

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

Council of the County of Maui

MINUTES

April 23, 2012

Council Chamber, 8th Floor

CONVENE: 9:08 a.m.

PRESENT: Councilmember Joseph Pontanilla, Chair
Councilmember G. Riki Hokama, Vice-Chair (In 9:24 a.m.)
Councilmember Gladys C. Baisa, Member
Councilmember Robert Carroll, Member
Councilmember Elle Cochran, Member
Councilmember Donald G. Couch, Jr., Member
Councilmember Danny A. Mateo, Member
Councilmember Michael P. Victorino, Member
Councilmember Mike White, Member

STAFF: Scott Kaneshina, Legislative Analyst
Michele Yoshimura, Legislative Analyst
Josiah Nishita, Legislative Analyst
Camille Sakamoto, Committee Secretary

ADMIN.: Sananda K. Baz, Budget Director, Office of the Mayor
Franklyn L. Silva, Director, Department of Liquor Control
Traci Fujita Villarosa, Deputy Director, Department of Liquor Control
Georgette Tyau, Liquor Control Officer, Department of Liquor Control
William R. Spence, Director, Department of Planning
Michele N. McLean, Deputy Director, Department of Planning
Patrick T. Matsui, Deputy Director, Department of Parks and Recreation
Lisa Almeida, Special Events Specialist, Department of Parks and Recreation
Paul J. Meyer, Deputy Director, Department of Water Supply
Pamela Poque, Planning Program Manager, Water Resource Planning Division,
Department of Water Supply
Marc I. Takamori, Deputy Director, Department of Transportation
Jo-Ann T. Ridao, Director, Department of Housing and Human Concerns
Janice Y. Shishido, Deputy Director, Department of Housing and Human Concerns
Deborah Arendale, County Executive on Aging, Department of Housing and
Human Concerns
Kaina Bonacorsi, Early Childhood Resource Coordinator, Department of Housing
and Human Concerns
Jeffrey T. Ueoka, Deputy Corporation Counsel, Department of the Corporation
Counsel

OTHERS: Jocelyn Bouchard, CEO, Maui Humane Society
Lehuanani Huddleston-Hafoka, Executive Director, Kihei Youth Center

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Tara Owens
Paul Mikolay
Kristin Holmes
Alexa Betts Basinger
Jonathan Starr
Helen Nielsen
Joylynn Paman, Executive Director, Maui Nui Botanical Gardens
Kili Namau'u, Director, Punana Leo O Maui
Kalele Kekauoha-Schultz
Keoki Kalani, Executive Director, Hana Youth Center
Alvin Tagomori, Board Chair, Sister Cities Foundation
Marlynn Tanji, Housing Counselor, Hale Mahaolu
Keri Kalilikane, Housing Counselor, Hale Mahaolu
Jani Sheppard, Chief Executive Officer, Maui Family Support Services, Inc.
Edel Baguio-Larena, Director, Early Head Start Program, Maui Family Support
Services, Inc.
Marsha Jones
David Jones
Cesar Gaxiola, Executive Director, J. Walter Cameron Center
Sydney Smith, Vice President, Maui Coffee Association
Stacey Moniz, Executive Director, Women Helping Women
Theo Morrison, Executive Director, Lahaina Restoration Foundation
Art Vento, President and CEO, Maui Arts and Cultural Center
Anthony Simmons, President, Maui Dance Advocates
Amy Maeda, Executive Director, Molokai Occupational Center
Saedene Ota, owner, Maui Thing
Ashley Takitani
Jeremy Baldwin, President, Makawao Community Association
Rick Hanson, Board Member, Makawao Community Association
Mike Foley, Vice President, Makawao Community Association
Stephanie Ohigashi, Vice Chair, Sister Cities Foundation
Rebecca Woods, CEO, Ka Hale A Ke Ola Homeless Resource Center
Josh Stone, owner, Flatbread Pizza Company
Yuki Lei Sugimura
Lisa Morrison, Executive Director, Keiki Kokua
Carol Reimann, Executive Director, Maui Hotel and Lodging Association
Terryl Vencl, Executive Director, Maui Visitors and Convention Bureau
Shari Lynn, Executive Director, Ka Hale Pomaika'i
Damien Lomack
Rhiannon Chandler, Executive Director, Community Work Day Program
Debbi Amaral, Director of Early Childhood Services, Maui Economic Opportunity,
Inc.
Donna Borge, Program Director, Youth Services, Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc.
Gerry Lum, Community Services Director, Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc.

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Henry Spencer
Marie Thomas, Development Director, Hale Kau Kau
Max Tornai, Executive Director, Mediation Service of Maui, Inc.
Lucy Feinberg, Maui Regional Director, Parents and Children Together (“PACT”)
Ruthann Quititquit, President and CEO, Parents and Children Together (“PACT”)
Doug Akin
George Reioux, Transportation Director, Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc.
Brian McCafferty, Program Director, Teens on Call
Wendy Burkholder, Executive Director, Consumer Credit Counseling Service of
Hawaii
Amanda Bierbaum
Loulou Philippon
Christopher Kasak
Joseph Santos
Verdel Nani Lei Hoopai
Trevor Henry
Debbie Cabebe, Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc.
Michael McCormick, State Director, Best Buddies
Twenty (20) additional unidentified attendees

PRESS: *Akaku: Maui Community Television, Inc.*
Ilima Loomis, The Maui News

CHAIR PONTANILLA: ...(*gavel*)... The Budget and Finance Committee meeting for April the 23rd, 2012 is now in session. The time is 9:09. Chair would like to introduce the Committee members that are here this morning. We do have Member Carroll, Member Baisa.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Good morning.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Good morning. Member Cochran.

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Aloha.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Member Couch.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Aloha.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Member...good morning...Victorino.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Good morning, Chair.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Good morning. Member White.

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COUNCILMEMBER WHITE: Good morning.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Good morning. And Chairman Mateo.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Morning.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: From the Administration we do have the Budget Director, Mr. Sandy Baz.

MR. BAZ: Aloha.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Aloha. And supporting the Committee this morning we do have our Staff, Michele Yoshimura, Scott Kaneshina, Josiah Nishita, as well as Camille Sakamoto. Members, we do have a bunch of testifiers this morning. For those of you that are providing public testimony this morning, you do have three minutes to provide your public testimony. Chair will allow you one minute to conclude. Once you're done if you can remain at the mic for a few seconds; Members may have questions for you. Before I take in public testimony, if all of us can turn off our cell phones to the silent mode or turn it off. Thank you. Member Hokama is excused this morning. So, Members, the first testifier this morning is Jocelyn Bouchard.

ITEM BF-1: PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2013 BUDGET FOR THE COUNTY OF MAUI (CC 12-59 and 12-72)

...BEGIN PUBLIC TESTIMONY...

MS. BOUCHARD: Good morning, Budget Chair Pontanilla and Committee members.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Good morning.

MS. BOUCHARD: My name is Jocelyn Bouchard and I am honored and privileged to be the CEO for the Maui Humane Society. I wasn't sure about testifying before you because I've spoken to most of you and many of you visited the shelter--thank you for that--and you've also heard from my staff at the budget meetings. So, you already know about our funding challenges that in trying to maintain our programs and services we spent about 500,000 in Fiscal Year '11 and are on track to spend a little more than that this fiscal year in order to maintain the programs and services related to our contract. You also know that we met a request to increase our leash law efforts. Four to five hundred percent increases there and again the costs were absorbed by our agency. I think you also heard about some of our organizational challenges including the fact that we are currently receiving an average of 24 animals a day in the shelter every day, that breaks down to 8 dogs every day, 8 tame cats every day, 6 feral cats every day, and 2 others, usually feral chickens every day. So, what I'm really here to address was some comments that were made last week about our spay/neuter programs and just wanted to provide some clarification. Our SNIP Program, which stands for Spay/Neuter Incentive Program, is a Maui Humane Society program that has historically been primarily funded by the County. This money is used to subsidize veterinarians so they can charge the full amount for their surgery but still allow a discount for the

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client. So, the client takes a coupon, whatever the value of that coupon is they spend that much less. We reimburse the veterinarian that amount so they're not out of pocket. Of the 65,000 total that we received from the County we spend about 180 to 200,000 on spay/neuter programs so, it's...we're leveraging your funds about 2 to 1 for those efforts. The 35,000 that we give to the SNIP program, none of that money comes to the shelter. Again, it's all goes to vets and to clients for those discounts. So, the 30,000 that...of that 65,000 that we keep, we use to spay and neuter the shelter pets when they're adopted. That spay/neuter is required by ordinance so, it's important that we have that funding in our budget to allow for those services. We certainly would support increases for spay/neuter if money was available, but I know that that's very challenging for everybody right now. So, hopefully that provides some clarification as to how we're spending that money. And in closing I just really wanted to have an opportunity to publically say thank you to Member Pontanilla and Chair Mateo. I've been in my position since July of 2003 so, I'll --

MR. KANESHINA: Three minutes.

MS. BOUCHARD: --make 9 years and I don't know a Council without you guys so, I'm sure going to miss you and I really want to wish you good luck. Maybe we'll see you back on the Council someday. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, questions for the testifier? Thank you again. Next to testify is Lehuanani Huddleston-Hafoka.

MS. HUDDLESTON-HAFOKA: Aloha and good morning. My name is Lehuanani Huddleston-Hafoka. I'm the Executive Director of the Kihei Youth Center and first and foremost I'd like to say thank you very much to the County of Maui for supporting us over the years. We recently celebrated 29 years of service and to the best of my knowledge we are the oldest youth center provider in the County of Maui. And we're very proud to do so. So, I'm simply here just to say thank you very much and to ask you for your consideration in granting us our grant request. And just to let you know that we'd like you to come down and visit our organization and we've grown over the years. We've grown probably most in the past year, year and a half. We service approximately 100 kids a day. We've included or expanded our services to include breakfast and lunch and getting our kids school supplies and clothing to the homes. We partner with Maui Food Bank. We give out food boxes and so forth. The much needed services couldn't be possible without the County of Maui so, once again, thank you very, very much.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, questions for the testifier? Seeing none, thank you again. Tara Owens.

MS. OWENS: Good morning, Members. My name is Tara Owens. I apologize for my froggy voice. I have a two-year old which means that I get every cold known to man so, hopefully you can hear me clearly. I am the UH, University of Hawaii Sea Grant Coastal Hazards and Coastal Processes Extension Agent and a grantee of the County of Maui Planning Department. I am here simply to thank you today for your continued support of the program. We're going on, I think 14 years at

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this point, and especially after the last 2 years of, you know, particularly difficult budget decisions. My day-to-day functions focus on shoreline development, shoreline area issues and as you guys know those can be very complex issues, a lot of times even controversial. You've got the dynamic coastal zone and then you have the interests of the public, private, State, and County, you know, all mixed in with those challenges. So, the way I see my role is I'm the person that is hopefully there to find creative solutions that can meet the needs of all those interests if possible and where possible. So, on a daily basis I may be working, coordinating very closely with the planners in the Planning Department on shoreline development applications, liaisoning with the State on projects that span both jurisdictions, providing guidance on doing restoration projects which have been very successful and we're doing all around the island. I'm coordinating with the Current Division and planning on new SMA rules or streamlining SMA rules for more efficient planning, and finding other grants that can help leverage the funding that you're providing to me. For example, I've just submitted a grant to the NOAA Coastal Storms Program for \$200,000 that would allow us to do a post-disaster redevelopment plan for County of Maui which is something we don't have so, hoping for those funds. We have a great group of planners up in the Current Division. I, I work well with them. I think we've, we've made a lot of very positive outcomes over the past two years. I've worked with some of you, I hope to work with some of you more. I love my job. I enjoy serving the community and I hope that I can continue in this capacity in the foreseeable future. Please let me know if there's anything that I can do for you or your stakeholders in your communities when, when it comes to the challenging shoreline issues. And thank you very much.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, questions for the testifier? Seeing none, thank you again. Chair would like to recognize the presence of Member Hokama.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Chairman.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Good morning. Paul Mikolay followed by Kristin Holmes.

MR. MIKOLAY: Chair Pontanilla, Council members, my name is Paul Mikolay. I work as a Land Use Planner with the County of Maui. I often work on shoreline projects and I'm speaking with respect to the UH agent's presence as a coastal...of the coastal...as a coastal geologist in our Department. Oftentimes when one is assigned a shoreline project for permitting it's a difficult situation, maybe there's a encroaching structure that was built without permits and perhaps may not be able to be permitted. The presence of the unbiased, scientific geologist is a great assistance in resolving the difficulties that occur. Oftentimes we'll have perhaps two State agencies and two County departments and the stakeholder owning the property where the project is being worked on and what happens is the presence of the unbiased, scientific advice helps everybody find a solution. It works very well and it affects the process, the process which may start out with fines and lawyers on the fringes, it becomes collaborative often. And the outcomes usually everybody is quite satisfied with it in the balance of things. So, for me as a planner I look forward to using the services of the agent to help resolve the complex difficulties that we encounter every day and so I recommend that you continue to fund the grant. Thank you.

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CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, questions for the testifier? Seeing none, thank you again. Kristin Holmes followed by Alexa Betts Basinger.

MS. HOLMES: Good morning, Council members and Vice-Chair. My name is Kristin Holmes and I am addressing the budget regarding the Planning Department. My grandfather Enos Vincent was an attorney in Wailuku from 1905 to 1965 and as far as I've been able to determine he purchased investment property on the corner of Church and Vineyard in the 1930's. The current businesses in this property are Saeng's, MAPA, and my furniture store, Swan Interiors. After he died in 1966, the property was managed by a trust company for the duration of my mother's life. She was an income beneficiary from the rent on this property so, it has always been in our family's interest to watch the economic life of Wailuku Town. We have been tracking this for over 40 years in our family. By the time the property passed to my siblings and myself, the property was dilapidated but we refused to accept the mantle of being slumlords. We pared down our ownership from 9 to 4 of us and then we had to wait until the master lease expired on the property in 2008. Then we had, we had to clean up a mess of mediocre management and neglect yet any major investment we made felt like a risk when we looked at Wailuku Town in general. We knew if we tried to sell the property that we wouldn't get much because of its condition so, we knew we had to put money into the property, but we knew that there was a risk in doing this. We decided to take that risk and we put in close to a quarter of a million dollars in just stabilizing and enhancing the property. Now, I wear three hats on the property. I'm a property owner, I'm a landlord, and I'm also a tenant. So, I'm looking at the future of this town from each of these perspectives and with the exception of the recent changes to Market Street I've seen little happen in this town in a significant way that increases the value or the risk of investment by property owners. The re-Wailuku Project is the first encouraging effort that I have seen in this town. About 15 years ago I attended a smart growth workshop where great ideas were presented but nothing happened. The County now has the right team within the Planning Department that has developed meaningful ideas and successfully engaged Wailuku's residents, commercial property owners, and tenants. And gratefully the paths to the financial means to launch the project is a significant part of their program. This is a new path that we are on and it breathes hope into this town. We now have an opportunity to create a town that is vibrant, and the leadership from the County and the...*(clears throat)*...excuse me, the leadership from the County and community participation is very encouraging, and it's helped me to envision how to look forward to the ongoing development and financial efforts we have to put to continue with our property; however, for any of these ideas to be successful and to come to any kind of a successful fruition -

MR. KANESHINA: Three minutes.

MS. HOLMES: --we as the property owner need to partner with County efforts and we need to remove the barriers and push forward. I strongly support allocating the funding from the Main Street Wailuku agency to the County Planning Department and make this town a place that is an inviting place to live, work, and shop, and creates a sense of community that draws people to our doorstep. Thank you.

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CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, questions for the testifier? Seeing none, thank you again. Alexa Betts Basinger followed by Jonathan Starr.

