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ORIGINAL

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APPROVED:


Committee Chair

1 **CONVENE:** 9:00 a.m.

2 **PRESENT:** VOTING MEMBERS:
3 Councilmember G. Riki Hokama, Chair
4 Councilmember Robert Carroll, Vice-Chair
5 Councilmember Gladys C. Baisa, Member
6 Councilmember Elle Cochran, Member
7 Councilmember Donald G. Couch, Jr., Member
 (In 9:02 a.m.)
 Councilmember Joseph Pontanilla, Member (In
 9:02 a.m.)
 Councilmember Mike B. White, Member (Out
 9:38 a.m.)

8 **ABSENT:** NONE

9 **EXCUSED:** Councilmember Danny A. Mateo, Member
10 Councilmember Michael P. Victorino, Member

11 **STAFF:** Carla Nakata, Legislative Attorney
12 Jo-Ann C. Sato, Substituting Committee
 Secretary

13 **ADMIN:** Edward S. Kushi, Jr., First Deputy Corporation
14 Counsel, Department of the Corporation
 Counsel
15 Michael J. Molina, Executive Assistant to the
 Mayor (Item No. 2(19))
16 Jane E. Lovell, Deputy Corporation Counsel,
 Department of the Corporation Counsel
 (Item No. 1(16))
17 Jeffrey A. Murray, Fire Chief, Department of
 Fire and Public Safety

18 **OTHERS:** NONE

19 **PRESS:** *Akaku, Maui Community Television, Inc.*

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21 CHAIR HOKAMA: ...*(gavel)*... Policy Committee
22 for the Council of the County of Maui, regular meeting
23 of August 31st, 2011, shall come to order. This morning
24 we have our Vice-Chairman, Mr. Carroll, also present are
25 our Members Baisa, Cochran and White. The Chair excuses

1 Mr. Couch, Mr. Mateo, Mr. Victorino, and Mr. Pontanilla
2 today.

3 Members, the first item -- first, let me ask
4 if we have any testimony requests?

5 MS. SATO: No, Mr. Chair.

6 CHAIR HOKAMA: There being no testimony
7 requests, Chair will be closing testimony for today's
8 meeting with no objections.

9 COUNCIL MEMBERS: No objections.

10 CHAIR HOKAMA: So ordered.

11 **POL-2(19): NOMINATIONS TO BOARDS, COMMITTEES, AND**
12 **COMMISSIONS (COMMISSION ON CULTURE AND THE**
ARTS)

13 CHAIR HOKAMA: Let us move to Policy Item
14 2(19), Members. 2(19) is a recommendation from Mayor
15 Alan Arakawa to appoint a member to the Commission on
16 Culture and the Arts. This is for a term expiring March
17 31st, 2013. And this is to fill a vacancy upon a
18 resignation of a previous member. There was no request
19 to have the nominee come before the Committee. And,
20 therefore, if there are any questions, we do have
21 Mr. Molina present to give any comment to any Member
22 that may have a question regarding the nomination of
23 Mr. Molina.

24 And so, at this time, I'll ask Mr. Molina if
25 he has any comments for Mr. Molina?

1 MR. MOLINA: Good morning, Chairman. Good
2 morning, Committee Members. My apologies for being a
3 little tardy this morning.

4 CHAIR HOKAMA: No problem.

5 MR. MOLINA: As you can see, we have a nominee
6 for the cultural -- Culture and the Arts Commission,
7 Eric Molina. He has previously served this County
8 before as the former chair of the Arborist Committee
9 and, I believe, on the County -- was a member of the
10 County Block Grant Commission as well.

11 So his time availability, he's always there to
12 show up to meetings. Which is, of course, a very
13 important criteria for all of our nominees serving our
14 boards and commissions.

15 So we would respectfully ask for your support
16 for Mr. Molina to serve on the Culture and the Arts
17 Commission. And I'm available for any other questions
18 with regards to his nomination. Thank you, Chair.
19 Thank you, Members.

20 CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you, Mr. Molina.
21 Members, any questions for resource from Administration
22 regarding the nomination of Eric Molina for Commission
23 on Culture and the Arts? Yes, Ms. Cochran?

24 COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Any relation to Mike
25 Molina?

1 MR. MOLINA: You know, I'm glad you asked
2 that. He is a cousin of mine. And I believe -- he
3 spent most of his life, though, living on the mainland.
4 And I believe he attended school in Oregon. So he's a
5 very well educated young man, you know. But, yes, he is
6 a second cousin of mine.

7 COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Great. Thank you.

8 MR. MOLINA: Thank you.

9 CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay. Thank you. Any other
10 questions?

11 For the record, we welcome Mr. Couch and
12 Mr. Pontanilla to the morning's proceedings. Thank you
13 for being here, gentlemen.

14 There being no additional questions or -- or
15 comments from Mr. Molina from the Committee, your
16 Chair's recommendation is to recommend to the full
17 Council the appointment of Mr. Eric Molina to the
18 Commission on Culture and the Arts, for a term expiring
19 March 31st, 2013. Mr. Carroll?

20 VICE-CHAIR CARROLL: So moved.

21 COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Second.

22 CHAIR HOKAMA: I have a motion made by
23 Mr. Carroll, seconded by Ms. Baisa. Are there any
24 further discussion? Having none, all in favor of the
25 motion, please say "aye".

1 COUNCIL MEMBERS: Aye.

2 CHAIR HOKAMA: Opposed, say "no". Motion is
3 carried with seven "ayes"; two "excused", Mr. Mateo and
4 Mr. Victorino.

5 **VOTE: AYES: Chair Hokama, Vice-Chair Carroll, and**
6 **Councilmembers Baisa, Cochran, Couch,**
Pontanilla, and White.

7 **NOES: None.**

8 **EXC.: Councilmembers Mateo and Victorino.**

9 **ABSENT: None.**

10 **ABSTAIN: None.**

11 **MOTION CARRIED**

12 **ACTION: Recommending ADOPTION of revised resolution.**

13 CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you very much,
14 Mr. Molina.

15 MR. MOLINA: Thank you very much, Chairman.
16 And thank you, Members, for your support.

17 CHAIR HOKAMA: Members, as you see, we have
18 two more items, and we have no departmental
19 representatives at this time. So Staff will be making a
20 few calls. So the Chair will take a short five-minute
21 recess. And if we have no resources, we shall adjourn
22 this meeting. This meeting is in recess. ...*(gavel)*...

