIFS that was directed by CWRM; and then on the further north side, we're finishing up and we're

# **AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMITTEE**

## **Council of the County of Maui**

**June 7, 2021**

---

going to develop a well to provide more reliability and more source. So that's...I guess that's not a quick answer, but...

CHAIR JOHNSON: No. Okay. All right. Thank you, Director Pearson. We're just going to go down the list of Members, and we'll give them three minutes. So Alison, if you can time them. We'll start with Councilmember Molina, do you have any questions for the Director?

VICE-CHAIR MOLINA: Yes. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. So good afternoon, Mr. Pearson. So I've got several questions, and if you can be as brief as possible because of the time limitation. So my first question is, can you clarify what is the perpetual license that is being established in exchange for the water allocation, and if you could tell us what water source will be supplying the Mahinahina Water Treatment Facility?

MR. PEARSON: Yeah, I'll try to be brief, Member. Of course we have water available at Mahinahina Treatment Plant, and as I pointed out in the answers, we're developing that Kanaha Well...Kahana...excuse me, Kahana Well that's just mauka of the treatment plant. So those and...yeah, that would be the two sources that would be provided for this 200,000 gallons.

VICE-CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. And then there are no other water treatment facilities that provide water to Hawaiian Home Lands in addition to those?

MR. PEARSON: The only other treatment facility is the Lāhainā Treatment Facility --

VICE-CHAIR MOLINA: That's the only one.

MR. PEARSON: -- where pulls the water from Kanaha Stream.

VICE-CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. And just to clarify. So there's 200,000 gallons you're saying for this. And as far as the renewal of the agreement, not necessary, right, whether it be County or State to initiate a renewal?

MR. PEARSON: That's correct.

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

CHAIR JOHNSON: Thank you, Vice-Chair, Vice-Committee Chair Mr. Molina. Let's move on to Councilmember Paltin next, and I'll just give you guys a list. So we'll go on from Paltin, then move down to Member Kama. Go ahead.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. My first question was, when you were saying about that recent CWRM decision about two million gallons a day from Honokohau Surface Water, was that meant to be potable or non-potable usage for agriculture, or for drinking water?

MR. PEARSON: That was meant to be non-potable. And it was part of the agreement...or the

# **AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMITTEE**

## **Council of the County of Maui**

**June 7, 2021**

---

decision, I guess, that the Water Commission had at their last meeting for what to establish as the IIFS for Honokohau Stream.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. Thank you. And then was there a part where you said water wasn't to be used for agriculture, I missed what that was for.

MR. PEARSON: I think that was part of the agreement for the...

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: The 200,000 gallons weren't for agriculture...

MR. PEARSON: ...the Memorandum of Agreement for Licenses. Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. And then my last question, I guess, is I'm reading the testimony we received from DHHL, and they wanted to suggest an amendment to the subject matter of the Resolution to include providing additional reservations and allocations of infrastructure credits to DHHL for source, storage, and transmission for current and future DHHL initiatives. Is that something that you're open to? It's a way more --

MR. PEARSON: I'd have to see more...

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: -- affordable housing in perpetuity.

MR. PEARSON: I mean, generally, the Department of Water Supply has always worked well with the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands, and we've always worked together. And without seeing, you know, details of what you're talking about, I'm kind of hesitant to, you know, jump on the boat. But I'm comfortable and confident that we'll work together to do what's right.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: So in other words, you'd like to see a proposal from DHHL, and then we can discuss agreeing to it.

MR. PEARSON: Sure.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR JOHNSON: Okay. Thank you, Councilmember Paltin. Let's move on to Member Kama, followed by Member Rawlins-Fernandez.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you, Chair. So my question I had was similar to what Member Paltin had, the idea that no ag water would be provided on those DHHL lands. So can you review that again one more for me, under what agreement was that made?

MR. PEARSON: Okay. Further pursuant to the attached Memorandum...I'm sorry, it's not attached, but the license...the Memorandum of Agreement . . . *(inaudible)*. . . DHHL agreed that the 200,000 gallons per day of source allocation of potable water to be served from the DWS system shall not be used to serve any agricultural water use needs of

**AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMITTEE**  
**Council of the County of Maui**

**June 7, 2021**

---

DHHL. It's just repeating what I said earlier.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: So the lots that we're talking about, are they ag lots or residential lots?

MR. PEARSON: Ag lots, I'm sure. Well, the way it's listed is any agricultural water use needs is how it was worded.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Right. So if you have an ag lot, but you don't get ag water, you have to use potable water? I'm trying to understand what we're saying here. Is that what we're saying?

MR. PEARSON: Well, I'm trying to help but, you know, whatever potable needs...are needed for these lots, of course, drinking, bathing, and so forth...

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Right. Potable.

MR. PEARSON: ...that potable will be used for that. If they're going to irrigate or water some farming item that they have on the lot, they cannot use that potable water for that, they're going to have some form of non-potable water for those uses. And I think there's a little bit of comfort here. First reason is the fact that DHHL was able to secure this reservation for these non-potable needs with this IIFS that just took place in Honokohau. Secondly, I know that DEM--and you'll hear more, I'm sure later, from Eric Nakagawa--but you know, as you're all aware they have a lot of R-1 water that they don't want to put down a hole in the ground. And they're working on infrastructure to send that R-1 water up the mountain to be mixed with that non-potable water. I'm sorry...

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you. I just wanted to be sure that I understood that, but thank you. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR JOHNSON: That was a good question. Okay. Let's move on to Councilmember Rawlins-Fernandez, followed by Member Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. Okay. So following up with Pro Tem Kama's line of questioning. Aloha, Director Pearson. Mahalo for responding to our questions today. So I was trying to acquaint myself before it was my turn, but the Honokōwai Reservoir, you just mentioned, could be used for ag water? It's like in reasonable distance of the DHHL lots...future lots?

MR. PEARSON: I'm sorry, I'm not sure what reservoir you're referring to?

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh, okay. So maybe this is a question . . .  
*(inaudible)*. . . The Honokowai.

MR. PEARSON: Is that the one that...I know that DEM...

# **AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMITTEE**

## **Council of the County of Maui**

**June 7, 2021**

---

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: We just acquired...that's the one we just acquired in December.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Honokowai.

MR. PEARSON: Okay. Yeah. Correct. So that water can...R-1 water can be pumped up to that reservoir, and then I know--again, Eric can explain it better, but I know they're looking at pumping it from that reservoir to another reservoir about 800 foot level where the ditch is Honokōwai...Honokahau Ditch is located, where they can mix this R-1 with the non-potable.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. So I guess that...I hope that addresses Pro Tem Kama's concerns about...because I agree with Pro Tem Kama, if these are going to be ag lots. I know generally DHHL has been doing a lot more five-acre ag lots...ag residential lots. And so if that's what they're doing with this property, five-acre ag lots, then it would make sense to use R-1 water instead of groundwater for irrigation. Okay. I guess I'll have follow-up questions for the other agencies. Mahalo, Director. Mahalo, Chair.

CHAIR JOHNSON: Okay. Thank you, Councilmember Keani Rawlins-Fernandez. Let's move on to Councilmember Shane Sinenci, followed by Chair Lee.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Mahalo, Chair. And aloha, Director Pearson, for your presentation. So I guess my first question would be, so the 200,000 gallons a day for DHHL in this Memorandum of Agreement, is this included in the water use development plan?

MR. PEARSON: Likely not, because the agreement took place in November of 2019. I'm sure that the strategies aren't going to change with this type of agreement, but likely it's not in there. I can follow up.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Okay. Yeah, if you can follow up with that. Thank you, Director. And then so out of the Mahinahina Water Treatment Plant, how many gallons for municipal use is coming out of that plant?

MR. PEARSON: That's a good question. We have an agreement for water delivery with Maui Land and Pine out of the Honokohau Stream for up to 2.5 million gallons a day. We have treated up to 2.0, 2.1. I think right now it's about 1.7 million gallons a day coming out of that plant.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: So the County has some private contracts with some other water users.

MR. PEARSON: No. What I was told is the non-potable water that's diverted from the stream that provides the water that we treat, that's the agreement we have for delivery.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Oh, okay. And then we're not...the 200,000 gallons a day, we're

# **AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMITTEE**

## **Council of the County of Maui**

**June 7, 2021**

---

not supplying any of that to the Leiali'i Parkway that it's currently...this memorandum is just for Leiali'i...the Villages at Leiali'i Estates, yeah.

MR. PEARSON: Yeah. There's nothing that's been executed as far as gallons goes to date referencing that agreement.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Okay. And then so it looks like on the plan, there's existing wells at Wahikuli. Is that County wells? You have other wells above the area, or these are just other wells from CWRM...or CWRM's.

MR. PEARSON: Yeah, it's likely other wells from CWRM. I don't think we have a well at Wahikuli, but yeah, that's...

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Okay. All right. Okay. That's all the questions I have for now. Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Director.

CHAIR JOHNSON: Thank you, Councilmember Sinenci. Let's move on to Chair Lee. Chair Lee, you have any questions today?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Yes, Member Johnson. Thank you. Director Pearson, regarding the water credits, how much is one water credit worth?

MR. PEARSON: Well, yeah, there might be a misnomer, but we're providing 200,000 gallons per day for the use by DHHL. So if you want to say it that way, you can say a credit is a gallon. So that the...

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: A credit is a gallon.

