

INFRASTRUCTURE AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

Council of the County of Maui

MINUTES

January 3, 2022

Online Via BlueJeans

CONVENE: 9:01 a.m.

PRESENT: VOTING MEMBERS:

Councilmember Yuki Lei K. Sugimura, Chair
Councilmember Tasha Kama, Vice-Chair
Councilmember Kelly Takaya King
Councilmember Alice L. Lee
Councilmember Michael J. Molina
Councilmember Tamara Paltin

EXCUSED: VOTING MEMBERS:

Councilmember Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez

STAFF:

Laksmi Abraham, Legislative Analyst
Lesley Milner, Legislative Analyst
Paige Greco, Legislative Analyst
Kasie Apo Takayama, Legislative Analyst
Richard Mitchell, Legislative Attorney
David Raatz, Deputy Director
Clarita Balala, Committee Secretary
Lenora Dineen, Council Services Assistant Clerk

Evan Dust, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Tasha Kama
Lois Whitney, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Tasha Kama
Davideane Kama-Sickels, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Tasha Kama
Axel Beers, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Kelly Takaya King
Sarah Sexton, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Kelly Takaya King
Jordan Helle, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Yuki Lei K. Sugimura

ADMIN.:

Jennifer M. Oana, Deputy Corporation Counsel, Department of the Corporation Counsel
Jordan Molina, Deputy Director, Department of Public Works
Sananda Baz, Managing Director, Department of Management
Herman Andaya, Administrator, Maui Emergency Management Agency
Jeffrey Pearson, Director, Department of Water Supply
Eric Nakagawa, Director, Department of Environmental Management
Karla Peters, Director, Department of Parks and Recreation

OTHERS:

Jeffrey Ueoka, Esq., Mancini Welch & Geiger LLP
Mahina Martin, Director of Government and Community Affairs, Hawaiian Electric

INFRASTRUCTURE AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

January 3, 2022

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

CHAIR SUGIMURA: . . .*(gavel)*. . . Happy New Year, everybody. Welcome to the Infrastructure Transportation Committee. My name is Yuki Lei Sugimura, and the time is now 9:01 a.m. And wanted you to know that today we are filming, as we did—not filming—we’re recording this, and our meeting is being conducted as we did in the past year as the Sunshine...the Governor sent out on, I think it was December 30th, and we got a press release from our Chair on the 31st, that the Sunshine protocols that were in place last year went back in place because of the Omnicron [*sic*] and the rise in the COVID numbers. So out of caution and safety of our community, we are still recording online. We do not have a address that people can go to, which was what the original intent was with the bill that got passed and signed into law at the last legislative session. I think our Chair worked really hard on that, so thank you very much, Alice. But because of the rising number of Omnicron [*sic*] and...and not only on Maui, but really on O’ahu, we are back to what we were doing last year, which is recording...everybody can record from different locations and not having one address, which was going to be the Council Chambers. So at that...at this time, let’s see if...let’s see if OCS sent me more comments that I was supposed to make. I think...

MR. MITCHELL: Chair Sugimura?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yes.

MR. MITCHELL: Chair Sugimura?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yes.

MR. MITCHELL: If I...if I may, if I could just clarify what you said there. The Governor’s most recent emergency proclamation on Sunshine Law in-person meetings, that’s how it was titled --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

MR. MITCHELL: -- suspended the use of all in-person meeting locations for testimony and viewing. So for that reason --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yes.

MR. MITCHELL: -- our chamber location and the courtesy sites will not be operating today.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Will not be, right. Okay.

MR. MITCHELL: Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. Thank you very much, Remi, for that clarification. Anything

INFRASTRUCTURE AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

January 3, 2022

else you would like to say? No, he's...he logged off. Okay. So that...if anyone will be testifying, please state your name or if anyone is in the room, vehicle, or workspace with you today. And I'd like to welcome our Committee Members, Committee Vice-Chair Tasha Kama. Nice seeing you. Happy New Year.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Happy New Year, Chair, and all of my colleagues. And aloha kakahiaka to everyone. I'm hoping that we're going to have a wonderful year for 2022. Thank you. Aloha.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Aloha. Alice Lee, I'm sorry, if you have a greeting for us, I...would you share it?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Namaste. Namaste.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Namaste. Namaste. Namaste. All right. Next we have Kelly King.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Namaste. Aloha kakahiaka. If I'd known that...that we were going to use that, I would have kept my pajama top on that says namaste on it. Hau'oli Makahiki Hou, everyone. And looking forward to a productive 2022. Oh, I'm in my...my office, my district office in my...my room by myself, and my...and Ellen is in the outer offices.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. We also have Mike Molina from the virtual bridge in Makawao. Happy New Year, Mike.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Aloha and...Happy New Year. Aloha to you, and namaste to you, everyone, and all of our wonderful folks out in Maui County viewing this meeting today as we start the year 2022. And I just have to say, all of you look as marvelous and wonderful as you did in 2021, and even right now in 2022, just the same. And for the record, I'm transmitting from my home in Makawao. Aloha.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Happy New Year and good to see you too, Mike. Next we have Tamara Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Aloha kakahiaka. Hau'oli Makahiki Hou kākou and namaste. I'm broadcasting live and direct from the West Maui District Office. With me here today is my aide Angela, as well as two interns I just hired named Nahiku and Kalehua.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, very...very wonderful. Who is not with us today, and is excused, is Keani Rawlins-Fernandez. She says...sends her best wishes for the new year, and will not be at this meeting, but will be with us in spirit. Non-Voting Members who are welcome to join us is Shane Sinenci and Gabe Johnson. From Corp. Counsel there's Jennifer Oana. And I hope Mike Hopper joins us for the first item as he was...as he drafted the reso. Department of Management we have Sandy Baz. Department of Environmental Management...for the last item I invited the departments that had any kind of interaction, I guess, with the storm. So Department of Environmental Management, Eric Nakagawa; Public Works, Rowena Dagdag-Andaya, Jordan Molina;

INFRASTRUCTURE AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

January 3, 2022

Department of Parks and Recreation, Karla Peters; Department of Water Supply, Jeff Pearson; Maui Emergency Management Agency, Herman Andaya. And other representatives via BlueJeans is...or phone, is Mahina Martin, Director of Government Affairs, Hawaiian Electric, and Jeffrey Ueoka, attorney with Mancini Welch & Geiger LLP. And he is...or he will be the resource, with your permission, for the first item, Wailele easement. Committee Staff, thank you very much for working and putting this meeting together. Laks Abraham, Legislative Analyst; Lesley Milner, Budget Committee Analyst; Paige Greco, Legislative Analyst; Clarita Balala, Committee Secretary; Richard Mitchell, Legislative Attorney; Lei Dineen, which is Council Services Assistant Clerk. Thank you, Members, for attending today's meeting. Today we have three items on the agenda. We have IT-79...

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Chair? Madam...

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Sorry to interrupt. I just wanted to say for the record that I am home alone in my office space. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh. No Koa? Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Oh, no, no. She's...she's here. Koa Lei Lee sends her best wishes for the new year to all of you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Koa Lei Lee. Very cute. All right. Anybody else have any more confessions? None.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Chair?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, Tasha. Yes.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: I also am home alone, definitely alone and alone. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, yes. Happy New Year, everybody. Three items on the agenda, which is IT-79, Access Easements for Wailele Ridge, in Nāpili; IT-28, County Facilities [*sic*] Maintenance Manager; IT-82, December 2021 Severe Weather Event, which came to us, as you know, at our...from our last Council meeting with the budget amendment that was done with the Administration. Do we have any testifiers today, Laks?

MS. ABRAHAM: We have no...I'm sorry, we have one testifier possibly, identified on our meeting list as the initial J.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: J, okay. So J, are you here to testify?

MR. UEOKA: Oh. Good morning, Councilmember Sugimura. This is Jeff Ueoka.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, okay.

INFRASTRUCTURE AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

January 3, 2022

MR. UEOKA: Sorry. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: He's not here to testify then. He's going to be our...our resource for the first item. So Members, at this time then, last call for testimony. If it's only Jeff Ueoka, then we have no testifiers. Okay. Very good. So I'm going to be closing public testimony. There are none signed up for today. And with your permission, I'd like to close public testimony, and then to accept any written testimony into the records.

COUNCILMEMBERS VOICED NO OBJECTIONS.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. And testifiers and observers who logged in or called in, you may now view the remainder of today's meeting on *Akakū* Channel 53, Facebook Live, or at mauicounty.us/agendas. At this time, Staff will ensure that only required personnel such as Councilmembers, Staff, Administration, and resource personnel, if any, remain on the call. Everyone else will be disconnected from the call at this time.

IT-79: ACCESS EASEMENTS FOR WAILELE RIDGE (NAPILI) (CC 21-533)

CHAIR SUGIMURA: The first item on the agenda is IT-79, Access Easements for Wailele Ridge (Nāpili). And with your permission, I'd like to ask for Jeff Ueoka, which I announced earlier, to be a resource for this item as he's the attorney representing the project. No objections, right, for him to be a...

COUNCILMEMBERS VOICED NO OBJECTIONS.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. Thank you. Correspond...County Communication 21-53 [sic] from myself, relating to access of the easements for Wailele Ridge, Nāpili, Maui, Hawai'i. And correspondence dated December 23rd, 2021, from the Director of Public Works, transmitting a proposed resolution entitled "AUTHORIZING A GRANT OF EASEMENT FOR ACCESS AND UTILITY PURPOSES TO WAILELE RIDGE OF MAUI, LCC, AND THE ACCEPTANCE OF GRANTS AND [sic] EASEMENTS FOR ACCESS AND [sic] WAILELE RIDGE OF MAUI, LCC AND MAUI LAND AND PINE [sic] COMPANY, INC." The purpose of the proposed resolution is to authorize the Mayor to grant an easement to Wailele Ridge over a portion of Hui Road "A" for the installation of drainage and roadway improvements and to accept easements from Wailele Ridge to provide improved pedestrian and vehicular access from Honoapi'ilani Highway to Hui Road "A" around and through the project site. The Committee may consider whether to recommend adoption of the proposed resolution, with or without revisions. So at this time I would like to open up the discussion and have Jordan Molina from the Department of Public Works talk about the project and his presentation. Okay, Jordan. Thank you.