23 **RECESS: 9:06 a.m.**

24 **RECONVENE: 9:10 a.m.**

25 CHAIR HOKAMA: ...*(gavel)*... The Policy

1 Committee shall come to order. Thank you, Members.

2 **POL-1(16): LITIGATION MATTERS (INDEMNIFICATION**
3 **AUTHORIZATION: MOLOKAI VETERANS CARING FOR**
4 **VETERANS, ET AL. V. COUNTY OF MAUI, ET AL.,**
5 **CIVIL NO. 11-00483 LEK/RKP)**

6 CHAIR HOKAMA: With no objections, the Chair
7 shall bring up Item Policy 1(16), which is under
8 Litigation Matters, that we have posted for this
9 morning's meeting. It is a request for an
10 Indemnification Authorization regarding the Molokai
11 Veterans Caring for Veterans, et al. v. County of Maui,
12 et al., Civil Number 11-00483 LEK/RLP.

13 There is a proposed resolution from the Office
14 of Corporation Counsel. And at this time I will ask
15 Ms. -- Deputy Lovell to give what comments she can in
16 open session, and the Chair will then consider a request
17 for executive session, if required. Thank you.
18 Ms. Lovell?

19 MS. LOVELL: Thank you, Chair Hokama. Good
20 morning, Council Members.

21 Recently, a second lawsuit was filed by the
22 Molokai Veterans Caring for Veterans. Many of the
23 original plaintiffs from the other action that I've
24 already briefed the Committee and the Council about and
25 four new plaintiffs. This new lawsuit, basically,
restates claims against parties who were dismissed from

1 the first action, and, also, restates the same claims,
2 this time on behalf of new -- four new plaintiffs that
3 survived our first motion to dismiss in the first
4 lawsuit.

5 The County Council indemnified all of these
6 same people by Resolution No. 10-60, when the first
7 lawsuit was filed. Out of, I think, caution, I ask that
8 these same individuals be indemnified again in the
9 second lawsuit because it does have a new number, it's a
10 -- a separate suit. But, otherwise, as far as I can
11 tell, it's virtually identical to the first.

12 CHAIR HOKAMA: Are you done, Ms. Lovell?

13 MS. LOVELL: Yes. Thank you.

14 CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you. Members, any
15 questions on what Ms. Lovell has presented regarding
16 this specific item? Mr. Carroll?

17 VICE-CHAIR CARROLL: No questions.

18 CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you. Ms. Baisa?

19 COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: No.

20 CHAIR HOKAMA: Ms. Cochran?

21 COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: No, Chair.

22 CHAIR HOKAMA: Mr. Couch?

23 COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: No.

24 CHAIR HOKAMA: Mr. White?

25 COUNCILMEMBER WHITE: No.

1 CHAIR HOKAMA: Mr. Pontanilla?

2 COUNCILMEMBER PONTANILLA: Yeah, just a fast
3 question. And if the question I ask should be asked in
4 open session, then just let me know. The inclusion of
5 our new Director for Department of Water Supply.

6 CHAIR HOKAMA: Ms. Lovell, can you answer that
7 in open?

8 MS. LOVELL: Yes. Yes, I believe so.
9 Mr. Taylor and, also, Mayor Arakawa are named in this
10 second lawsuit, but in their official capacities only.

11 COUNCILMEMBER PONTANILLA: Okay.

12 MS. LOVELL: And not only in this case, but in
13 lawsuits in general, when a lawsuit is brought against
14 someone in their official capacity, and then they leave
15 office and someone else takes over for them, it's almost
16 automatic that the new, let's say, water director or
17 mayor is substituted in. But I am not asking in this
18 resolution for indemnification of either Mayor Arakawa
19 or Director Taylor because the claims against them are
20 in their official capacity only. And, therefore, the
21 claims against them are, basically, claims against the
22 County.

23 COUNCILMEMBER PONTANILLA: Okay. Fine. Thank
24 you.

25 CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay. Thank you,

1 Mr. Pontanilla. So, Ms. Lovell, so the Committee is
2 very clear regarding the Office of Corporation Counsel's
3 request to us this morning, this is as it regards to our
4 officials in their individual capacity. Is that -- is
5 that a good understanding of the Committee?

6 MS. LOVELL: Yes, that is correct. Because I
7 believe any claims against any of the named defendants
8 in their official capacities really duplicate claims
9 against the County. But when it comes down to claims
10 against a person individually, including in this case,
11 claims for punitive damages, that's where the
12 possibility of a legal conflict arises unless the
13 parties are indemnified.

14 CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay. Thank you for that. The
15 Chair will offer the Committee one final opportunity to
16 ask any questions before I give my recommendation. Is
17 there any questions, Ms. Baisa?

18 COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: No, thank you, Chair.

19 CHAIR HOKAMA: Ms. Cochran?

20 COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: No, Chair.

21 CHAIR HOKAMA: Mr. Couch? Mr. White?

22 Mr. Pontanilla?

23 COUNCILMEMBER PONTANILLA: No.

24 CHAIR HOKAMA: Mr. Carroll, Vice-Chair

25 Carroll, any questions for resource? Any questions you

1 have for --

2 VICE-CHAIR CARROLL: No.

3 CHAIR HOKAMA: -- Ms. Lovell?

4 VICE-CHAIR CARROLL: No.

5 CHAIR HOKAMA: If not, the Chair would be
6 recommending to the Committee that we forward to the
7 Council a resolution recommending the indemnification --
8 or -- excuse me -- it is a Proposed Resolution entitled
9 Indemnifying Charmaine Tavares, Roy Silva, Mahina
10 Martin, Jeffrey K. Eng, and Clayton Yoshida, in Molokai
11 Veterans Caring for Veterans, et al. v. County of Maui,
12 et al, CV 11-00483 LEK/RLP. Mr. Carroll?

13 VICE-CHAIR CARROLL: So moved.

14 COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Second.

15 CHAIR HOKAMA: I have a motion by Mr. Carroll,
16 seconded by Ms. Baisa. Is there any further discussion
17 on the motion before you, Members? Having none, all in
18 favor of the motion, please say "aye".