MS. BETTS BASINGER: Good morning, Chair Pontanilla and Members. I'm Alexa Betts Basinger speaking as an active and engaged proponent of the ongoing economic revitalization of Wailuku, our capital town. And it is with great appreciation that I stand in support of the almost two...almost quarter of a million dollars earmarked for small town planning proposed by Mayor Arakawa. This grant resource will support many outstanding organizations in Hana, Kaunakakai, Lahaina, Lanai City, Makawao, Paia, and Wailuku. Organizations that provide projects and programs for small towns that residents and visitors can enjoy, participate in, and benefit from. In preparing this testimony the list of businesses, property owners, private and public organizations, and citizens that have passionately participated on behalf of Wailuku was way too long for three minutes so, I will conclude by recognizing just a few of the most recent accomplishments from among the many that are truly making a difference in Wailuku. Alexis Dascoulias and her team at Maui on Stage for keeping theater alive and well, growing, and prospering as an economic engine in Wailuku. Yuki Lei Sugimura and the Wailuku First Friday team. Their phenomenal success is the inspiration behind the Office of Economic Development's Maui Friday Town parties. Bob Horcajo and POG, the Property Owners Group formed to empower Wailuku's commercial property owners. Megan Kanekoa and Jackie Goring owners of Wailuku Coffee Company, nominated as an exceptional small business in last month's Mayor's 2012 Small Business Awards. Saedene Ota and Ashley Takitani of the Wailuku Community Association on their participation in the very successful re-Wailuku project presented earlier this month which has garnered the support of Governor Abercrombie and Mayor Arakawa. Sandy McGuinness, NPAC, and this Maui County Council for the unanimous approval of the Complete Streets resolution that will preserve and enhance the character, safety, and health of small towns throughout the County. Ralph Giles and Daniel Southmayd, owners of Wailuku's Vineyard Food Company who last week took silver in the 10th Annual Aipono Awards voted by the readers of *Maui No Ka Oi Magazine*. Lastly, Sherri Dodson and her team at --

MR. KANESHINA: Three minutes.

MS. BETTS BASINGER: --Habitat for Humanity for their Kahawai Condominiums project that will add much needed new, affordable housing in Wailuku. I truly admire each and every one of you for your work in delivering a fair and viable budget. Mahalo.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, questions for the testifier? Seeing none, thank you. Jonathan Starr followed by Helen Nielsen.

MR. STARR: Good morning, Chair Pontanilla, Council Chair Mateo, good Council members, and friends. I'm Jonathan Starr. I'm a property...a major commercial property owner in Wailuku. About 16 years ago my wife and I invested our life savings in Wailuku and also some properties in Waimea and for the last 15 years we've lost money every year, but it's still something that I really believe in and it's something I'm excited about because Wailuku is starting to really improve itself and it's starting to become our center of energy, and culture and entertainment.

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And it, it's moving in that direction; we can feel the energy. There are some wonderful organizations. We were among the founding members of the Wailuku Community Association about 14 years ago and now it's under incredible leadership and really thriving; Wailuku Property Owners Group, you know, and Wailuku also has the MRA, and it really has the infrastructure of people who are ready to move it forward. And there's some leadership going on with the small town planners who are really doing world-class things. I don't know...I believe all of you have been following re-Wailuku and have probably seen this morning's newspaper but Wailuku is really coming along and it's exciting times. So, I'm here to ask you to please help us keep it moving with the money that's been put in the Small Town line item for the Planning Department and allow us to keep working in collaboration. These real grassroots community organizations in Wailuku and throughout our other small towns with our small town planners. This is something that is starting to be really successful, and I wish you would help move it along by keeping this appropriation going this year, and helping us with that collaboration to make Wailuku the real center of Maui's community as it once was. Thank you very much and aloha.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, questions for Mr. Starr? Seeing none, thank you. Helen Nielsen followed by Joylynn Paman.

MS. NIELSEN: Good morning, Chair Pontanilla, and good morning, Council members. Thank you for your attention to all these budget requests. I know it's been a long haul for you and I appreciate that you're out there listening to the community. I am here in support of the Mayor's line item for Small Town Planning for the...through the Planning Department. Most of what needs to be said was said so well earlier, but I'd like to just go into a couple of things that Alexis had mentioned. You know, the support for the theater the little bit that they get they're able to leverage, you know, it really gives them such a push to go and, and look for their own supporters and they've been really revitalizing that theater. It's looking better than it has in the last 25 years that I can remember, and there's a real vibrant theatrical community around that. Ashley Takitani and Saedene Ota, all of their work on various projects in Wailuku Town. You know, the support that the small towns get really gives confidence to the business owners and the landowners and everyone is really working together to try to just lift everyone up. I think it is an exciting time and I think the economy as a whole is changing, and with your support for these programs it really helps lift everyone up. It's a real investment in Maui County so, I ask for your support and thank you very much.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, questions for the testifier? Seeing none, thank you again. Joylynn Paman followed by Kili Namau`u.

MS. PAMAN: Aloha kakahiaka ka kou. It's a pleasure to be before all of you this morning. Thank you for listening to our...my testimony in support of Maui Nui Botanical Gardens. My name is Joylynn Paman. I'm the Executive Director and before I open up with my particular testimony I too want to voice Maui Nui Botanical Gardens' support in...for the Small Town Planning funding because over the last year Maui Nui Botanical Gardens has assisted in replanting many native Hawaiian plants along Market Street and that has helped raise awareness about our

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nonprofit organization. But it also has brought attention to what native plants are and we got a lot of positive comments from the community regarding that project so, I support that. Over the last year that I've been a part of the Gardens' programs I've really noticed and identified that what we need to do in...is get more people over to the Gardens. Many people have identified it as the "old zoo" or a lot of people don't know about the gardens. See look, everybody giggling. They all know it as the "old zoo". No. It's called Maui Nui Botanical Gardens and we got awesome resources over there. Many precious native Hawaiian plants that I'm sure all of you know of and have...many of you have been there to visit them, but my vision as the director has been to increase reasons for people to come to the Garden, create new, exciting reasons for them to come. And one of the things that in just the last three months have been extremely successful for us is to have other people who support our nonprofit's mission and share the same vision as us come and have their events at the Gardens. And it has been extremely successful. It has brought in over 5,000 people in just the last three months and I firmly believe that if we bring in more people who can just be in the place, feel the warmth of that area, and be able to see native Hawaiian plants all in one small area, then they will begin to great...a greater appreciation for the plants, but not only that. We are supported by Department of Water Supply funding, and we take advantage of these opportunities and ask for...we educated people who come to the Gardens about water conservation. We promote the County all of the time in our advertising and we are very proud to be a part of the County because our garden is located on Parks and department...Parks and Recreation's land. So, I firmly believe that we are a great model for the County and we mahalo all of you for continued support over the years, and I'm really looking forward to a future where we invite new people to come, create new reasons for them to come, and just raise more awareness about this special place that we have right down the road in Kahului and connect them more to our native Hawaiian resources, our --

MR. KANESHINA: Three minutes.

MS. PAMAN: --culture, and conservation. Mahalo nui.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, any questions for the testifier? Seeing none, thank you again.

MS. PAMAN: Mahalo.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Kili Namau`u.

MS. NAMAU`U: Aloha, Vice-Chair Pontanilla and County Council members. Mahalo for allowing this time for me to speak to you today. I'm Kili Namau`u, the Director of Punana Leo O Maui, the Hawaiian immersion preschool. We're located just across the street from all of you. For the last 24 years we have held Ho`omau, our annual Hawaiian music concert benefiting the Punana Leo O Maui, the...Punana Leo O Maui Preschool at the amphitheater at Keopuolani Park and at this event we have featured prominent Hawaiian musicians and entertainers from across the State, live and silent auctions, a keiki zone, crafters, and food. And this year, we had the great fortune of celebrating our 25th anniversary above the amphitheater at Maui Nui Botanical Gardens and

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our organization is very grateful for that opportunity. It allowed us to expand our event greatly and I believe, Elle Cochran, you were able to attend that event. I'm not sure how many other Council people were to come. I know you have been there in the past to support us. The Garden was a perfect venue for Ho`omau and we were able to accommodate three times the crafters that we normally have in the amphitheater, increasing from 12 to over 35 vendors. The food sold at the event is a benefit for our sister immersion program, Kula Kaiapuni at Paia, Kalama, and Kekaulike schools. And there was ample space for them to serve, and for the first time we were able to accommodate our immersion program at Princess Nahienaena Elementary School in Lahaina. We were able to offer demonstrations of Hawaiian culture activities on a grander scale this year because of the space, including poi pounding, hula implements, fish net throwing, coconut weaving, et cetera. Our keiki zone was able to utilize the playground and we continued the use of the amphitheater by demonstrating our makahiki games there. The hula pa designed and built by Uncle Rene Silva was used for the first time for its intended purposes. More importantly, the flat, open space was greatly welcomed by anyone in a wheelchair, scooter, or pushing a stroller, and our kupuna didn't have to struggle climbing the hill of the amphitheater and instead stayed the entire day. I believe our attendance was about 3,500 people, close to 4,000 actually, and as one person shared with me, the natives are enjoying the native plants. We also appreciate the Garden for providing valuable plant material for cultural and educational purposes. We have gathered wauke for kapa and various plants to dye our kapa such as mao and ukiuki. The Garden has also given us our immersion high school students opportunities to fund raise by demonstrating makahiki games with the public. Punana Leo and the public immersion schools look forward to working with Maui Nui Botanical Gardens in the future and we hope the feature Ho`omau as the premier Hawaiian cultural event in Central Maui for our community and visitors. So, we please ask you for your continued financial support for this very worthy organization. And I also want to put a shout out in appreciation to Joylynn Paman for her dedication and her leadership at the Garden as the Executive --

MR. KANESHINA: Three minutes.

MS. NAMAU`U: --Director there. Mahalo.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, questions for the testifier? Seeing none, thank you. Kalele Kekauoha-Schultz followed by Keoki Brown.

MS. KEKAUOHA-SCHULTZ: Aloha kakou. My name is Kalele Kekauoha-Schultz and I'm speaking as a member of the hula community in support of Maui Nui Botanical Garden. As a student of hula and oli, I frequent Maui Nui Botanical Gardens in order to further my knowledge of native plant types and their uses. The Garden is a precious asset in the Maui community as it plays an essential role in collecting, caring for, and providing access to natural resources that are very significant to Hawaiian cultural practitioners. Hawaiians believe makahana ka`ike, in working one learns or in other words, you learn by doing. Hands-on learning is so valuable to gaining in-depth understanding. Maui Nui Botanical Garden serve as a resource center for exploring firsthand the nature of native plants and their significance to cultural practice. It's been a gift to be able to study a particular chant and then go to the Garden to actually see the plant referenced

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in it, say a particular type of sugar cane or ko once used as an aphrodisiac or to obtain a plant materials needed to make kapa or various natural dyes or collect kukui to make oil for my drum. Maui Nui Botanical Gardens has been very generous in allowing access for gathering. I've gathered materials for lei making and plants for ho'okupu and protocol. I've been able to do these things all while my three keiki play in a clean and safe environment. As a mother I can't help but to talk about how this has impacted my ohana. My children have learned to identify plants there and also to be respectful of where they step. When my daughter, who was being educated in Olelo Hawaii, was learning to read in kindergarten she would run from plant to plant and read the name plates, and there not many places that you can do that, where you can run around, read Olelo Hawaii, interface with nature, and feel at home because it is not a made-for-tourist operation. Anyhow, I've also utilized the garden space as a quiet place to practice and our halau have gathered there on more than one occasion. With the help of the knowledgeable staff there I was able to make wise choices for planting natives at home and I'm also able to obtain the native plants from the Garden for cultivation and environmental purposes. In conclusion, I'm asking that you please provided sufficient funding for Maui Nui Botanical Gardens so that it may continue to thrive, and to serve to cultivate, to educate, and to preserve what is uniquely of Hawaii. Mahalo.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, questions for the testifier? Seeing none, thank you again. Keoki Kalani followed by Alvin Tagomori.

MR. KALANI: Aloha mai kakou. My name's Keoki Kalani and I'm Executive Director of Hana Youth Center. I wanna...I'm just here to say thank you very much. I appreciate you coming all the way out to Hana to listen to everybody, their concerns, and their support, and things like that. Thank you very much. We're very fortunate to be part of a hui, a hui of youth centers and boys and girls clubs and we greatly appreciate the support that the County has given us in giving us direction and helping us be what we are today. As a Hana Youth Center, we truly appreciate what we do and we thank you very much for the support and the privilege that we're able to share with our community.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, questions for the testifier? Member Cochran.

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Thank you. Aloha, nice to see you here --

MR. KALANI: Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: --after seeing you yesterday in Hana. Just curious what the amount is that you've been receiving, do you know, from the County?

MR. KALANI: About, about one, 131.

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: One thirty-one thousand?

MR. KALANI: Yes.

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COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Okay. Thank you. Thanks for being here.

MR. KALANI: Thank you. Aloha, everyone.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Any more questions? Seeing none, thank you again. Alvin Tagomori followed by Marilyn Tanji.

MR. TAGOMORI: Thank you, Chair Pontanilla, and aloha to you and the Members of the, of the Committee, Council Committee. My name's Alvin Tagomori. I chair the...I'm here representing the Maui County Sister Cities Foundation, an organization that is made up completely of volunteers; there's no employees and we exists solely to support the direction and initiatives of the Maui County Sister Cities as determined by yourself as Council Members and the County Administration. I'm here really speaking in support of the budget request as noted by the, in the Office of Economic Development budget. While the sharing of cultural, social, and educational exchanges continue to be at the core of the sister cities movement, in recent years sister cities agreements nationally has served as a pathway for beginning mutually beneficial economic development. And we're totally in support and in favor of those kinds of initiatives and commit our Foundation to those kinds of initiatives as determined by the Council and the County Administration. In...as you...in Fiscal Year 2012 and '13 we expect there's, that there's going to be many more visits by visiting delegations. Those that have been on delegations that have visited other sister cities know about the generosity and warmth that the Maui County delegates receive when they're there. When visiting delegations come here we will continue to match that kind of warmth and generosity through the kinds of support that we receive through yourselves as well as the kinds of support that we get from the local businesses and other associations that, you know, that greet our delegations. In addition to what we're going to do this year is we're going to move towards formalizing perhaps a more rapid response strategy and rapid response team 'cause sometimes some delegates come in and there's not that much notices. We're going to move towards formalizing that and coming up with a strategy to try and meet that, as well as, there's going to be, we understand that there's going another sister city summit that's going to be held on Oahu that's being organized by the various economic development offices by the different counties throughout the State and we're going to support those. So, mahalo for letting me be here to speak today. I appreciate your support. Mahalo.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, questions for the testifier? Chairman Mateo followed by Member Baisa.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Thank you, Mr. Pontanilla. Mr. Tagomori, good morning and --

MR. TAGOMORI: Good morning.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: --thank you for being here this morning. Has your volunteer organization completed their planning process for, I guess, implementing the new concept of sister cities?

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MR. TAGOMORI: Well, we're in the process of doing that right now. We're working very closely with Director Rasmussen, you know, in terms of formalizing how that process is going to work, you know, so, that's part of the whole thing in terms of, as you say, how...using the budget to really upgrade our efforts to create that kind of warmth and generosity that we really...our visiting delegates deserve and the kinds of...and to support the delegates that come here that go visit there.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Yeah. No, I have no problems in supporting--

MR. TAGOMORI: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: --you know, the request. I do have concerns regarding it's not just providing the funds.

MR. TAGOMORI: Right.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Something's gotta be attached to it to make it worth the investment and that's what my concern is. We haven't seen anything at this point that substantiates or balances out the request and that worries me a little bit at this point.