MR. MOLINA: Hi. Good morning, Member...or Chair Sugimura and Members of the IT Committee. Jordan Molina, Deputy Director with Public Works. Today we are before you requesting authorization to engage in a land transaction with the Wailele Ridge project. The transaction involves a grant of easement to Wailele Ridge for infrastructure

INFRASTRUCTURE AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

January 3, 2022

purposes that is crossing through Hui Road "A". In addition too, we are receiving two access easements from Nāpili Ridge to the County to provide auxiliary access around the project site for residents who live above the project on Hui Road "A". Chair, may I share my screen? I have an exhibit map to help orientate the Committee.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Very good. Thank you.

MR. MOLINA: Can you guys see this map?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yes.

MR. MOLINA: So if we start in the upper-left corner, in the green text and the green highlight, that's Hui Road "C". It's a private roadway. And so what we're trying to accomplish here is from Honoapi'ilani Highway, Hui Road "A" is...the alignment is roughly in this pink line and through this black line here it connects here. The...actually the improved access for this area comes through this orange line, and so one of the easements we will be getting from Wailele Ridge takes a...creates an accessway from Honoapi'ilani Highway up through and around the project site and connects back into Hui Road "A". So that's the first...or two of the easements we're discussing today. The third of which, which is the grant to Wailele Ridge, comes through this black area here which comes...goes from the project site across Hui Road "A" and into their drainage basin just mauka of Honoapi'ilani Highway. So that's the extent of the easements we're looking to discuss with you folks today, and these easements are necessary to allow the project to move forward. Currently the project is stalled while we resolve these easements matters. Once that is cleared, then the project can continue build out towards completion. So that's all we have to offer at this time, and welcome to entertain any questions.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Thank you. So the project was stalled, did you say?

MR. MOLINA: Correct. What I understand is the initial developer had passed away, and during that time work had stalled and permits had become expired. So the...I believe his sons have taken over the project and have made an effort to restart everything, get new permits. And these easements were issued from the initial approvals that had been unresolved, so we're trying to get them cleaned up so that we can close out this project (*audio interference*).

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Thank you very much. Members, any of you have any questions for the Department? I see Chair Lee, and then Mr. Molina.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Good morning, Jordan. Can you describe the original project? Is that an ag sub...I didn't hear the description. Can you describe it?

MR. MOLINA: What brief knowledge I do have, I believe this is a Light Industrial zoned site, and it was...has always been slated as a condo project for ownership. That hasn't changed as far as my current involvement. Maybe the representative of the project can share more details to your question.

INFRASTRUCTURE AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

January 3, 2022

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: All right.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: So Mr. Ueoka?

MR. UEOKA: Oh, thank you, Chair. Jeff Ueoka. I represent Wailele Ridge of Maui. I think what Chair Lee is talking about is this originally was, I think, MLP's West Maui Village project. It was then later on purchased by the Bach family or, you know, Rindlisbacher is the Bach family. And they started doing Wailele Ridge on it, and that was in about 2015. The permits expired at around the end of 2019, and the...the father was ill and they weren't...he wasn't able to complete the project. And he recent...or he passed away. And the sons took over in around 2019, 2020. So they applied for the new building permits, and these easements came up and needed to be resolved, and that's where we are right now. But it's always...as far as the Wailele Ridge, it's always been like a multifamily project type in this area. Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. Mr. Molina, do you have any questions? And then Kelly King. And I want to hear from Tamara Paltin when she's ready.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Yeah, thank you very much, Madam Chair. Yeah, my question was sort of along the lines of Chair Lee, kind of just trying to get a historical, you know, analysis as to how we got here today. So now, with the understanding that there was... the developer passed away. So basically this whole project is starting from scratch again, if I'm correct, I guess, from Director Molina and Mr. Ueoka. So by our actions today, then this will help expedite and move this forward. Is there anything else the Council could do to, I guess, expedite this, other than what we're doing today? Maybe the...if Director Molina can --

MR. MOLINA: Sure.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: -- share his thoughts on that.

MR. MOLINA: Yeah, I wouldn't say we're starting from scratch. We're just restarting what had already begun. No substantial changes, it was just that these easements had been unresolved from the initial go around. And when we...when they came to light when we tried to get the permits renewed, you know, we felt it was important to resolve these. Get them off the to-do list and the project can move forward. So yeah, the...the project has already started, there's several buildings that have been partially constructed from the initial effort. And so with these easements, we'll be clear to give them the rest of their permits to complete out the buildout.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Okay. Great. Thank you for your responses, Mr. Director.

INFRASTRUCTURE AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

January 3, 2022

Thank you, Madam Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you, Mr. Molina. Tamara Paltin?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Member Molina, for asking for the historical perspective. This was actually the area where when Kapalua Mauka was being decided that they suggested as one of the places that they put the affordable housing, but then they did the bait and switch and actually provided no affordable housing and sold it to the Bach developers, I think for 5 million. And then when the father got ill, Mr. Fischer and I approached the sons to make it affordable housing but they, I guess, went in the luxury condo direction instead. But my question for Mr. Molina is, does the County own Hui "A" Road? When did we acquire it, and how did we acquire it? And is the alignment in the correct place?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Mr. Molina?

MR. MOLINA: Thank you, Member Paltin. I do not have all the history in front of me. We can follow up with that. But I do understand that it is under the County's control. The issue with Hui Road "A" is the pavement does not align with the roadway lot in certain areas, particularly around this project, which is what prompted the County to look at this alternate access to ensure that we have the legal access and that the public is traversing through the road lot and not into private property. So we are working to resolve that discrepancy with the parcel alignment and the pavement alignment, try and...yeah, get the road correct, so to speak.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And is that what we're doing with this action by exchanging, is to exchange areas that we do not own and align it with the roadway?

MR. MOLINA: These easements do not serve to make that land exchange because we would seek fee ownership for the roadway itself, not just easements to make that correction. So this is sort of a Band-Aid, if you will, to establish legal access while we work out the land ownership issues with the road.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. So Chair, is it okay if, under your signature, we send a letter requesting how and when the County acquired Hui Road "A" and the steps needed to align the road with the pavement?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yes.

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

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah. Okay. So Laks, you got that, right, the question? As you're listening, so...

MS. ABRAHAM: Yes, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Thank you. Thank you. I think Kelly had a question. Kelly?

INFRASTRUCTURE AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

January 3, 2022

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Thank you. Yeah, I just wanted to...I think it was answered actually in...when Tamara asked her question. But...so these are luxury homes for sale, Mr. Molina or Mr. Ueoka?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Mr. Ueoka or Mr. Molina? Probably Mr. Ueoka.

MR. UEOKA: Thank you, Chair. Member King, my understanding is they're just market sale, I don't...I'm not sure of the luxury or not, but they're market.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Residential, not for short-term rentals?

MR. UEOKA: My understanding is yes, they're residential. I don't believe...I'm not sure on the zoning, but I don't think it's allowed per the zoning for short-term rentals.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay. Okay. And they wouldn't be able to get a zoning change right now because we have a moratorium in effect, so we can assume that these are for...for sale, for residential sale?

MR. UEOKA: Correct. These are for sale for, you know, uses that are permitted under the current zoning. My clients, I don't believe they have any intention of coming in for a Change in Zoning for this parcel right now, just want to finish it up.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay. All right. Thank you. That's my only question.

MR. UEOKA: Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So...so we'll...we'll check on that also. Tamara put a note in the chat that says the sign fronting the project says luxury condos. This project is in her neighborhood, so I guess you must have driven by it a couple of times, Tamara; is that correct? Tasha Kama?

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Thank you, Chair. So I just was trying...I'm not familiar with that side of our island. So I was wondering if someone, or maybe even our Councilmember Tamara Paltin, could actually help me to visualize where the parcel that we're talking about is actually located. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yes, Ms. Paltin. Go ahead.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Do you know where Nāpili Market is?

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: It's just mauka across the highway from Nāpili Market, a little bit to the left. North of Maui Preparatory Academy. They kind of share that driveway off the highway. Maui Preparatory Academy is a little bit more south off the highway. And then there's like a farmer's market in the middle on Wednesdays and Saturdays.

INFRASTRUCTURE AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

January 3, 2022

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And it's made some progress. It...like Mr. Ueoka or someone said, it did stall. Like we saw the bones come up, and then it just sat there for a long time, and now it's...it's progressing again, and then it stopped again. It's been quite a while.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Thank you. Thank you, Chair and Councilmember Paltin. Very good.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Thank you. I think Tamara said she can walk across...she can walk to it from her residence. That's how close it is to where she lives. So very good. Any more questions, Members, for our...for Mr. Molina...Director Molina, or Jeff Ueoka? Seeing none. So at this time then I would like to make my recommendation to...to approve the resolution entitled "AUTHORIZING A GRANT OF EASEMENT FOR ACCESS AND UTILITY PURPOSES TO WAILELE RIDGE OF MAUI, LCC, AND THE ACCEPTANCE OF GRANTS AND EASEMENTS FOR ACCESS FROM WAILELE RIDGE OF MAUI, LCC AND MAUI LAND AND PINEAPPLE COMPANY, INC." And that would be my recommendation for approval. I need a motion, Members.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: So moved.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Second.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. So moved by Vice-Chair Kama, second by Alice Lee. Members, any discussion? All in favor, say "aye." Aye. Raise your hand. One, two, three...

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Oh, I had a quick discussion.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, you did. Okay. Go ahead, Tamara.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I guess my animosity towards this project is not towards the developer per se, it's more towards Maui Land and Pine [sic] who, you know, baited the community with affordable housing for their Kapalua Mauka project, and then as soon as they got it passed, they switched direction then sold it to a mainland developer, who doesn't even use local union construction and imports off-island cheap labor. But realistically, you know, I don't want to see it as half a project anymore. Even if there are going to be rich investors investing in it and moving into the neighborhood, we just need to get it done. So begrudgingly I'll support this project, although I'm not too fond of it.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Thank you. Anybody else have any comments? Seeing none. All right. All in favor, say "aye," raise your hand.

COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

January 3, 2022

INFRASTRUCTURE AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

January 3, 2022

ago with the Land Management Division, Department of Finance, and that's more focused on asset management and acquisition as *(audio interference)* more so from...you know, from an asset-based standpoint, not necessarily from a facilities standpoint. Then you know, historically, Department of Public Works' Engineering Division has been in charge of the facilities maintenance and janitorial, groundskeeping services for...for County facilities, more specifically this Kalana O Maui Campus, so Kalana Pakui, this Kalana O Maui Building, the Prosecutor's Office, the Old Courthouse, right? And they've added on now the Kahului Service Center in Maui Business Park Phase II, and as well the old what was considered Ueoka Building, the 2103 Wells Street, which is Prosecutor's Office and will be the Children's Justice Center here coming up. Recent acquisitions that will impact that requirement for facilities maintenance, janitorial and groundskeeping include 60 North Church Street, so the old Hawaiian Telcom building; 1888 Wili Pa Loop, County Credit Union building; and 100 Mahalani Street, which is *The Maui News* building. We haven't closed on the 1888 Wili Pa Loop or the 100 Mahalani Street yet, so we're not actually owners of those properties. So they've been providing those type of services for...so basically the...the idea is for facilities that aren't a single tenant. You know, if you go look at the Department of Environmental Management, Housing and Human Concerns, Fire, Parks, Police, Public Works, Water Department, and Transportation to a certain extent, if it's a single tenant, those departments have been in charge of maintaining their own facilities and that hadn't been under the Department of Public Works. We do contract out with Ka Lima O Maui for the...as a qualified rehab organization and provide...they do job training for those persons with disabilities, get them out there and get them employed. And that they do assist Police and Parks Department, and I think Public Works as well, in minor areas for some of the maintenance out there, mostly of park facilities or roadway facilities, the police station, and *(audio interference)* for that. As we acquire new buildings, more buildings...new to us, I should say, buildings, they require, you know, an organization of not just the maintenance, groundskeeping, janitorial services, but they also require renovations, capital improvement project management. That is done through mostly the Department of Management's Planning Development section. So within the Department of Management Administration Program, we have a Planning Development section, which...headed by Erin Wade, you're familiar with her. And they are managing construction and renovation projects. So the part of Wailuku Civic Complex that is the parking garage that's being constructed right now, they manage that. All the infrastructure projects assigned with that will have an engineer and a project coordinator as part of that group, as well as the archeologists and support services, and two planners. Well, Erin's the manager, and then we have a planner as well. So they are working at developing, you know, especially office space management and construction management, really, to renovations that are needed to occupy spaces. Once those spaces are occupied, then that gets handed over to Public Works for maintenance and janitorial services. There...so...so not only is the three buildings that I mentioned coming up, we also have a transit hub over by Kaahumanu Shopping Center that's coming online. And the Transportation Department has a baseyard in the future that they *(audio interference)*. So this, along with the Civic Complex, are some major facilities that are coming online soon and that will need more services. There's been question about contracting out more of the janitorial, groundskeeping, maintenance services to private companies. We do again with that with Ka Lima O Maui. We are in

INFRASTRUCTURE AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

January 3, 2022

a lawsuit with UPW right now regarding that. They...State Legislature has a special exemption from procurement for qualified rehabilitation organizations. There's a discrepancy in...in the...the dollar amount is set at \$850,000, but there's discrepancy in what that applies to. And currently we contract with Ka Lima O Maui for \$1.5 million. So if that changes, either through settlement or somehow finishing that lawsuit, that may have an impact on that organization...and as well as the County operations. And this is based on a Supreme Court decision. People are familiar with it as the *Konno* decision, and that had impact when Mayor Lingle was trying to privatize some of the operations of the County. *(audio interference)* County is then required to have employees to do those type of maintenance services or...or any kind of services that are generally done by...by union employees. Required to maintain that *(audio interference)*. So Chair, I guess that's a brief opening of the general items. I mean, you know, we have tons of County facilities, and we also have like the Hāna Civic Center. That is being renovated right now. The Parks Department does help us with maintenance of that. We have the Mitchell Pauole Center in Molokaʻi that is multi-tenant as well, and Parks and Public Works, they kind of jointly *(audio interference)*. So other than that, that's about all I have really. It is a challenge, and we can get into that in more discussion here. Currently and...and in the future, I foresee more challenges.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: I wonder if...Sandy, if you could give us a list of all the facilities and...and how it's...it's being handled. Or...or do you think that there's a need for expansion?

MR. BAZ: So...well, real quick, I did get an email from your Staff on Saturday, and I will...we'll work on a list, a comprehensive list.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

MR. BAZ: Did you want that across all departments, or just where there's either Public Works or multiple tenants?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: You know, it's kind of...I didn't realize that single-use department buildings, they take care of their own maintenance. So it doesn't even...I don't know, could you add a box and just say that that's, you know, how it gets handled, I guess? And I'm curious...

MR. BAZ: Yeah. An example is Kaunoa, you know, they have their Spreckelsville facility and West Maui Senior Center *(audio interference)* has park caretakers and *(audio interference)*.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh. Well, huge, right, is all...is all part of, you know, being property owners, that the County has that responsibility. And of course, the...I...I realize...I always heard about that Kona [*sic*] decision for that lawsuit, and I didn't realize that it's...it's still going on. It's not solved yet.

MR. BAZ: Well, it was resolved as far as the decision from the courts, but the State Legislature has provided some exemptions to that and, you know, we have been utilizing those, and we have a disagreement with UPW as far as the implementation of that. I don't want to

INFRASTRUCTURE AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

January 3, 2022

get into too much detail about that specifically.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Okay. Members, anybody have questions for Mr. Baz? So I see Kelly King, then Mr. Molina.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Thank you, Chair. Thanks for being here, Sandy, I really appreciate it. I...I thought...when I looked at this item on the agenda, I thought we were going to be talking about a new position called a facilities manager, like an overall facilities manager, but kind of what I'm hearing is just a run through of all of the facilities and how they get managed currently. So are you planning on creating a new position over all the departments that would manage facilities?

MR. BAZ: We've been discussing...thank...thank you, Chair. And...and thank you. Yes, we have been discussing that with Department of Public Works specifically and...and the Mayor. The idea of having a consolidated CIP and...and facilities manager title necessarily as one person's definitely not going to be able to do it all. But division or...or department, something that...

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Well, it...it...I...I don't...I mean, I just I was curious to see how you...this position was being planned and if it was going to actually save us money and be more efficient. Because we already have a CIP Coordinator, that's Dave Taylor, and so he's coordinating all the CIP projects. And then this looked like a...somebody who's going to be...overall in charge of maintenance across the County, which seems to me like a pretty high-level position. I'm just wondering...so it sounds like you're still...you...you haven't...you haven't figured it out yet or you haven't really landed on a position description that's going to accomplish whatever you're trying to accomplish.

MR. BAZ: Yeah, no, we don't have any proposal necessarily to present today. The...the idea of focusing more attention on the issue is...is really critical. Right now the facilities maintenance that Public Works provides is within the Engineering Division. So they're the ones that are doing the roads, bridges, drainage, as well as occasionally there's, you know, times where it may need more focus than what they can provide to it. Try to address that as first step of maybe creating a separate division in Public Works. But understand that the...the functions of Dave Taylor, and even of Erin and the Planning Development Division, are different than what is provided by Public Works. And...and different, in my mind, than what would be called the facilities manager, right...

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Right, no, I understand that, I just...I...I'm curious if and when you do get that position described to see how it's actually going to either get more work done or save us money or, you know, just...because usually when you try to get more focused, you go smaller and more broader. And so anyway, I guess we'll just wait to see how the position develops and if you guys do bring us a proposal.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Very good. Any other questions? Did Mr. Molina have his hand up? Yeah, Mike...Mike Molina?

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Thank you very much, Madam Chair. Good morning, Mr. Baz.

INFRASTRUCTURE AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

January 3, 2022

And yeah, I was...had the same thought as Member King when I looked at the agenda item, I thought we would be focusing more on a specific division. But at this point, if you have that information, have we had any projects delayed due to lack of, you know, personnel dedicated to CIP coordination? And also...so at this point you would support maybe having a division, say within Public Works? Because there's...now...you know, we're at a point now we're buying all of these properties, it's become too big of a responsibility for, I guess, Ms. Wade and Mr. Taylor to undertake. So you would support at this point, or consider having a specific CIP division to coordinate all of these needs for these various properties that the County has acquired, Mr. Baz?

MR. BAZ: So thank you, Chair and Member Molina. I just want to try to reiterate and clarify that maintenance is different than CIP. Yeah, the facilities maintenance, janitorial, and groundskeeping services are different. The CIP maintenance projects, if you want to call them that, on this building for Kalana O Maui Campus have been managed by Public Works. So you know, the...the sealing of the 2nd floor, you guys noticed the construction going out there to...to seal the concrete on the 2nd floor. Anything within the building is in Public Works' kuleana. They're the ones that maintain this. If the roof needs to be repaired in the Old Courthouse, they're the ones that...that maintain that. They're the ones that process the CIP project as well, the facilities. What the Planning and Development section has been doing is...first of all, it was...the reason why it was even created in Department of Management was for the Wailuku Civic Complex area. For those of you who have any historical knowledge, Erin was moved from the Department of Planning to the Department of Management to mostly maintain that project. We had a CIP coordinator, which is definitely more of an overall functional management coordination of the different...they're not actually doing project management. Dave did a little bit with this...the service center. He took over that a little bit to...to help alleviate some other staffing problems. But the gist of that position is more so looking at working with the engineers and the project managers from all the other departments, working on, you know, bigger scope of what projects are ongoing, what projects are needed. He works with the Budget Office to coordinate those. And then we have the actual CIP project managers, which we have one at Civil Engineer V and a CIP Project Manager who's a trained architect, that are actually physically managing the project. So like when we buy Hawaiian Telcom, you know, we had to go in there, we had to get some studies done, we had to hire an architect. We have to, you know, work with coordination of consultants, and that CIP project management is done at that level there. Once it's acquired, then we do the facilities maintenance and janitorial services. And...and theoretically, if there's a...some kind of repair needed, then Public Works would be managing it the way that they do now. This is what we want to talk about, the better coordination, maybe consolidation.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Okay. Okay. Well, thank you for clarifying all of that for us today. Then so...yeah, so one last request. I don't know if you...you can come up with it, or maybe under Chair Sugimura's signature. So have we had any instances of funds lapsing because we didn't have enough, you know, coordination on any particular project whether it be some maintenance? Have we had instances of that occurring to your knowledge, Mr. Baz? And again, if you don't have that information today, if we could get that in writing under Chair Sugimura's signature.