19 COUNCIL MEMBERS: Aye.

20 CHAIR HOKAMA: Opposed, say "no". Motion
21 passes with seven "ayes"; two "excused", Mr. Mateo and
22 Mr. Victorino.

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1 share them with the Committee this morning.

2 MR. MURRAY: I just wanted to ask what
3 objective were we at? I believe it was VI.

4 CHAIR HOKAMA: I believe you're correct,
5 Chief. I know we did IV and V, and so I believe we're
6 on Section VI under Physical Resources. So, Chief, any
7 opening comments you have on this component at this
8 time?

9 MR. MURRAY: Not really. I'll just start
10 fielding questions.

11 CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay.

12 MR. MURRAY: If that's okay.

13 CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay. Thank you. Okay.
14 Members, I'll ask if you folks have any questions
15 regarding the Physical Resources component of the plan.
16 And you also have the PowerPoint presentation that the
17 Chief had given earlier.

18 Chief, one of the things that maybe I can
19 start off for the Committee this morning is, you know,
20 some of the things that I found interesting is your
21 short-term resource comments, which is regarding the
22 establishment of a cache of supplies. Has there been a
23 situation where the Department felt -- what's the right
24 word we can -- uncomfortable with -- with the resources
25 remaining after, let's say, responding to a situation,

1 whether it be a hurricane, tsunami, major brushfires, or
2 those type of situations?

3 MR. MURRAY: Yes, Chair. That's a good
4 question. Normally, after brushfires, we are low on
5 supplies, whether it be hoses or protective gear. And
6 our vehicles usually take -- get some damage, and the
7 fires takes its toll on those vehicles. That's usually
8 about what we deal with. The last tsunami, the only
9 resources we used were manpower and our helicopters.

10 CHAIR HOKAMA: I do know that when we had that
11 large tsunami situation, and you folks responded, you
12 know, heads and shoulders above what normally, I guess,
13 we would expect. I noticed that you had to set up some
14 temporary, whether you call it triage areas or what, for
15 -- for replenishment of -- of food and -- and liquids
16 for your firefighters, as well as resting points, and as
17 well as -- were you in charge, also, of the stops where
18 you redirect the visitor on the road to get out of
19 harm's way? You folks --

20 MR. MURRAY: We assisted the Police with the
21 evacuation in the areas. Once our priorities were
22 filled, then we just moved on and helped the areas that
23 they were still struggling with getting people out of
24 those areas. So it was a really good joint effort
25 between the departments and management and -- and

1 what-have-you. So it did work well, and the people did
2 listen. And -- and that's, you know, great, an
3 attestment [sic] to the education that's been out there.
4 So --

5 CHAIR HOKAMA: Right.

6 MR. MURRAY: -- we're really thankful about
7 that.

8 CHAIR HOKAMA: The one that, I think, maybe
9 you can help the Committee have a better understanding
10 is what -- what expectations or what do you seek from
11 the Civil Defense? I'm looking at the short-term goal
12 1, sub-letter b, where you state, you know, have Civil
13 Defense to determine what supplies. Can you give us
14 maybe some of your thoughts on what this really is,
15 please?

16 MR. MURRAY: All right. Item b is, basically,
17 we stay in touch with Civil Defense on their supplies
18 that they're needed to deal with 800 radios. Also, they
19 have caches on Molokai and on Lanai and in Lahaina that
20 we house at our station. So we would -- we're able to
21 secure it, and then, when they need it, they have access
22 to that. And that's something that's been going on for
23 quite a while now. And we just wanna maintain that and
24 be able to help augment whatever their needs are, and be
25 able to utilize things that will be upcoming expiration

1 dates, what-have-you, we wanna be able to utilize those
2 things before they become obsolete and, you know, either
3 use it for training or use it for real-world situations.
4 So we try to keep everything fronted and ready to go.
5 So that's something that we work in conjunction with
6 Civil Defense.

7 CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay. Thank you. And, Chief,
8 just to be specific, on Lanai, we have two large
9 containers with FEMA letters right across of the -- our
10 district police facility. Is that under your control,
11 Chief?

12 MR. MURRAY: No, it's not. I don't -- I'm not
13 really sure who -- whose jurisdiction that is, but the
14 one that we have for Civil Defense is on our property at
15 the station.

16 CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay. Thank you for that.
17 Mr. Carroll, questions for the Chief on this -- this
18 component, on this section? Thank you. Ms. Baisa, any
19 questions for the Chief?

20 COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: No, sir, but I do have a
21 comment. I've heard over and over there's concern about
22 having enough supplies for disasters. So I'm really
23 glad to see this in the plan and that it's being
24 monitored. Thank you.

25 MR. MURRAY: You're welcome.

1 CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you. Ms. Cochran?

2 COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Thank you, Chair.

3 Thank you, Chief, for being here this morning. And
4 looking at Number 4, Item e, and we had touched upon
5 renewable -- you know, hoping to get, I suppose, more
6 efficiency in -- in utility costs down, what-have-you,
7 so I'm -- are there any -- as for funding sources, that
8 it states there, research and identify certain sources,
9 what -- are you just in the discovery phases right now
10 or have some actual answers?

11 MR. MURRAY: Well, that project that went on,
12 that we spoke about yesterday, of the PVs going on our
13 established stations already that were identified. This
14 is something that we really look at that inside, but we
15 don't have the full control of how the parameters are
16 set based on some items. And sometimes it's -- we're
17 allowed to get a grant after the fact. It has to be a
18 built project, and then we go in for it. So sometimes
19 it doesn't seem as -- as if we're doing it really smart
20 in a way. If we do it from the beginning, it'll cost us
21 more, but then in the -- if -- if we don't, sometimes we
22 set it up so that we can get a grant for that later.
23 And then it is -- is more cost-effective down the line
24 for the County, on the start-up as well as the
25 maintenance of that. So it doesn't always work out, but

1 we try to look at all those different avenues where we
2 could get funding.

3 COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Uh-huh.

4 MR. MURRAY: So this is something that I
5 really push for.

6 COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Yeah, that's
7 wonderful.

8 MR. MURRAY: Our next station is gonna be -- I
9 think you folks will be very proud of the -- you know,
10 the County and everybody's work that goes into that, our
11 Haiku station.