MR. TAGOMORI: Well, I think those kinds of details will be coming to you via the, via Director Rasmussen's, you know, efforts. I don't know if it's...if I, you know, I'll be glad to speak to anything. I can tell you the kinds of input we've made, but I think the decisions and all of that will be coming forward via the Director's office.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Tagomori.

MR. TAGOMORI: Yes.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Ms. Baisa.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Yes, thank you very much, Chair. And thank you very much, Mr. Tagomori, for being here this morning. I'm very interested in the sister cities program having had the opportunity to make some visit myself and you know, meet with folks who come. Of course we, we're very excited to see a plan and hope that we can put more meat into the program, but my request to you here is respectfully, to ask you guys we could not attend last year's sister cities summit because it was held during our committee weeks. If you would please try not to schedule it then so that we can attend because it's important for us as the funders to see what's going on so, if you could just take that into consideration I'd really appreciate it.

MR. TAGOMORI: Absolutely. Will do.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Thank you.

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CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, any more questions? Seeing none, thank you again.

MR. TAGOMORI: Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Marlynn Tanji followed by Keri Kalilikane.

MS. TANJI: Good morning, Council Chair Pontanilla and Council members. My name is Marlynn Tanji. I'm a Housing Counselor with Hale Mahaolu's Homeownership and Housing Counseling Program. I would like to thank you for your past support for our program and Hale Mahaolu's Homeownership Housing Counseling Program has been servicing the community for free since 1988. Our services include mortgage default counseling, homebuyers education classes, predatory lending education workshops, pre-purchase and post-purchase counseling and workshops, financial management and budget counseling, and fair housing assistance. Our Homeownership Housing Counseling Program has created partnerships with such agencies and programs as the USDA Rural Development, Na Hale O Maui, and the County's Housing Choice Voucher to Homeownership program to help homebuyers stay and purchase homes here on Maui. Currently, we are working with a large servicer who is helping our homeowners try to get loan modifications and recently we have a dedicated team here on Maui that will help work with us with our homeowners who are looking for modifications and they take our package and they work it from the start to the finish. So, it's been a great improvement while working trying to get home loan modifications. Our counseling program has three counselors and our current funding sources come from the County of Maui, the State of Hawaii through the NFMC, National Foreclosure Mitigation Counseling program and Hale Mahaolu. Hale Mahaolu has always provided in kind dollars, supplies, and staffing to make up for the funding shortfalls that the program sometimes runs short of monies. Because Hale Mahaolu has always believed that the community would reap the ultimate benefits of these programs, they continue to support the program. I ask for your continued support for Hale Mahaolu's Homeownership and Housing Counseling Program so that we may continue to provide our counseling services free of charge to those who live here on Maui County. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, any questions for the testifier? I got one quick one for you. You know, you do lot of counseling for people that want to purchase homes and --

MS. TANJI: Yes.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: --the like. You know, as family grows, people grow old right? And some of the elderly seniors are now looking at, you know, a possibility of--what's the term that they use?—reverse mortgage. Do you guys provide that type of counseling also?

MS. TANJI: Right now we're working on it. You need to be certified to be a reverse mortgage counselor. We used to do it prior to the certification being a requirement and we're working on that area to start that again.

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CHAIR PONTANILLA: Do you see an advantage for, you know, the elderly that, you know, don't have any kids in regards to going into that process?

MS. TANJI: It's a very good program, a reverse mortgage. It helps the homeowner to stay in their home. It gives them independence so, it is a loan on the home so, as long as if they have a mortgage, if it's a small enough balance where it can get paid off by the reverse mortgage it is a good program, because the equity that is in the home is turned into funds for the homeowner to use and they don't have a monthly debt payment that they have to pay back while they're living in the home. There is a payment at the end which the estate can take care of.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. Thank you. Members, any more questions for the testifier? Seeing none, thank you again.

MS. TANJI: Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Keri Kalilikane followed by Jani Sheppard.

MS. KALILIKANE: Good morning. My name is Keri Kalilikane and I am also here on behalf of Hale Mahaolu's Homeownership and Housing Counseling Program. I'd like to start by saying thank you for your support of Hale Mahaolu's Homeownership and Housing Counseling Program. It is with your help that over the past years we've been able to continue to provide housing counseling services to Maui County residents. A majority of our clients continue to be homeowners who are struggling to make their mortgage payments, delinquent on their mortgages, or facing the potential of losing their homes. According to RealtyTrac in March of 2012 there were 137 homes in Maui County facing foreclosure which is about 1 in every 514 homes. This is a slight improvement over last March where there were 161 homes facing foreclosure which amounts to about 1 in every 414 housing units. We also continue to provide pre-purchase counseling and homebuyers education class with most of our clients coming from participants of the USDA Rural Development Loan Programs, Na Hale O Maui, along with participants of the County's HOP Program and Down Payment Assistance Programs, providing homebuyers education which prepares the participants for the responsibilities that come with homeownership. I ask for your continued support of our housing counseling program so that we may continue to provide these counseling services free of charge to our community who will benefit from our assisting them in communicating with their mortgage lenders to prevent the loss of their home or helping new families move into a home that they can call their own. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, any questions for the testifier? Seeing none, thank you again. Jani Sheppard followed by Edel Baguio-Larena.

MS. SHEPPARD: Good morning, Chair. Good morning, Chair.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Morning.

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MS. SHEPPARD: Good morning, Council members. My name is Jani Sheppard. I'm the CEO with Maui Family Support Services and I first want to thank you for your support of our Early Head Start Program which serves children from 0 to 36 months and pregnant women and expectant fathers. Our...Maui Family Support Services has celebrated our 31, 31st year this year providing services to Maui County. Our mission is to strengthen families, also to prevent child abuse and neglect. That's our primary purpose. We have...for the Early Head Start Program has a home-based which includes home visiting and a center-based service. The center-based service provides specialists which our director will talk about in a minute, but our home-based services allow home visitors to go in and work directly with the parents and the children. The center-based services also provide child care at no cost to income eligible families so that they can work and attend school. It's not free because it's being paid for by lots of other sources but it's, it is certainly great that it's no cost to families who really need it. We are...we have expanded services to Molokai and Lanai which is really helpful because unfortunately at the end of this year we're going to have to cut services there for our other home visiting program due to funding. And so having Early Head Start on Lanai and Molokai means that that's the home visiting program that will be available for families there which is very important for them. This funding is very important for our...this is a Federal grant, our Early Head Start grant which requires a non-Federal match and that's what our County funding provides, is the non-Federal match which leverages, of course, the funding that we get from the Federal government. Things are getting better. It's wonderful to say that for the first time in about three years we're actually able to hire and I think that is amazing. I think it's a great sign. I know we're not quite there yet, but with the support that we've gotten from the County and our community it's wonderful to finally be able to do hires. It's three hires but it's better than telling people they don't have a job and families that they can't have service here. We do other funding as...fundraising as well, like for example, tomorrow we have the Flatbread fundraiser, just throw that out and Friday, we're doing a fundraiser, as well, at the Kamehameha Golf Club, silent auction, dinner, good, and so yeah, we put all this, the funding sources together and the County is a partner in helping us to kind of puzzle the pieces together to serve families and children in our community. Any questions?

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, questions for the testifier? Member Victorino followed by Member Baisa.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Thank you. And thank you for being here and all the hard work. This Federal grant, you said matching Federal grant?

MS. SHEPPARD: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Is that all you get from the Feds now is this matching grant?

MS. SHEPPARD: The Federal...yes. The only funding we have directly from the Feds is our...from the Administration for Children and Families and that funds the Early Head Start Program. We have other Federal funding that's a pass through thru the State.

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COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Thru the State?

MS. SHEPPARD: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: I just wanted to make that clear.

MS. SHEPPARD: Uh-huh.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: And of the leveraging of our money, how many times over by leveraging the money you bring in additional monies?

MS. SHEPPARD: One point two million is what our grant is actually for, 1.2 and we have to raise 20 percent for this County funding. We have to provide 20 percent matching funds and the County provides 60,000 of that.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: And...

MS. SHEPPARD: Of the one point...the 20 percent for the 1.3 million so, 260,000.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Good. And of the number of people you serve, what's the number overall for the entire County?

MS. SHEPPARD: For the entire County at one time our funding enrollment is 119 so, at one time we can serve 119 families. Children and, and children and families. Over the year, I think we're at, we're over 1,000. No, for the whole time? Over 1,000, but for a year would be like 210.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Thank you, Ms. Sheppard. You guys do a great job and I've been there many times --

MS. SHEPPARD: Thank you for coming too.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: --and I appreciate what they do, Mr. Chair.

MS. SHEPPARD: Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Member Baisa.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Yes. Thank you very much, Chair. And thank you, Ms. Sheppard, for being here and thank you for the work you do.

MS. SHEPPARD: Thank you.

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COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: I just wanted to follow up. You know, we've been making district meetings --

MS. SHEPPARD: Uh-huh.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: --and so we've been everywhere. And when we went to Hana we heard over and over from a group that is trying really hard to bring infant/toddler services to Hana --

MS. SHEPPARD: Uh-huh.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: --and I know that that's, you know, a difficult endeavor having worked on it myself --

MS. SHEPPARD: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: --but I'm wondering if there's any possibility that you folks might be able to work something out for them? They made that plea as a whole community including the principal of the school.

MS. SHEPPARD: We've been working really hard. We actually have been working with the Friends...you're talking about the Friend, the --

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Yes.

MS. SHEPPARD: -- Friends of the Keiki of Hana [*sic*]? Absolutely. We've been working with them for about three or four years. We actually provided the services to help them. We wrote their manuals so that they could get licensed. We're still available to providing any other support. We have...we tried for several grants, County and otherwise, to bring those services to Hana and we're still available to do it. We're actually in some conversations them of other ways that we can support it. What's really important to us is that the community of Hana has from Hana what it needs and that the staff that are working there and the people that are there will...that's it's really from Hana and not from Wailuku or from Kahului. The other is that the...oh, I just lost my thought, I'm sorry.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: It's okay.

MS. SHEPPARD: Okay. Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Any chance for home-based being that a center sounds like it's a, you know, I know the --

MS. SHEPPARD: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: --challenges of a center.

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MS. SHEPPARD: Yeah. We actually did a comprehensive community assessment and that's what tells us where we target our services and for Hana they're not...we've had services there, home visiting, for Hana the community's saying that's not what they need. They need...they're doing a lot...they do family care, kinship care so they have that resource and based on the community assessment over the last five years that's what they're preferring is to be able to have --

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: A center.

MS. SHEPPARD: -- family members provide services for or support for their children.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Anyway, thank you for your efforts because, you know, they are so isolated, anyway that, you know, we can help them would be good.

MS. SHEPPARD: ...*(Inaudible)*...

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: I, I figured you were on it. Thank you.

MS. SHEPPARD: Thank you. Thank you, Gladys.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, any more questions? Seeing none, thank you again.

MS. SHEPPARD: Thank you so much.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Edel Baguio-Larena followed by Marsha Jones.

MS. BAGUIO-LARENA: Honorable Vice-Chair Pontanilla, Members of the County Council, good morning. My name is Edel Baguio-Larena and I work with Maui Family Support Services with Jani Sheppard. And I'm the Early Head Start Director. I'm primarily here to thank you for your continued support for the Early Head Start Program. The County has supported this program since 2007, and you've heard what Jani said about what we do, but the funding that you provide is used to so that we can provide specialist services in the areas of maternal and child health, mental health, nutrition, special needs, or working with early intervention, and family and community services. As Jani mentioned, we serve 119 pregnant women or families with 0 to 36 months children and we cover the three island of the Council...of the County. So, there was a question about the total number of families that we've assisted over the years so, since 1999 we have served over 1,000, 1,202 families with young children, and your continued support is very important because without this we cannot support low income families and families who are receiving financial assistance, families who are homeless, children who are in foster care, and we prioritize these families. I see a lot of our community partners here and I want to recognize them too, in addition to your support. Ka Hale A Ke Ola Resource Center helps us in one of our classrooms in Lahaina and without them, we wouldn't be able to have a classroom there for low income families and homeless families. We also have...we also partner with MEO Head Start. I see Debbi Amaral in the back and we refer the children who finish Early Head Start, who are the

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36 months kids, to Head Start so that they can continue the child development benefits that they get from us. So, I want to also share what Jani has not shared is that Early Head Start is an evidence-based program and it's been recognized nationwide. And the State Department of Health submitted a grant with Maternal Infants Child Health and they were able to get that and since we're implementing Early Head Start in Maui County, we were able...they gave us the opportunity to apply for that grant and we got it. So, beginning July 1st this year we will be able to expand our services by 18 families so, we will be focusing based on our community assessment, there's a lot of families who are receiving TANF or financial assistance in Central area, Lahaina, and Upcountry so, we will be able to increase our home visiting services in those communities. So again, I want to thank you for your continued support. We appreciate, I appreciate what you do in our community and we will continue to do the same.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, questions for the testifier? Member Cochran.

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Thank you. I'm browsing through the grants here, you're Maui Family Support Services, Incorporated?

MS. BAGUIO-LARENA: Correct.

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: And there's a portion here you also focus on teens?

MS. BAGUIO-LARENA: That's another program of Maui Family Support Services.

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Okay.

MS. BAGUIO-LARENA: But it's not part of Early Head Start.

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Got it. Okay. Thank you.

MS. BAGUIO-LARENA: The teen program though, the Early Head Start families, if we have teen parents there we refer them to that program as well.

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Oh, okay. Thank you. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, any more questions? Seeing none, thank you again.

MS. BAGUIO-LARENA: Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Marsha Jones followed by David Jones.

MS. JONES: Hi, good morning. My name is Marsha Jones. I'm talking on behalf of Maui Family Support Services. I have two different...I want to talk on behalf of a participant and I'm just formerly an employee there. I started April 2nd. I have five children, four of my children participated with Maui Family Support Services. I've been a participant with Maui Family

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Support Services for eight years. That program is really awesome and I want to thank you guys for continued support for them with everything that you guys, with everything you guys do. My oldest son, he started in the Healthy Start Program, then my daughter with the Early Head Start, and my three-year old just graduated from the program, and now I am an employee there and I do...I'm a Early Head Start parent/child educator so, I do home visits. And I just want to thank you guys for your guys support with Maui Family Support Services.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, any questions for the testifier? Seeing none, thank you again.

MS. JONES: Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: David Jones followed by Cesar Gaxiola.

MR. JONES: Good morning, Council. My name is David Jones. I'm speaking on...as a parent and a participant of the Maui Family Support Program. You just heard my wife speaking and as you heard, we do have five kids. We've been here with this program since, what, almost 2002, 2003, so it's been a long time we've been part of the program. And it's so awesome this program is because it allows parents to have their child in a place so they can work and it's not just like you drop your kids off with somebody, put 'em in front of a TV for four hours and you go work or do whatever you want. It's...the kids are actually learning; they're not just there. So, they have arts and crafts. They learn about nature. They walk around on the streets learning about nature. You know, learning how to cope with each other, learning how to, you know, be able to be around people. They're getting, you know, getting their numbers, ABCs, the basic things you want your child to learn, but some parents might not have the opportunity or the resources to have their child learn these things. So, the program is great and it's just ask the continued support and funding for the program 'cause, you know, the parents are getting younger and younger these days, and we have to have programs like this to not only help out the child, but help out their parents as well, seeing as they're more younger parents are...kids are having kids these days, and with a program like this not only will the child learn, but the parent can learn also. And it just improves the quality of life for all the families here on Maui and Lanai, Molokai, wherever they're able to expand to. And I'm just proud to be a part of it, and appreciate your time, and thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, any questions for the testifier? Seeing none, thank you again. Cesar Gaxiola followed by Sydney Smith.