INFRASTRUCTURE AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

January 3, 2022

MR. BAZ: I don't have specific, but I can tell you anecdotally yes, that has been the case. They just haven't been able to get to certain projects. So sometimes they're encumbered, and they may not lapse, but they may languish.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Okay. Okay. Thank you, Mr. Director. Thank you, Madam Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So thank you. Thank you, Mr. Molina. We'll...we'll send that question forward along with Tamara...Tamara's questions earlier. Anyone else? Okay. Seeing none. So thank...thank you, Sandy. This is...I can tell that as we are growing with the acquisition of buildings, that we probably need clarification of how all of this works together, and we look forward to seeing something maybe during the budget. Because this is...it's...it's projects that we approved, this body approved for purchase that, you know, we are going through...or you have gone through the process, as you shared with us this morning, with your planning group, with Erin Wade, and then Dave Taylor, and how you all work together to make it happen. And then the facilities maintenance crew comes in later with Department of Public Works. And that's really more what I was focusing on, to see if we needed to do that in this upcoming budget. And to see if this Council will...will need to support you and your...and...or Administration's actions moving forward. So thank you very much for that. And we'll probably send you some questions regarding this so that we could have more clarity. Thank you.

MR. BAZ: Sure.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: So at this time I'm going to defer this item, Members. It is now ten to 10:00. I'm...I'm going to continue on with the last item, with your approval. And it looks like we're probably going to end this meeting early. I'm going to defer this item, which is IT-28, and go on to the next one.

ACTION: DEFER PENDING FURTHER DISCUSSION.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: So IT-82 which is...

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: No objections.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, thank...oh, thank you.

IT-82: DECEMBER 2021 SEVERE WEATHER EVENT (MISC)

CHAIR SUGIMURA: December 2021 Severe Weather Event. As you all know, December 5th and 6th was the Kona storm...Kona Low storm, I think is what it was called, that hit the islands. I will tell you that when I talk to people down country versus Upcountry, we still had the storm going on for us because there are places in Upcountry that still do

INFRASTRUCTURE AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

January 3, 2022

not have access to clean water. It's E. coli bacteria in the water. So for me, besides having the gulches that were...that overflowed, I guess, is...is probably a good way of putting it...besides that happening and the...and what the community experienced, including Kelly King with South Maui. You know, the ahupua'a reaction from mountain to the ocean, we experienced it, and I'm sure all of you had in varying degrees. But over our...our New Year's breakfast with my family, they look at this storm as being December 5th and 6th heavy rains and winds, but it's over. For us Upcountry, the storm is not over, and so this item, as you know, came up from Chair Lee's Council meeting when Michele Yoshimura submitted the budget amendment for \$3 million for emergency handling of the storm in our communities, and then this item was referred. Some of you had questions regarding the handling of the storm item, and so therefore I said that I would hear it in my Committee, so that's why we're talking about it today. And I think because the storm is still happening for me in my community, and Kelly, my reaction, I...mine was maybe overreaction to this, where I invited every single department to...you know, that would get involved in a disaster like this to be a resource to answer any of your questions, as well as MEMA. I actually spoke to Herman Andaya regarding this, and also Sandy Baz. So I wonder if we could have Sandy Baz introduce this to us, talk about it, and then have Herman talk about the storm and what's happening. And then any of you have questions for the departments. I really did invite everybody, which is Emergency...I had Eric Nakagawa. I also invited Water. To me water is a biggie because we still have the E. coli bacteria. So I'm...I'm eager actually to hear from...besides MEMA, I'm also eager to hear from Jeff Pearson on what's happening with water. So Kelly King, you have a question --

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Yeah.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: -- before we begin?

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Yeah, I just wondered if you invited Public Works? Because you know, they were responsible --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: -- for hauling around a lot of the mud, which is still kind of piling up near homes.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah. So we...I invited...Jordan Molina is still on the call. So I really invited everybody. And in retrospect, I think, because you and I, Kelly, are still impacted by the storm and not as much by my, you know, New Year's breakfast, I could tell that other places looked at it as a bad windstorm, bad rainstorm, but it settled down, and...but for us, it's still...it's still happening. So appreciate that, Chair Lee, you sent this to this Committee to discuss because I look towards this as information to see what can we do as a Council to support instances like this for storm management and communication if it's important, if you...if you think it's important. So at this time then, Sandy, you want to start? And then maybe Herman can fill in next.

MR. BAZ: Thank you, Chair. I'll be real brief, and I'll hand it over to Herman, our Emergency

INFRASTRUCTURE AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

January 3, 2022

Management Administrator. But yeah, just the...the December 5th sticks...Kona Low, I didn't really hear that term very often before, but that weather event that dropped a significant amount of rain and some wind has impacted the County, and does continue to impact (*audio interference*) very well aware. And so, you know, we are still in the event to a certain extent, and there's still operations going on, as...as you know. And so I'll leave Herman to describe the...the event itself, our actions taken with our emergency operations, and status update.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Thank you. So before I turn it over to Herman, I...I failed to introduce...also I asked Mahina Martin to also join us because during this time, there were pockets of, you know, our community that were without electricity. So I thought maybe she could join in the conversation. So if you'll allow me to have Mahina Martin from Hawaiian Electric also be a resource for this item.

COUNCILMEMBERS VOICED NO OBJECTIONS.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you, Members. Okay. So here's Herman. Thank you, Herman.

MR. ANDAYA: Thank you, Madam Chair. So with respect to this severe weather event, it was a lot of excessive wind, and...and we were made known of this maybe two days prior to it occurring, and so we began to make preparations in the EOC. We activated the EOC maybe a day or so before the event, and we started to get...you know, get ready in terms of potential needs that might be there. Messaging went out, we had press releases that go out. We had...we had a much more bigger presence on Facebook. Thank you to...to some of the Councilmembers here who shared our messages to the public. We...we appreciate that. And so the EOC was activated. There was an incident where a gulch was overflowing in South Maui, and as a result it was decided to evacuate certain homes there. We did open up a emergency shelter, an evacuation shelter at the Kihei Community Center. There was also another, I believe it was a condominium, that the bottom floor was...was flooded, and so again, we told them to go to the...this evacuation shelter. In the end, I think there was only one family that showed up at the evacuation shelter. So...but nonetheless, it was there. And I want to thank the American Red Cross for their assistance, as well as Parks and Recreation. The...they were...they were in the EOC, and they...they mobilized and opened up the facility for them. I agree with Councilmember Sugimura, this is not over. What...what's over is the response phase of this emergency. Now we're going into the recovery phase. And that's probably the most painful, that's probably the most...the most arduous of all of the phases. With the recovery, we've had...because of water...water outage, we had water buffalos positioned in various locations Upcountry. We worked with various community organizations to assist families with cleanup and clearing of debris. That's how we set up a 211 hotline that was established by one of our partners. And I'll keep saying this because they're...they're...they're not very well known, but it's...it is a nationwide organization, and they do assist us quite a bit, but this is the Volunteer Organizations Assisting in Disaster, otherwise known as VOAD. And these...this organization includes organizations such as American Red Cross, and you'll hear me talk about this a bit more, but Team Rubicon also is a member of that organization. Now, 211 was created so that people, families who were impacted could call that number if they needed help

INFRASTRUCTURE AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

January 3, 2022

with clearing out their homes or whatever the case may be, clearing out debris. And we actually have organizations out there that are willing to assist. And in fact, as I mentioned Team Rubicon earlier, they were here over the holidays. So they took time from...from...from spending holidays at home to being here on Maui and helping our families clean up their homes as a result of the mud that came into their home because of the severe weather. Team Rubicon is a group of former military. It's a very large...very large group, very organized, and they flew in 20 of their members here to Maui. When they called out, the crew wanted to assist here, they received over 600 responses that they wanted...you know, there was an overflow...you know, there are a lot of people that wanted to come to Maui to assist. But...and this is despite other emergencies occurring on the mainland, that they...they wanted to come here and assist us. But of that 600, 20 were selected. They determined that that's all they needed, 20. So they came down here. They were armed with heavy industrial chainsaws, and they were able to remove a lot of the trees that came down that were on people's properties. See, the...the...the reason why we use these organizations is because oftentimes, the County can't go into private property. We can't do, you know, this kind of work in people's homes. So that's where we rely on organizations such as Team Rubicon and American Red Cross, Salvation Army. We rely on those organizations to go in and do that work for us. Right now we are in the process of doing damage assessments. We are applying for a FEMA declaration, presidential declaration. And so far we've gotten...FEMA has come down for the public assistance. So public assistance deals with infrastructure, so damages done to infrastructure. And so Piilani Highway, damage was done there, as well as to the water system. So...so that's public assistance. They've already come and they've already done their assessments. The other group...the other type of assistance is individual assistance. And so this is for individuals, families who were impacted by the storm. And we...we've been, for the past two weeks or so...or I'm sorry, more than two weeks, since the...since the end of the storm...or not the end of the storm, since the storm ended and it was clear for us to go out into the community, we sent out teams, damage assessment teams. So this included people from the departments, we had people from Real Property, from Housing and Human Concerns, Public Works. We also had people from organizations such as American Red Cross and from Team Rubicon and, you know, and so on and so forth. And so they went out into the public. We identified about 160 homes that were impacted by this...by this...and I hate to use the word storm, it wasn't really a storm...severe weather, by this severe weather. And...and so we have forwarded that to our...to HIEMA and to FEMA. They will be here tomorrow to verify those...those damages. We hope that we have enough to get a presidential declaration as well for individual assistance. So...but we'll be working with them tomorrow. There's a lot of work that goes into this. There's a lot of work that goes into damage assessments and making the argument that...that we need assistance here on Maui. And so that's what, you know, very fortunate that we have Staff here. Some of them are very experienced with...with FEMA. In fact, one of our Staff members used to work for FEMA, so she's been extremely valuable with respect to that. And then also, all the different organizations and departments that are out there that assist us. We're a very small office, there's only seven of us here in this office, and so it'd be very difficult to do all this...all this work in order to get a presidential declaration. And so we're very fortunate that we have a lot of our partners, a lot of departments, and a lot of nonprofit organizations who are willing to help. That's all I have, Madam Chair.