12 COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: As being public -- you
13 know, the overarching umbrella under Public Safety, I
14 guess, and -- is there a way to maybe connect, say, you
15 know, Police is Public Safety, yourselves are Ocean, in
16 regards to searching -- seeking these types of grants or
17 what-have-you? You know, I'm just curious if
18 combinations of departments can ban together, I suppose,
19 something like that.

20 MR. MURRAY: Well, basically, our -- good
21 question. Our grant coordinators, they keep in touch
22 with each other on how different things affect them,
23 because sometimes they'll find out -- like people will
24 send us something that deals strictly with law
25 enforcement. And we'll forward that information and the

1 guidelines to their person. And then sometimes they're
2 able to get it. And vice versa, they'll have Fire
3 things that come or they'll have Police and Fire, and we
4 have to somehow break that up. So we try to work
5 together.

6 COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Uh-huh.

7 MR. MURRAY: But you have to realize that our
8 grant people are not full-time, yeah. They're 24-hour
9 people and some 40-hour people that work on that
10 process. So the grants that we go after are things that
11 we know that we've done in the past and that we know the
12 history throughout the nation that really fits -- fits
13 our Department.

14 COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Uh-huh.

15 MR. MURRAY: And -- and we actually fit within
16 their parameters.

17 COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Right.

18 MR. MURRAY: Yeah.

19 COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Yeah. I -- I --

20 MR. MURRAY: But we try and -- and, you know,
21 we'd like to search further, but we just don't have the
22 resources at this time.

23 COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Right. I know in the
24 future chapters, you're seeking a --

25 MR. MURRAY: Yeah.

1 COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: -- full-time grant
2 writer.

3 MR. MURRAY: Yeah.

4 COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Thank you, Chief.
5 Thank you, Chair.

6 CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you. Mr. Couch?

7 COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
8 Chief, question on Page 21, Number 7. It says, "Acquire
9 land and training facilities needed to provide an
10 effective training program." Do you have a training
11 program now?

12 MR. MURRAY: Yes, we do.

13 COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Is it effective?

14 MR. MURRAY: It's as effective as it can be.

15 COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: So what kind of stuff
16 are you trying to -- are you gonna try and get a tower
17 and --

18 MR. MURRAY: Yeah. We would like to have a --
19 a burn house, an area to do all of our training, that is
20 secure. Right now, we have a joint training center with
21 the Airport Crash Fire.

22 COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Uh-huh.

23 MR. MURRAY: And that works out well. But I
24 think, at some point in time, we're gonna over --
25 overrun that area for both of us as well. So we're

1 looking for something that's permanent. And that our --
2 our Training Department can either move there and help
3 secure the area and run all of our classrooms and things
4 of that nature there -- because, a lot of times, we're
5 moving people from our Kahului Station. At our Waikapu
6 warehouse, we -- we -- we don't have the space to
7 actually conduct all of that. We don't have parking.
8 We have a lot of different issues with that. But, also,
9 once you do a prop for, say, structure fires, and -- and
10 you secure that, you put it there, that it has a life
11 expectancy that -- that becomes more, you know,
12 economical and effective.

13 COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Do you have ideas of
14 where you would like to go, or is this just enough into
15 the future that you haven't even thought of that?
16 'Cause -- the reason I'm asking is that we -- we do have
17 executive-ordered to us about 220 acres out in the
18 middle of Puunene that --

19 MR. MURRAY: Yeah.

20 COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: -- can be used for that
21 kind of thing.

22 MR. MURRAY: We've -- we've been in talks for
23 that property as well. We've been working with State of
24 Hawaii Public Safety in -- in their corrections
25 facility, because we're actually giving up a training

1 course where -- we use for EVOC training for emergency
2 operation of vehicles, along with the Police Department.
3 So we've been trying to work there. And we also have to
4 look at the water issue --

5 COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Uh-huh.

6 MR. MURRAY: -- and all of those things. Can
7 it -- can it support what we do. Because what -- if we
8 -- what we'd like to see is if we're training with
9 water, because we need to do live fire training, we'd
10 like to have an area that we could recapture that water
11 and filter it and -- and use it again, you know,
12 something of that sort. So it's gonna take a long time,
13 you know. A really good plan needs to be in place.

14 And this is something that we've been talking
15 about for the last 15, 20 years, but we've never been
16 able to acquire the property or -- you know, it -- it
17 would be a very costly facility. But then, you know, we
18 could share it with -- with the rest of the County
19 departments or State departments.

20 COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Do other counties have a
21 similar facility? I'm assuming Oahu does.

22 MR. MURRAY: Oahu has several different
23 facilities. Honolulu Fire Department has grown out of
24 their facility already and they're still looking for
25 another area, whether it's a joint situation or not.

1 But a lot of county government, they don't -- they don't
2 wanna go into agreements with the State or Federal
3 because things can change, you know, with the lease and
4 what-have-you. So it's hard to really put your
5 resources and funding into those areas when it's not
6 yours.

7 COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Yeah.

8 MR. MURRAY: So we hold back a little bit.
9 And we could do more, but we don't because we don't own
10 the land.

11 COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Okay. And -- and the
12 last -- if I may, Chair? Co -- Number 6, co-locate the
13 helicopter and rescue crew. Can you expand on that a
14 little bit?

15 MR. MURRAY: Well, the reasoning behind this
16 goal is that we would like the helicopter to be
17 stationed at the station with the rescue company.
18 And -- because, right now, our -- our response is --
19 because we took the helicopter away from Kahului Station
20 due to safety reasons, you know, the high-tension wires,
21 the close proximity to our mechanic shop, and -- and our
22 personnel. And we pretty much outgrew that area. So it
23 would just help with response to be more -- you know,
24 much more effective. Because, right now, we're anywhere
25 between 10 and 12 minutes from Kahului Station and

1 takeoff at the Kahului Airport.

2 So, you know, security for the aircraft is
3 also a key concern. So -- and -- and -- and, you know,
4 the position of where this station could be, they have
5 to have a pretty good landing and takeoff area as well,
6 you know. For not just what we're doing now, but
7 possible future. So --

8 COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Okay. Thank you, Chair.

9 CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you. Mr. White?

10 COUNCILMEMBER WHITE: No questions at this
11 time, Chair.

12 CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay. Mr. Pontanilla?

13 COUNCILMEMBER PONTANILLA: Just a fast
14 question in regards to a possibility of a new station,
15 Waikapu area. The concern about the helicopter could be
16 addressed at that time?