MR. GAXIOLA: Mr. Chairman and Members of the Finance Committee and Budget Director, good morning. My name is Cesar Gaxiola. I am the Executive Director of the J. Walter Cameron Center and I'm here in support of the grant under the Maui County Department of Housing and Human Concerns that relates to the line item for the J. Walter Cameron Center. Thank you, this will help us to keep monthly assessments affordable for the social service agencies and meeting facility users at the Center. The Cameron Center is the one place, one location where we house 16 nonprofit agencies. We also have some neighbors in the back, Maui Economic Opportunity

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and altogether is little bit over 140 different programs so, when clients, families come in, it uses one parking stall and they can access a ton of services. There is also a cafeteria that is run by Hui No Ke Ola Pono, Simply Healthy Café, and that's, you know, a special healthy food for people with diets and that kind of stuff. We're the only facility in the County of Maui that has a therapy pool, and clients from the hospital, Kaiser, and other institutions are referred to the therapy pool. We are committed in providing the high quality office and program space exclusively for social service agencies at the lowest cost. This is an important role that we provide to the community and by providing this direct services to low income and special needs residents of Maui County. This year, Cameron Center reviewing and checking our budget income and expenses, we decreased three full-time positions to part-time and cut down in many other areas, you know, office supplies and things like that for a little bit over \$60,000. On behalf of the Board of Directors of the J. Walter Cameron Center, I respectfully request your support of the appropriation under the Maui County Department of Housing and Human Concerns budget. Thank you very much for your time. This funding will help us to keep the monthly assessments affordable for the 16 social service agencies and meeting facility users at the Cameron Center. I just want to take a very quick update and let you know that Maui County Commission on Persons with Disabilities, we completed a strategic planning. This is the first time ever we have done something like that. We also took an in-depth look in the different areas the Commission is, has been focusing and reducing some of those tasks to, you know, to just a particular areas. We also reduced our...the time that we meet from 120 minutes to 90 minutes and, you know, we are also looking into other areas to see how can this Commission provide, continue to provide the support and the administration that this body needs when comes to persons with disabilities for the County of Maui.

MR. KANESHINA: Three minutes.

MR. GAXIOLA: Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, questions for the testifier? Member Baisa followed by Member, Chairman Mateo.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Thank you very much, Chair. And thank you, Cesar, for being here this morning. What role do you play in the Commission on Persons with Disabilities?

MR. GAXIOLA: This month I just became the Chair.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Well, that's wonderful and I'm really hear, glad to hear about strategic planning 'cause I think it's very important that this Commission should be paying, playing a much more visible and pivotal role in the community. In fact, it often surprises me that we don't hear from them.

MR. GAXIOLA: Yes. You know what one of the things that I failed to note on my update is the...a lot of this has been in working with the Department of Housing and Human Concerns. I believe the

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Director, Jo-Ann Ridao and, and the staff there, Jan Roberson, they doing an excellent job in reviewing things and providing information to the various commissions that they oversee.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Well, very good and good, you know, keep up the good work. You need to be involved and we need to hear from you. Thank you.

MR. GAXIOLA: Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Thank you. Chairman Mateo.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Good morning, Cesar.

MR. GAXIOLA: Good morning.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Thank you for being here. Just wanted to touch bases with you and try to get a better insight on some of your comments. You...right now you housing 60 nonprofit organizations.

MR. GAXIOLA: Sixteen. One-six.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: One-six.

MR. GAXIOLA: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Thank you. And the one-six number of organizations that you provide, I do understand the need for keeping rents very affordable --

MR. GAXIOLA: Low. Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: --because these are nonprofit organizations.

MR. GAXIOLA: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Did you provide this body with information on the rental charges that you are providing for these nonprofits?

MR. GAXIOLA: Not today, but that information is given to the Department on an annual basis and that's also information that we can provide anytime, you know, to you.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Okay. Mr. Chair, if we can get that information --

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Sure.

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COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: --because a lot of their monies is used for maintenance, and if they're charging for rents, maintenance should be part of that consideration and I'd just like to...I think it would be fair for us to understand the rental charges that's being applied. Thank you. Thank you, Cesar.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you.

MR. GAXIOLA: Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: I got couple questions for you. Maybe something that you can provide Chairman Mateo is the project that you guys do at the golf tournament, the first golf tournament of the year for the PGA. I know you guys receive some funding --

MR. GAXIOLA: Yes.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: --to lower the cost of the rent --

MR. GAXIOLA: Yes.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: --for the nonprofits that are located there. So, if you can provide that also. And how old is your therapy pool?

MR. GAXIOLA: I'm sorry?

CHAIR PONTANILLA: How old is your therapy pool?

MR. GAXIOLA: I don't understand the question.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: The therapy pool that you have?

MR. GAXIOLA: Oh! The therapy. Sorry.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Yeah. How old is it?

MR. GAXIOLA: The pool has been there since 1973. Yes. The pool has been there since 1973 and I will definitely come back to this body and provide information on the various fundraisers that we do with the Hyundai Tournament. We also do the annual fundraiser in October, and you know what, one thing that I wanted to share, we have agencies in the Center they've been with us for, since 1973, and a lot of these agencies here is not necessarily just as a tenant to us. It's more of a partner to us because thanks the agencies being there we're able to analyze and to see the kind of services that they provide to the community. So, when we talk about rents it's actually an assessment and this assessment is done on the basis of the size and the type of services that they provide. And so, just to give you an idea, I don't have everything with me right now...

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CHAIR PONTANILLA: Yeah, if you can provide it in writing that would be more clear.

MR. GAXIOLA: Okay. Okay.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: And the reason why I ask you about the date 'cause I remember building that along with the Kahului Lions Club way back 1973.

MR. GAXIOLA: Yes. Forty years next year.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. The other question that I have for you because you chair the Disability Commission, Person with Disability Commission, I had an opportunity to talk to several blind people in their fundraising, on a walk-a-thon, and one of the questions that they provided me was that how can they get involved in regards to being part of the Persons with Disability. I don't know if you have anybody from the blind community.

MR. GAXIOLA: Not right now, we do have people from other sectors of the community with disabilities but, you know, that information can certainly be found on the website and also the Department of Housing and Human Concerns, you know, help us with that.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Yeah. If you could ensure that, you know, someone from the blind community gets involved with Persons with Disability Commission. I would appreciate that.

MR. GAXIOLA: Sure. I just want to add the various groups and clubs in the committee...in the community with blind and the deaf and things like that do receive reports from the Maui County Persons with Disabilities on a monthly basis. Yeah.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. Good. Thank you. Mr. Couch.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Good morning, Cesar.

MR. GAXIOLA: Good morning.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: How many of your 16 nonprofits that you take care of, how many of them are funded by County partially or completely?

MR. GAXIOLA: I don't have that information with me right now. Yeah. But I can find out.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Yeah. If you could get that because if you're charging them rent, you're essentially charging us rent, I mean, you know, so, the money is kind of moving around. ...*(Inaudible)*... Thanks.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. Just provide us that information.

MR. GAXIOLA: Sure.

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CHAIR PONTANILLA: Member Baisa.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Just a quick clarification. I want everybody to understand we do not charge rent at Cameron Center. I'm speaking as a board member. We charge space assessments --

MR. GAXIOLA: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: --and it's not a straight up rent. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Yeah. I understand that. Thank you.

MR. GAXIOLA: Yeah.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. Next testifier is Sydney Smith followed by Stacey Moniz. And Members, we're going to take our morning break at 10:30. And for those of you that need to provide public testimony, we'll...once we go in recess from 10:30, we'll reconvene at 10:45. Go ahead.

MS. SMITH: Good morning. My name is Sydney Smith. My husband and I own Maliko Estate Coffee Farm in Makawao. I'm just one of over 50 coffee farmers growing 100 percent Maui coffee here on our island and I'm also the vice-president of the Maui Coffee Association. I'm speaking here today to thank you for the support that you give the Coffee Association through the Maui County Farm Bureau grant and I'm also asking this year for an increase in funding for the 200th anniversary of coffee in Hawaii. A lot of people are surprised that there were many healthy coffee plantations here on Maui at the turn of the last century. Judge Copp that Copp Road was named for was a coffee grower. Honolulu Ranch had a large coffee plantation in West Maui. Wars, the Depression, sugar subsidies, a lot of things caused the decline in the business here until it nearly disappeared, but recently it's made a really healthy comeback. Many coffee farms place consistently in the top coffees in Hawaii and a lot of them now in Hawaii are placing the top, in the top 10 in the world. Hawaii is one of the smallest coffee growing regions in the world and so to be in that position is quite extraordinary. 2013 is the 200th anniversary of coffee in Hawaii and because of a disastrous beetle infestation on the Big Island, the planning for the bicentennial has been turned over to us at the Maui Coffee Association. Consequently, nearly all the main events that will take place are going to be here on Maui instead of the Big Island. The promotions have already started. We had a really successful reception at the Philadelphia Flower Show where we had two very brave, intrepid volunteers that could barely keep up with the demand for information and with supplying them with samples of our coffee which we ran out of. And we're also promoting the bicentennial; just recently we did it at the Ag Fest which was also very successful. And this past weekend at the annual SCAA Specialty Coffee Show in Portland, Oregon. A lot of our volunteers went there and represented Maui County and Maui coffee there and that's why I'm here today instead of our usual volunteers that do this. And the upcoming bicentennial is going to be, you know, a once-in-a-lifetime type of thing. Two

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hundred years is a long time and to stay in an agriculture business for 200 years is also really extraordinary. This summer the Hawaii Coffee Association annual conference will be held at the Maui Tropical Plantation --

MR. KANESHINA: Three minutes.

MS. SMITH: --and this August we're presenting the 1st Annual Maui Coffee Fest in partnership with the Shops at Wailea, and we're also working with Chef Alan Wong and Chef Peter Merriman on other promotions. I have a packet here and this is some of the, the things that we have done which I can supply some of you, if you're interested in it, I can pass this out after I'm concluded here. And I just, again, want to thank you for the support that you've given us in the past.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, questions? Mr. Couch.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Thank you, Mr. Chair. And thank you for coming, Ms. Smith. Just out of curiosity of all the members of the Maui Coffee Association, how many jobs are provided by that?

MS. SMITH: I don't really know. I've never gathered those statistics before. I know for myself, we have coffee pickers that we bring in during harvest season, and we pay about a dollar a pound and people can make about \$100 a day picking coffee, and I know all of our other growers do the same and pay about the same amount.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: And when you say "you bring in", you bring in to your company or bring on to the island?

MS. SMITH: No, they're people, they're residents here.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Okay.

MS. SMITH: We don't bring them in from outside. And also we support the roasters that, you know, that roast the coffee. We supply a lot of local stores, restaurants, Chef Alan Wong buys our coffee and promotes it and he has restaurants all over the State and so, there are jobs that are provided but maybe not directly 'cause most of our farms are family-run farms and employ their family.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Uh-huh. Okay. Thank you very much.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Mr. Victorino.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Thank you. And thank you for being here, Ms. Smith.

MS. SMITH: Uh-huh.

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COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: My question is approximately, if you know this answer, how many pounds of coffee are produced in Maui County today or basically the last reporting period?

MS. SMITH: I think I have that information here. Just let me look.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Real quickly if you can, I mean, I think that's important to understand.

MS. SMITH: Well, there are 500 acres in production --

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: At this time?

MS. SMITH: --in Maui County.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Uh-huh.

MS. SMITH: And, well, actually there's more than that because there's 500 more acres on Molokai so, there's 1,000 acres in Maui County.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Uh-huh.

MS. SMITH: An average amount of pounds per acre depends on rainfall --

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Uh-huh.

MS. SMITH: --because most coffee is not irrigated. Coffee has a deep tap root --

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Uh-huh.

MS. SMITH: --and so, it is one of the crops that you usually don't have to irrigate so, it is affected by rainfall, but it is possible to get 10,000 pounds of cherry per acre. At my farm we have never gotten that much. You know, because that's intensive farming practices using a lot of fertilizer and a lot of other things that we don't do. We use organic practices and we also farm in the shade which coffee grows in the shade better than other crops and in fact, that's what it's meant to grow under is the shade canopy.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Uh-huh.

MS. SMITH: And so, part of our acreage is taken up by the trees that shade the coffee. So, while we give up having the area for the coffee we also have a less stressed coffee which creates milder flavor and less acidic coffee when it is grown under shade and then the trees actually fertilize the coffee with the leaf matter and the things that, you know, fall from the coffee.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Thank you.

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MS. SMITH: And so it's also something that creates a better watershed for Maui County and...

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Excuse me, I think you answered his question.

MS. SMITH: Okay. Alright.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Thank you. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you.

MS. SMITH: Anything else?

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Any more questions, Members?

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Chair? Will you request that the information in the packet, please?

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Oh, yeah. Yeah. You know the packet that you showed us...

MS. SMITH: Yes. I can pass it along behind...*(inaudible)*...

CHAIR PONTANILLA: No. You can give it to the people up front, Staff people and then we'll pass it.

MS. SMITH: Alright. Alright. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, it's almost 10:30, sorry, Stacey. So, when we come back at 10:45 Stacey Moniz would be the first person to testify so we'll be in recess 'til 10:45. ...*(gavel)*...

RECESS: 10:29 a.m.

RECONVENE: 10:47 a.m.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: ...*(gavel)*... The Budget and Finance Committee meeting is now reconvened. The next testifier is Stacey Moniz followed by Theo Morrison.

MS. MONIZ: Hi, good morning. Thank you so much. It's great to be here. My name is Stacey Moniz and I'm the Executive Director at Women Helping Women. And this is my first visit to Budget and Finance Committee this year so, I wanted to apologize I haven't been here sooner. I was on the mainland for about two weeks so, I missed a lot of the Budget hearing opportunities. This year we're really grateful that in the Mayor's budget we've been increased back to our pre...the last two year cut funding levels and in fact, have even a slight increase there, and I wanted to give you a chance to ask any questions that you might have. I wanted to point out some of the

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things that the County funding does pay for. We have a...we are the domestic violence victims services for Maui and Lanai and we have a 24-hour hotline. We also have a shelter that operates 24-hours a day. Last year our funding from the State got cut dramatically and so we had to lay off a couple of our staff, our deputy director, our children's program got eliminated completely, but we do have that program and the County does fund some of those positions. We also have a transitions program which is to help after the women leave and now they're homeless at the shelter or maybe not even at our shelter, but they've left an abusive situation, we have a Rental Assistance Program that the County funds through the Rental Assistance Program here. So, we have that in our transitions program and then we have a restraining order program. And the County doesn't fund the TRO program per se; however, the County does fund 100 percent our office in Lahaina and we have a staff person there about half time, we're open three days a week to help with restraining orders. We do support groups, individuals, things like that. And then we also have a program on Lanai and we're really grateful that the County has funded that program for several years now, and recently we received a grant from the Federal Violence Against Women Office and started doing teenage victims/survivors groups on Lanai, and I'm pretty sure you remember when you went to Lanai that there were quite a few teenage testimonies submitted because I've been so surprised that we've had a group on Lanai of teenagers not doing prevention. We didn't...this grant was specifically not prevention oriented. These were actual survivors of domestic violence and our group --

MR. KANESHINA: Three minutes.

MS. MONIZ: --was really big there. Wow, that was fast. Okay. So, that is where the funded increase. So, I just wanted to let you know that even though it seems like a large increase, we are really asking for funding to be put back to. We used to get \$190,000 a year and the current allocation is 196,650.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, questions for the testifier? I got one fast one for you.

MS. MONIZ: Sure.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Any of the County money is used to --

MS. MONIZ: Leverage?

CHAIR PONTANILLA: --leverage on Federal or State dollars?