INFRASTRUCTURE AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

January 3, 2022

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Very good. Thank you for working hard on this. Anybody else have any more questions for Mr. Andaya or Mr. Baz? So Tamara Paltin, then Mr. Molina, and then I have a question. Go ahead, Tamara.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Mr. Andaya. I just was wondering if you could walk us through the steps to try and get the word out about this potential...the...about the catastrophic weather event. Like what would trigger...like what...what types of things...I did see the notification on social media from Maui County Emergency Management Agency maybe about 4:30 that the EOC had been opened. But I was wondering if you could run us through like what would trigger a post and how...how you got the words out.

MR. ANDAYA: Surely. Madam Chair?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yes.

MR. ANDAYA: So with respect to how we got the word out, first of all, we rely on the County of Maui's PIO. So they are...the County of Maui's PIO is our PIO. That's...that's the plan. And so as soon we learned that there was a system...and, you know, it wasn't...please remember that this wasn't a...it wasn't a hurricane, it wasn't a named storm, it was heavy rains, you know. So we were just told that there was going to be heavy rains, and that it would possibly kind of linger over...over Maui. It may cause some flash flooding, you know, and that's...that's what we...you know, and we...we get all the time. We get that...we got that over the weekend. We had flood advisories all weekend, you know. Some of you who've signed up for Maka'ala will know that because you've gotten...you've gotten numerous...you should have gotten numerous alerts over the weekend regarding --

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I guess --

MR. ANDAYA: -- that flood (*audio interference*).

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: -- I do get the flooding information all the time, but I rarely hear potential for catastrophic weather was the...the difference.

MR. ANDAYA: Yeah, we...we...we didn't know it was going to be catastrophic. Well, I wouldn't say it was catastrophic, I wouldn't categorize it as catastrophic, but we...we didn't know it was going to be of this magnitude before the incident. You know, like I said, we...we were expecting heavy rains and flash flooding and...you know, I mean...but that's something that...that we get all the time.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: So did you open up the EOC this past weekend?

MR. ANDAYA: No, we did not, because there was no...so typically what we do is if there's a warning, if there is a flash flood warning, number one, but I would open up the EOC for two...well, for...well, the big reason is that there is a need for coordination between

INFRASTRUCTURE AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

January 3, 2022

agencies. If there is a need for that, then I will open up the EOC, and...and at that point we would help coordinate between agencies. But in this case here, there was...there was nothing happening this weekend. There was no flooding that I was aware of, you know, but there was a flash flood advisory, yeah, nonetheless. And that's...that's something that we...you know, even before this severe weather, we were getting, we were getting those alerts, you know, so we were aware of that. But like I said, you know, we...

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I guess (*audio interference*) is like this...this week you're saying that we get these alerts all the time, and we got it this weekend, but we didn't open the EOC. So the December 5th event isn't like this weekend at all because --

MR. ANDAYA: No.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: -- we didn't open the EOC. It's...it's a different type of event.

MR. ANDAYA: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And so, you know, if...if it...to me, it's like if we already know that we're going to open the EOC, then it's...it's not just your standard every weekend flash flood advisory or...or something like that. And you know, when I was sharing information off of Maui County Emergency Management website, there was a lot more information coming off of like the Fire Department's website...I mean, social media page. And so I...I guess, you know, like if there is a central PIO coordinating the information, it...it...it didn't have that feel to it, because the Fire Department was posting a lot of stuff, then Maui County Emergency Management at like around 4:30 posted that the EOC was opening. But there wasn't the press release that, you know, we get like three, four times a day about other stuff, so it...it just didn't have a coordinated feel. I don't know who the PIO is, but it was just kind of a disjointed effort to me which, you know, it...it has come a ways because, you know, I...I remember before not getting any information. So I guess, you know, disjointed information is better than no information. But I think, you know, maybe...maybe we can improve on that a little bit more still.

MR. ANDAYA: Yeah. Well, and most definitely, Councilmember, we'll...that's...that's what we do. So after every event we do an after-action report, and then what we do next is an improvement plan. And so many of the things that we...we've implemented in our EOC is as a result of what we've learned in the past. And so I hear what you're saying, we...we tried to get as much information as we could out there in the public. I...frankly, I'm not quite sure how much more information could have been sent out by the Fire Department. I'm curious to see...you know, I'll be looking at what...what they were sending out. But there should be one voice, and that one voice is our PIO. And that one voice was sending out press releases well before the event. You know, we were already warning people like hey, this...this...you know, we might be expecting heavy rains, you know, there's a potential for flooding, please be careful. Please make preparations now. We keep telling people to, you know, please be prepared for emergencies all year round...you know, the three...the three things you can do to prepare for an emergency. So that was...that went out at least twice before the event. And you know, that press release...remember, that press release then goes to the

INFRASTRUCTURE AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

January 3, 2022

newspaper, then goes to all of the radio outlets, and that's how we're able to get the word out. And then on top of that, you know, we've been trying to push for social media recently because I know the Councilmembers had mentioned about there needing to be a greater presence on social media, and so we...we did that. But I...I hope that answers all of your questions, Councilmember.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you. I...I guess, you know, what...what triggers the opening of the EOC would be the...the final one. But you said if there's interagency coordination, and that's beyond just the County departments, it's...if it's just County departments coordination, the EOC wouldn't open, but if you need to bring in like Red Cross or MECO or something like that, is that what you meant?

MR. ANDAYA: Yes, that's correct. That, and then...yeah, but primarily that's my test, that's my personal test, because really there's no need to open up a EOC unless we have to kind of like get together, work together, and you know. But if...if...if this is like a smaller event, a smaller, like, weather event, then there's no need to open up the EOC. If we did that, we would be...it would be on quite a bit. That there's...there's...there's a lot of flash flooding that goes on, you know. And to give you an idea, like for instance this past...yesterday there was a severe thunderstorm notice. I'm sure you guys must have gotten that. But Moloka'i, as resilient as they are, there was no need to...you know, there was no need to open up. There was no significant events or anything like that happening on Moloka'i that required getting...getting the EOC in place. So what we did was we just monitored...monitored the situation. And...but we were ready. In the event that something happened on Moloka'i, we would...we would set up the EOC very quickly, and we would mobilize.

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

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah, thank you. You know, I'm going to give everybody three minutes, is that okay? Just for...yeah, is that all right? Okay. So Laks, can you...can you time it? And then I also asked Mahina Martin to come on. So after this with Mike, and then Tasha Kama had question, then I'll ask Mahina Martin to kind of give her perspective, as we are talking about opening up the EOC when it reaches that...that level of emergency. So Mr. Molina? Three minutes.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Yeah, thank you, Madam Chair. Good morning, Mr. Andaya. You know during this last incident, many constituents contacted our office that...pressing concerns that the County didn't do enough outreach encouraging flood insurance for those who live near gulches. Are there any plans to incorporate more flood insurance outreach, given how many times, you know, we've seen extreme flood events in recent years? Because you know, when an incident happens, the first thing you're thinking about is your own insurance, what you currently have, and then any options out there, depending on what kind of damage. So any...any thoughts on that, to how to get the word out more to the community on flood insurance options?

MR. ANDAYA: Madam Chair?

INFRASTRUCTURE AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

January 3, 2022

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yes.

MR. ANDAYA: We...we also received inquiries about that as well. And my understanding is that there's a lot of people who can't get insurance, that their insurance companies will not give them insurance or, you know, allow them to buy insurance for their properties. And so I'm...I'm not quite...I don't quite understand the...the mechanics of how insurance works. I...I think it's because it's...they may be in an area that is very low risk for flooding, and so it doesn't...you know, the insurance companies probably don't find it worthwhile perhaps. I...I...I don't know. But I think that's...that's a larger policy issue perhaps that maybe has to be dealt with at the State Legislature, as an example.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Okay. Thank you, Mr. Director. Madam Chair, maybe, you know, when you bring this item back in the future, it might be good to have someone from the insurance industry just to give their thoughts on this request from the public.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Interesting. Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: So and before my three minutes are up, one last question. On this Team Rubicon, Mr. Andaya, how are they funded? Now I know certainly, people are very interested in coming to Maui, right, to help out, and you mentioned 600. How are they funded? Do they get some County funding, or is it all like Federal...Federal funding and...you know, because need...they're going to need to have some places to shelter and be fed. Can you elaborate just a little bit more on how this Team Rubicon works?

MR. ANDAYA: Yes. Madam Chair? Team Rubicon is a nonprofit organization, and so they receive donations from the public. There's a lot of corporations that support this...this organization. They...they try to...like they...they pay for the expense of travel to Maui. On Maui, they...they...they hope to...I mean, we work with them to get places for them to stay. So in our case, we got them...we got Wailuku Community Center as a place for them to...to stay, to sleep. There was a kitchen there, so they could make their own meals and everything, that's how they would save money. They used our showers here at MEMA . . . *(timer sounds)* . . . to...I mean to shower and everything. So that's...that's...that's what they do. And then of course, there are...there are donations from the public. I know Councilmember Sugimura brought over a meal for them. Someone from my Staff brought over a meal as well, you know, and I know there were others in the community that...that brought over things for them to eat. So they're...they're...like I mentioned earlier, they're former military, so they don't expect very much, they don't expect luxury. They...they'll sleep on the floor if need be, you know...yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Thank you, Mr. Director. Well, it's good to know it's almost the closest thing to being out in the field, so to speak, yeah. So yeah, thank...really appreciate their...their service in helping us out. Thank you, Mr. Director. Thank you, Madam Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you, Mr. Molina. Tasha Kama? And then we'll go to Mahina

INFRASTRUCTURE AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

January 3, 2022

Martin.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Thank you. Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Herman, for all that you do. And you know, when you were doing your presentation earlier...and I always listen to when our departments make a presentation. And one of the things you mentioned was that there are only seven of you in the office, and there's so much work to be done, and you rely heavily upon your partners. And there are times when your partners can really come in and...and really help you to do good work, but does that...but that just pitched in my ear, do you have need for Staff? And that's my first question. And then my second question is, you know, how do you determine when something is heavy rains, or catastrophic rains, or what tells you that the rain that we're going to get is going to be a lot more worse than we thought it was going to be in the beginning so that you can activate sooner than later? And that's my questions. Thank you. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Mr. Andaya?

