

COUNCIL OF THE COUNTY OF MAUI
BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

September 21, 2010

Committee
Report No. _____

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 August 31, 2010, makes reference to County Communication No. 10-162, from Councilmember Joseph Pontanilla, transmitting a proposed bill entitled "A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 3.35, MAUI COUNTY CODE, PERTAINING TO THE APPROVAL OF PROJECTS FROM THE AFFORDABLE HOUSING FUND".

The purpose of the proposed bill is to amend Chapter 3.35, Maui County Code, to simplify the approval process for projects funded by the Affordable Housing Fund.

Your Committee notes that the current approval process requires the Department of Housing and Human Concerns to transmit to the Council, for its approval, all projects to be funded from the Affordable Housing Fund. The process does not require ordinances appropriating the funds to be transmitted with the projects. Therefore, under the current procedure, two Council actions are required; Council approval of the projects, followed by Council approval of ordinances appropriating funding for the projects.

The proposed bill will expedite the process by requiring the Department to submit any Affordable Housing Fund project to the Council along with a completed grant or loan proposal and a budget amendment, or with a request that the projects be included in a fiscal year budget. Under this procedure, the Council will be able to approve the project with an appropriations ordinance. Furthermore, the proposed bill deletes the requirement for separate Council approval, by resolution, for projects that are not within the Council-approved affordable housing plan.

Your Committee voted 7-0 to recommend passage of the proposed bill on first reading and filing of the communication. Committee Chair Pontanilla, Vice-Chair Mateo, and members Baisa, Johnson, Kaho`ohalahala, Molina, and Nishiki voted "aye". Committee members Medeiros and Victorino were excused.