MS. MONIZ: I am really glad you asked that because I meant to say that, but boy, three minutes went by really fast.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Yeah.

MS. MONIZ: Yes. A lot of our funding...we have now...we use the Rental Assistance Program funding to leverage. We get State money through the HUD office, it's a Federal goes through

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the State. We also get OVW which is the Federal Office of Violence Against Women Transitional Housing Grant. We've had that for the last 5 years; we've got 1 more year of a 3-year grant and that has been over half a million dollars over the last 6 years in rental assistance. Things like housing, education, healthcare, utilities, and we are right now, in fact, that's where I'm going to run off to right now; I'll be back after lunch, but I have a OHA Grant that we are again leveraging the Rental Assistance...the County RAP money to apply for a \$100,000 in additional rental assistance. We do leverage a lot.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, question, any more questions? Seeing none, thank you again.

MS. MONIZ: Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Theo Morrison followed by Art Vento.

MS. T. MORRISON: Good morning. My name is Theo Morrison, Executive Director of Lahaina Restoration Foundation. I'm here to testify on two issues, the Maui Town Parties and also the Small Town Planning. So, Maui Town Parties in Lahaina, we have Second Friday and as you know, the County funds simply go for the promotion of the event. As a result of hearing about the program Lahaina Restoration Foundation developed a program called Ha`ina Hou which we do every Second Friday. That means "let the story be told" and so, what we do is we offer a free program at both of our, two of our museums on Front Street, one is the Wo Hing Museum and the other one's the Baldwin Home Museum. Each of those free programs, which is held outside on the lawn, is related to the museum so the Wo Hing Museum has Asian type things and the Baldwin Home has Hawaiian and missionary type activities. All these activities have been very well received. We receive about 100 people at the Baldwin Home and maybe 75 to, 50 to 75 at the Wo Hing Museum. People come specifically to hear the presentations. Last week it was, it was Sun Yat-Sen...a presentation on Sun Yat-Sen at the Wo Hing and at the Baldwin Home we had a presentation on Hawaiian weapons. So, we're very thrilled with that. We also run a parking lot. Our parking lot supports our museums and as a result of Second Friday in comparison to the Friday previous, we have a 15 percent income increase with our two museums and our parking lot. So, as a nonprofit we have two bottom lines. One's our mission and one's our money, and both of those have increased substantially as a result of Second Fridays. In addition, I never would've even created the Ha`ina Hou without the economic stimulus of having the County do all the promotion for it. So, we are very thrilled with that program. The other thing we want to talk about is the Small Town Planning funds. We'd like to ensure that that stays in the Planning Department. In 2000, several of us in Lahaina created this interpretive master plan for the town and as a result of this plan in...a couple years after we completed the plan, we got \$100,000 in two separate grants for interpretive signage we put around the town and most recently, we just got a \$600,000 grant from the Federal government for a program we're doing at the Old Lahaina Courthouse. So, you do a plan, the funds will come. What we would like to do with the Small Town Planning funds would be develop a plan for the whole Lahaina Harbor area. It's one of the most significant areas of Lahaina and yet, and hundreds and hundreds of people a day go through this area, wait in this area, stand in this area and they have

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no idea of the significance. So, we would like to do an interpretive plan specifically on that area and which will lead to funds in the future to create our plan. Any questions?

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, questions for the testifier? Member Cochran.

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Thank you. And thank you Theo for being here and I like your idea of the plan for the Lahaina Harbor area which is definitely neglected and needs more interpretation for the visitors. Just curious, I recall you mentioning at one of the Lahaina Sunrise Rotaries that you were in the process of looking for a cultural advisor or cultural type resource person. Have you accomplished that?

MS. T. MORRISON: Yeah. This was, this was for our project at the Old Lahaina Courthouse. Yes, we did. We hired Kekoa Yap.

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Oh. Awesome.

MS. T. MORRISON: So, he's taking over for Cliff Ahue.

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Right, in his passing. Okay.

MS. T. MORRISON: Yeah. Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Well, thank you so much.

MS. T. MORRISON: Sure.

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Any more questions, Members? Seeing none, thank you again, Theo. Art Vento followed by Anthony Simmons.

MR. VENTO: Aloha and good morning. Mahalo, Council Chair Pontanilla, and mahalo and good morning to the Members of the County Council. My name's Art Vento. I'm the president and CEO of the Maui Arts and Cultural Center. I'm here today on behalf of the board, staff, and volunteers of the Arts & Cultural Center to thank you for your past support and to thank...and to ask for your continued support in this fiscal year. A viable arts center is an investment in education, community cohesiveness, and of strength, and in strength, but it's also an economic investment. Just a few numbers about the MACC. Two hundred and fifteen thousand people came through the doors last year. One thousand five hundred events occurred annually last year. The economic impact from those events in Maui County was nearly \$5 million. We track our spending now to where it all goes and almost 90 percent of that spending was spent on the, in the County of Maui. The Arts and Cultural Center then goes out and leverages our County support with a 19 to 1 ratio to go ahead and get contributed and earned income beyond that. As an example, just the Elton John concert alone last year which drew 11,000 people over 2 nights, and

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was the only one in the State, drew nearly \$2 million in economic impact in hotel stays, people coming to Maui, and the spending in the local economy. But that's not all we do is big name entertainment and nationally recognized arts. We like to think of ourselves as we celebrate the best of the world for here on Maui and celebrate the best of Maui for the world. That includes a lot of free events. Over 52,000 people came to free events last year at the MACC including the Ki Ho`alu Festival, the ukulele festival, storytelling festival, student performances, and our new Starry Night Cinema happening once a month free movies out in the amphitheater of the Arts and Cultural Center. The MACC's also Maui's largest classroom. The MACC's arts education programs are recognized nationally as exemplary and prototypical for integrating the arts education into 21st century learning. The MACC's Artists in the Community program bring performers and educators throughout Maui County to Hana, Lanai, and Molokai as well. We recently brought Jake Shimabukuro to the entire island of Lanai, almost all of them were there, Jake...John Cruz to Aloha House, Henry Kaponu up to the Ke Ha Ke Ola [*sic*] Resource Center, and Ben Vereen to work with the drama students at Baldwin High School. We recognize that in these economic times there are many requests and for support with finite resources so, I'd like you to...like to close with a quote from a study from the American for the Arts which says, "The arts are good for business. The arts are good for the economy. And yes, the arts are good for the soul." Mahalo.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, any questions for the testifier? Just one question.

MR. VENTO: Sure.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: You still continue to promote education within the schools?

MR. VENTO: Absolutely. It's a primary mission as Pundy likes, would like to say, the arts are education.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. I thought I'd mention that to you.

MR. VENTO: Okay. Aloha.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Anthony Simmons followed by Amy Maeda.

MR. SIMMONS: Aloha. My name's Anthony Simmons. I am the president of Maui Dance Advocates and I'd like to talk on the Liquor Control budget. I believe it's proposed to a \$2.8 million, half of which is going to be salary and wages and it's supposed to be a County entity, yet as a citizen of the County, they tend not to hear the voices of the people. So, I just want to make you guys aware of that that we want to dance. Just have a little bit of rhythm in our lives and the Liquor Control does not want to anyone to rhythmically move their body off an unpermitted dance floor. Just...this gentleman from the MACC was just here, they're not allowed to have dancing, even that's a spot to go to dance because they sell alcohol they have to tape off a section in the MACC to allow people to dance even though if there's a big field, you can't dance in the field necessarily if it's an indoor concert because of their restrictions. So, I just want you guys to keep

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that in mind while you're giving out the budget and giving those millions of dollars to them that they aren't necessarily looking out for the best of us. Because if I'm bobbing my head and doing just right here, if I'm in a bar or restaurant, the waitress is supposed to tell me to stop moving by order of the Liquor Commission because they don't define what dancing is and there's no parameters so, they don't want to lose their liquor license so they have to do the strongest arm of the law. So, I'm here to bring awareness to it. We're outside doing safety dance. On your breaks you want to come down we're dancing in support of it and mahalo for having me here.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, questions for the testifier? Seeing none, thank you again. Amy Maeda followed by Saedene Ota.

MS. MAEDA: Aloha, Chair Pontanilla and County Council members. Thank you so much for coming to Molokai and visiting us. We always are very appreciative of your time. I am Amy Maeda, Executive Director for Molokai Occupational Center; it's a voc rehab center. I am speaking in favor of the Community Partnership Grant which is on your desk for approval and this is a farm to table food bank grant to deliver and distribute fresh produce to 4,500 Molokai residents including 150 persons in Kalaupapa using Molokai farmers and creating new jobs. Molokai is consistently had the highest hospitalization rate with obesity diagnosis since 2004. Poor dietary habits are major contributors to high blood pressure; heart disease; Type II diabetes; breast, colon, prostate cancer, all preventable causes of death. In Kaunakakai town visitors will see at least seven to eight kupunas with diabetic amputations missing parts of limbs, some with no limbs at all, zooming around on little scooter chairs. In Molokai, one out of every five is obese. One out of every three is overweight. Considering Molokai Occupational Center's 29 staff members and 6 board members, 6 are diabetic, 1 just came home from the hospital previously 500 pounds. Another employee proudly shows off his diabetic work shoes. One employee is in his third year of waiting for his kidney transplant and goes to dialysis three times a week and we schedule our, his workday around his dialysis. One extremely obese board member is avoiding dialysis treatment in our already overbooked Molokai clinic. Six employees are extremely obese. Seven are obese. Six are overweight. They throw two to three large spoonfuls of mayonnaise, we call Portogee gravy, on their rice, chili, and beef stew at lunch time. The request for funding does hit home and we want to extend this to the greater Molokai districts. What we're doing also is providing education and partners to help alter this death sentence for many Molokai residents. The farm to table food bank targets 4,500 people and we use a BMI index, body mass index. We target overweight, obese, extremely obese. Also targeted are Kalaupapa's 150 residents and former patients, park rangers, administrators, maintenance, and hospital staff --

MR. KANESHINA: Three minutes.

MS. MAEDA: --that are at high risk for heart disease. Upon touring the backyards of Kalaupapa residents earlier this year, the common denominator in every yard was an absence of vegetable gardens due to aging residents, night feeding deer, and the imported king of all protein, Spam. So, I'd like to thank you so much for your time and I'm available for questions.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, any questions for the testifier? Chairman Mateo.

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COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Thank you. Ms. Maeda, good morning. Thank you for being here.

MS. MAEDA: Good morning.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: May I ask why you're here today? You received a communication asking you to make yourself present here today?

MS. MAEDA: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: And that communication came from?

MS. MAEDA: The Department of Housing and Human Concerns.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Thank you. And this, your trip to Molokai comes out of the budget, the already limited budget that you as a nonprofit needs to balance. Is that correct?

MS. MAEDA: I paid for my own way.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: You paid your own way.

MS. MAEDA: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Thank you. Mr. Chairman --

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: --just as a note, Mr. Chair, all...the nonprofits that I'm aware of on my community all received communications to be here and it bothers me because these are nonprofit groups that apparently don't have money. And they're now asked to pay, like how Ms. Maeda had to use her own funds to get here, and yet we saw them on Molokai as well. So, it kind of bothers me that there is a request as such because if you come from Molokai, she's not going home until 7:00 p.m. And that means there's a car involved probably and there's --

MS. MAEDA: No car.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: --there's a meal probably—but you not going eat too—there's a meal probably involved as well. So --

MS. MAEDA: I drink water.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: --for, for me...

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Thank you.

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COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Because you're on Molokai, because you're on Maui you can drink water. But it bothers me and that's what I'm trying to get, and I hope you get it; that this is kind of a difficult process to require nonprofits to show up when their budgets are already limited. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. And any more questions? You know, just a comment, Ms. Maeda. You know, this Budget and Finance Committee had gone to the various communities. For Molokai, Lanai, you know, we gave 'em ample time to provide their testimony because we know the hardship in flying to Maui to provide a three minute testimony and, you know, another minute to conclude. And we felt when we went to those islands, Molokai and Lanai that we'd provide, you know, some time for the nonprofits after the meeting to contact any of the persons, Council members at that meeting, you know, for more discussion if you needed. So, you know, it is unfortunate that, you know, you need to spend your own pocket money to come here to testify. You know, you're so passionate about your job and, you know, as Council members I think we kind of understand the needs on Molokai, Lanai because when we go over, you know, we notice the community support that all of you receive that is, you know, second to none. Molokai, Lanai, Hana, everybody support each other and again, you know, for those that need to come from Molokai and Lanai in the future when we there, you know, ask us the questions. Tell us how you feel and, you know, we take your public testimony on that island really, really serious. I thought I'd provide you that comment --

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Chair?

CHAIR PONTANILLA: --and for the viewing public that's looking at this meeting this morning. So, thank you again. Mr. Victorino.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Yeah. Thank you, Chair. And I think, Ms. Maeda, thank you for your testimony and giving us those statistics. That was very important, but I think Mr. Mateo was not you, but the symptomatic problem that we were told when we were on Molokai and Lanai and even Hana that they were all being requested to come in to testify to this body. And I believe, Mr. Chair, I would like you to send a communication to the departments saying that they should be cognizant of the fact that these are areas that are inaccessible and are very costly to be here, that if some other methodology and/or setting up or arranging a meeting when we're there on the island during our public hearing would be a much better method. I think that should be communicated, because I appreciate her spending her own money, that's admirable, and only drinking water while you're here, please go eat! Go eat! If you need, I'll sponsor your lunch.

MS. MAEDA: No need, no need.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Okay. But really, all joking aside, this is a problem, a real problem that I see starting because they want them to be here and we know it's not possible, Mr. Chair. It's...the monies are not there and their time is very valuable. Many people are

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sitting here all day now to testify so, you know, we gotta be a little bit more cognizant, but I'll let that be your. . .*(inaudible)*. . .

MS. MAEDA: Also --

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

MS. MAEDA: --too...

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Ms. Maeda, thank you very much. And you know, what Mr. Mateo had also indicated that flights coming to Maui not cheap.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yeah.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: You know, when you come from Lanai, at least you have that ferry alternative that costs you, if you're a senior \$20 round trip so, big difference. Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Twenty-five...*(inaudible)*...

MS. MAEDA: So, perhaps there would've been an alternative for off-island testifiers on that e-mail saying a second choice would be a written matter submitted so many days before this. There was no second choice on that.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Yeah. Written testimony, we take it, you know, wholeheartedly yeah. Especially for Molokai, Lanai, and Hana because we know the difficulty you folks have in coming to Maui so, again, you know, thank you for being here though, you know, supporting your organization, asking for funding from the County of Maui so, I, you know, appreciate that. Thank you.

MS. MAEDA: Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. Next testifier is Saedene Ota followed by Ashley Takitani.

MS. OTA: Good morning, Council members and Budget Chair Pontanilla, and happy birthday as well.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you.

MS. OTA: You don't look a day over 49.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: You want. . .*(inaudible)*. . .funding.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Let me check my pocket.

