

**COUNCIL OF THE COUNTY OF MAUI**  
**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

September 18, 2009

**Committee**  
**Report No.** \_\_\_\_\_

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 September 3, 2009, makes reference to County Communication No. 09-141, from Council Chair Danny A. Mateo, transmitting correspondence dated March 29, 2009, from Daryl T. Yamamoto, expressing concerns related to the County's online Request For Service (RFS) system and employees' personal use of County vehicles.

Your Committee notes that in his correspondence, Mr. Yamamoto expressed concerns with the failure of the County's online RFS system to respond to inquiries, the failure of the Office of the Mayor to respond to requests for information, and the failure of employees to report the use of County vehicles for personal use, as income.

With regard to the County's online RFS system, the Director of Parks and Recreation acknowledged that the online RFS system did not respond to Mr. Yamamoto's inquiry as it should have. However, she stated that Mr. Yamamoto's concerns were addressed by employees of the Department. She also indicated that the Department is making internal staff adjustments in order to expedite its responses to suggestions and complaints made by the public.

The Director of Parks and Recreation informed your Committee that staff shortages within the Department often result in unplanned closures of the County's pools. She agreed to submit a report to your Committee regarding the frequency of pool closures in each district. She noted that the Department has a well-publicized telephone number that the public may call for daily updates on pool closures.

With regard to employees' personal use of County vehicles, the Director of Parks and Recreation explained that the Department has a fleet of 130 vehicles, 30 of which are assigned to employees who are permitted to take the vehicles home. These employees are required, as a condition of employment, to respond to emergencies that may arise after regular work hours.

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The Director of Finance indicated that employees who use County vehicles are permitted to stop for lunch while carrying out their duties; however, use of a County vehicle solely for the purpose of going to lunch is prohibited. He further indicated that County vehicles may not be used to transport non-County passengers except for work-related purposes; however, violations of the policy sometimes occur.

The Director of Finance also explained that employees' personal use of County vehicles is considered an employee benefit. He noted that \$3 per day is added to the employee's income for tax purposes.

He informed your Committee that the Department of Finance maintains a list of County vehicles. Through the vehicle identification numbers or license-plate numbers, the Department of Finance is able to determine the department responsible for the vehicle and the employee to which it is assigned.

Your Committee voted 8-0 to recommend the filing of the communication. Committee Chair Molina, Vice-Chair Mateo, and members Baisa, Kaho'ohalahala, Medeiros, Nishiki, Pontanilla, and Victorino voted "aye". Committee member Johnson was excused.

Your Committee of the Whole **RECOMMENDS** that County Communication No. 09-141 be FILED.

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This report is submitted in accordance with Rule 7 of the Rules of the Council.



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MICHAEL J. MOLINA, Chair

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