MR. ANDAYA: Madam Chair. So with respect to the first question regarding staffing, thank you very much for asking that question. And this Council has been very supportive, you've given us expansion positions. You know, we went from...I remember when I first started reporting to the...to the EOC back in 2003, there were only two people working here, you know. And from that, we've grown to...we've grown to six. When I...when I came onboard, there's six now, and...and we added another one, so seven. And then you added two more positions, which we're still...we're still recruiting. So...and we've...we've been...we've been having some difficulty recruiting for that...for those positions, but I...and that's for another, you know...but...but no, we...we're...we're okay, Councilmember. Thank you very much. And thank you to Council for...for all of your support on...on this. With respect to how do we know like...you know, like if a storm is going to be more severe than...than...than, you know, we think it will be, and that's where we rely on the National Weather Service. So we have a very close relationship with the National Weather Service. We have meetings with them. In fact, there was a briefing beforehand, and that's how we...we knew that we may see some...some heavy rains here on Maui. And so they're...it's pretty amazing how they can...with the technology now, they can...they can tell you...they can...you know, they can tell you...pinpoint, like even to like what areas they will see will have some rain. And so, I mean, we rely on that in making our decisions.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Thank you. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. Ms. King?

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Thank you, Chair. Thanks for being here, Herman, really appreciate...and I appreciate your acknowledging the Council increasing the Staff because I've been...you know, I've been working with your Department on trying to get you...and we...we are limited by what you're allowed to ask for. So we've been trying to get as many positions in here. But you know, understanding that this is going to be probably more frequent events like this. And I know you lost the one person you had who was a meteorologist, and he was doing a lot of the climate change predictions. Have

INFRASTRUCTURE AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

January 3, 2022

you been able to replace that position?

MR. ANDAYA: So...Madam Chair?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Uh-huh.

MR. ANDAYA: We...we did replace...you know, so Dr. Joyce was a hazard mitigation specialist for us who happens to be a meteorologist, and we were...we were very lucky to have someone like him onboard, that we were able to find someone like him. This...when he left, we did hire someone but...who's not a meteorologist, but...but is very valuable to us because she used to work for FEMA. So she worked for FEMA for 13 years as their public assistance coordinator, has seen over 40 presidential declared emergencies, has been deployed to over 40, so a lot of experience. And that's been very helpful for us in...in going after a declaration. You know, she knows what they're looking for, and so we can make the argument based on that.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay. And then...yeah, I know, and...and I do believe that he was probably for what his experience was...was...it was hard for you to keep him because of what your constraints were for the salary for that position. But are you working also with the Climate Change Office in trying to coordinate the information that we need to have in Emergency Management as far as mitigation? Or you're mostly just working on after-the-fact, you know, response?

MR. ANDAYA: So...Madam Chair? With the hazard mitigation position, that person has been working with the State Office of Hazard...the State office, HIEMA, with respect to hazard mitigation. We've applied for grants. She's...she's been looking for grants. And you know, we...we...we should...actually I think it would be a good point to...to do...you know, I mean, she does work with the...the office, the Resiliency Office. She does attend their meetings and everything, and so...so we do have a close relationship with them. But...but perhaps our...with respect to hazard mitigation, it could be...it could be better coordinated, you know, so...and we should get some input from...from that office.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Yeah, I think that would be good. And they're...you know, they're looking for...to...they're trying to get their Staff back up as well. So I mean, the...I mean the Climate Change Office has been struggling as well, but it would be nice to see everybody . . . *(timer sounds)* . . . Because...and it was very impressive to have a scientist on your team, and I really felt for you when you lost him, but I kind of understood because, you know, he was pretty highly qualified.

MR. ANDAYA: Thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: All right. Well, thank you. And thank you --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you.

INFRASTRUCTURE AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

January 3, 2022

COUNCILMEMBER KING: -- for your work with the Red Cross. You know, my husband joined their board last year, and so I've been kind of keeping up on what's happening from the Red Cross side.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Nice. Okay. Great. So with your permission, I'm going to ask Mahina Martin, who's been patiently waiting, if you would like to join us, Mahina? There.

MS. MARTIN: Hi, good morning. Happy New Year.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Happy New Year.

MS. MARTIN: Thank you, Chair Sugimura, and aloha, everyone. Happy New Year to each of you. I just had some comments to share, and happy to discuss a little more. I understand the interest in the function and the...in the EOC, the County's Emergency Operating Center, happy to lend some perspective on...on how we participate from the Hawaiian Electric's view. You know, the Kona Low storm that happened about a month ago now really caused widespread damages and outages in a variety of areas. We were very fortunate that Moloka'i and Lāna'i was spared, but it is an all hands on deck for all three of our islands, as you can imagine. Starting from Sunday, December 5th and through the week, but initially Hawaiian Electric was affected by having about 22,000 of our customers experiencing power outages. And our crews were able to bring power back on by the next evening, by Monday evening, to about 75 percent of those approximate 22,000 customers. The damages were widespread on Maui, as I said, and included the facilities at the summit of Haleakalā. And our crews made sure to repair first our transmission system. You know, that serves as the foundation of our electrical system. So once that backbone gets completed, our crews then begin to repair and restore hundreds, literally hundreds of individual residential and business customers, neighborhood by neighborhood, often dealing with a variety of terrain and damaged conditions that...that are so varied in those neighborhoods. We flew in additional personnel from O'ahu to support our restoration efforts on Maui. And as you'll recall, O'ahu themselves got hit pretty hard with the Kona storm, but we were able to bring in additional personnel. We were still facing some difficulties in gulches that still had stormwater. We had debris blocking areas, and very difficult areas to reach, requiring our crews to hike in with equipment. And because of the ongoing bad weather, we were unable to use helicopters to assist us with assessment. Now, with all public emergency incidents, this one included, Hawaiian Electric works very closely with the County and the State's Emergency Operating Center. The State operates one on O'ahu. And we work to coordinate our response efforts. What we do is we initiate immediately, I mean major incidents requiring one, our own Hawaiian Electric's incident management team. Something...some of you will hear me say an IMT. But in all storms, regardless of the magnitude, the safety of the public and our employees is always our top priority. So when activated, our incident management team's command staff has an all hands on deck that includes divisions that deal with customer service, even as simple as, you know, our system operations, our dispatch personnel. We make sure our safety officer is part of that command staff. And a company liaison officer is dispatched to the County's Emergency Operating Center to help with any coordination. So upon notification by MEMA, by the County's MEMA Staff, we will dispatch and identify a

INFRASTRUCTURE AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

January 3, 2022

liaison officer. That role falls under my division, so often I'll serve as a lead liaison officer to the County's EOC, and a team under me will continue in a very...you know, if the event itself is long in duration. So happy to answer any questions. Every...it's difficult to be precise in emergency response. You know, we try to follow pretty standard ways of communication, standard ways of operating, and...and restoration and coordination, but every incident comes with such a degree of difference that it is...precision is not something we count on. I think we do our best, all emergency operating centers, State, County, and others that we're familiar with. We do our best to try to identify what the parameters are, what the known issues could be. The key to everything is always anticipating based on experience, the worst-case scenarios included, and using the resources, such as what Herman had mentioned with the National Weather Service. So we're very tied into those resources as well. So thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. Thank you, Mahina. Appreciate all the work that you do to support our community. I will tell you that in Kula, we did not have electricity from...I guess it was December 5th, 6th, 7th, I think we got back on Wednesday. And it's pretty hard without having water and electricity, you realize...I always say it made me realize how fortunate we are, we have utilities on demand where we just flip a switch or we turn on a faucet, and it's all there. But for it not being there, it sure shed a light of the importance of your work from Hawaiian Electric, with Herman, that all the departments had to work really hard. And I just wanted to extend my appreciation to them. And as I said in my opening, the storm is not over for us in Kula because we're still on a boil water advisory for some sections. But in this boil water advisory for E. cola [sic], my family kept on saying how lucky it is that we had electricity to boil the water because otherwise, we would be using our gas grill. So we appreciate Hawaiian Electric a lot during this.

MS. MARTIN: Chair...Chair, if I could add?

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yes.

MS. MARTIN: One of the things that was notable to...to me is the...you know, sometimes when we deal with rural communities, I said about anticipation, and they are, of course, at the ready way more often than the more populated urban areas. So you know, we put a lot of emphasis on helping East Maui, Moloka'i, Kahakuloa, those kind of areas. But when it starts to hit the heavy residential areas and outages extend for a length of time, we...we really do see the struggle. So I think it served as an excellent lesson to be prepared more so if you are very dependent on power systems, on utilities. You know, because I...I do notice that that was such a struggle in...in those neighborhoods. Even though...and under storm conditions, it's not as though you can get in your car and move over...you know, couple of neighborhoods over and visit someone because we do want people to stay home under those dangerous road...roadway conditions. So thank you.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah. Thank you for, you know, working hard. I didn't realize that your crews went out and walked transition [sic] lines in or whatever they did, you know, just to get our power back...as did Water, the Water Department. So appreciate the extra

INFRASTRUCTURE AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

January 3, 2022

effort from the employees who felt the needs from the community as if it was their own home, so appreciate that a lot. Any other Members have questions? So I had one question for MEMA. I'm talking about the emergency, to have a presidential declaration for damage assessment. And I just wondered...I know that during the storm, at first I heard that we didn't have enough individual assessments...assist...individual assistance needed for us to qualify for that. So do...or you're going to find out tomorrow, is that what's happening, if...if we will qualify for presidential assistance or FEMA assistance for these residents who had damages to their homes? Because a lot of them happened Upcountry, I think, gave me a call, so I'm just wondering where we are on that.

MR. ANDAYA: What's happening right now, Councilmember, is we...we're doing all this damage assessment. There's four categories; it's destroyed, major, minor, and affected. So we need to have so many destroyed and major to qualify for...qualify for a declaration. And so we did our best with making those assessments. Now, we have FEMA coming over tomorrow, and they will be...they will be verifying. So they're going to check to make sure like if we said it was destroyed, they're going to see if it was destroyed, you know. Or they may be...they may be looking at a house that we had initially designated as major, and they might think oh, no, this is...this is actually a destroyed house, you know. So...but that's what tomorrow is going to be, we'll have three teams from FEMA going out into the public. We already have their routes made, and you know, we'll...we'll see where it goes from there. You know, in our conversation, I did...I did...I did mention to you that with respect to public assistance, we're pretty confident...we're pretty confident that we will get a presidential declaration, as we did in the Ha'ikū floods, if you recall. With the...with respect to individual assistance, that...you know, we may not have the numbers, but we're going to try, you know. We're going to try and, you know, that's...that's the reason why we've been working hard, trying to get as many homes as we can. That's the reason why there's been a lot of public messaging out there to please call in if you have any damages to your home or if, you know, your home is destroyed or whatever the case may be, please call it in so that we can then, you know, make note of it, and that will help us with getting a declaration. So hopefully, hopefully we're able to get the IA. But as like with the Ha'ikū floods, we were not able to get the IA, there was not enough for that, so...