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MS. OTA: My name is Saedene Ota and I'm the owner of Maui Thing and a Wailuku Community Association board member and I'm testifying in behalf of the support of the funding of Small Town Planning. In a nutshell, small towns are small businesses. The reason why that we chose Wailuku are numerous, but mostly because of the reasonable lease prices, the flexibility and hours, and the availability to plan fun events, and also because it's a stronger connection to our community. But with that there are many challenges. Currently, because of our location, specifically Wailuku, there's low and inconsistent walk traffic or foot traffic. Wailuku does not have the windsurfing community of Paia, or the tourists of Lahaina thus presents itself with a unique set of challenges. There's also the concern of walking safety, sidewalks, and speed in the area, driving speed. Diversity of merchant mix is also a concern. Our business as well as other merchants would benefit from more restaurants and social activity and also there's the on-going problem of parking. But what we have done as a community, people that love Wailuku, merchants, property owners, and volunteers have taken First Friday to another level. As you all know and have experienced hopefully that this is actually one of our last First Fridays and this is what Wailuku community is all about and there are people that are not just from Wailuku, there are many tourists, people from other towns as well too, so, it's been a great success for us. Maui Thing as well has built community partnerships with nonprofits, helping with awareness through other organizations, and also provides free art to our keiki every second Saturday at the store but there's only so much that we can do. We need the continued support of the County to include planning for small towns, to address parking needs, whether it be easing the parking requirements for restaurants or finding more parking, structural improvements to sidewalks and bike paths, encouraging walking versus parking, and making Wailuku a walking community. Safety, as well, is a concern. Homelessness, speeding, and proper lighting for walking and making it easier for restaurants and bars to consider Wailuku as a location, assisting in permitting, grease trap requirements, and again, parking requirements. Please support the continued effort to turn Wailuku and other towns into the vibrant and bustling gathering places for families, young and old, and visitors to visit. We chose a small town because we believe in encouraging the healthy balance of commerce and community. Small towns are the fabric of our society and represent the unique and special qualities of Maui. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, any questions for the testifier at this time? Seeing none, thank you again. Ashley Takitani followed by Jeremy Baldwin. Go ahead, Ashley.

MS. TAKITANI: Good morning, Chair Pontanilla and Council members. My name's Ashley Takitani. I live and work in Wailuku. I manage Maui Thing and I attended Baldwin High School in Wailuku. I'm also the secretary of the Wailuku Community Association. I'd like to thank you for your consideration in supporting Maui's small towns, especially Wailuku. I went away to school, lived in California for a while, but I chose to move back home. I chose to come back home obviously because my family was here and for the great sense of community that we have in this small town. I'm...I was very blessed and very lucky to have a job in Wailuku unlike a lot of my best friends that are all across the nation even in different countries because of the challenges that they see for a young person in a small town or throughout the island of Maui. Some challenges that my friends mention to me are the lack of job opportunities here. They feel

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like they can't find a job if they come to Maui because it's so small. The lack of entertainment, obviously we have First Fridays but, you know, it would be nice see this kind of event or some kind of entertainment more often than once a month. And then the ability to sustain a comfortable life and start a family at a young age. Despite these challenges I'm very inspired by things like First Friday. These fun events that occur throughout the island so, First Friday as well as the other three Fridays of the month, and things like re-Wailuku which has already, you know, really created a buzz throughout the community and really brought people to help improve our small town. My dream for Wailuku is to really emphasize what we have now, and not necessarily grow the town, but to make it more accessible for the new, younger generations, these generations that will be the future of Wailuku. It's an old small town and I would love to see a vibrant fresh life to be added to it. The merchant mix always could use some help with a grocery store maybe, some restaurants, any type of entertainment, outdoor spaces, public art, things like that that can really turn it into a town that young families and as well as old families can all be in. The result in these opportunities for young people to feel confident in moving home and really keep being our talented kamaaina on this island. So, a symbiotic relationship between the young people and a vibrant town. Because of the fresh changes, young people will be more inclined to come home with this young energy home therefore, our town will have a lifeline and a direction for the future. So, with your support for our small town, we'll work together to make these changes possible for the future while keeping the familiarities of the old town, I'd love to see a mix of old and young through the streets, and thriving small businesses throughout Wailuku. Small towns make up our home island and as we build upon the already unique town of Wailuku I hope that we can create more opportunities for young kamaaina to return back to Maui. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, questions for the testifier? Seeing none, thank you again. Jeremy Baldwin followed by Rick Hanson.

MR. BALDWIN: Hi. I'm Jeremy Baldwin, president of Makawao Community Association. And we're asking that funds be made available to the Planning Department so that they may bring Dan Burden back for a design charette in Makawao. It was great having him walk Makawao's streets but he was unable to include the _____ property in the center of town in the scope of his work. It is my opinion that this property is essential in solving problems of connectivity and circulation both on foot and by car in the town Makawao. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, questions for the testifier? Seeing none, thank you. Rick Hanson followed by Mike Foley.

MR. HANSON: Good morning, Chairman Pontillo [*sic*] and Members of the Council. My name is Rick Hanson. I'm a board member of the Makawao Community Association and I'm here today to support the funding of Maui's small towns. I believe that funds for the improvement and development of our smaller communities should be retained by the Maui Planning Department to assist the many issues now facing those smaller communities. For example, it would be a benefit to Makawao to receive support in regard to improving and expanding our parking, and our public restroom facilities for both our residents and our visitors alike. Improved bus service would help

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to alleviate some of our traffic issues while providing affordable and dependable public transportation for those who may not have access to private transportation. And in the spirit of community-based planning, Makawao is willing and capable of working with the Maui County Planning Department to assist in the development of programs and projects for the preservation of our unique cultural and historic identity that is so vital and important to our community. I strongly support your efforts to include the development of small towns in your budget considerations. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, questions for the testifier? Seeing none, thank you again. Mike Foley followed by Stephanie Ohigashi.

MR. FOLEY: Good morning, Chairman Pontanilla and Members of the Council Budget Committee. I'm Mike Foley. I'm...initially I'm speaking as the Vice President of the Makawao Community Association. I'd like to agree with Jeremy Baldwin and Rick Hanson that the Makawao Community Association board strongly supports the money being retained by the Planning Department for use for small town planning and events rather than being distributed to the Wailuku Main Street Association. There are a number of projects that we could benefit from. Jeremy mentioned the Dan Burden design charette that we'd like to see. Also, we'd like to update the Upcountry Design Guidelines and have a cultural resource survey prepared to get us started with the paniolo museum. Wearing my second hat today, separate from the community association, speaking as the former Planning Director, I wanted to just clarify some information that I believe was given to you. I did not, have never supported the work done by the Wailuku Main Street Association.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, questions for the testifier? Mr. Couch followed by Member Baisa.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Thank you for being here, Mr. Foley. You had asked...you had said you were going to do a bunch of projects with the funding that you would like to see. Are you not getting that services from the Wailuku Main Street Association?

MR. FOLEY: No, we're not. They prepared a very unpopular plan for improvements at, on Baldwin Avenue but we'd like to proceed with...we really benefited from having Dan Burden here recently with the walkable, livable communities and we'd like to see Dan come back for a design charette, and I think Rick also mentioned that we have a need for more parking. We have a very successful Third Friday event following in the footsteps of Wailuku's First Friday. So, we have some successful things going on but we could benefit for some, from some more parking and some more public restrooms.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Okay. Thank you. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Member Baisa.

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COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Thank you very much, Chair. And thank you, Mr. Foley, for being here this morning. You know, we've been hearing a lot of testimony in regards to small town planning and unfortunately, you know, we try to waltz around these things because we are who we are and very respectful of each other but leave it to you to, you know, say what has to be said. What I'm hearing is that you feel that the use of the money would benefit the small towns more if it were to stay in the Department of Planning and you work directly with them.

MR. FOLEY: That's exactly right.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: I just want to be very clear because, you know, everybody's kind of alluding to small town planning and but, you know, we're not getting a real straight message. I'm hearing it from you.

MR. FOLEY: I appreciate that clarification. I was told that the Council had been told that I had supported Wailuku Main Street Association and I wanted you to know that that wasn't true. All four years that I was the Planning Director I tried to eliminate or reduce their budget and I was unsuccessful doing that. They did do some work in Makawao but it seems like it was...it had inadequate community support and is pretty unpopular. We do have some excellent work going on now in the community and the Makawao Community Association has become very active and we appreciate the attendance by you and Mike White and we...incidentally we, Mike White was successful in getting us some signs out on the highway that say, "Welcome to Makawao" with an arrow, and a number of our businesses have said that those specific signs have increased their business.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: I find them very attractive. Anyway, thank you very much for coming this morning. I appreciate it.

MR. FOLEY: Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Any more questions for the testifier? Seeing none, thank you. Stephanie Ohigashi followed by Rebecca Woods.

MS. OHIGASHI: Good morning, Chairman Pontanilla and board, Council members. My name is Stephanie Ohigashi--I almost forgot who I was--Vice Chair of the Maui County Sister Cities Foundation. And I'm here this morning to support the Administrative's budget appropriation for \$50,000 for the Sister Cities budget this year. As you all know, we've had a lot of sister city activity this year and last year, but we have over 23 sister cities and also friendship cities that you the Council have created over the last 50-plus years. And we, the Maui County Sister Cities, is sort of like, for lack of a better word, a booster club. We're volunteers, we're unpaid, and we're here to do whatever it takes to both welcome our visiting delegations and also it's a two-way street; we also send delegations and I want to thank Councilmember Mateo, Cochran, Baisa for being our elected official representatives to our really exciting sister cities. This year will launch a new, renewed vision for our sister cities. Because of APEC and the sister city, and I'm getting some signals here...Elle --

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COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: What?

MS. OHIGASHI: --Don Couch.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: You forgot Mr. Couch.

MS. OHIGASHI: Who else went?

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: That's it.

MS. OHIGASHI: Joe? Okay. Four of you. Mahalo.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: I got your back.

MS. OHIGASHI: I stand reminded that we have a lot of great support out there for our sister cities. And anyway, this year the Administration wants to take it up another level. You, you're gonna hear this recurring theme of everybody stepping up the game. And it's because of APEC; it's because the time is right to launch new efforts and I really think that this 50,000 will go a long way. The plan's not finished, Councilmember Mateo, but I honestly thank you for coming to meet with us and understanding who we are. We're just volunteers; we don't have staff; we don't have paychecks; we don't have Workmans Comp; we just do what we can do because we love our sister city relationships. For your information, this summer we have youth ambassadors going to sister cities. We've got 10 high school kids going to Miyakojima, our islands in Okinawa and 12 kids going to Fukuyama City. And the plans to support them is being really, really well supported by you, the County, and the Sister Cities Foundation. So, I thank you for that. In addition, there's a book drive going on that you've heard a little bit about it. I just want to let you know that the Sister Cities Foundation is onboard to help with the books for Badoc, our new sister city and also for Goyang in Korea. Whatever we can do to usher in the new era of sister cities we want to do it with all our heart and soul. Mahalo.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Questions for the testifier? Seeing none, thank you again.

MS. OHIGASHI: Okay. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Rebecca Woods followed by Josh Stone.

MS. WOODS: Good morning, Council members and Council Vice-Chair. Thank you for allowing us, and myself the opportunity to give testimonial. I am Rebecca Woods with Ka Hale A Ke Ola Homeless Resource Centers. And I would just like to say thank you very much to the County Council and the community for offering your support and providing us the ability to continue our services. This year we celebrate 25 years of providing services to the homeless, individuals and families of Maui County as well as the low income families that reside at Hale Makana O Waialae, our affordable rentals. Throughout the years we provide emergency transitional shelter

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to anywhere from 1,200 to 1,500 program participants and as well as our affordable housing to about 700 family members. Our program wouldn't be what it is without the support from the County and providing...allowing us to provide educational programs and life skills. Our program is really unique and we are a national role model. Our program provides educational services to the clients where the clients come in and we assess them, and we look at their ABLE testing, their educational level and we put them into program services. We have many clients who come into the program and graduate with their GED. We have our GED program on site. We have two full computer labs. We provide parenting classes which is about 13 weeks long. We have Financial Awareness which is a six week program and our Step Up program which the County funds and that has saved us an incredible amount of money on wear and tear of our facility, not only that, I need to mention that with our Hale Makana affordable rentals, every affordable rental complex our landlord has rules and guidelines that they need to follow, the tenants are required to follow. When our tenants fail hygiene inspection or they do not pay their rent on time, instead of evicting them we give them an opportunity to take our program, our Step Up program that allows them to learn how to maintain and clean their apartment properly and to understand what the expectations are. As far as the Financial Awareness program, if they are falling behind in their rent, instead of incurring numerous late fees for the rent, rental occurrence, we do put them into a Financial Awareness program if they choose to participate; it's their choice. But we work with the community as a whole in providing these valuable services to everyone that is in need of services.

MR. KANESHINA: Three minutes.

MS. WOODS: We couldn't do it without you. I also want to say that our partners MEO, Family Life Center, Maui Family Support Services, and Food Bank, Aloha House play a critical role in the programs that we provide to the community.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, questions for the testifier? Member...Chairman Mateo.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Thank you, Chair. Ms. Woods, good morning.

MS. WOODS: Good morning.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Can you tell me what the total amount is that the County provides to your entity?

MS. WOODS: I believe my CFO is here with that information.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: While she's looking, I got one fast question for you. You know your GED --

MS. WOODS: Yes.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: --on-site learning is that through Hui Malama or is it a program of yours?

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MS. WOODS: It's our program. We actually, we pay about \$70,000 for this program every three years. It's a three-year contract.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. So you do it directly, yourself?

MS. WOODS: Yes, we do.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay.

MS. WOODS: We always share glasses. Okay. So our County grants total \$759,852.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Thank you. Thank you very much.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Any more question? Mr. Couch.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Mr. Chair, thank you. You say you spend \$70,000 a year on tutoring or GED?

MS. WOODS: On our GED, yes.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Okay. And do you pay it to somebody from within Maui County or?

MS. WOODS: It's a national program. It's a national program that we have, that we purchase. I'm not really sure what the organization is but we've been doing this from day one.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Have you considered looking at Hui Malama or another organization that we fund here that does that same kind of thing?

MS. WOODS: Well, we've had this service like I said before anybody here on Maui. It's a in-house program. All of our programs are in-house. A lot of our clients don't have the ability to go elsewhere but we have our full computer lab that we utilize not only for their GED but college prep for learning computer tools and techniques. The computer lab is used for many purposes not only for GED.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: So the \$70,000 is for the computer lab or?

MS. WOODS: It's for the GED program that like I said that we've had for probably 15, 20 years.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: And you're paying \$70,000 a year for that?

MS. WOODS: Not a year.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Oh.

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MS. WOODS: Every three years.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Okay. Thank you.

MS. WOODS: Uh-huh.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. Any more questions, Members? Seeing none, thank you again.

MS. WOODS: Okay. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Josh Stone followed by Yuki Lei Sugimura.

MR. STONE: Aloha, Chair Pontanilla and Committee members. My name is Josh Stone and I'm the...one of the owners of Flatbread Pizza Company in Paia Town and a property owner of small town commercial properties in both Paia and Makawao. I'm here today to place my support behind the Maui Planning Department's request for a budget to promote, protect, and rehabilitate our small towns in Maui County. Our small towns are a very valuable asset to the County on many levels. They represent a historical link to our unified past and are a powerful economic driver to our future. The wonderful irony is that if you successfully balance the need for preservation with the need of modern economic adaptation you end up with a homerun success. The charm and historical character of the towns attract viable, energetic businesses and appreciative customers. Simply put, the money flows and the history is preserved. The budget requested by the Planning Department to specifically focus on small town issues, especially rehabilitation and economic support and promotion, is a no brainer as the benefits go directly to the small town community which improves the economic environment which creates greater revenues which pays more tax dollars. A good investment should show solid returns and this investment would. Just look at the improvement of our small towns over the last two years and this has very much to do with the deepening support from the Planning Department. I think that there are a number of small organizations locally as well as valuable special resources nationally that can make an efficient impact by providing direct community input and fresh, new ideas to better our small towns not just protect them. That is what the Planning Department has been providing and given control to direct this budget I believe they can provide even better service and resources. Also I'd like to take this time to testify in support of the Office of Economic Development's Small Town Friday events. I am also here today to place my support behind the OED in the Small Town Friday events that they are presently organizing throughout our small town areas. There are very few events that have garnered so much repetitive economic benefits to our small towns as this program and it is in one word an awesome idea that should be perpetuated. It is wonderful to see so much energy in our small towns on those special Friday nights and has become a perfect venue to promote the unique charm of each small town's individuality. These Friday events are simply a great idea and as the events progress OED and the small town communities are getting better and more experienced at handling the issues that come with a great turnout. Please keep these events going. Also, I'd like to take this time to put support behind the Maui Economic Development Board. The services they provide in business

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and economic development as well as workforce education and development in high tech have a clear impact on our business community. And the bottom line is that they help generate more revenue in Maui County on many levels. I recently had the pleasure of attending the Energy Efficiency Workshop – Curbing --

MR. KANESHINA: Three minutes.