17 MR. MURRAY: It -- it could be. Yeah, we're
18 -- we're definitely looking at that. You know, one of
19 the subjects that came up for the County EMC was
20 specifically that. So if we were to acquire that land
21 and we were able to put a station there, that would be
22 one of the adjustments that we probably would make right
23 from the beginning. Yeah.

24 COUNCILMEMBER PONTANILLA: And then looking at
25 training facilities, could that be moved to that

1 location?

2 MR. MURRAY: It could be, based on the
3 acreage, yeah, and the ability for us to get water. I
4 guess once that parcel would be approved, then we would
5 have the water. I -- I think that's a great area for --
6 for -- that specific type of situation would be -- work
7 out really perfect. Yeah.

8 COUNCILMEMBER PONTANILLA: Okay. Just for my
9 own curiosity, I see fire trucks at the old MCC dorm.

10 MR. MURRAY: Yes.

11 COUNCILMEMBER PONTANILLA: Is that a training
12 facility over there?

13 MR. MURRAY: Well, MCC is allowing us to
14 utilize that old dorms before they renovate, for us to
15 do some training. So we do blackout training with our
16 firefighters so in case they go into a environment that
17 is completely dark, filled with smoke or what-have-you,
18 they're able to feel their way through a typical
19 multifamily dwelling.

20 COUNCILMEMBER PONTANILLA: Okay. Thank you.
21 Thank you, Chairman.

22 MR. MURRAY: You're welcome.

23 CHAIR HOKAMA: Yeah, thank you. So, Chief, we
24 -- we can assume -- you know, you're also talking with
25 Mr. Lo in hospital systems since it should be, I would

1 assume, part of a very coordinated approach or holistic
2 approach to how each component will -- what's the right
3 phrase again? Gosh, I'm losing -- would pretty much
4 complement each other? I mean, you know, it might make
5 sense for the chopper to be next to you, but if they're
6 gonna land and still be half an hour from the hospital,
7 to transport the injured or -- or wounded or deceased,
8 does it really make sense, also? So --

9 MR. MURRAY: Yeah. That -- that would all
10 depend based on the -- the medevac capabilities. And,
11 see, for our helicopters, we don't do the transport of
12 --

13 CHAIR HOKAMA: So if you pick up -- let's say,
14 Fire 1, or, you know, the -- the -- the chopper that the
15 Department uses for response of rescue, Chief --

16 MR. MURRAY: Uh-huh.

17 CHAIR HOKAMA: -- you pick up the injured or
18 deceased, where does your chopper go? To the hospital,
19 to the Kahului Airport? Does it go back to the --

20 MR. MURRAY: Well --

21 CHAIR HOKAMA: -- station it's based at?

22 MR. MURRAY: -- the FAA rules allow us to
23 carry -- carry them as -- as close as possible.

24 CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay.

25 MR. MURRAY: So, for instance, we've -- we've

1 done several incidents where the medevac has -- is
2 waiting for us in the same landing area.

3 CHAIR HOKAMA: Uh-huh.

4 MR. MURRAY: So we'll repackage the person and
5 move them straight to the air ambulance. So --

6 CHAIR HOKAMA: So there is a transfer
7 required, Chief?

8 MR. MURRAY: Yes, there is a transfer required
9 between the two. Because they -- they both serve
10 different purposes. They're both helicopters, but
11 they're completely different in their use.

12 CHAIR HOKAMA: Interesting. Do you have
13 authorization -- and, again, I'm not too sure the full
14 status, but I do know that, you know, the Legislature
15 was supportive of allowing Maui Memorial Hospital to
16 have a helipad.

17 MR. MURRAY: Yes.

18 CHAIR HOKAMA: So do you have mutual
19 agreements of use for your Department's response and
20 needs to be able to use those facilities in times of
21 emergency?

22 MR. MURRAY: Yes. We will be able to land at
23 their new facility. We also have a memorandum of
24 agreement where we will support the landing and takeoff
25 of their aircraft, because their fire protection system

1 is not up yet. So I believe the third week of
2 September, that -- that'll be happening. So we'll
3 support every landing like we do now.

4 CHAIR HOKAMA: Uh-huh.

5 MR. MURRAY: So all we're doing is taking it
6 from the War Memorial Park and transferring that crew to
7 Maui Memorial Hospital.

8 CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay. And then, before I ask
9 the Committee for their further questions, one thing
10 that Mr. Couch intrigued me, and so I heard your
11 responses. Does it make sense -- and I guess you would
12 need to consult your peers, but -- you know, like
13 Mr. Couch mentioned, we have a multiple-hundred-acre
14 site. Let's say the State is willing to give us the
15 title. Does it make sense for us to be -- think big and
16 consider that Maui may be the training academy for --
17 for these type of needs and all the counties to come to
18 here for their training since we have a large training
19 facility?

20 MR. MURRAY: You know, that has been a dream
21 of a lot of different administrations as -- as well as
22 firefighters in our Department, and -- and previous
23 chiefs. I think that would be a -- the opportune
24 situation for -- for Maui County to diversify in that,
25 as where we could bring all types of training to -- to

1 Maui. Because I know UH Manoa is trying to get that
2 process happening, but you need to also allow hands-on
3 style of training. So now you can bring in instructors
4 and -- and save on costs as well. So -- and that would
5 be something we could actually have some revenue from.

6 CHAIR HOKAMA: Uh-huh.

7 MR. MURRAY: I think that's a great idea.

8 CHAIR HOKAMA: Maybe -- I know you guys busy,
9 but if you have some time to maybe put together some
10 consideration for Mr. Pontanilla's committee in the near
11 future, that might be something that -- because I
12 believe there's a potential revenue stream, also, Chief.
13 So once we do a pro forma and figure out whether or not
14 it might make sense to invest in this type of thing, we
15 can make better informed decisions.