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So what...what do these individual homeowners do then that have experienced damage from...from the storm? If...if FEMA won't help them, then what...what is their next...or what are the next steps, I guess?

MR. ANDAYA: So we'll have FEMA here tomorrow, as well as SBA. So that's the Small Business Administration. So they have business...they have loans which...you know, you don't have to be a business to get a loan, but you can get...you can get a loan...a low-interest loan to rebuild your home. So those are the other...you know, other options.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Options.

MR. ANDAYA: Yeah.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: And if FEMA would have covered it, then they wouldn't have to get a loan,

INFRASTRUCTURE AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

January 3, 2022

is that the difference?

MR. ANDAYA: FEMA will...I mean, they'll give assistance. I don't know how much...I don't know if they'll pay for a brand new home. I think they...they give --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah.

MR. ANDAYA: -- some assistance, you know, to help rebuild the home. But yeah, the difference is, you know, I guess one is free money, it's a grant, is a grant of monies, and the other one, SBA, is a loan.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: I see. Okay.

MR. ANDAYA: That's a low-interest loan.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: I guess we'll...I guess we'll hear from you then whatever the outcome is. Because I know that they were like...you know, Kula Botanical Garden, they had a private home that was pretty badly damaged. But then they also had part of their business, and I think Government doesn't go in and fix businesses; is that correct? But we could help individual homes through Team Rubicon?

MR. ANDAYA: Yeah, so Team...Team Rubicon...so we can't go in there, but Team Rubicon can go in and assist, you know.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Anybody else have any questions? Tasha Kama, then Mike Molina. Go ahead.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Thank you. So...so my question is, so FEMA is able to help in terms of repairing a home or if there are damages, so forth. So...so the home is damaged, most of the time the contents within the home are damaged too. So is that included in the...that assessment to determine whether or not they would be eligible?

MR. ANDAYA: Madam Chair? I...I...I believe it's...it's just the...the...the house itself. I'm not sure about the contents. And so when we do damage assessments, it's only on the home itself, you know.

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Okay.

MR. ANDAYA: So...yeah. And with respect to --

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Thank you.

MR. ANDAYA: -- you know, we're...like I said, we're...we're still trying to even apply for individual assistance, so we're...we're hoping we can get that. So it's not...it's...you know, it's not that we...it's guaranteed we're going to get that, you know, and in fact, it's kind of an uphill battle. So...but we'll...you know, we'll try our best.

INFRASTRUCTURE AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

January 3, 2022

VICE-CHAIR KAMA: Thank you. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Thank you. Did I see Mr. Molina's hand up? Yeah. Okay. Mr. Molina?

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Yeah, thank you, Madam Chair. Question for Ms. Martin from Hawaiian Electric. Your timing is impeccable because I just got a call the other day about replacing a streetlight off Olinda Road near Polli's restaurant, so if that request can be looked into. And then the second thing I'm going to ask before my three minutes are up, you know, with regards to the constant power outages we were having with this last event, something was brought to my attention by an electrician. He said you should always turn off the...you know, once you have a power outage, turn off your circuit breaker box because you get...once you get that surge of power coming back, that could impact the electrical elements of like your refrigerator, your ovens, and so forth. So with that said, has Maui Electric been doing like advertising in that area to inform the public that, you know, once you have a power outage, then be sure to have your...you know, shut off your circuit breaker so to prevent any potential damage to your equipment. Have you folks been any type of advertising after the events to...as reminders to the public for that and other matters related to disasters?

MS. MARTIN: Yes. We...we run an extensive ad campaign. We hit all platforms, social media, print, probably not so much broadcast TV since it's not as localized as possible. So we do focus on the...year long, especially in the anticipated storm season, pre-hurricane. We're in the middle of what we in Hawai'i call the wet season, so a lot of prep goes into that. We publicize heavily our...let's see, the handbook for emergency...we call it the handbook for emergency preparedness book, which covers everything from generator safety to circuit breakers to your food safety in your refrigerator, how to prepare, how to...how to deal with the aftermath. So we really encourage folks to...to do that. Everyone has different circumstances, and I think the steps leading up to it. You know, the County has been doing well in notifying the public as quickly as they're able to. I think our community needs to understand to respond quickly and not kind of wait too long, or maybe not even think...think about it. So with technology today, we...we are able to prepare a little sooner, and hope other people do as well. But yes, we definitely do. We invest a lot in emergency preparedness, notification, preparation, and education. And I will look into that streetlight.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Okay. Thank you very much. Thank you, Madam Chair.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: So Mahina, I wonder if you could...since you mentioned your book, I...in the past you've shared it with us. I wonder if we could...the Members could have a copy of it because I think it provides some valuable information. Or does it get updated every year, or is it...is there...

MS. MARTIN: It gets slightly updated every year. We generally drop off a supply to your offices, but under COVID it's been a little challenging, you know, as you can imagine, right? So they can go to our website at hawaiianelectric.com if you want to just see an electronic version, and then look for the tab marked safety, and it will take you through to the

INFRASTRUCTURE AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

January 3, 2022

handbook. And it's in different languages, so we really encourage folks to have that. And many of you have communications with your constituents, if you can share that information as well. We provide literally thousands of those booklets around the island. A lot of seniors like it. Some of them like a new copy every year, so we make sure they get them. But happy to send some over to your offices by mail. And if you get requests and you want to mail one out, that's...absolutely, we support that.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Thank you very much. I do remember seeing that. So good question, Mr. Molina. And you got a...you got a problem solved with...from your constituent, so very good. So at this time...I saw Jeff Pearson here pop in from Water. Jeff? Oh, there you are. Okay. So thank you very much, Jeff, for your hard work. And as I...as I said in the opening, Kula is not done with the storm because we're still on a boil water advisory. So as you know, I'm concerned about it. I think I got my water back...or the boil water advisory was...I got...we got our water back last week Sunday, so we appreciate that, and again, having electricity. But maybe it's another discussion about how to improve that situation. But could you explain to the community how we got there for the boil water...E. coli bacteria in our water and...for Upcountry, and any communication situations that you can see that we can assist you with? Can't hear you.

MR. PEARSON: Sorry, mute. Yeah.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Okay.

MR. PEARSON: You mentioned communication near the end of your talk there, and that's something that Department of Water Supply needs to work on. We rarely have issues where it affects such a large number of people for such a long period of time. And it's obvious that we're not good at communication. So we've been trying to improve, we've been trying to get daily communication out through the Mayor's Office. The...the reason E. coli took place was during the storm, with the numerous pipe breaks, there's a...material gets inside the pipes from the rain and the gulches, and that could include, you know, animal feces and so forth, and with that we get E. coli. In hindsight, we should have issued a boil water notice much earlier. We should have done some additional chlorination at the breakpoints, and maybe even switched the disinfection...disinfectant a little earlier from chloramines to chlorine, which actually is a little stronger and can act quicker on the...the bacteria. So there's a lot of...you know, we're going...we're going to work on improving this. I know the Mayor's Office is also working on some protocol for improving communication. So it's going to get better, it has to. So we're working on a press release right now. I haven't spoke with Sandy Baz, but he's aware of it, as I just said, that we're going to switch Upcountry disinfection from chloramines to chlorine, also try to get in contact with the Department of Health to ensure that, you know, they're on board. We'll probably do it with...starting next Monday unless something comes up to stop that direction. But...so beginning next Monday, the Upper Kula system with...not...to not include the Upper Olinda Road, where there's...there was no breaks in the line and no disinfection, no bacteria, will be switching to the chlorine disinfection, so...

INFRASTRUCTURE AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

January 3, 2022

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. I...I...I just want to comment that during...when this was going on, and I was getting a lot of email and calls, and I was bothering Jeff Pearson...and you were actually on leave, but you were answering me. So I want to publicly thank you for your patience as my community was getting very frustrated with the communication. What the Department did with coordination with Michele Yoshimura or the Mayor's Office and the Department of Water Supply is that on the main County website, you put all...you consolidated or put a section for all the press releases that came out, and then you had the FAQs. And I think the FAQs really helped, you know, answer questions that people were having, you know, like can we drink the water or, you know, can we wash our clothes. I mean, simple things that you all probably hear that people were asking. And I also experienced another kind of interesting situation where there's a community up in Kula that was emailing me saying, is the water safe to drink? And your Deputy answered and said that up until our waterline it was clear to drink, but they're on a private water system. And then the community who are on private water systems, you need to communicate with your...your...your property managers or whoever takes care of your private community to make sure that the water was clean to drink. So there is some coordination that goes on in a situation, you know, like...like...like the private water systems, and that I learned also. So I appreciate what the Department did. I know it was very frustrating having to get, you know, my numerous emails and...and probably, you know, the community. And your 24/7 hotline, thank them for answering. I called them every day just to find out were we part of the...could...could we now drink our water or, you know, whatever. Because my road that I live on as is...we got an email from Dr. Caldwell, who lives on Alae Road, and he was having similar situations where it wasn't very clear. So maybe as another conversation, Director, you know, we...we...if there's something that we can do to assist you, please let us know because it's complicated. You know, short of driving through the neighborhood with a bullhorn just saying okay, you can now drink your water, you can now drink your water, it's...it's really complicated, and I know. But it was very frustrating too, you know, because of health and safety. But...

MR. PEARSON: And Chair, it's...it's even getting a little more complicated because at one point we were able to clear most of Naalae Road, and we went actually to the homes of the few people at the lower portion where there was E. coli present. Since then, E. coli's been detected at the upper part of the road, so it's moving within the system. So we're trying to open these areas as soon as possible, but then we end up shooting ourselves in the foot because E. coli will travel through the system where we didn't expect it to do so, and then we're changing the direction to the customer. So of course that sure doesn't help because the...the communication line is changing, which is --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah.

