

COUNCIL OF THE COUNTY OF MAUI
PUBLIC SERVICES COMMITTEE

September 3, 2010

Committee
Report No. _____

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

Chair and Members:

Your Public Services Committee, having met on August 18, 2010, makes reference to County Communication No. 09-326, from Councilmember Jo Anne Johnson, relating to the County's use of energy-efficient buses.

The communication transmitted documents that describe fuel-efficient hybrid buses in use by public-transit systems in other municipalities.

The Director of Transportation provided an opening statement regarding the Department of Transportation's review of hybrid buses, and the decision to opt instead for clean-diesel buses for the County's fleet. He stated that at the time the County most recently purchased clean-diesel buses, hybrid buses had not been in use long enough to provide adequate data to assess performance over the 12-year expected life of a hybrid bus. He also stated that after a cost-benefit analysis was performed with the existing data, the Department decided to purchase 18 clean-diesel buses rather than the 10 hybrid buses the same budget would have allowed. He further stated that his Department continues to monitor the experience of other municipalities that have chosen to be early adopters of hybrid-bus technology.

The Director responded to your Committee's extensive questions about Federal funding for bus purchases in rural areas, warranty limitations governing the use of biodiesel fuel in buses, and maintenance challenges related to energy-efficient buses.

Your Committee expressed its appreciation for the information presented and suggested that the Department continue its efforts to study energy-efficient buses.

Your Committee voted 6-0 to recommend filing of the communication. Committee Chair Nishiki, Vice-Chair Pontanilla, and members Johnson, Mateo, Medeiros, and Victorino voted "aye". Committee member Kaho'ohalahala was excused.

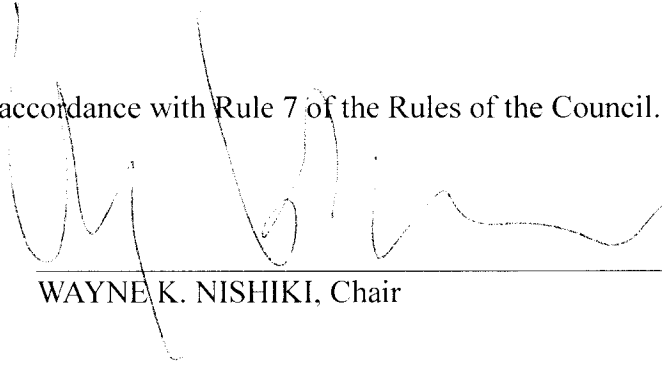
Your Public Services Committee **RECOMMENDS** that County Communication No. 09-326 be FILED.

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



WAYNE K. NISHIKI, Chair

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