16 Mr. Carroll, any questions for Section VI,
17 under Physical Resources?

18 VICE-CHAIR CARROLL: No, sir.

19 CHAIR HOKAMA: Ms. Baisa?

20 COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Yes. Thank you very
21 much, Chair. Just a follow-up question.

22 CHAIR HOKAMA: Sure.

23 COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: I have a long-standing
24 interest in the Public Safety's plans for Puunene. And,
25 of course, I find it interesting that, you know, to

1 listen to the Chief -- and particularly, Chief, I share
2 your concern about water for the area, because it is
3 such a dry and arid area right there. But I am curious,
4 do you have any idea what is being projected in terms of
5 a timetable for when they would actually begin to do
6 something?

7 MR. MURRAY: Well, the last dialogue that I
8 had with that group from Corrections was the ending of
9 last year. And we all know that administration has
10 changed, and we're not sure if the focus or priorities
11 have changed. I haven't heard anything since December,
12 actually.

13 COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: That -- that is --
14 you're essentially confirming what I'm concerned about,
15 is, you know, I know this is part -- or is being
16 considered as part of your long-term strategy.

17 MR. MURRAY: Right.

18 COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: But it may be really
19 long-term. Because what you're talking about is a very,
20 very costly facility.

21 And the last I paid attention and -- well, not
22 I paid attention. I was invited to listen to them,
23 because we volunteered to be a part of the planning,
24 and, you know, we've never been called to any meetings.
25 So that's very disconcerting to me. And at the time

1 that, you know, I had volunteered, I was Land Use Chair.
2 And I found it disconcerting that, as Land Use Chair, I
3 was never asked to formally address the issue. But I
4 did attend the meetings and express concerns.

5 But, you know, I'm really worried because it's
6 a lot of money. They have spent \$19 million on planning
7 already. And -- and, you know, there's nothing there.
8 And they're talking about a facility that, initially,
9 they're talking about \$40-plus million.

10 So I think -- as you talk about planning, I
11 think Member Pontanilla's idea might make a little bit
12 more sense, you know, a training center for -- for Fire
13 around the -- the State. It sounds like a much more
14 viable idea.

15 So, anyway, I just was curious if you knew
16 anything more than I did. Because it's been a very long
17 time that we've had any contact from the committee
18 that's planning this.

19 And, Chair, you know, I really would like to
20 voice an objection that, because this is coming to our
21 Puunene and it's our County --

22 CHAIR HOKAMA: Uh-huh.

23 COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: -- that -- I don't know
24 who's participating in these plans, but I really think
25 that we're not adequately being represented.

1 CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you for stating your
2 concern. Because, although we all agree title is still
3 under the State, we have current operational
4 jurisdiction over those 212 acres. And there was a
5 purpose clause in the transfer of what the land was to
6 be utilized for. And I know there was this Master
7 Planning Committee that had a lot of energy and some
8 interesting proposals. And you're right, we spent a lot
9 of money. And we have nothing to really show for it
10 except maybe studies sitting on somebody's shelves. So
11 --

12 But I -- I do believe that we have
13 opportunities. And I would just ask the Committee that
14 there may be times when it's very appropriate for the
15 Council, as the policymaking branch of this local
16 government, to maybe put a consideration for and make it
17 County policy for the Administration to implement. We
18 don't need to wait for a administrative proposal to
19 respond to.

20 So if that's something you wish this Committee
21 to consider, your Chair is happy to do his part on
22 behalf of the Committee to put some type of
23 consideration forward, if that's what the Committee
24 wishes. And if you folks want time to think about it,
25 the Chair's also open to receiving some type of

1 communication from any Member, too, for me to follow
2 through on the Committee's behalf.

3 COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Thank you very much,
4 Chair. I appreciate that.

5 CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you. Ms. Cochran?

6 COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Thank you, Chair. And
7 just following up on the land acquisition ideas --

8 CHAIR HOKAMA: Uh-huh.

9 COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: -- and all that, I
10 foresee that's a wonderful pursuit. I think the
11 Department and, you know, I think this body should and
12 -- and could support, in regards to making a statewide
13 place where people can come. And I believe they already
14 do. Last I was at the training facility, we were
15 shipping in guys from the State and out of state to come
16 and utilize the training facility in place. And, yeah,
17 I can see the -- the future. It will need to grow.

18 But I'm curious exactly the land in Waikapu
19 that was spoken of. I wasn't aware that there's some --
20 is it County or -- you said something, a purchase of
21 land in Waikapu in order to create a new facility.

22 MR. MURRAY: Yes. It was --

23 COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Whereabouts?

24 MR. MURRAY: -- the Emergency Operating Center
25 was that area. I think it was 76 acres of the old

1 Waikapu Quarry that has been -- I think it was presented
2 earlier this year as well by MIS. And that would be --
3 Civil Defense would relocate and --

4 COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Okay. And just --
5 Budget's just around the corner, actually, so --

6 MR. MURRAY: Yeah, yeah.

7 COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Things like this can
8 be looked at now.

9 MR. MURRAY: Yeah.

10 COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: And that's, yeah,
11 kinda it. One other kinda maybe off-topic question, but
12 as for helicopters, utilizing the ocean water versus
13 water from a reservoir, is that choice made by proximity
14 to the actual fire?

15 MR. MURRAY: Absolutely. It's the pilot's
16 choice of location of water pickup. And they try to
17 stay away from the ocean as much as possible.

18 COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Kinda dangerous?

19 MR. MURRAY: Yeah, it's dangerous. You know,
20 you -- also, that environment is unpredictable. You
21 have people in the area as well sometimes. And it could
22 be high surf. All of those issues could be dangerous
23 for that. So they'll make the decision. And lot of
24 times we have portable water sources that we can put
25 nearby.

1 COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: (Inaudible.)

2 MR. MURRAY: Because it makes it -- if they
3 can do their drops quicker, it does help us out. Yeah.

4 COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Okay. Thank you.

5 MR. MURRAY: So it's all based on the
6 environment.

7 COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Right. Okay. Thank
8 you. Thank you, Chair.

9 CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you. Mr. Couch, any
10 further questions in this section?

11 COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: No.

12 CHAIR HOKAMA: Mr. Pontanilla, in this
13 section, Section VI?

14 COUNCILMEMBER PONTANILLA: No. Thank you.

15 CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay. Thank you.

16 Now let's go to Section VII, Members, under
17 Human Resources. One thing I did wanna ask Chief.
18 And -- and this is part of an overall thing regarding
19 this Strategic Plan that you've presented to the
20 Committee. How much does -- when you go through your
21 accreditation process, Chief --

22 MR. MURRAY: Uh-huh.

23 CHAIR HOKAMA: -- does that visiting
24 accreditation team depend on this type of document, your
25 Strategic Plan? Is it one of the key components in the

1 review of your Department and how the accreditation team
2 will score the Department? If that's the right terms to
3 use.