MR. PEARSON: -- confusing, as you just said.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah, very complicated. So I think Tamara has a question.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Mr. Pearson. Two main questions. The first question, you know, I saw the press releases of like streets and things like that,

INFRASTRUCTURE AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

January 3, 2022

and I just was wondering, do you think it could be easier if a map was provided instead of just street names? Like a map with the County of Maui's water system, and then a map of the areas affected versus just listing street names? Because I saw a lot of people, when the names were listed, they were like what about this street or what about that street? And for me, I...I don't really have any point of reference. Like how Member Kama was in Nāpili, I don't know Kula that-that well. So just wondering if a map would be helpful of where the County system is and what sections are affected. And then the second question is, is your Department receiving any of the 3 million emergency funds?

MR. PEARSON: The first question is an easier one to answer. Yeah, I heard that comment more than once about the maps, and we did work on getting some Google maps and showing streets and the...the areas affected. I think we also listed the streets alongside of that map, but we have...we have those on our website. So thank you for that comment. The second question, I...I need to check with my Deputy and our fiscal and likely the...the Mayor's Office. I'm not aware of the 3 million, where it's at or what it's at right now, so I can't answer that question.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. I think it's going to second reading this Friday.

MR. PEARSON: Okay.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Yeah, so the map is available, and it was being used by our communities Upcountry. Anybody else have any questions for Mr. Pearson? Thank you very much, Jeff, for taking all the questions during the storm from me, as well as the community, as...and...and also Helene, Helene has been very patient. Seeing none. So I'm going to defer this item in case we need to talk about it further when we find out what the...the funds are going to be used for. And...and if we can help with any kind of communication, I think that was our...our...our big takeaway, I think, from this Kona storm. And so Members, at this time we're at the end of my agenda. Oh, Tamara?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Oh, Chair, I just was wondering if you could find out what the 3 million is being used for now since we're voting second and final reading on Friday, if Public Works --

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: -- is on the line.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Oh, okay. Jordan Molina? Oh, I think Kelly had a question for Public Works also, yeah. Sorry about that, Kelly. Okay. Go ahead. Mr. Molina, \$3 million, how much of it is yours?

MR. MOLINA: One sec. I saw with Water Department they had requested...\$200,000 was their initial estimate. And so that...the rest of that emergency fund would be for Public Works' related repairs. At least what we understood to...the cost to replace what was damaged, not necessarily the cost to fully repair those areas appropriately. Because of course, where the damage occurred a lot of the infrastructure was substandard, so it wouldn't

INFRASTRUCTURE AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

January 3, 2022

be appropriate to just put back exactly what was there. Certain things need to be beefed up a bit to ensure that they can survive another event. Yeah, I can go to any specific questions you guys might (*audio interference*)

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. So what you just said is you're getting all the remainder of the 3 mil...\$3 million, and 200,000 is for Water. Okay.

MR. MOLINA: Correct.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Tamara?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I just...how did you arrive at that? I guess 2.7 million is for your needs.

MR. MOLINA: So that was based on the initial damage assessments done by Engineering Division that we use to submit for the FEMA declaration.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And would the monies go to like contracting out other agencies for fixes, planning and design, or materials? Like what...what is the 2.7 mil likely to be spent on?

MR. MOLINA: Yeah, so most of it is going to be for CIP projects to do the repairs, so that's inclusive of design consultants and contractors to build them. And then some of it is for debris removal. So a lot of our culverts are right upstream of them. There's large quantities of debris that's just sitting there waiting for the next storm to shove them all back into the culverts. So we're looking to hire contractors to help us with some of that debris removal work that's still out there.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And is DPW proactive in assessing the culverts with debris or rubbish from people's backyards before a storm arrives and backs up in certain locations?

MR. MOLINA: Yeah, so our crews go out, the first thing they do is go clear sand plugs at the bottom outlets where everything got to drain out to the ocean. So that's pretty standard practice we do when we know big rains are coming. Everybody will go mobilize and clean out the sand plugs. Then the guys will go check the culverts. And then...but for the most part, you're talking about just the area right adjacent to the roadways unless it's already a County-owned facility or channel. So you know, we're not able to go up into private property and kind of more preemptively remove debris. The way the County Code works, that's on the property owners that own these drainage to keep them clear of debris. But when you have a storm event like we've had, you know, that's more than just people's yard waste that came through and accumulated at the culverts.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: So like for Kahoma in Lāhainā, I had submitted an item to Member Sugimura's Committee a while back about the gates, all the sediment and debris that is backing up behind the gates at Kahoma Flood Channel. Is there plans to remove that?

INFRASTRUCTURE AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

January 3, 2022

MR. MOLINA: Yeah, so that's part of our typical operations of the flood control structure. So that one's a little different, yeah, because that one's completely owned by the County and managed by the County. I think that one is a lot to do with just manpower to be able to get through time to go in there and pull out all that material. Another challenge is where do we take all that material. So yeah, we...you know, we...we do our best to try and get in there and at least get enough of the debris out of there so that the next flood event isn't so impactful. But yeah, that's on the to-do list as well with our other basins and flood control structures across the County.

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

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Thank you. We'll look into that. Kelly King?

COUNCILMEMBER KING: And thank you for acknowledging how tied in our two districts are because we got a lot of debris in South Maui. We look Upcountry and we go, that's where it's coming from. So there's a lot of area in South Maui that's still inundated with mud, and so I wanted to ask Deputy Director Molina, what...I've been getting complaints that mud is being collected and then deposited in what they call staging areas, which is close to homes. And it...it's got a real sewage smell to it, so some of...I've been hearing from constituents that their homes...it's really stinky around their homes and it's just piles of mud that will sit there for days. And so I wanted to ask the Director, how do they get that dealt with? And obviously I can't do anything about it personally, but is that where they would file an RFS with you? How would they get that taken care of as quickly as possible?

MR. MOLINA: Yeah, they can report it to us. We are working to get through it all. But as you guys are aware, this was an immense storm across two of our --

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Right. But...

MR. MOLINA: -- districts, and we have all hands on deck from the beginning of December trying to stabilize the roads, trying to open the drainage ways, and now trying to get all the debris out of the neighborhoods.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Right. So if you...if you do that kind of jumping...I mean, if you can't...if you absolutely can't find another staging area that's away from houses, wouldn't it be prudent to go knock on doors and explain to people what's happening so that, you know, there's not...I mean, there's been a flurry of social media complaints about this and nobody knows what to do about it. So they don't know how long it's going to be there. They know it gets stinkier by the day. They know that no one's responding, and that's all they know. So what I need to know from you is how...you know, how do you respond to the public when they make complaints? You just tell them it's too bad, it has to sit there for a few days, or do you give them a date that you're going to remove it by, or can you look for another site in the area?

INFRASTRUCTURE AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

January 3, 2022

MR. MOLINA: You know, all those things are considerations we can do better at. In the heat of the moment there's a progression of priority we need to get through, and unfortunately, debris needs to sit on the side while we can get around to clearing it. And there's just not enough resources on this island to get it all done within a couple weeks. I mean, we have almost every contractor working for us already, which creates other impacts because they're also supposed to be working on our CIP projects, and now we have them tied up for months at a time trying to help us remove debris. Yeah, unfortunately --

COUNCILMEMBER KING: And just I'm worried because...

MR. MOLINA: -- we've just got to ask for their patience at this point.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Yeah, but I'm worried, Jordan, because it feels like a health hazard to have to breathe in that kind of odorous...you know, and that's...there's...that's bacteria and feces and whatever else is making that smell. So you know, I'm worried about the health hazard. And I think, you know, short of...I mean, isn't that something we would bring FEMA in for, take a look at that kind of thing? Or is that something that we're causing because we're collecting all of it and putting it in one pile?

MR. MOLINA: Yeah, unfortunately FEMA is not a very quick responsive process. We are still trying to get our projects from March FEMA approved.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay. But is...is the best way for them to get you to address it, to file an RFS?

MR. MOLINA: Yeah, or they can contact Highways Division. There was a press release put out for the appropriate districts.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay.

MR. MOLINA: You know, if there's something extremely egregious, we'll come and check it out and respond accordingly.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay. And who would be the person at Highways Division that they would get if they call?

MR. MOLINA: Somebody in the administrative Staff that's managing the phone. So if it's Wailuku, it'll be our Wailuku District Staff; or if it's Upcountry, then they'll hit our Makawao District. . . .(timer sounds). . .

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay. But this is South Maui, we don't have a baseyard there.

MR. MOLINA: Yeah, so you guys are lumped in with Wailuku at this point.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Wailuku. Okay. Can you just give me that number again? Because I'm going to put it on Facebook. Did he freeze up?

INFRASTRUCTURE AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

January 3, 2022

MR. MOLINA: No, sorry, give me a sec. So South Maui, the Wailuku District Office, 270-7443.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Thank you for that. Another good reason to get our baseyard...district baseyard up and running. All right. Thank you.

MR. MOLINA: Not just the baseyard, it's the bodies too.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Yeah, exactly. I...I understand that.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Okay. Thank you, Members. So I...I didn't take a break thinking that we wouldn't have this many questions. If you think we should take a break, I can take a break and continue. Or you think we're done discussing this item for now?

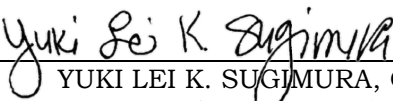
COUNCILMEMBER KING: I'm good for now.

CHAIR SUGIMURA: Yeah, I think we're good, yeah? Okay. So thank you, thank you very much. And the departments who came in case there were questions, thank you very much. I see Eric Nakagawa's been on the call, appreciate that, and Karla Peters from Parks. And again, storms going to happen again. Appreciate MEMA, appreciate Sandy Baz, and all of you for the work that you've done. So at this time I'm going to defer this item, Members, and I am going to adjourn this meeting. Thank you very much. Meeting is now adjourned. . . .*(gavel)*. . .

ACTION: DEFER PENDING FURTHER DISCUSSION.

ADJOURN: 11:03 a.m.

APPROVED:



YUKI LEI K. SUGIMURA, Chair
Infrastructure and Transportation Committee

it:min:220103:ds

Transcribed by: Daniel Schoenbeck

INFRASTRUCTURE AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

January 3, 2022

CERTIFICATION

I, Daniel Schoenbeck, hereby certify that pages 1 through 38 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 9th day of February 2022, in Kula, Hawai'i

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Daniel Schoenbeck", is positioned above a horizontal line.

Daniel Schoenbeck