MR. PEARSON: You know, so another...

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: So why would you even need to use the term credits?

MR. PEARSON: We really don't, in this case. In this case, the agreement is discussing the unit of gallons per day.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Yeah. So essentially, they have a reservation of 200,000 gallons a day, until they actually fully use the full amount. So who developed this well?

MR. PEARSON: Well, there's two wells under discussions here. The one that has to do with the credits or the reliability of Department of Water Supply is being developed by the Department of Water Supply. That's the one I referred to as the Kahana Well, and we are developing.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Oh, okay. You're developing it. So if 200,000 gallons a day is reserved for DHHL, what's the balance available to the County?

MR. PEARSON: The well test that were done a few years ago allowed...showed that that well



# **AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMITTEE**

## **Council of the County of Maui**

**June 7, 2021**

---

can pump about a million gallons a day. So if we use...if we use our own standards, we would take two-thirds of two-thirds of that, so it would be approximately half a million gallons a day.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay. And finally, what did DHHL contribute to the development of that well?

MR. PEARSON: Nothing to this well. This was developed by the Department of Water Supply to increase our reliability and provide...

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Not the land, nothing. So nothing.

MR. PEARSON: Well, I guess...excuse me. I don't know if the word is contribute, but the discussion in this agreement, there's easements access...easements. There's also a portion of the Mahinahina Treatment Plant was built on DHHL lands way back, and nothing was ever finalized as far as those issues. So I don't know if the word is contribute, but they have...they put in there their land issues and easement and access issues.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: So part of the allocation of the \$200,000...200,000 gallons a day is payment for the use of what was gained from Mahinahina then.

MR. PEARSON: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Yeah.

MR. PEARSON: The easiest answer, yes.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Yeah. Okay. Yeah. Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

CHAIR JOHNSON: Okay. Members, we have Department of Environmental Management up next, but I want to just make sure that you guys have any follow ups for Director Pearson. Seeing none. Thank you for your time, Mr. Pearson, I really appreciate it. Okay. Let's move on to Deputy Director Shayne Agawa from Department of Environmental Management to give us a status update on the sewer credits, and let's see if that word is applicable. Okay. Take it away, Deputy Director Shayne.

MR. AGAWA: Thank you, Chair Johnson. Hello, Committee Members. Following the lines of Director Pearson going over the questions that was submitted to us and our response to the Mayor's Office. So right now, we don't have any active agreements that are in need of renewal or extension. However, we are actively working on current agreements with DHHL. So our Wastewater Reclamation Division, Division Chief Scott Rollins has been in current conversation with DHHL. The question about that Leiali'i credits, which I understand originally was an agreement with HHFDC with the County, and then transferred to Hawaiian Home Lands, which I think it was about 130,000 gallons per day. Excuse me for not having the exact numbers. So Phase I took 30,000 of those gallons per day, with a remainder of about 89,000 gallons per day. So if you're talking

**AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMITTEE**  
**Council of the County of Maui**

**June 7, 2021**

---

about credits back when the agreement was viable, we're looking at about 89,000 gallons per day of credit. Now, that agreement has since expired. And again, we're in current talks for a new agreement with DHHL for that 89,000. Now, just to give you a perspective on the availability for the West Maui Treatment Facility, that facility can process nine million gallons a day. It currently processes four million gallons per day. This is the average flow. So right now, there's a surplus of capacity of about five million gallons per day. And then if you look at the previous agreement, the credits that were...well, what was called credits before, we're looking at only 89,000 gallons per day out of five million capacity per day. So if DHHL wants to draft up, say, another agreement, we are currently in talks with them. But as far as renewing the expired agreement, we wouldn't extend it or renew it. But we have way more than adequate capacity for that Phase II of Leiali'i. My understanding is in the talks with our Wastewater Reclamation Division, they're looking at construction of their Phase II is about two to three years. If that's the case, if you take it into comparison of the capacity from Puamana to Kapalua, since the start of this facility back in the '70s, the capacity or the usage is only four million gallons per day, and we have five million extra. So two to three years, I don't want to guarantee we're going to have capacity, but it's just a small fraction of the five million gallons. So I would bet my life savings that at the time DHHL goes to construction, then we would have capacity at that time. Going on to the next question, and I'm not going to reiterate the question, but for question number two, asked about the timeline. Just an estimate, in the talks with DHHL, it looks like we can probably get an agreement done in about six months or so, give or take. And that is pending, you know, both sides agree, DHHL agrees, and then the County agrees. Going on to the next question number three, basically DHHL is just another developer, I guess you would say, of housing, right. So we don't give preferable treatment to any developer. We basically work with every developer when the time of construction comes around, and we make sure there's adequate capacity. And then at the time of construction, we allocate that capacity. So right now, we were working with them, like I said, and that's the answer to number three. And number four, yeah, it's just basically the same answer as number three. We currently work with DHHL as a developer, so at the time that they're ready to construct, if there's adequate capacity, then we'll allocate it at that time. And I don't know if you wanted me to go back and touch on Councilmember Rawlins-Fernandez's question about the Honokōwai Reservoir at this time, or you want to wait for questioning.

CHAIR JOHNSON: Sure, you can clarify that up right now. Thank you.

MR. AGAWA: Yeah, so that Reservoir was purchased by our Department, and I think the question was, can that be utilized for DHHL in the future, and the answer is yes. If you folks would have a look at the map when you have time, that Reservoir is smack dab almost in the middle of a DHHL parcel, and I believe it's about 510 acres. So I believe the elevation is 300 feet level at this Reservoir, so it's a perfect location to supply R-1 water, yeah, to DHHL. And as Director Pearson mentioned earlier, our intent and long range goal is to pump it up to an 800 foot level reservoir, and then utilize the Honokohau Ditch. And hopefully take it down to the Wahikuli area, and that would be another source of R-1 water for DHHL in that Leiali'i area as well. But this is long-term, obviously.

# **AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMITTEE**

## **Council of the County of Maui**

**June 7, 2021**

---

CHAIR JOHNSON: Okay. Thank you for that update, Deputy Director Agawa. I think I'm going to have questions. We're going to do round robin again, and we're going to start from reverse order, so we're going to start with Chair Lee, followed by Member Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: I have no questions for the Deputy. Thank you.

CHAIR JOHNSON: Thank you so much. Okay. Let's move on to Councilmember Sinenci, followed by Councilmember Kama.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Mahalo, Chair. I just had a one clarifying question for Mr. Agawa. You mentioned the nine millions gallons a day. Is that...was that coming out of the Wastewater Treatment Facility?

MR. AGAWA: Thank you for the question, Member Sinenci. Yes, that's the West Maui Treatment Facility. That's the average amount of flow that we can treat is nine million gallons. Peak flow that we can treat is about...it goes up to about 12 million gallons, but nine is the average daily, and right now...that's at capacity. Right now, we're only treating 4.0 million gallons. So we have a surplus of five million gallons capacity on the West side.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: That the facility can take per day?

MR. AGAWA: Correct. In addition to current flows.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Okay. Now I know that we put in monies, I guess, to pump that treated...are we using that for that treated water...we're not injecting that treated water.

MR. AGAWA: That is correct. We're pumping it up to the reservoir as a holding and storage for R-1 water to be used for non-potable uses. Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Yeah. Okay. Thank you, Mr. Agawa. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR JOHNSON: Thank you, Shane...Councilmember Shane. Members, I made a mistake on my order, it's supposed to be Councilmember Rawlins-Fernandez. Would you like to go next?

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. I actually...Deputy Director actually answered my question. So mahalo, Deputy Director for proactively answering my question. Mahalo, Chair Johnson.

CHAIR JOHNSON: Thank you so much. Okay. Thank you so much, Councilmember Keani Rawlins-Fernandez. Let's move on to Councilmember Kama, followed by Councilmember Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you, Chair. So Shayne, I was just wanting to ask you about...the second answer you talked about was a timeline. And so can you reiterate to

# **AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMITTEE**

## **Council of the County of Maui**

**June 7, 2021**

---

me again the timeline. Because I thought I understood six months for the agreement that you think that you could probably, you know, work that out and you'd be able to come up with something. And then from that...from once that agreement is signed, what happens after that.

MR. AGAWA: Thank you for the question, Member Kama. So right now, as I stated, we're currently in talks with DHHL, our Wastewater Reclamation Division. This Leiali'i capacity is just one of the projects we are in discussion with DHHL. There's another one called Pu'unani Homestead, I think, in Wailuku.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Yeah, yeah.

MR. AGAWA: And there's one off of Veterans Memorial Highway that...

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Yeah. Pu'unene.

MR. AGAWA: So right now, we're not sure if we're going to combine all of the projects into an agreement. In talking to Division Chief Rollins at Wastewater Division, we would hope to break off this West Maui one as an independent agreement. And the agreement talks, I understand, is in talks for on the County's end, sewer easements through DHHL property for the Honokōwai Reservoir, and then capacity for wastewater for Leiali'i Phase II. So that we hope would be an agreement on its own that could possibly be finalized in six months.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Okay. But then you would still continue to do the other agreements with the Pu'unene and the Pu'unani projects separately.

MR. AGAWA: That is correct. That is our hopes is to...yeah, break it off...break it out, sorry. Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Okay. Okay. I got that. Thank you. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR JOHNSON: Okay. Thank you, Councilmember Kama. Let's move on to Councilmember Paltin, followed by Committee Vice-Chair Member Molina.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Deputy Director Agawa. I just was wondering...I had a few questions. The original 130,000 reservation of sewer, I guess credits or whatever you want to call it, do you know the reason why it was granted to DHHL?