4 MR. MURRAY: Yes. It -- it will be a portion.
5 Not -- not a huge portion, but it -- it will be a
6 portion. Because if we didn't have this document, then
7 we would have to devise this document before going
8 through that process. So we're a bit ahead of the game
9 in that area. And it -- it also helps us kind of
10 pinpoint the problem areas or areas that might be of
11 concern where we need to address prior to going into an
12 accreditation process.

13 CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay. Thank you for that.
14 Maybe you can start us off, Chief, with -- with your
15 Short-Term, Number 1. Is there any OSHA concerns that
16 the Committee needs to be informed about that maybe the
17 Committee can make recommendations or assist the
18 Department in addressing?

19 MR. MURRAY: Well, there's nothing real
20 specific, but in -- in our line of work, there's always
21 situations that can cause harm to the safety of our --
22 our people, yeah. And -- and sometimes we -- we learn
23 about standards by mistake or what-have-you. So we're
24 -- we're trying to be proactive and stay ahead of -- of
25 the standards for safety. So we try to follow the

1 National Fire Protection Agency, OSHA, and HIOSH, and
2 what-have-you, to maintain the safety of our personnel.
3 So this is ongoing, you know, constant.

4 CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay. And at this point, do
5 you have a specific Fire Department officer or employee
6 that you have tasked with following through on this OSHA
7 initiative, Chief?

8 MR. MURRAY: Yes. This responsibility belongs
9 to our Health and Safety Officer.

10 CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay. And at what rank, if I
11 may ask?

12 MR. MURRAY: Captain.

13 CHAIR HOKAMA: It's a rank of captain, okay.
14 Thank you. Chief -- Mr. Carroll, I almost promoted you
15 to Chief. So, Mr. Carroll, any questions? If not,
16 Ms. Baisa?

17 COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Yes. Thank you very
18 much, Chair. Probably the most interesting part of all
19 of this for me is the issues that concern the use of
20 human resources, because we all know that that's where
21 it's at.

22 CHAIR HOKAMA: Uh-huh.

23 COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: You know, it's staff
24 that you have that make you -- the Department that you
25 are.

1 First of all, I'm kind of interested in the --
2 you know, we've all heard that the most dangerous
3 occupation that anybody could have is a fireperson,
4 fireman, firewoman, whatever. And -- what do you call
5 your lady fire -- firefighters?

6 MR. MURRAY: Firefighters.

7 COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Okay. Generic. What is
8 our record? What -- what can you share with us in
9 regard to your OSHA report? Like your last annual
10 report, how many incidences [*sic*] of -- of accidents?
11 Is it -- is it within normal? Are we above?

12 MR. MURRAY: It is below the average.

13 COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: That's excellent. And
14 what do you accredit that to?

15 MR. MURRAY: I accredit that to the employees,
16 understanding what they do, you know, knowing their job
17 well, and looking out for each other. I think that's
18 where the teamwork comes in a lot. So, I mean, as we
19 improve -- I think they already do a really good job,
20 because, for the amount of employees that we have, we're
21 well below national standards on injuries.

22 COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: That's good to hear
23 because that's really critical. And it certainly is
24 important to us as a County 'cause, you know, industrial
25 accidents cost us a pretty penny. And it scares me when

1 we have to award these things. And who wants any of our
2 staff to be hurt? That's the -- that's the real driving
3 thing, is we don't want anybody to get hurt.

4 Chair, I don't know if you wanna go venture
5 into this area, but I had to -- and stop me if you --
6 you prefer not, but I had the opportunity to attend the
7 -- the Charter Commission meeting the other day, and
8 listen to the Mayor's recommendations.

9 CHAIR HOKAMA: Uh-huh.

10 COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: And, you know, we've
11 been talking about it a long time in Council. And I see
12 that it is not in the strat plan that we've come to yet.
13 And it doesn't appear to be anywhere in this section.
14 And that's the question of possibly bringing in -- the
15 Ocean Safety lifeguard people in. And I'd like to hear
16 the Chief's comments. When I was at the meeting -- I
17 was only able to stay for one hour, 'cause, you know,
18 they meet at noontime, and we had a meeting following
19 their meeting. So this was brought up. And there were
20 questions asked, but I'm curious to -- just a few
21 comments from the Chief on why it's not in the strat
22 plan and any -- any comments that he can make, 'cause I
23 understand there are sensitive labor negotiation issues
24 that might be involved here. Chair?

25 CHAIR HOKAMA: I will allow the Chief, if he

1 so desires --

2 COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Yes.

3 CHAIR HOKAMA: -- yeah, to make some comments
4 on this. In fact, the Chief and I had a short
5 discussion on it. I had asked the Chief that if he
6 needed time to solicit comment to provide the Committee
7 with a very accurate or current status of where this
8 subject is within the Department that -- to please do
9 so. But I also asked him that I would hope that, as
10 part of the process, as the Charter requires, that the
11 Fire Commissioners have their opportunity to give him
12 input on how they see as part of a governance issue
13 because the Charter has tasked that Commission with
14 certain requirements, including who the Chief is and
15 whatnot. So I'm just gonna let him give comment.

16 COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Please.

17 CHAIR HOKAMA: But I want you to know that
18 it'll be within some parameters this morning.

19 COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Thank you, Chair. And,
20 again, I understand if this is not the appropriate time.

21 CHAIR HOKAMA: Yeah. So, Chief, if you would
22 like to share some comments?

23 MR. MURRAY: I would like to. Thank you very
24 much for that question.

25 It's -- it's not in the Strategic Plan because

1 it -- it wasn't part of the plan. And, mainly, what
2 we're trying to achieve in our Department is the
3 accreditation. And -- and soon after that, we can go
4 ahead and -- and move to -- to a plan of the merger. I
5 -- I think it's -- you know, I think it -- it'll work
6 well. I -- we have a situation here on Maui where all
7 of us work well together, both -- both departments.
8 But, right now, I don't see a problem with what's going
9 on. And I don't understand why the urgency.

