

COUNCIL OF THE COUNTY OF MAUI
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

September 7, 2001

Committee
Report No. 01-153

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

Chair and Members:

Your Committee of the Whole, having met on August 14, 2001, makes reference to County Communication No. 01-206, from the Planning Director, transmitting a Repetitive Loss Properties Floodplain Management Plan and a proposed resolution entitled "ADOPTING THE COUNTY OF MAUI REPETITIVE LOSS PROPERTIES FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT PLAN".

The purpose of the proposed resolution is to adopt a repetitive loss properties floodplain management plan for the County of Maui.

At its meeting, your Committee met with a Planner from the Department of Planning; the Corporation Counsel; and Sterling Yong, the State National Flood Insurance Program Coordinator from the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

There being no public testimony, your Committee received an overview of the proposed County of Maui Repetitive Loss Properties Floodplain Management Plan (Plan) from the Planner and Mr. Yong. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has identified the County of Maui as a "Category C Repetitive Loss Community", where two or more claims of \$1,000 or more have been paid by the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) within a ten-year period. In order to qualify for Federal financial assistance, the County of Maui is required to adopt a floodplain management plan for the community's floodplain areas because it has more than ten repetitive loss properties. The County of Maui has eleven repetitive loss properties.

The proposed Plan identifies problem areas and provides preventive measures to address the repeated flooding in the problem areas. The goals of the Plan are to protect the homes and buildings in the problem areas as well as to develop a flood warning system for flash flooding. The proposed Plan will

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implement more than the minimum regulatory requirements in order to increase NFIP premium savings.

The proposed Plan will be implemented by the Planning Director and annual updates will be provided to the County Council.

Your Committee questioned whether the County is able to purchase repetitive loss properties from their owners. The Planner explained that the County may purchase repetitive loss properties if the property owner is willing to sell.

Your Committee also questioned whether funds are available to address the problems identified in the proposed Plan. The Planner answered that Federal funds are available, but it is clear that the available amounts will not cover all of the proposed measures needed to address repetitive flooding. However, it is also recognized that the Department of Planning will continue to work toward improving and updating the proposed Plan.

Based on its discussion, your Committee voted to recommend adoption of the proposed resolution.

Your Committee of the Whole **RECOMMENDS** the following:

1. That Resolution No. _____, attached hereto, entitled "ADOPTING THE COUNTY OF MAUI REPETITIVE LOSS PROPERTIES FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT PLAN" be ADOPTED; and
2. That County Communication No. 01-206 be FILED.

Adoption of this report is respectfully requested.

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