

COUNCIL OF THE COUNTY OF MAUI  
**BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE**

November 16, 2001

**Committee**  
**Report No.**

01-221

Honorable Chair and Members  
of the County Council  
County of Maui  
Wailuku, Maui, Hawaii

Chair and Members:

Your Budget and Finance Committee, having met on October 30, 2001, makes reference to County Communication No. 01-283, from the Chief of Police, transmitting a proposed bill entitled "A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE FISCAL YEAR 2002 BUDGET FOR THE COUNTY OF MAUI AS IT PERTAINS TO CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT APPROPRIATIONS FROM THE GENERAL FUND FOR THE WAILUKU-KAHULUI COMMUNITY PLAN DISTRICT AND COUNTYWIDE".

The purpose of the proposed bill is to transfer \$300,000 currently appropriated for the Wailuku Police Station Evidence Storage Expansion to the Countywide Police Facilities for necessary improvements to the emergency power distribution system at the Wailuku Police Station.

At its meeting, your Committee met with the Budget Director, two Police Captains from the Department of Police, the County's Energy Specialist, and a Deputy Corporation Counsel.

The Budget Director informed your Committee that this request is to transfer funds appropriated in the Fiscal Year 2002 Budget for the Wailuku-Kahului Community Plan District to Countywide Police Facilities to address needs in the emergency power distribution system.

Your Committee notes that this request would include the installation of a replacement Uninterruptible Power Supply (UPS) unit and modifications to the existing emergency power generator system. These changes are prompted by two recent Maui Electric Company's (MECo) power disruptions, which resulted in a failure of the UPS at the Wailuku Police Station. Your Committee further notes that the UPS is used to prevent any power disruption or fluctuation such as surges or spikes coming through the lines to the various systems.

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One Captain noted that the UPS sits between the MECo line and the Department's mission critical electronic systems (the radio system, the non-emergency telephones, and the computer network). He stated that the 911 system is on a different UPS that is provided by Verizon. The Captain further informed your Committee that all systems were affected during the power outages.

The Captain informed your Committee that the plan is to obtain the services of an electrical consultant to review the outages and the needs of the Department. Outlying districts may also be reviewed. He stated that the assessment would include, at a minimum: (1) replacement of the UPS, (2) power system design, (3) replacement transfer switch for emergency generator, and (4) line conditioners.

Your Committee questioned whether the County could receive compensation from MECo for damages incurred from the power outages. According to the Captain, compensation should not be requested because the failure was with the UPS system, which was installed in 1994. He also noted that obtaining repair parts for the UPS has become more difficult.

The Captain explained that the UPS is an in-line unit which is located between the generator and the Department's electronic systems. He further explained that when electrical power was disrupted, the emergency generators started, but the UPS failed. This failure required the Department to switch the UPS to a bypass mode and bring the systems back on-line.

The second Captain informed your Committee that the Department is considering using three smaller UPS's for each mission critical system, and that a comprehensive assessment would determine the best solution. He stated that all district stations are equipped with emergency generators. In addition, he noted that the Department's 800 megahertz radio system is supported by batteries and back-up generators.

Your Committee expressed concern about postponing the expansion of the Police Evidence Storage Center. The Budget Director explained that if funds remain after the electrical assessment and solution, the design work for the

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expansion of the Evidence Storage Center could be funded through the use of Countywide funds.

In addition, your Committee expressed concern about whether the Department would have to return with a request for additional funding after the electrical assessment. One Captain stated that the Department was confident that the \$300,000 would be enough to address the assessment and the solution to the emergency power distribution system.

After discussion, your Committee voted to recommend passage of the proposed bill on first reading and filing of the communication.

Your Budget and Finance Committee RECOMMENDS the following:

1. That Bill No. \_\_\_\_\_ (2001), attached hereto, entitled "A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE FISCAL YEAR 2002 BUDGET FOR THE COUNTY OF MAUI AS IT PERTAINS TO CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT APPROPRIATIONS FROM THE GENERAL FUND FOR THE WAILUKU-KAHULUI COMMUNITY PLAN DISTRICT AND COUNTYWIDE" PASS FIRST READING and BE ORDERED TO PRINT; and
2. That County Communication No. 01-283 be FILED.

Adoption of this report is respectfully requested.

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**G. RIKI HOKAMA** Chair

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