10 For instance, we -- we are not the only county
11 that does not have the lifeguards under Fire Department.
12 Honolulu does not have them. Honolulu's lifeguards work
13 under EMS supervision. But they -- they're also talking
14 about a merger. But realize that they went through a
15 study and a plan, with -- with consultants, that took
16 them over two and-a-half years and in excess of
17 \$175,000.

18 So with that said, as long as we move forward
19 and have a plan that -- that can be executed, that is,
20 you know, consulted with the unions and -- and everybody
21 on the same page, and -- and if you look -- as -- as
22 we've gone through our Strategic Plan, a lot of things
23 we talk about are policies. Those things need to be in
24 place. The guidelines need to be there, for them as
25 well as us, on how we're gonna govern that division, and

1 how do we actually make it work, you know. So I -- I
2 think there's more thought that needs to go into this.
3 And -- but -- but I believe, at some point, it should be
4 together. But I don't think it should be rushed at all.
5 That's my opinion.

6 COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Thank you very much.
7 It's just that, you know, I heard half of the comments,
8 but then I wasn't able to stay. And I didn't know if
9 the Chief was coming to comment. So people will be
10 watching the televised Commission meetings. And I think
11 it's important that they hear the other side. So thank
12 you very much, Chair and Chief.

13 CHAIR HOKAMA: No. Thank you --

14 MR. MURRAY: Thank you.

15 CHAIR HOKAMA: -- for the question, Ms. Baisa.
16 And I appreciate the Chief's comments.

17 I'll just state at this time that the Chief
18 and I have talked about it. This is a unique county.
19 He needs to administer three operations, one for each of
20 the sister islands. So it is not what fits Honolulu
21 fits Maui County, or what fits Big Island or Kauai would
22 fit our County because of our unique sister island
23 composition. And I would agree with the Chief at this
24 time, I see no rush to move into this. I think what we
25 need to do is to find out whether or not it makes

1 efficiency, governance is improved, and the delivery of
2 service is enhanced. And if we cannot do those things,
3 then I am not open to making big changes. Because what
4 I've learned with us growing our departments is it just
5 costs a lot more money to do the same thing.

6 Honolulu went the opposite way, with Mayor
7 Hannemann -- I mean, with Mayor Harris. They reduced
8 departments, and they're still doing the same amount of
9 work.

10 So interesting approaches. We can look at the
11 two different approaches.

12 And what I think we should do, we'll have our
13 opportunity, since this Committee -- and I have been
14 asked by some residents already why we don't hold some
15 meetings regarding Charter considerations. So your
16 Chair is thinking about it. Because we do have
17 proposals, and this Committee does have the
18 jurisdiction, as the Charter permits, for us to make our
19 own recommendations. And so I'm considering that.

20 With that, Ms. Cochran, any comments or
21 questions under Section VII, Human Resources?

22 COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Yeah. Thank you,
23 Chair. I'm looking at Page 23, 5, in particular, a,
24 Item a. And what kind of level of importance do you put
25 towards that, the knowledge and skill requirement?

1 MR. MURRAY: We put a lot of importance on
2 this --

3 COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: I mean --

4 MR. MURRAY: -- specifically.

5 COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: -- versus seniority,
6 you know, how long the guy had been around.

7 MR. MURRAY: Right. But through the
8 accreditation process, and -- and part of that is the
9 certification of our training, internally, and how and
10 what do we want the individuals to possess to fulfill
11 their job. And -- and that process is on its way to
12 being accredited as well. And it's very important
13 because our employees need to react to things and -- and
14 do the best job that they can in the safest manner
15 possible. So we have to allow them training.

16 So training, right now, is one of our largest
17 priorities. And we've -- we've made some changes, but
18 we have a lot more to go. And I think accreditation
19 will bring up some things that we -- we might have
20 missed along the way as well. So I think that process
21 in itself will teach us a lot, and we'll learn in the
22 process as -- as a department, and we'll grow together,
23 which is really, really important, you know.

24 COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Yeah. And that, also,
25 segues to our earlier discussion as in a training

1 facility.

2 MR. MURRAY: Yes.

3 COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: You know, I've spoke
4 to some way senior members of Fire when they only
5 learned from a book, read, how do you enter, you know, a
6 burning building, versus, today, you can physically get
7 into that burning box --

8 MR. MURRAY: Yeah.

9 COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: -- and know how to
10 navigate around. So, for me, that's extremely
11 important, this hands-on. It's not a virtual reality on
12 a computer, learning and hands-on that way. So, again,
13 you know, I wanna highlight that portion of the training
14 and --

15 MR. MURRAY: Yeah. We've always done live
16 fire, but, as time has gone by, it's getting safer modes
17 of actually conducting that. So -- but what we're
18 trying to establish in the training -- and the Training
19 Bureau is doing a really good job at doing this now --
20 is to sustain that. And once that becomes a -- a
21 must-have or a must-do, something mandatory, then --
22 then it takes care of itself. And that's what we're
23 trying to do at this -- at this point.

24 And -- and I think, again, the accreditation
25 process will solidify everything that we do, from

1 cleaning the station or -- or, you know, maintenance on
2 our vehicles to actually operating on the fire ground.
3 And that's where the safety -- they -- they're all
4 intertwined. So it is a high priority for us.

5 COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: And, also, the
6 camaraderie.

7 MR. MURRAY: Yeah.

8 COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: The working together
9 well with each other. And one more?

10 CHAIR HOKAMA: Sure.

11 COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: In this same area,
12 just curious about all the -- the section here about
13 Molokai. And, you know, you have a whole area in
14 regards to shortage of manpower and the shifts --
15 changing shifts and what-have-you. So just curious if
16 you can elaborate more on the concerns in the Molokai
17 district and the changes you hope to accomplish or what
18 this is addressing.

19 MR. MURRAY: Well, this is addressing making
20 our Station 12, Pukoo, a four-man station. And -- and
21 it's for the safety of the firefighters as well as being
22 able to provide a -- a much better service. And -- and
23 this has been talked about for the last 15 years.
24 Administration, the Mayor's goal is to have this happen
25 at some point in time in the next few years. I think