MR. AGAWA: So again, this is just from my understanding, it was originally granted to HHFDC, who invested money in the expansion of the Lāhainā Treatment Facility back...I believe in the '80s, maybe. We were reaching capacity at that time, so we needed to expand. HHFDC invested money in the expansion, and then in return, got the sewer credits. Along the way, they in turn turned the land over...or part of the land to DHHL, along with the sewer credits, which is now the Leiali'i Phase I, which took 30-plus gallons, and then I assume the remainder would be Phase II.

# **AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMITTEE**

## **Council of the County of Maui**

**June 7, 2021**

---

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: So my question is...

MR. AGAWA: Sorry.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I believe Kā'anapali 2020 also invested to expand capacity, but their credits never did expire. Do you know the reason why one entity that invested in the expansion had their credits expire, and another entity that invested in expansion didn't have their credits expire?

MR. AGAWA: To be honest, I do not know the answer to that question. Yeah, I did not know the status of that Kā'anapali 2020 agreement. Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. And then another question I had was what...how soon would DHHL be able to get the R-1 ag water.

MR. AGAWA: At which location, the Honokōwai location or the Wahikuli.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: The Honokōwai ag lots. Sorry.

MR. AGAWA: Oh, I would...so, let's see. For that reservoir to be in operation, I would think would be about three to five years probably until we can get all the improvements done at that 300 foot level. That would entail infrastructure improvements, obviously, to disburse the water to DHHL properties. But yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: If CWRM allocated two million gallons a day of surface water from Honokohau Stream, and then you were kind of saying that the R-1 water would be mixed with the ditch water, is that inclusive of the two million gallons a day, whatever R-1 is mixed into it, or is it in addition?

MR. AGAWA: I think you're referring to the 200,000 gallons, yeah, from DWS.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Oh, I think in...CWRM, in their recent IIFS decision, reserved two million gallons a day of Honokohau surface water for...

MR. AGAWA: Oh, the surface water, I'm sorry.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Yeah.

MR. AGAWA: Not the well water. Yeah. That would be in addition to the R-1 volume that we would put into it. Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And then would the DHHL have to pay per gallon for the R-1 water that gets mixed in with the surface water?

MR. AGAWA: The answer would be yes. They would be just another R-1 customer, like anybody else that buys R-1 at a discounted rate from us.

# **AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMITTEE**

## **Council of the County of Maui**

**June 7, 2021**

---

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. And then...

MR. AGAWA: So that reservoir...oh, sorry. So just to reiterate, that reservoir capacity, I believe, is about four million gallons to be shrunk down to roughly about three.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. And you know when you were saying that you don't discriminate between developers, and you kind of treat them all the same, and when they're ready to develop then you determine if you're ready to have capacity. And I just wanted to state, you know, that majority of all the other developers never had a compact with the United States relating to the management and disposition of Hawaiian Home Lands, and where it was a part of the admission of Hawai'i to the United States. So I just would hope that you consider that Hawaiian Home Lands is not just any other developer. And it was sort of a condition of Statehood that this Hawaiian Homes continues on. And so just to put that out there, that there's all sorts of developers, and this is the way that DHHL stands apart from them. You know, even before Statehood, it was seen that there was a decline and a need to rehabilitate. And so I would just hope you take that into consideration. Thank you. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR JOHNSON: Thank you, Councilmember Paltin. Committee Vice-Chair Member Molina.

VICE-CHAIR MOLINA: Thank you, Mr. Chair. No questions for Mr. Agawa. Thank you.

CHAIR JOHNSON: Okay, Members. It's 3:04 and the Chair would like to take a ten-minute break if without any objections.

### **COUNCILMEMBERS VOICED NO OBJECTIONS.**

CHAIR JOHNSON: Seeing none. Okay. It is...all right. Thank you. Great. It's 3:05, the Affordable Housing Committee is in recess until 3:15. . . .*(gavel)*. . .

**RECESS: 3:05 p.m.**

**RECONVENE: 3:15 p.m.**

CHAIR JOHNSON: . . .*(gavel)*. . . The time is now 3:15. And next we have the representatives of DHHL. We have Julie-Ann Cachola and Stewart Matsunaga, and they've also provided written comments available up on Granicus. Good to see you folks on. Okay, you folks have the floor. Go ahead, take it away.

MR. MATSUNAGA: Okay. Aloha, Committee Chair Johnson. This is Stewart Matsunaga. I'm the acting Administrator for Land Development Division. We also have Andrew Choy --

MR. CHOY: Aloha.

MR. MATSUNAGA: -- who is also the...he's the Planning Administrator for DHHL. And we also have Julie Cachola, a Planner from DHHL also. I want to mahalo the Council for their

**AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMITTEE**  
**Council of the County of Maui**

**June 7, 2021**

---

advocacy for Hawaiian Home Lands' development, especially as it pertains to AH-21 Water and Sewer Credits. I also want to mahalo the other testifiers earlier who we serve, and we're really encouraged by their mana'o, and we are working towards getting our projects in West Maui to construction. I can go through perhaps a little snapshot of what our development looks like in West Maui as it relates to the water and sewer credits. And perhaps I'll first address the sewer credits. So I'm really encouraged by the discussion with Deputy Director Shayne Agawa regarding the new agreement for wastewater credits for Leiali'i I-B. We also need to bring into the discussion wastewater allocation for our Honokōwai residential parcels also too. Right now...and perhaps I'll let Andrew Choy speak regarding the future plans for Honokōwai.

MR. CHOY: Thank you, Stewart. So the Department is going through a master planning and environmental assessment process for our lands in Honokōwai. The Department has about 777 acres in Honokōwai. We anticipate publishing a draft environmental assessment in July, so very shortly, and we hope to finish the EA process sometime in the fall. Right now we're projecting about 335 single-family homes, 543 multi-family homes, and in addition to that, what our beneficiaries in West Maui have strongly opined to us, we're looking at 250 agriculture homestead lots. So our agriculture homestead lots would be between one to two acres. It would provide opportunities for food production and cultivation for our beneficiaries, and it would also allow them to build and reside on their homestead lots. So overall, we're looking at about 1,100 new home opportunities on our Honokōwai tract.

MR. MATSUNAGA: In terms of water, water credits, or what we call the water allocation, I want to thank Director Pearson for the discussion on our agreement that was executed a couple of years ago for 200,000 gallons of allocation, you know, that's worth approximately 330 homes for DHHL if you divide 200,000 gallons by 600 gallons per day, which is...that is basically like a credit. So it's equivalent to 330 homes. So we are currently in the process of working with the Water Department to develop construction plans for improvements in the Wahikuli area, as well as our proposed connection of our Honokōwai Well, which will cross Honokōwai Gulch, and then connect into the DWS facilities. So we're collaborating with the Water Department, we're going to jointly share a control or mixing tank very close to the Mahinahina Water Treatment Plant. So there's a lot of activity going on. We are set to bring a draft EA for the water system master plan to our Commission in the next about three months. So we're going through the environmental studies, particularly challenging as we cross the Honokōwai Gulch through Kā'anapali Land Management property. So with the 200,000 gallons allocation through the DWS Agreement, we're going to be adding an additional allocation from the well that we are proposing to develop. We did an exploratory well about ten years ago, and so we're now in the development phase, going through the EA. We have been blessed by receiving \$10 million from HHFDC to construct improvements and to bring it over towards Leiali'i and Wahikuli. So we are sharing that allocation with HHFDC since they are funding the bulk of the improvements. So that well is...will provide approximately one million gallons a day. So we look forward to negotiating with DWS on the allocation that DHHL will receive from this. And it's our intention to turn over the well and the improvements to the County for their maintenance, as long as we can get the water out for our DHHL properties. We have substantial improvements in the

**AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMITTEE**  
**Council of the County of Maui**

**June 7, 2021**

---

Wahikuli area, since the current storage facility does not have enough elevation to service all of our Leiali'i I-B lots, which we are planning up to 250 units in there. So we are constructing a higher elevation of tank just below the proposed bypass directly above DHHL's property. So we're really encouraged. We're very, very close to getting the EAs completed, getting our designs completed, and just continuing to work with both agencies on the water system improvements, as well as working with DEM on wastewater allocation. So I did want to just make a quick comment. So we did purchase Leiali'i I-A and I-B from HHFDC, this was back in about the mid-'90s. And we've been, you know, like a lot of our projects, it's just hampered because of the cost. And the legislature has been generous in providing \$10 million to make improvements to the parkway, and this is basically from Honoapiilani Highway up through the County's Lāhainā Civic Center parcel, and through the Leali'i Parkway. The Parkway itself is owned by HHFDC, not by DHHL, but we are responsible for its maintenance. And currently, we utilize a non-potable well in Wahikuli to provide the irrigation for the parkway. And that, in a nutshell, is our current status of our plans for West Maui Affordable Housing.

CHAIR JOHNSON: Okay. Thank you, Mr. Matsunaga. Members, we have questions, and we're going to start with Committee Vice-Chair Member Molina, followed by Member Paltin.