MR. STONE: --Your Energy Diet this year put on by MEDB and I wanted to pass on to the Budget and Finance Committee that is was one of the best seminars I've ever attended. Not only was it incredibly interesting information, it actually saved my restaurants money. What could be better than saving money on business that has the auxiliary effect of improving the environment? Typically I'm skeptical of giving a time commitment to seminars but this was truly well spent. My only regret was that I didn't bring some of my bigger restaurant tenants to attend as it would have really helped their bottom line. Busy business people, especially restaurant owners, will attend events and seminars if they hear that it makes a lot of dollars and cents and that's what MEDB makes for Maui County, a lot of sense. Mahalo and thank you very much for your time.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, questions for the testifier? Seeing none...oh, Member Baisa.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Thank you very much, Chair. And thank you, Mr. Stone, for being here. I just want to be very clear. What I'm hearing again is that feeling of a shift in paradigm that you folks are feeling that you would like to see this small town money stay in the Planning Department and work with the little groups directly rather than the way we have before of awarding it to another nonprofit and working through them.

MR. STONE: Yes. Thank you, Councilman. That's, that's true. I think we've had some very good experience with the Planning Department's Small Town arm and they've been extremely proactive and they seem to really be listening to what our issues are. I know the primary issue goes back to Tri-Isle or the Planning Department and I actually was on the Tri-Isle executive board for a while. And I don't bring this testimony forward lightly. There's a reason why I had resigned from the board which at this time I'd prefer to keep personal, but...

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: I don't think that we need to get into that but I just want to be clear that we're getting the clear message.

MR. STONE: I think you're getting it.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Thank you very much.

MR. STONE: Okay. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, any more questions. Seeing none, thank you. Yuki Lei Sugimura followed by Lisa Morrison.

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MS. SUGIMURA: Good morning, Chair Pontanilla, Members of the Budget Committee. My name is Yuki Lei Sugimura and I stand before you very grateful for all the work that you have given to help our small towns with its efforts to revitalize and do work. I am lucky to be able to work with Wailuku Town in the project called Wailuku First Friday. And as you know, we're going now on four years and we are eternally grateful to the Office of Economic Development to see the efforts that have been put into the town and to create the four Friday Town Parties effort. I look at that as a statement that OED understands their job which is to bring more people to the doors of the small towns and to understand what it does and I can tell you that thanks to our partners such as the Office of Economic Development, Erin Wade with the Planning Department, I commend her for doing a lot of work behind the scenes, the Wailuku Community Association--I see Terry here--Maui Visitors Bureau and Maui Hotel Association they help us get the word out; they are such big supporters of us and the street vendors, the merchants. To put on this event it takes a lot people caring about the small towns and what I see in Wailuku, I can see it being magnified throughout the County through the efforts of the Maui Friday Town Parties. I would like to support the Small Town Planning money to be available so that other towns who see a need can do efforts and to do projects that they think are important for the town. I mean, what better way to get things done than to ask those people who live there and work there what they want and to be able to apply for funding, that is so huge. I think it's genius of all of you to do this for them and I would like to continue, ask you to continue that support. I would also like to say that based upon what I see with Wailuku, the OED's Wailuku Friday, Maui Friday Town Parties puts in place a system, a network, a opportunity for all the small towns to work together. I mean, truly, truly work together. And I, and I'll tell you, all of us can share what we have learned by doing things for the town that we love and possibly help each other. And I would like to propose that this does happen and I think OED would probably take the lead and bring us all together. But, thank you everybody and I commend all of you for creating that funding. I hope that this happens for Molokai also that there's opportunities for Lanai and Molokai and every city and town in Maui County. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, questions for the testifier? Seeing none, thank you again. Lisa Morrison followed by Carol Reimann.

MS. L. MORRISON: Hello, I'm Lisa Morrison and I represent Keiki Kokua. I am the Executive Director there and my comments will be very brief because as every one of the Council members knows I've been to see you individually already and I know you're very well aware of the services that Keiki Kokua provides to foster families and adoptive families in the County of Maui. This year the grant line item request that we are making is so that we can continue to expand and enhance our foster youth employment program that we carry out at the Keiki Kokua Thrift Store. And you know that it is the County's investment in Keiki Kokua that allowed us to open our thrift store and that has helped it to become a vital part of the community. The reason that I want to speak directly today is that I wanted to make sure that you knew that since the Mayor's budget came out it reflected a line item request of \$20,240 and actually since that time we've done strategic planning within our organization due to our executive transition and we have decided to shift more of the responsibility for funding our programs to our thrift store. And

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that is thanks to you and the support that you've given us in the past. So, we have reduced the request that we're making from the County and that is now \$15,000 that we are asking for Fiscal Year '13 and I hope that you will be able to shift the balance of that to help the very worthy nonprofits that I'm hearing from today. And so, that is all that I have to say except that I would also like to open an invitation for any Council member who would like to attend our pizza party on the beach that we hold at the Baldwin Beach Park pavilion on Sunday, June 3rd. Because of the privacy issues involved with the target population that we serve our events are a very rare opportunity to meet the families and the children that we serve. And from our foster youth employment program many of the teens that we have working at the store will actually be volunteering that day at the event. So, we encourage you to come, meet them and see more about what we do. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, questions for the testifier? Mr. Couch.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Thank you, Mr. Chair. And thank you for actually requesting a decrease. You're one of the, actually the only one that has.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: The only one.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: I believe when your previous director came up weren't you one of the agencies that said the eventually you're going to get off the County...

MS. L. MORRISON: Yes. I've been made aware of that statement that was made by my predecessor. Yes. And...

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Okay. And you seem to be working towards it. Thank you.

MS. L. MORRISON: Yes. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. And I just want to say thank you to your organization. You know, ever since you folks came to the...to Maui County for a request, you know, you've made your goal as far as trying to be...in raising your own fund to run your program and thank you for returning \$10,000. We really appreciate it. Ms. Baisa.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Thank you very much, Chair. And thank you, Lisa, for being here this morning. I too, want to thank you for making progress towards your goal which is eventually to be self-sufficient and I'd like to take the opportunity to help you advertise your store. You have a tremendous thrift store in the Haiku Cannery Mall. And I invite my colleagues and anybody else who has stuff that you'd like...good stuff to donate to please go and drop it off, and also shop there. It's a fun experience. You guys have done a wonderful job with it. Thank you.

MS. L. MORRISON: Thank you. And the only correction I will make is that it is at the Haiku Marketplace.

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COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Oh, Haiku Marketplace. Well, cannery, that area.

MS. L. MORRISON: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Easy to find.

MS. L. MORRISON: Yeah, yeah, yeah. Absolutely.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Easy to find. There's not a whole lot in Haiku. I go all the time so I'm very familiar with it. I think of it as the cannery. Thank you.

MS. L. MORRISON: And we appreciate all the support we can get. If anybody ends up at the cannery they can come over then.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: They're close by.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: But good work. Thank you.

MS. L. MORRISON: Thanks.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Any more questions, Members?

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Chair?

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Member Cochran.

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Yeah. Just that pizza party you mentioned?

MS. L. MORRISON: Uh-huh.

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: June...

MS. L. MORRISON: June 3rd.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: June 3rd.

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: What time?

MS. L. MORRISON: What's the day, June 3rd? Oh, 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. Thank you for asking.

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Oh, okay. One to four. Got it.

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MS. L. MORRISON: At Baldwin Beach Park. Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Thanks. Thanks.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Thank you again. Carol Reimann followed by Terryl Vencel.

MS. REIMANN: Good morning. My name is Carol Reimann. I represent the Maui Hotel and Lodging Association. The visitor industry is the largest employer of residents in Maui. The headlines continue to report good news of improved visitor statistics. While these articles report the truth, this truth is misleading. Attached to my written testimony you'll find a document detailing some Hawaii Tourism Authority figures which shows Statewide visitor statistics 2007 to 2011. This document shows that visitor figures have improved in areas such as visitor arrivals, expenditures, and spending to nearly match 2007 levels when tourism was healthy. However, if you take a look at jobs in 2011 there are over 16,600 jobs that have not yet been reinstated in the visitor industry since 2007. The reality is that since the economic downturn, our revenues have not ramped up to match and to offset escalating expenses such as labor, energy, and food. The economic health of our industry is such that despite increased visitor statistics we still have not rehired all of our laid off employees. The notion that we are healthy and stable and have fully recovered is a false concept. It will be some time before we see the numbers that we've experienced prior to the global recession. As the economic engine for Maui County, the marketing and promotion of Maui as a destination is crucial to the future of the viability of our island. We commend the Mayor's recommendation for increasing marketing funds for the Maui Visitors Bureau and encourage Council's support. It is imperative that Maui continues to be a significant player in today's highly competitive and increasingly daunting market. The results of MVB's fine efforts have positively impacted the economic health of Maui County. Their success is tangible resulting in an economic engine that provides salaries and wages to a significant portion of Maui County residents. The visitor industry directly employs approximately 40 percent of Maui residents. The industry also provides businesses to local vendors, agriculture, as well as TAT revenue and Real Property taxes that support a myriad of government functions. Additionally, Maui's larger properties have reported that they each spend between 3 to \$7.5 million annually on the sales and marketing of their individual properties. Most importantly, I would like to point out that the return on investment for the County is substantial. For the 3.35 million granted last year to MVB, \$3 billion in visitor spending was generated in Maui County. That translates to approximately \$1,000 generated for every dollar invested by the County. In addition, the visitor industry gives back to the community in a significant way. We provide considerable funding via the Maui...the Visitor Industry Charity Walk. Last year we raised nearly half a million dollars that benefited over 70 Maui County organizations.

MR. KANESHINA: Three minutes.

MS. REIMANN: Many of them are here today. Since the event started in 1980 we've contributed \$6.2 million to Maui County charities. We also provide donations to nonprofits of hotel stays, F&B, golf and merchandise. The visitor industry and our entire economy have taken a hard hit since the airline crisis in the early 2008 and the subsequent economic downfall felt across the

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nation. While we all agree that diversifying the economy is essential and we fully support diversification, the economic engine needs to be on stable, healthy ground before other industries are able to fully flourish. Also, it would be hard to invest in a better driver than tourism. It is clean, enhances local tradition, history, and culture; and its jobs support local residents. The tourism industry has an overwhelming economic importance to Maui and therefore, it is our responsibility now to care for the industry that supports so many of us today. As a global leader in tourism marketing, we strongly believe in the value that MVB brings to our economy and we urge you to support their important work. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, any questions for the testifier?

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Chair?

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Member Cochran.

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Hi. Thank you, Ms. Reimann for being here and you mentioned the boost, you know, in spending and visitors and what have you, have a boosted up, and then you mentioned that labor force has not. Do you see that timeshares have anything to do with that?

MS. REIMANN: Absolutely not. If you look at the figures, the numbers have actually...they...in 2007, we had 172,000 jobs Statewide and of course, with the economic downfall in '08 it went down. In '09 it went even further down, but it's slowly ramping up. So, in the meantime there have been no new timeshare or any type of development going on so, this is existing properties that are slowly ramping up the employment rolls.

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Yeah, it does show on your handout that we're kind of slowly recovering as far as job counts for the State. Members, any more questions? Seeing none, thank you.

MS. REIMANN: Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Before Ms. Terryl Vencl provide her testimony, Members, we still have quite a bit of testifiers to provide us testimonies this morning. Do you folks want to go directly into testimony until we finish or come back at 1:30? Okay. Fine.

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: How many more?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: How many more do you have?

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Fourteen or fifteen.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Lunch.

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CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. We'll break soon as Ms. Vencl provide her testimony. Lucky you.

MS. VENCL: Aloha, Mr. Chairman and Council members. My name is Terryl Vencl. I'm the Executive Director of the Maui Visitors and Convention Bureau. I humbly ask today for the support of the \$3.5 million request for MVB in the Mayor's Budget. We thank the Mayor for putting this request in the Budget and hope that you can support it. As we begin to wrap up the social media and ad campaigns for now all three islands that you've been hearing about for a year over that whole branding thing, we now are turning our attention to some of these developing countries. And the increase that is being asked for this year is being requested to help with more outreach to those developing markets in Asia that would include a brand new video and brochure in five languages. It would be English, Japanese, Korean, Chinese, and German. We need to reach out to these developing markets in way that we have not been able to do thus far. Both of the items talked about will be provided to our contractors in those countries as well as taking them on our road missions when we are there ourselves. The video that we presently have is about six years old and it became very clear during APEC that everybody had a great video but MVB and it was old and it was grainy. The, by the way the County did a great job in making us look good; however, it is certainly dated and is not high definition. Additionally, as you know, Hawaiian Airlines has decided to make Maui an interisland hub. In doing so they will be reaching out to more secondary cities both in the mainland and in the Asian countries. We need to support that by increasing the demand. We have already started doing so this year but we need to continue to move ahead in the upcoming year. I can tell you that there will be in the upcoming year yet more announcements on additional airlift. The secondary purpose of the hub is to expedite the availability of seats directly from Oahu to Maui. Other...I think I messed up. Let me go back. The secondary purpose of the hub is to expedite the availability of seats directly from the Customs area in Oahu to Maui. Right now many of our Asian visitors have to wait a long time into the afternoon after they all arrive at 10 o'clock in the morning to get a seat over to Maui. The addition of the seats by Hawaiian Airlines will help those folks to be able to move over to Maui quicker than they can today. That of course, adds yet another opportunity to continue to grow those international countries. But we also need to look at the places the secondary cities primarily on the West Coast but going out towards the East Coast where Hawaiian is due to fly in this upcoming year. As you know, they have announced that they'll be flying from New York City. So, we need to step up and increase the demand. I want to --

MR. KANESHINA: Three minutes.

MS. VENCL: --thank the Office of Economic Development for their support this past year of many things that we haven't done and we're going to continue to expand by taking a trip with OED or the Mayor's Office in the fall or in the late summer to once again do some outreach to those Asian countries. I want to thank you for your support. I want to thank you for your consideration of the increase that is being asked for this year and that's really all that I have for the budget, but I do have an announcement, Mr. Chairman, if I might?

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Go.

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MS. VENCL: Saturday night the Maui Visitors and Convention Bureau ad campaign won a Pele Award for best in show. That is huge for those of you who don't know what that is, that's all about advertising. The judges were unanimous in their decision for our efforts and they talked about our ad campaign and I have brought some samples for you to view as being simple, clever, with a new twist to an old terrain, meaning that we often see beaches and even some of our iconic images, but the new campaign puts an entirely new twist on that. And you have to see it to understand maybe what that means, but I did as I said, brought some samples. And it's pretty special and this means then that we will automatically be entered into the national awards for advertising. So, that's pretty special for us and we're very happy. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you and congratulations. Members, questions for the testifier? Member Couch.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Thank you. Thank you, Ms. Vencl, for being here. Just out of curiosity, I've seen several of the commercials that list all the different islands and they highlight whatever island they're talking about. Is that H...the Hawaii Visitors...the HTA that does that?

MS. VENCL: That is HVCB, that is our corporate company and actually last year they won the Pele Award for the...