VICE-CHAIR MOLINA: Thank you, Mr. Chair. And good afternoon, Mr. Matsunaga. Just following up on the well development. At this point, do you know, and do you anticipate how many gallons of water could be gotten from that well that you're looking at considering?

MR. MATSUNAGA: Yes. We anticipate one million gallons a day. That was what we received from the test well.

VICE-CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. That's my only question. Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIR JOHNSON: Thank you, Councilmember Molina. Let's move on to Councilmember Paltin, followed by Councilmember Rawlins-Fernandez.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Mr. Matsunaga, Mr. Choy, and Ms. Cachola. I guess I was wondering, the land where the mixing plant that you were going to share with the County, is that located on DHHL lands?

MR. MATSUNAGA: Member Paltin, yes, it is. It is already identified as an easement. When we went through the negotiation with DWS, we anticipated a location for that mixing tank, knowing that we were bringing our transmission line across the gulch through DHHL land, and then connecting up to the mixing tank. The mixing tank and the treatment plant, as well as the lower...I think it's a two million gallon reservoir, will be all integrated, and so this was a good collaborative process where we didn't have to build another transmission or storage facility.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Is any of the Lāhainā Wastewater Treatment Facility located on



# **AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMITTEE**

## **Council of the County of Maui**

**June 7, 2021**

---

DHHL lands?

MR. MATSUNAGA: The lower reservoir was owned by Maui Land and Pine, but we understand purchased by the County. It is currently identified as an easement on Hawaiian Home Lands. The County also has easements for the transmission line going from the treatment plant up to the mid-level reservoir, as well as the upper reservoir.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. I guess my most important question is, at what point can we start awarding the lots?

MR. MATSUNAGA: Okay. I heard the discussion, and part of what we're doing in the environmental assessment is a lotting plan. And so the...as Mr. Choy points out, that the draft EA is going to the Commission in July, and the final EA is scheduled in the fall. What I plan to do is to take your comments to the Commission regarding awards, ala acceleration mid-'80s, as well as the notion of continuing undivided interest as per what we heard from beneficiaries. So we can continue that. We also have another program called Kuleana Program, which is awarding lots with lesser improvements, and we're expanding what we did in Kahikinui, where lots are off the grid. But we are...you know, we continue to face challenges in these areas because of as more beneficiaries settle that lands, you know, we've had to go in to make improvements for health and safe purpose. Because the roadways which were first graveled cannot handle the weather, as well as the terrain in there. . . . *(timer sounds)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you.

MR. CHOY: If I could add on, Member Paltin, our development schedule for Honokōwai is done in phases. Our phases are really tied to the availability of water. Phase I is scheduled based on the availability of water. So as Mr. Matsunaga had mentioned, if you have a 200,000 gallon per day agreement with the County, the majority of that water is going to Leiali'i, but the remainder will be used for Honokōwai. So Phase I, we do have water availability. Phase II, will be getting water from the well that Mr. Matsunaga had talked about that we are currently developing. Beyond that, we need to develop additional source, and we need to partner with the County in order to do that. So our development is really tied to the availability of one, our funding sources; and two, the availability of water.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you. And if I could make one request, when you were saying the 335 single-family homes, 553 and I'm not sure if it was 215 or 250, if we could get that in writing, I couldn't...because of the facemask, I couldn't hear it so good what you were saying. And I think, you know, as you enter into these agreements to work together to develop sources and things like that, that I just would mention that this Council really wants to help you. And so push it to the limit as fast as you can while we're all still here please. Thank you.

CHAIR JOHNSON: Okay. Thank you, Councilmember Paltin. Let's move on to Councilmember Keani Rawlins-Fernandez, followed by Councilmember Kama.

# **AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMITTEE**

## **Council of the County of Maui**

**June 7, 2021**

---

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. I have no questions. Aloha, Mr. Matsunaga and Mr. Choy. Mahalo for all your work. Mahalo, Chair.

CHAIR JOHNSON: Okay. Thank you so much, Councilmember Keani Rawlins-Fernandez. Let's move on to Councilmember Kama, followed by Councilmember Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you, Chair. Gee, Stewart, it's been a while since I've seen or talked to you, and you too, Andrew, and you too, Julie. So it's good to see you folks all here today. Gosh, Stewart, it's been a long time. Anyway, so my question is, you know, when we...when you all developed the accelerated lots Upcountry, you did the residential lots first, and then you did the ag lots later. When you develop the lots out in the Honokōwai area, is the intent to develop those lots simultaneously, or would you do one for us and then the other.

MR. MATSUNAGA: I'll leave this for Andrew.

MR. CHOY: When you mean simultaneously, you mean simultaneously with Leiali'i, or what other development were you referring to?

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: So Upcountry in the Waihuli Keokea area, it started off as one project, but then it branched off to the residential units were built first to develop that infrastructure first, and then later you put in the infrastructure for the Keokea, the farm lots. So I'm asking when you do it for the Honokōwai project, are you going to do it all simultaneously, or are you going to do residential first, and then ag lots, and then...and then I also heard you say...Stewart said that he was going to go back to the Commission and talk to them about the Kuleana Program, the Kuleana Hou, similar to Kahikinui, the accelerated awards which was done Upcountry, and the undivided interest that's in Waihuli. So I know that conversation is going to go on, so my question is, when you do that development, will it be simultaneously, or will you take one project, and then another, and then another?

MR. CHOY: Thank you for clarifying that question, Councilmember. We anticipate developing the agriculture lots for the first phase; and then in the second phase, the residential lots.

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

CHAIR JOHNSON: Thank you, Councilmember Tasha Kama. Let's move on to Councilmember Shane Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Mahalo, Chair. And aloha, Mr. Matsunaga and Mr. Choy. Just a couple of questions. So I think Mr. Choy just said, is it...I'm looking at your planning document, so it looks like Phase I is also Phase A below the perspective Lāhainā bypass extension. So that would be the first section, Phase A, and then Phase B would be above the bypass extension; is that correct?

MR. MATSUNAGA: Thank you, Member Sinenci. So I think you're referring to Leiali'i Village

**AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMITTEE**  
**Council of the County of Maui**

**June 7, 2021**

---

I-B, which we have broken up into two phases. And the reason we bifurcated that project, the dividing line right now is 130 foot elevation, so the current water storage system can provide water at adequate pressure to houses that are built under 130 foot elevation. So this is for Leiali'i. And then we are also planning a higher elevation water tank to service lots above the 130 foot to roughly 180 foot elevation.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Oh, okay. So just the Villages of Leiali'i, we're just concentrating on the section below the proposed bypass extension.

MR. MATSUNAGA: Yeah. So our lands are...we have 50 acres in Village I-B, we have the 104 lots in Village I-A that are occupied right now.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Oh, okay. And then Mr. Matsunaga, the timeline for completion. I mean, I know you're going and getting all of your water and your wastewater infrastructure first, so timeline as far as beginning construction or anticipated end of project.

MR. MATSUNAGA: The timeline, I have to admit is a little bit fuzzy because we're going through environmental assessment and SMA for the Honoapiilani Highway improvements that will meet up to Leiali'i Parkway. So that's a project in and of itself. And in addition to that, we're also designing the lots within the 130 foot elevation right now. So there's a lot of...there's some moving targets involved in that. We're hoping that we can get to the lot development in about a year and a half. We don't yet have the construction funding for the first phase of Village I-B, which is...right now, we're planning 92 units within that...within the 130 foot elevation.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Yeah. I see that there is . . . *(timer sounds)*. . . detached and attached homes on the open space. And so will there also be options, like the rent to own options for younger families establishing credit, like the Lai' 'Opua project on Kona.

CHAIR JOHNSON: I'm sorry, Councilmember...

MR. MATSUNAGA: That is possible. We've not yet been at the stage --

CHAIR JOHNSON: Mr. Matsunaga, if you could just...

MR. MATSUNAGA: -- to develop a rent with option to purchase program.

CHAIR JOHNSON: Okay. Mr. Matsunaga, I'm sorry, the time is running out. Do you have any...okay.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR JOHNSON: Okay. All right. Thank you so much. So gentlemen, I know...we have a busy schedule, and I didn't mean to cut you off, but we're going to move on to the other presentation. So I thank you once again for your time, and thank you for informing us on this. So let's move on to the next presentation by Blossom Feiteira. We'll hear from

# **AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMITTEE**

## **Council of the County of Maui**

**June 7, 2021**

---

Ms. Blossom, if she's on, who has a wealth of knowledge and experience as an advocate in working diligently with other community members for the rights of our beneficiaries.

MS. FEITEIRA: Aloha, Chairman Johnson. Thank you very much for the opportunity. Good afternoon, Councilmembers. Yeah, for the record, my name is Blossom Feiteira, and I have been serving as a beneficiary advocate for beneficiaries for the Homestead, particularly for Maui. So just to give you--and I'll keep it as short as I can, Chairman. This whole thing started with West Maui. As all of you know, West Maui did never have any Hawaiian Home Lands. And it took a kūpuna who was forced to relocate to Waiehu Kou. And this was a kūpuna that Kekai referenced in his testimony, Uncle Moon Keahi. In 1995, State Legislature passed what is known as Act 14. And that Act 14 provided for a return of approximately 31,000 acres of land back to the Homestead Trust, along with an allocation of \$30 million a year for infrastructure for over 20 years. With that kind of land, the Department embarked on meetings across Statewide in all of the communities to identify areas where the community wanted to have new lands established. For Lāhainā, for Uncle Moon, he believed that West Maui needed to have Hawaiian Home Lands there to benefit the needs of the beneficiaries that currently called Lāhainā home. These were intergenerational families that have been there for 500, 600 years. And his mana'o simply was is that he did not want to see another Native Hawaiian family sacrifice their only hana'o to take advantage of an opportunity for Hawaiian Home Lands. So we went to the meeting, we lobbied heavily for lands to be identified in Lāhainā, and a year later, Honokowai...the Honokowai parcel was then dedicated to Hawaiian Home Lands. In 2002, the Department embarked on their general planning process, which led to an island plan opportunity, and so the beneficiaries from West Maui identified Honokowai as their go to place. They wanted to come up with a plan. And to give credit to the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands Planning Division, they actually hired a Planning Consultant for the beneficiaries to develop their own master plan for Honokowai. This plan that they came up with actually was the first ever attempt where beneficiaries had an active role in planning the future of Hawaiian Home Lands for their community. In 2004, with the new Administration coming in under Linda Lingle, Honokowai was put on the side, and reprioritized the Department's role in...and concentrating more on acquisitions of properties, particularly on O'ahu. So O'ahu, Kona, La'i 'Ōpua, Discovery Harbor, and Leiali'i, were the four top areas that the Department acquired from HHFDC. And a bulk of the development funds, or the CIP funds that the Department had were then dedicated to developing these areas. Now mind you, over the same period of time, the Legislature, outside of the \$30 million that they got for CIP, got no other money. They got a zero allocation from the Legislature for eight years, okay, which slowed down a lot of other things a lot. So coming into the new Administration under Albert Naaleha, he started to restore some of the old plans, primarily Honokowai for Maui. It was based on demand from the beneficiaries in the West side, and so we assembled the participants from the original planning session. And what you hear today from people like Kekai Keahi and Kaipo Kekona, their parents were actually the original participants in the planning process, and these boys have stepped up, and to take their role back, along with many, many others. And so when we talk about advocacy work, we're talking about next generation Hawaiians who are stepping up to be beneficiary leaders, and taking ahold of this opportunity, and making it theirs. And this is happening not just in Honokowai, Leiali'i is the same thing

# **AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMITTEE**

## **Council of the County of Maui**

**June 7, 2021**

---

happening. We have projects that are coming up in other homestead areas, in East Maui in particular, Wakiu is one of them. And so it takes a little bit of work, but the thing about advocacy work is that you have to find the people that are going to have a vested interest in what they're doing. And clearly, over 60 participants from the West side have been actively participating in one way or form for the projects on West Maui. And I also commend Councilmember Paltin for her role in helping to push the projects forward. Auntie Ulu was a gem for the Lāhainā community. She was on a waitlist. And I just wanted to clarify some statements that were made earlier, if you don't mind, Chair Johnson, simply because Tiare Lawrence is my niece, and the concern she has is quite valid in the beneficiary community. But what she didn't know is that prior to my sister passing, my family...my brothers and sisters and I...sat with my sister, knowing that she was not going to make it to the awards process, asked us to come up with a plan to help her two younger children achieve homesteading opportunities. And so my younger sister and I made a commitment to my sister that what we would do is we would adopt her two children for the purpose of succession to Hawaiian Home Lands...that is absolutely legal, it's done before...and we will take her place on the waitlist, and if we have the opportunity to select a lot in ag and residential, those lots would be passed on to my niece and my nephew, okay. So I just wanted you guys to know that my sister's time on the list is not wasted, and that her children will definitely benefit from her time. And so with that, if there are any questions, Chairman.

CHAIR JOHNSON: Thank you, Blossom. I appreciate your presentation here. So let's move on. Now, before we move on I just want to say we're going probably be meeting bare quorum here because Councilmember Molina will have to leave shortly, and we'll go down the list here. Let's start with Member Sinenci, followed by Member Kama.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Mahalo, Chair, for the opportunity. And aloha, Blossom. Thank you for your presentation. I just have a couple of questions. So for Villages of Leiali'i, would there need to be a commission formed as once all the tenants have been chosen. What is the process?

MS. FEITEIRA: Well, it's a lot selection process, right, and normally what they do is they issue the invite. If you want one, you submit your paperwork. You're invited to an orientation process, where they give you the nuts and bolts of what you are going to be required to do. What we are trying to do with the Villages of Leiali'i is actually advocate for the establishment of a rent with option to own program for those single family dwellings. I think that the need is very, very much. And so...you know, and I think we're getting some traction with the Department and we are talking to Commissioners about supporting that. So it's looking okay, but we need to get past the EA process in order to really push forward and get that done.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Okay. And then Mr. Matsunaga mentioned that they still need funding for the construction phase of the Villages of Leiali'i.

MS. FEITEIRA: And that is correct. And soon as...we have a really good beneficiary group on Maui that actually advocate very heavily at the Legislature for the funding sources we need for our project. So we rely on Mr. Matsunaga to give us the numbers for our

# **AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMITTEE**

## **Council of the County of Maui**

**June 7, 2021**

---

projects so that we can take it forward and speak to our legislative delegation about that.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Is that my time, Chair, or I got one more?

CHAIR JOHNSON: Our alarm is different.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Oh, okay. Somebody's --

MS. FEITEIRA: Sorry, that was my phone.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: -- fax machine. And then so, you know, we had...I mean, what an expressive display of young community members in leadership during our testimony time. So...and they mentioned that...you know, including Mr. Kekai Keahi that, you know, you cannot sell the house, this is in perpetuity, perpetuity meaning seven generations. So, you know, this is not about the value of your house so that you can go ahead and, you know, maybe you borrow or fix it, but it's not to sell it, it's about keeping it in your ohana for generations. So I think with having a commission and having again, the need for local families from the 96761 zip code, I mean, that is very important to keep the families in their moku, yeah.

MS. FEITEIRA: In response to that, Chairman Johnson, in 2017 the State legislature passed Act 80, which lowers the blood quantum requirement for successors to 1/32s, that's 6.25 percent. And I need to also let you know that in the original Hawaiian Homes Commission Act, that was the recommended quantum made by delegate Kūhiō at the time. So we are still working on a strategy to lower the quantum for lessees for the waitlist. We're not having much traction because Congress is very hesitant about doing that, but we are moving our strategies forward to insure seven generations be able to live on their homestead, right. So 1/32s takes them to seven generations.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: And can DHHL qualify...should infrastructure monies come down from the Federal Government, can DHHL also qualify for those funds potentially?

MS. FEITEIRA: Yes, absolutely.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Okay.

MS. FEITEIRA: We are actually talking to Congress right now about that. . . . *(timer sounds)*. .

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Mahalo, Blossom. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR JOHNSON: Thank you, Councilmember Sinenci. Let's move on to Councilmember Kama, followed by Councilmember Keani Rawlins-Fernandez.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you, Chair. So, nice to see you Blossom. It's been a while too.

# **AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMITTEE**

## **Council of the County of Maui**

**June 7, 2021**

---

MS. FEITEIRA: Nice to see you too, Tasha.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: So, you know, common practice before was, you know, try to organize people from that particular community who wanted to live in that particular homestead, and organize them so that they can try to get the ball rolling, continue to makaala what the Department is doing, offer advice, suggestions, or whatever that. So is there something like that in the works, or has that been started, or as the beneficiary advocate, are you working on that?

MS. FEITEIRA: Yeah. So for the West side, we have a group that is actually being led by Kekai and Kaipō Kekona, along with Junya Nakoa. So those are the guys that have taken the kuleana on of leading the effort and pushing the project forward. And it's been a process, it's been about four years that we've worked closely together to get them to this point where they're actually standing up for the project, right. We're also doing the same thing in Hāna and for Wakiu. We are assembling beneficiaries there to be able to take that kuleana on. So yeah, we are doing the work to be able to bring the beneficiaries in that community together.

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

MS. FEITEIRA: You're welcome.

CHAIR JOHNSON: Okay. Thank you, Councilmember Kama. Let's move on to Councilmember Keani Rawlins-Fernandez, followed by Councilmember Committee Chair [sic] Mike Molina.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. Mahalo for your presentation, Ms. Feiteira. I don't have any questions for Ms. Feiteira, but I do have a question for you, Chair. I know you're trying to speed this along because we have another item. How many more presentations do we have under this item, and I was hoping you'd be able to share like what you're hoping to achieve for this item for today?

CHAIR JOHNSON: Yeah. We're going to defer the second item, I can tell by that right now. But this one, we have two more presentations, and the goal is to find out the status, where are we in this. Because obviously, 100 years is a way too long, and what can we do as a body to help along. So that's it.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. But like specifically, like you wanted a specific update? Because the Resolution asks for renewal and extended water and sewer credits. So were you hoping to get that information or...

CHAIR JOHNSON: Yeah, specifically. And sure, if it's going to help with infrastructure. And I mean, this whole discussion is, I think, very pertinent to the what we can do. I mean, this is Affordable Housing Chair...or Affordable Housing Committee, so this is where the rubber meets the road, as they say. Like this is the time when we try to speak with people who are involved in this, and see what they're doing about it, and what our

**AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMITTEE**  
**Council of the County of Maui**

**June 7, 2021**

---

Departments are doing about it.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo, Chair.

CHAIR JOHNSON: Thank you. Okay. Let's see. Let's move on to Councilmember Molina.

VICE-CHAIR MOLINA: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Aloha, Blossom. No questions for Ms. Feiteira. Thank you.

MS. FEITEIRA: Aloha, Chairman.

CHAIR JOHNSON: All right. And then Member Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Blossom. I just...I wasn't sure if you were bringing up Auntie Ulu, she's still alive, she didn't pass away.

MS. FEITEIRA: Yeah, you know what, I forgot. Your mother-in-law is Lady, yeah? Auntie Lady. Yeah, yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Yeah, yeah. I just wanted to clarify that. I guess...I had a question, I'm not sure if you know the answer. If somebody has been awarded a residential lot, but they haven't been awarded the agricultural lot and they pass away, would they still...their downline beneficiaries, if not 50 percent, still qualify be on the list for the agricultural lot.

MS. FEITEIRA: No. They have to be a 50 percenter in order to take the place on the waitlist.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: So in order for like Kekai to get onto the agricultural lot, Uncle Moku has to live long enough to get awarded an agricultural lot.

MS. FEITEIRA: Correct. Which is why we are pushing for the reinstatement of the undivided interest awards. Because I think it's...you know, we've lost so many kūpuna on the waitlist, and their children and their grandchildren aren't able to succeed them. But if they have that paper lease, it becomes a legacy issue, yeah. So then they can pass it on. So in the case of Uncle Moku, he could give it to Kekai right now if he had the undivided interest lease. So we're pushing really hard at the Commission level, and I think we're getting quite close for the reinstatement of that for the project. So wish us luck.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Is there anything that this Council can do to assist in reinstating the undivided interest?

MS. FEITEIRA: Well, I think support from the Council would be greatly appreciated on behalf of beneficiaries whose parents are on the waitlist. You know, there's nothing much that we can do for those that have already passed on, unless we can figure out if there is a family member that do qualify to take their place on the waitlist. But other than that, no. I mean, the lost opportunity can be devastating for families that have been waiting



# **AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMITTEE**

## **Council of the County of Maui**

**June 7, 2021**

---

for 30, 40 years. So any kokua that the Council can make in support of that reinstatement, I think would go a long way with the Department. Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you.

CHAIR JOHNSON: Okay. Blossom, thank you so much for coming out and speaking with us. It's always good to hear the boots on the ground. We're going to move on. I appreciate you answering all of our questions. And once again, thank you for your time.

MS. FEITEIRA: Okay. Mahalo for the opportunity, Mr. Chair. Thank you.

CHAIR JOHNSON: You're welcome. Aloha. Next we have Kekoa Enomoto, Director of Pa'upena Community Development. I think the Committee would benefit from being about her experiences and recommendations related to advanced grants of Hawaiian Home Lands. Kekoa, are you on the call?

MS. ENOMOTO: Aloha.

CHAIR JOHNSON: Aloha, we can hear you.

MS. ENOMOTO: Okay. I'm on BlueJeans, I'm not able...I mean, I've got my camera on, I'm wondering is it on over there?

CHAIR JOHNSON: Staff, can you unlock....

MS. ENOMOTO: There we are. There we go.

CHAIR JOHNSON: Okay, now we got you. Thank you.

MS. ENOMOTO: We got it. Okay, good. Okay. Aloha no, Members of the Maui County Council Affordable Housing Committee. I am Kekoa Enomoto from Waihuli Native Hawaiian Homestead and Upcountry Maui. Hearing organizers asked me to discuss the DHHL accelerated awards program. Under this program, Hawaiian Homes Trust beneficiaries receive a lease for an unimproved homestead lot. That is, accelerated awardees get a homestead parcel without boundary . . . *(inaudible)*. . . but without structure of roads and utilities including for water, electricity, gas, telephone, broadband and cable TV. Maui Island has some 31,831 homelands acres, with an estimated 28,000 acres available for future residential, agricultural, and pastoral homesteading. What is the problem, observers ask? I believe beneficiaries need to educate themselves, advocate, and thereby create the political will and a new paradigm to beneficiaries to hasten them from the waitlist onto the 'āina. Today I would like to suggest three reasons why the DHHL accelerated awards program may help mitigate the affordable housing crisis in Maui County. These reasons form the acronym SOS; that is S for sense of ownership, O for off Maui waitlist; and S for self-determination. First, sense of ownership would be felt by Maui waitlist beneficiaries who would receive an accelerated award, and thereby be motivated to build their homes. Second, off Maui waitlist would be the status for some or all 9,000...more than 9,000 Valley Isle waitlisters who would get accelerated awards

**AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMITTEE**  
**Council of the County of Maui**

**June 7, 2021**

---

of specific ‘āina...specific plots of ‘āina. And third, self-determination would be invigorated among accelerated awardees. Renewal of this 38-year old dormant DHHL accelerated awards program would stimulate an emerging spirit of sovereignty and self-reliance among Homelands beneficiaries. Even now, Maui beneficiary leaders are manifesting self-determination to develop homestead subdivisions and install infrastructure via USDA, HUD, and other funding sources, to undertake these initiatives themselves instead of waiting for DHHL to do so. In this context, I would like to excerpt Maui County Council Resolution 86-47, passed unanimously March 20, 1987, “Expressing support for the acceleration of the homesteading program of the Hawaiian Homes Commission and urging support by the County Administration.” Continue, “Be it resolved that (1) the Mayor, the Honorable Hannibal Tavares, is hereby requested to join in supporting the DHHL acceleration program; (2) the Department of Public Works is hereby requested to expedite the appropriate reviews of construction plans submitted by homestead lessees and issue the necessary building permits if the plans are in conformity with applicable County Codes; and (3) the Department of Water Supply is hereby requested to expedite the appropriate reviews of plans submitted by DHHL for the purposes of accelerating the awarding of homestead lots to Native Hawaiians”. The nine-member Council adopted the Resolution with ayes by Linda Crockett Lingle, Goro Hokama, Patrick S. Kawano, Howard S. Kihune, Thomas P. Morrow, Robert H. Nakasone, Wayne K. Nishiki, Velma M. Santos, and Joe S. Tanaka. Councilwoman Tasha Kama and I were among the original 70 accelerated lessees at the Keokea Farm Lots three and half decades ago in May 1986. The Councilwoman founded the Waiohuli Keokea Hawaiian Homestead Association, then representing both the Waiohuli residential and Keokea agricultural accelerated awards subdivisions. I advocated over the course of 24 years at the Hawaiian Homes Commission to get Keokea infrastructure, which DHHL completed by 2006. Today I serve as the 2019-23 President of the Maui/Lana’i Mokupuni Council, representing 18 homelands entities on two islands. Before I conclude, I’d like to say that in response to Deputy Director Agawa, who says DHHL is just another developer. I’m wondering if this Resolution that was passed in 1987 still applies to the County Council, in which case the County Council indicated that they want to support accelerated homesteads. And therefore, I don’t think DHHL would just be any other developer. The County Council back then, three and a half decades ago, expressed its support, it’s unanimous support, for development on the homelands. And in response to Councilwoman Paltin, I think a Resolution by the County Council supporting undivided interest would carry a lot of weight at the Hawaiian Homes Commission. I advocate almost every month before the Hawaiian Homes Commission, and believe me, when they hear from County Councils that it is...it carries a lot of weight. So in conclusion, I commend the 2021 Maui County Council for its interest in the DHHL accelerated program, that this same body supported three and half decades ago with a Council Resolution, and I send an SOS signal for the accelerated awards program to help mitigate the County’s affordable housing crisis. Mahalo.

CHAIR JOHNSON: Thank you, Ms. Enomoto. Members--I’m sure we have questions for you, so we’ll start with Member...Councilmember Mike Molina, followed by Member Paltin.

VICE-CHAIR MOLINA: Thank you, Chairman. And good afternoon, Ms. Enomoto, and thank you for taking us back through some history as to how we got to...got here now, and

# **AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMITTEE**

## **Council of the County of Maui**

**June 7, 2021**

---

how it all started. So it was much appreciated. So, you know, I like this idea of this accelerated program that you propose. I think programs like this is what we're going to need...we have to think outside of the proverbial box, yeah. So anyway, I really don't have any questions, but I just certainly appreciate your presentation. And hopefully that we can continue to move forward on this very critical issue of providing the much-needed houses for, you know, Native Hawaiians who have just been waiting for years and those who have passed on and not been...have had the opportunity to own a home. Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

MS. ENOMOTO: Mahalo, mahalo.

CHAIR JOHNSON: Thank you. Okay, Councilmember Paltin, followed by Councilmember Kama.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Ms. Enomoto, for all your dedication and hard work. I was thinking of maybe going off of that 1987 Resolution and just updating it maybe, so that it can reaffirm our commitment to what was committed to in '87. And I can probably find it, but if you do have it handy, I just was wondering if you would mind emailing it to me.

MS. ENOMOTO: I certainly will.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you.

MS. ENOMOTO: I'd be happy to.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And just...you know, in the talking, I tried to have my husband, who is a beneficiary, go to those planning meetings and it's...it's really hard because it's almost cruel. Because he already starts to think of what he wants to plant and all these things, and there's no guarantee that it will happen in his lifetime, there is no guaranty that his children will be able to even realize it without that accelerated program. And so that's part of the reason why I think, you know, it's hard to participate in the planning of these programs, not knowing that you will ever see it or anyone in your ohana would see it. And so I thank you again so much for all the work that you've done.

MS. ENOMOTO: Don't give up. I also didn't think I would see infrastructure at Keokea in my lifetime, and we did get it after a quarter of a century of advocating. And you know, if Stewart Matsunaga is committing to having those lots be in a year and a half, let's hold him to it. Let's advocate, and make his feet feel the fire. Yeah. That's what you've got to do, you've got to...and that's how I did it, have been doing it through the years. And honestly, the Commission, you know, they're like this, oh, oh, here comes Mrs. Enomoto, but I mean, that's how I got the infrastructure. Micah Kane was the...he was the Administrator of the Department at that time, he's like Mrs. Enomoto, you don't have to come anymore, we've...I promise you that I will give you your infrastructure, and he was as good as his word. The day he was named a Bishop Estate trustee is when we got our new lots and infrastructure. So don't think that it's not going to be in your lifetime, it's...let's make it happen.

# **AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMITTEE**

## **Council of the County of Maui**

**June 7, 2021**

---

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And I also really sincerely want to thank you. You know, many people once they get their infrastructure and their lot and their house would be happy, but it means so much that you're continuing to advocate for those who are still on the list. And not everyone does that. So thank you so much.

MS. ENOMOTO: Yes. Pā'upena Community Development Corporation was formed by beneficiaries, because we're so grateful. We cherish this benefit that we received from Prince Kūhiō, and we want all of those people, those 28,000 people on the waitlist, to benefit the way we do.

CHAIR JOHNSON: Well said. Well said. I made a mistake, I mixed up the order, so next is Councilmember Keani Rawlins-Fernandez, followed by Councilmember Kama.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. Aloha, Ms. Enomoto.

MS. ENOMOTO: I bless your...

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Headquarters.

MS. ENOMOTO: Yes, in Wailuku. Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, mahalo.

MS. ENOMOTO: And you know, I am very active with your mother. She is advocating almost every month for the accelerated awards at Na'iwa, which were given out the same time as Keokea, but nobody was advocating. So she's now advocating. Yes, bless her.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: All right. I guess you've covered it all. That was actually a lot of the points I was going to make. Mahalo for all your help, echoing what Member Paltin said. You've really helped my mom and the Na'iwa Homestead Association, you know, really helped...

MS. ENOMOTO: Your Mom Luca Wallace on Moloka'i, yes.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yes, absolutely. And so those Na'iwa lots, Pala'au Na'iwa lots, were granted via the accelerated program in 1986. And I understand that it was a political move at a time for the Governor, to make him look good before he ended his term, so that...because he hadn't granted much, if any, homestead lots during his tenure, that it was a political move right at the end of his term to make it look like he did get...do something for DHHL. Which is unfortunate because then all it became was names on pieces of paper, but it never resulted to people on their...on this land. And as Ms. Enomoto spoke to, it takes groups of people to advocate. Not only DHHL, because DHHL can only do so much. Groups of people have to go the Legislature because it's the Legislature that holds the purse strings, and have to put pressure on the Legislature to fund DHHL to do all these infrastructure improvements necessary to get people on the land. But everyone just gets mad at DHHL and, you know, I give DHHL a lot of

# **AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMITTEE**

## **Council of the County of Maui**

**June 7, 2021**

---

credit because they take cracks from both sides, from the Legislature and from the beneficiaries because they're not getting people on land quick enough. But really, it's the Legislature that's not funding DHHL appropriately enough, and they haven't historically. And so I honestly believe that counties, as an extension of the State, should be held accountable to the same organic act, that same obligation of the Hawaiian Homestead Act of 1920, to get Hawaiians on the land. And so, Ms. Enomoto my question I guess for you is, what do you think about advocating to the Charter Commission to get that language into the Charter?

MS. ENOMOTO: I think that's a wonderful idea. And actually, inspired by my granddaughter, my 16-year-old granddaughter, I actually sent proposed legislation that would change the State holiday from Admissions Day to Hawaiian Homes Commission Act Day, because that is actually what catapulted Statehood, was the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act. The Congress said if you will manage this Federal trust, we will give you statehood. And the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands is the only Department in the State Constitution that is mandated to be funded for operations and administration. And as Blossom indicated, for eight years, the Legislature did not fund the Department. So yes, I think it would be fabulous to get it in the Maui County Charter, to recognize this. . . . *(timer sounds)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Right.

MS. ENOMOTO: The importance of the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act for the definition of the State of Hawai'i.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Right. So more than a holiday, I agree with you that the DHHL is more than just another developer. And I believe by doing this it would elevate DHHL from just being another developer to an obligation...

MS. ENOMOTO: And I'm happy to work with you, Councilwoman, on the wording for the proposed Charter amendment.

CHAIR JOHNSON: Wow.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Ms. Enomoto. Mahalo, Chair.

CHAIR JOHNSON: Okay. Well said. Let's move on to Councilmember Kama. Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you, Chair. Aloha, Kekoa. It's been a long time since I've seen you too. Good to see you.

MS. ENOMOTO: Mahalo.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: I don't have any questions because I think for such a long time we were like two peas in a pod, so I think I know well enough of the work that you've done. But I just wanted to let you know, I'm so very proud of you, the work that you've done since we've parted. But I think that you're going to die with your boots on, that's what

# **AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMITTEE**

## **Council of the County of Maui**

**June 7, 2021**

---

I think. You're going to continue to do what you're doing, no matter what. And I'm so proud to have been your friend, so proud to have been a part of your organization, and I just want to wish you the best. So thank you.

MS. ENOMOTO: Thank you so much. I know you and I are partners in crime. I was in Honolulu on staff at the *Honolulu Star Bulletin* and we would have calls at like 10:00 at night, strategizing how we are going to have our meetings with our beneficiaries and...yeah. We've been doing it for decades together. Mahalo.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: And trying to write an ANA grant overnight. You remember that one?

MS. ENOMOTO: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Oh, my gosh, that was too much.

MS. ENOMOTO: We wrote a grant overnight and got it. Yeah.

CHAIR JOHNSON: Amazing. Okay. Thank you, Councilmember Kama. Ms. Enomoto, I appreciate your presentation today. I just want to say thank you once again for your time. This body was, you know, really...they were on the edge of their seat listening to you, and you spread some really beautiful knowledge. Oh, yes. Go ahead, Councilmember Sinenci. Did I forget you? I beg your pardon. How unfortunate. I beg your pardon. Go ahead, Councilmember Sinenci. You were camouflaged with that beautiful background.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you for the opportunity. I too just wanted to mahalo, Ms. Enomoto for her getting our Hāna residents up and going, and getting our Commission together for the Wakiu Estates. So again, mahalo. My sincere gratitude to that. My only question was about...you know, and some of the testifiers said it today about keeping Lāhainā families in Lāhainā. And that has been a question for my community opening up Hawaiian Homes is that we open it up to, you know, all kanaka Maui. So...and I know Lāna'i, you know, that land was awarded just for Lana'i residents. So technically, we can't really have just the moku lineal decedents of the area.

MS. ENOMOTO: Well, Councilmember Sinenci, I would like to say this. Right now is the period in which the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands is developing its general plan for the next 20 years that will cover 2022 to 2042. And we have the opportunity to make changes. And one of those changes should be, in my mind, first right of refusal to people who have genealogical ties to that area. And so yes, we at the Maui/Lana'i Moku-puni Council will definitely be forwarding that, you know, to those homestead areas that want it, that want to elect to have that, you know, to have...and you know, there are also associations that want to give preference to kūpuna, age 65 and older, who have been on the waitlist for 35 or more years. That's another proposal that we're making to the general plan. So...and you know, you yourself could, you know, have...sponsor resolution to do that, you know, on behalf of your Maui constituents, you know, to

**AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMITTEE**  
**Council of the County of Maui**

**June 7, 2021**

---

support that general plan amendment, yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Okay.

MS. ENOMOTO: And I'd be happy to work with you on the wording of that also. Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Okay, perfect. We'll get the Commission on board too. Because you're right, you know, we've seen families have to move out of East Maui and move to Central or Upcountry just to quality for a home. And here in East Maui, you know, there might be 10, 15 homes for sale, and they're all over a million dollars. So there's nothing...we can't even...it's out of reach for a lot of our residents. Again, mahalo for your advocacy all these years, and looking forward to continue working with you. Mahalo.

MS. ENOMOTO: Looking forward to having homesteaders on those thousand acres in East Maui of homelands that have been sitting there fallow for 25 years. Looking forward to that.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Mahalo. Thank you.

CHAIR JOHNSON: Yeah. Mahalo, Ms. Enomoto. We're going to...once again, thank you for your time, and speaking with us. And we'll let you go now because we're going to move on to the next presenter. So thank you once again.

MS. ENOMOTO: Mahalo.

CHAIR JOHNSON: Okay. Our final resource person is Paul Cheng, presenter of Maui Oceanview LP, and developer of the Pulelehua Project. I would like him to present about his affordable housing project and how he's working together with DHHL. We have both of the Chengs online. Welcome, gentlemen. The floor is yours.

MR. PAUL CHENG: Good afternoon, Chair Johnson and the Committee Members. I'm very honored to be allowed to speak today. So for our quick presentation, my son Preston will give you a quick update of where we are in Pulelehua.

MR. PRESTON CHENG: Hello, everyone.

CHAIR JOHNSON: Yeah.

MR. PRESTON CHENG: Okay. Hello. Would the...would someone kindly please pass the screen so that we could do the presentation on our new project.

CHAIR JOHNSON: Staff, would you allow him to share the screen.

MR. PRESTON CHENG: Is there a way to do such a thing?

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: You can already, Mr. Cheng. You just click on

**AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMITTEE**  
**Council of the County of Maui**

**June 7, 2021**

---

the side of the end call button, there's an icon that looks like a monitor.

MR. PRESTON CHENG: Can everyone see the screen?

CHAIR JOHNSON: We sure can.

MR. PRESTON CHENG: Is it on display? Okay, very good. All righty. So to kind of quickly remind everyone of our project. This is the proposed site plan for Pulelehua. It sits right next to the DHHL lands. The Pulelehua project, Phase I, will consist of 240 units of multi-family, which will be split into an allocation of 80 workforce housing rentals, 40 affordable condos for sale, and 120 market rate rental units. The first phase will also have a clubhouse and a pool for the community.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Chair, did we want to just focus on the Hawaiian Homes connection portion of it?

CHAIR JOHNSON: Yeah, sure.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I'm not sure if this is agendized for the Sunshine Law –

CHAIR JOHNSON: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: -- the Pulelehua project, but mainly just the DHHL connection.

MR. PRESTON CHENG: So we'll do just that. Thank you.

CHAIR JOHNSON: Yeah, that would really...I'd appreciate that, just go right into that affordable housing.

MR. PRESTON CHENG: All righty. So looking at what we are trying to do, Maui Oceanview, which is us, has been working with DHHL, and Kā'anapali Land Management Company, and Maui County to connect a sanitary sewer line to the plants in Lāhainā. This project will create an opportunity for DHHL to take advantage of this infrastructure that we are putting in at any kind of point in time in the future. The way that it's being designed will allow them for easy connections anywhere along the path. This saves both DHHL time, as this infrastructure could be put in as soon as we are able to get going on it; and money, which is always a good thing to save time and money on infrastructure. And as you can kind of see here in this diagram, the green line represents the sanitary sewer line that's going to be crossing Pulelehua, DHHL land, and Kā'anapali Land Management. And we have been working with all of these landowners to...with easements, and to make sure everybody has a chance to work with it in the future. And that's kind of what we have going on. We think that this is a win-win for everyone involved.

CHAIR JOHNSON: Mr. Cheng, I'm sorry to interrupt you real quick, I'm just...can you make it a little bit bigger, a lot of people are looking on smaller laptops. You got a way...there you go.



**AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMITTEE**  
**Council of the County of Maui**

**June 7, 2021**

---

MR. PRESTON CHENG: Sure.

CHAIR JOHNSON: Okay. Mahalo. Thank you for that.

MR. PRESTON CHENG: Yeah, we can kind of do that. Hopefully that's clear for you all.

CHAIR JOHNSON: Great, thank you. Okay. So that's the end of your presentation.

MR. PRESTON CHENG: Yeah, short and sweet. We just wanted to kind of show...

CHAIR JOHNSON: Okay, that's perfect. It certainly sounds like there's...if you don't mind, stop sharing your screen so we can have a conversation about it.

MR. PRESTON CHENG: You got it.

CHAIR JOHNSON: Because I'm sure we're going to have some questions for you.

MR. PRESTON CHENG: Yeah, let me undo that here.

CHAIR JOHNSON: Thank you. Okay. So it certainly sounds like there is promising opportunities and partnerships that could benefit the entire West Maui community. Members, let's go through some questions. So first we'll start with Member Sinenci, followed by Member Rawlins-Fernandez.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Okay. Thank you, Chair. Just for clarification, that was that piece of line that came down through DHHL property, correct, Mr. Cheng?

MR. PAUL CHENG: No. It's the green line that goes across...parallel to the highway, from Pulelehua all the way through DHHL, then through Kā'anapali Development, and then go around the backside of the sewage plant...the DEM plant.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Oh, okay. Thank you for that, Mr. Cheng.

MR. PAUL CHENG: Just about a mile long. It's about a mile long, yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Okay. And then what is your project timeline? When do you plan to begin construction and end of project?

MR. PAUL CHENG: As quickly as possible. Our...we have an upcoming Phase II project district approval meeting with the Planning Commission, I think it's currently scheduled for July 27th. We are already doing survey for the sewer line route. We obtained permission from DHHL, which have been very good to work with, Stewart and Julia [sic], and they've been fantastic, and of course, Kā'anapali. So as soon as that easement route is surveyed out, we will present the document...create a legal document, of course, to offer to DHHL officially and Kā'anapali. And then if they sign off on it, that we...by then we should have our Phase II district plan approval, then we will go right away. We have a team of

# **AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMITTEE**

## **Council of the County of Maui**

**June 7, 2021**

---

engineers on standby ready to finish up the design. They are 70 percent done already, so it wouldn't take us a couple of months. This is relatively simple. And with their approval, with DHHL and Kā'anapali's approval, we will immediately apply to build the sewer line.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Mahalo. Mahalo, Mr. Cheng, for that clarification. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR JOHNSON: Thank you, Councilmember Sinenci. Let's move on to Councilmember Rawlins-Fernandez, followed by Councilmember Kama.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aloha, Chair.

MR. PAUL CHENG: Hi, how are you?

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Mr. Cheng and Mr. Cheng. Mahalo for your presentation and for your service to West Maui and to our community.

MR. PAUL CHENG: Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: I don't have any questions. I'm excited. Mahalo, Chair.

MR. PAUL CHENG: Thank you.

CHAIR JOHNSON: Okay. Councilmember Kama, followed by Councilmember Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you, Chair. I have no questions. But I tell you, we're not going to get no housing until that sewer gets in, so looking forward to that.

MR. PAUL CHENG: Thank you. We're excited.

CHAIR JOHNSON: Yeah, the sewer is key. Okay. Councilmember Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you. I have worked with Paul and Preston, and I'm just grateful that we're at this point, and that they did see it as a win-win to partner with DHHL, because it is a win-win for my community for sure, to try and get folks on those Hawaiian Homes sooner rather than later. So thank you very much for agreeing to do that, and making it happen.

MR. PAUL CHENG: We're delighted, yeah...we're really happy to do that. It's just a good thing to be a good neighbor. And affordable housing, you know, is so needed. Hey, anything we can be a resource, we're here to help.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Yeah. And that's in addition to the affordable housing that will be provided with Pulelehua, so it's just a bigger bang for your buck, the affordable in perpetuity. Thank you.

**AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMITTEE**  
**Council of the County of Maui**

**June 7, 2021**

---

MR. PAUL CHENG: Yeah. Thank you.

CHAIR JOHNSON: Okay. Gentlemen, I appreciate your presentation. Thank you so much for joining us. Everyone, we had a round of questions. I just want to say once again what the other Members were saying, thank you so much. We appreciate your time and coming and presenting. So have a good one. Thank you once again.

MR. PAUL CHENG: Thank you.

MR. PRESTON CHENG: Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR JOHNSON: So I want to thank all of the resources today for the updates, their deep knowledge, and their recommendations for making a better and faster process. The Comprehensive Affordable Housing Plan will be transmitted at the end of the month, and my hope is...my hope is, is that we all have the opportunity to integrate what we learned and discussed here today in your proposals or recommendations that are likely to arise and evolve when we take up the plan in Committee. So Members, if there is no further objections, I would like to defer this item.

**COUNCILMEMBERS VOICED NO OBJECTIONS.** (Excused: KK, AL, MM, YS)

**ACTION: DEFER.**

CHAIR JOHNSON: Okay. Thank you.

**AH-8 COUNTY-OWNED PARCEL ON NORTH PAPA AVENUE (FORMER COLLEGE DORM SITE (KAHULUI)) (CC 17-213)**

CHAIR JOHNSON: The next and final item on the agenda is AH-8 County-Owned Parcel on North Papa Avenue (Former College Dorm Site (Kahului)). And again, if there is no objections, I would like to defer this item to a later date.

**COUNCILMEMBERS VOICED NO OBJECTIONS.** (Excused: KK, AL, MM, YS)

**ACTION: DEFER.**

CHAIR JOHNSON: Okay, Members. So I just want to say thank you for the discussion and suggested ideas that we had come out of this meeting today. And it is now 4:30, and the Affordable Housing Committee on June 7th, 2021, the meeting is now adjourned of Affordable Housing. . . .*(gavel)*. . .

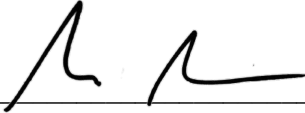
**AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMITTEE**  
**Council of the County of Maui**

**June 7, 2021**

---

**ADJOURN: 4:30 p.m.**

APPROVED BY:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Gabe Johnson', written over a horizontal line.

GABE JOHNSON, Chair  
Affordable Housing Committee

ah:min:210607:ta

Transcribed by: Terianne Arreola

**AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMITTEE**  
**Council of the County of Maui**

**June 7, 2021**

---

CERTIFICATION

I, Terianne Arreola, hereby certify that pages 1 through 53 of the foregoing represents, to the best of my ability, a true and correct transcript of the proceedings. I further certify that I am not in any way concerned with the cause.

DATED the 30th day of June 2021, in Wailuku, Hawai'i.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Terianne Arreola', is written over a horizontal line.

Terianne Arreola