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: So, you do that in conjunction with them or is this separate?

MS. VENCL: No, ours is separate. Yeah. They're doing theirs and you're right, they're doing each island, but they're doing it in a different context than we're doing it. We're taking our branding that we've talked to you about before --

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Uh-huh.

MS. VENCL: --and we have made new campaigns across the isles and frankly, I think that Molokai, once that campaign is out, I think that they might just be an award winner as well. And on the island of Lanai, our social media visiting artist program has been turned in, and all these are not turned in by us, they're turned in by other folks, that has been turned in for an award as well.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Okay. Thank you.

MS. VENCL: So...yeah.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Any more? Ms. Baisa.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Thank you very much, Chair. Just quick question. Terry, thank you for being here. I know that you probably can get the answer if you don't know. Approximately what is it going to cost to produce that new video that you need?

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MS. VENCL: Well, the request for the video and all the brochures that will be needed is 150. That's the increase in the budget this year. And the video...

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: So, the whole 150,000.

MS. VENCL: Pardon me?

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: So, the whole 150,000?

MS. VENCL: Correct. Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Okay. That's all I wanted to know Thanks.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, any more questions for Ms. Vencl? Again, congratulations on that award.

MS. VENCL: Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: And thank you very much.

MS. VENCL: Thanks.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Members of the audience, those of you that had signed up for public testimony this morning, we're going to continue public testimony when we get back at about 1:30. So, with that, the Budget and Finance Committee meeting for April 23rd is now in recess. . . .(gavel). . .

RECESS: 12:05 p.m.

RECONVENE: 1:35 p.m.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: . . .(gavel). . . The Budget and Finance Committee meeting for April the 23rd, 2012 is now reconvened. Thank you, Members for coming back. We, we still have public testimony, Members, so the next testifier this afternoon is Shari Lynn followed by Damien Lomack.

MS. LYNN: Good afternoon, Chairman Mateo and Vice-Chairman Pontanilla and Maui County Council, Maui County Council Members. Good afternoon. I'm here representing Ka Hale Pomaika'i. We're a recovery community organization and treatment center and sober housing on Molokai. And I told her out in front, that I didn't have a whole lot to say except for express my gratitude and that I wanted to...County Council to know that the funding that we have received in the past we haven't asked for an increase in, in years because we're able to make do with what we have. We know our budget and our needs exactly, pretty much to the penny and that because we were funded in the past from the County through a Community Partnership Grant, we have

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been able to be the single provider of sober shelter and sober living on Molokai. Last year we provided 18 people with sober living. We do HCV, Hepatitis C testing on site while our, our people are in treatment, we provided 15 tests last year. We do evening transportation, over 290 round trips per quarter. We do curb to curb transportation for people to attend treatment and 12 Step meetings, about 6 days a week, sometimes 7 days a week, and that's usually more than one or two times day. We do...we're the only--these are the things that we're the sole provider of--pretreatment outreach services for currently enrolled right now in our pretreatment, these are...most of them are methamphetamine addicts that are in the community. We have ten enrolled at the current, at that...right now. We're the only recovery community organization which is run completely by people in recovery who act as peers as in working with people out in the fields as recovery partners. We have 11 recovery partners that volunteer with our agency. These are people in long term recovery or people who have family members in long term recovery and belong to another program similar to Al-Anon or Nar-Anon. Let's see, what else. We provide outreach and support sessions for folks in our community. We have 12 Step meetings that occur onsite, 3 a week. And we also facilitate 3 meetings, 12 Step meetings out of our community, out of our site, rather, in community a week. So, that brings our island up to six meetings a week. Twenty-five years ago when I was first on Molokai there was one meeting a week and now we're up to nine and that's because our agency is very dedicated to the issue of addiction on our island. Let's see. We're a recovery partner escort service that will take Native Hawaiians to fly off island to attend residential treatment. That includes the transportation; we pay for their airfare and we also escort them to the doors of the facility that they're trying to get into because sometimes they get over there --

MR. KANESHINA: Three minutes.

MS. LYNN: --and they wait and then nobody lets them in because somebody took their space especially in detox on Oahu. We do outpatient, intensive outpatient and I just want to mention too that we have provided 13 jobs this year. We have three certified substance abuse counselors. We have three certified prevention specialists. We have two certified criminal justice addiction professionals. We have one certified clinical specialist and we have one certified substance program administrator, that's me, Shari Lynn. Thank you very much for the money.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, questions for the testifier? Seeing none, thank you for being here.

MS. LYNN: Yeah.. Okay.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Damien Lomack followed by Rhiannon Chandler.

MR. LOMACK: Hello. My name is Damien Lomack. I'm here representing Maui Dance Advocates and Anthony Simmons and his bill for the right to dance. Under the First Amendment, we should have the right to peaceably assemble, freedom of speech, and religious pursuits. I love dancing. I found a long time ago that I had to learn to control myself in public so that I won't bother other people. I found rhythm and movement is one of the best and most effective things I

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can do to help me in this endeavor. When I came to Maui I found that people gave me compliments on my dance. All my life I've been trying to, but apparently not succeeding to dance properly until now. I was surprised that there is a law that says you can't dance in public or you have to dance in some small area, but it appalls me and it frightens me. I hope that our children can dance where they like, when they like so, they can have fun and be amazed with life. I use sign language. I took sign language classes in college and then some interpretation. I like to dance and sign at the same time. I don't necessarily like to use English or, or spoken words to communicate my feelings so, when I dance it is an expression of how I feel from my heart, and for someone to tell me I have to speak to tell anyone how I feel, it...I don't know, it's strange, and I feel it's pejorative and discriminatory so, please support Anthony in his endeavors and the Maui Dance Advocates. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, any questions for the testifier? Seeing none, thank you again. Rhiannon Chandler followed by Amanda Bierbaum or Bierbaum.

MS. CHANDLER: Good afternoon, Council members. My name is Rhiannon Chandler and I'm the Executive Director of the Community Work Day Program. I want to thank you so much for the support that you've given to CWD. I appreciate it that you've attended several of our events over the years individually and that we've collaborated on partnerships in projects that you represent, the district Members and all of those have been just wonderful opportunities for me to get to know you. I'm shy so I don't really come up to the microphone to speak to all of you but in getting to know you individually through these projects, I feel much more comfortable to come and speak to you today. Since I've been the Executive Director for Community Work Day Program, I've never asked for more funding before. This year, I'm requesting \$9,500 more in our program Operations Grant and I wanted to explain why that is. In 2008, when I took this job, our program Operations Grant was \$210,000. At that time some of the money was going to Old Maui High School under the Executive Director Jan Dapitan. Since then, we've formally separated our work from Old Maui High and the following year our budget was 189,000. The next year it was 173,000 and for the next two years it was 140,500, where it is now. So, in the last two years we've actually been able to leverage our personnel budget with a grant from the Department of Health, many of which of you are familiar with. It's a Garden Building Grant, and we've been very successful with that, and we've been able to supplement our personnel budget. The grant is over and in the next fiscal year in order for us to just maintain the same staff we have, I'm asking for \$9,500 more. So, I wanted to share also that over the last two years we've brought over \$1,040,000 in community in-kind donations of labor and business donations of supplies and professional services to complete 234 clean-up projects in the last year. And then through actions and partnerships we have worked hard to accomplish more with less money. We've done far more in the last two years with less money and I want you to know that it is my sincere goal to continue to do that for our organization to meet the needs of our community. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, questions for the testifier? Member Couch.

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COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Thank you. And thank you, Ms. Chandler for being here and that you're not shy, come on now. The 9,500 is it's already reflected in the Mayor's Budget, right?

MS. CHANDLER: Yes, it is.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: So you're just asking to --

MS. CHANDLER: Yes, it is.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: --keep with the funding that the Mayor has requested.

MS. CHANDLER: Thank you, Council member. Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Okay. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Any more questions, Members? Seeing none, thank you again.

MS. CHANDLER: Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Amanda Bierbaum. Amanda Bierbaum. Loulou Philippon. Loulou Philippon. Debbi Amaral.

MS. AMARAL: Good afternoon, Chair Pontanilla and County Council members. My name is Debbi Amaral and I'm here representing MEO Head Start and Kahi Kamalii. I am the Director of Early Childhood Services for MEO. The Federal government provides us with Federal dollars to run the Head Start program which serves 298 children, and we have programs here on Maui, 13 here, 2 on Molokai, and one is a partnership on the island of Lanai, serving 5 children. We partner with Keiki O...E Malama I Na Keiki O Lanai Preschool. For the summer program, there are no Federal dollars so, we do receive a grant from the County of Maui that provides services for 100 children to attend summer school, and the primary criteria of this is that they are eligible for Head Start but also are working families or going to school, or in a job training program. For the 2013 Budget, you will see a change because in years past we've had two separate grants, one that was from Maui, for Maui and one that served for Molokai. For 2013, we have combined the grants together so, for the summer grant you will see a total of 100 children and that will include 4 centers on Maui and 1 center on Molokai. The afterschool program that the County also provides for is at 6 locations, 1 being Molokai, the remaining 5 on Maui, and that is so that working families can have extended day care for their children while they go to work. And I, I very much want to thank you for having the insight in providing this service to our Head Start eligible families. In addition, there is another grant that the County does support families with and that's at Kahi Kamalii. Kahi Kamalii is the infant/toddler program serving children 6 months to 4 years of age. Technically we try to age them out after three, but if there's no place for them to go they're welcome to stay. Our, our licensing allows them to stay. The funding that is for Kahi Kamalii assists in a scholarship fashion, families that cannot afford to pay the full tuition after exhausting other means of support through State funded child care connection. And

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in years past we have talked about the cuts that they have encountered so, the funding still applies to support families that cannot pay the full amount as a subsidy so that they, their child can attend Kahi Kamalii. And when I think about listening to all of the testimony, I again, want to thank you. I sit on many boards in the State as a Maui representative and when people say Maui no ka oi, that is a very true statement. I'm the president of the Head Start Association for the State of Hawaii. I am also the Maui representative for Good Beginnings Alliance--

MR. KANESHINA: Three minutes.

MS. AMARAL: --and the Maui representative for Kia` I ka`ike which is a directors support group, and Maui County with the insight of the Mayor and the Council members, thank you for investing in our children.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, questions for the testifier? Chairman Mateo.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Thank, thank you, Mr. Chair. Ms. Amaral, thank you very much for that clarification. In looking at the, I guess the information provided to us, it kind of alarmed me when I saw a zero out for Molokai. Unfortunately, the older I get, the harder it is to see, right? So, I didn't see that notice on the Budget that indicated the transfer of the Molokai project into the Maui projects so, thank you very much for clearing that up for me.

MS. AMARAL: You're very welcome. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Any more questions, Members? Thank you again.

MS. AMARAL: Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Next testifier is Donna Borge followed by Christopher Kasak.

MS. BORGE: Aloha, Council Vice...Council Pontanilla and County Council members. My name is Donna Borge. I'm here in representation of Maui Economic Opportunity's Youth Services program. I am the current Program Director and I'm here basically to testify and thank you for your continuous support and funding over the many years that we've been serving our youth of Maui. I'd like to let you know that we've basically been providing our youth with life skills and career skills, and our youth are very engaged in community service projects throughout the Maui County. We've done over 6,000 hours of community services to members of our community. And currently we are asking to enhance our program. We found through working with them, the schools, through our Underage Drinking Prevention Program, which I would like to thank you very much for funding, that there's a great need for prevention in our schools nowadays. So, our enhancement would be to do evidence-based curriculums in the school for underage drinking, cyberbullying, 'cause that seems to be a big problem and also for suicide prevention in teens. I had a meeting today with King Kekaulike in hopes to write a grant to sustain our current Ka Wili Pu program for afterschool tutoring and found that a lot of the funding for the schools in prevention and afterschool tutoring has...is no longer there. And so, the schools are very

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desperate right now to have agencies or funds to help with these youth. The dropout rate is very great right now. King Kekaulike's dropout rate is 20 percent and it's very high so, we'd like help our youth of our County and see successful youth become great leaders of our communities. And so, I'd just like to thank you. With the youth services program funding through the County, we do have other fundings for other programs as AmeriCorps and the Ka Wili Pu tutoring program and our underage drinking program. So, I'd like to thank you very much for all of your support.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, questions for the testifier? Seeing none, thank you again. Christopher Kasak. Christopher Kasak. Gerry Lum.

MR. LUM: Good afternoon, Chair, respective Council members. My name is Gerry Lum. I'm the Community Services Director for MEO, Inc. and under my program, my department, we have three programs that are funded by the County. One is the BEST Reintegration Program. This program targets men and women, regardless of age who are previously incarcerated or presently incarcerated, help them attain jobs. We help them with pre-employment training, a very comprehensive 20 hour pre-employment training course that will help them develop their marketable skills. The other program that we have is the Enlace Hispano Program, the Hispanic link, and this specifically targets the Hispanic and Latino population. In this program we assist them acculturating to the community by, by providing translation and interpreting [sic] services and also educating them on health benefits within the, the community. We have partnered with American Cancer Society and Women Helping Women on this as well too. Last but not least, the County Rental Assistance Program. Under this program we have partnered with Women Helping Women, Ka Hale A Ke Ola, Family Life Center, and we assist clients who are looking for first month's rent, security deposit or utility assistance. We thank you on behalf of our clients for helping them reach their potential, enriching their lives, and to help them succeed in our community. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, questions for the testifier? Seeing none, thank you.

MR. LUM: Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Joseph Santos. Joseph Santos. Verdel Hoopai. Verdel Hoopai. Henry Spencer.

MR. SPENCER: Good afternoon. My name is Henry Spencer. Good afternoon, Chair, Committee members. I spent the past several years as a board member on the Paia Main Street Association and I recently resigned to...couple of months ago. I'm here to advocate for the funds that were requested by Wailuku Main Street to be kept in the budget but to be given a different use, and that is that each and every one of the small towns that are represented by Wailuku Main Street: Paia, Makawao, Wailuku, Lahaina, it's...they, they do have small organizations and in fact, Paia just started a new merchants association that is a lot more representative of what the town is about and, and with a lot more people involved. It's merchants, it has landowners in it, and I think that these funds that were...that are in the budget, the, I believe it's 243, can be much better

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spent by these smaller organizations that aren't top heavy, that don't have salaries that are sucking a large amount of money out of this, this budget money that's desperately needed to actually be used for planning and permitting and, and other needs in the small towns. There, there's a great need for public facilities planning in Paia with...there really aren't any public restrooms and, in the town itself and you have to go to the Paia Beach. And the shoreline could use a little more planning and, and upgrades and benches and, and a lot of other things, and I, I just think that the, the, that the smaller organizations like the new merchants association for Paia are much better equipped to handle and deal with working with the Planning Department and, and trying to just make the towns better. That's basically all I have to say.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, questions for the testifier? Seeing none, thank you again, Henry.

MR. SPENCER: Okay. Thanks, Joe.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Trevor Henry. Trevor Henry. Marie Thomas.

MS. THOMAS: Good afternoon, Chair Pontanilla and Council members. I'm just going just say briefly. Sorry. I'm Marie Thomas and I'm with the Hale Kau Kau program and as I mentioned when I testified in Kihei, we continue to do what we've been doing for 21 years. And I just wanted to come forward and thank you for the funding that you provided us last year, let you know that that's going to allow us to serve approximately 57,000 meals during Fiscal Year 2012 and with the increase that we expect, we probably will serve anywhere between 62 and 63 thousand meals next year. And so, we haven't asked for an increase but we hope that you will be able to help us in the same manner that you were last year. And I wanted to be here in case you had any questions.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, questions for the testifier? Ms. Cochran.

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Thank you. Aloha, thank you for being here.

MS. THOMAS: Hello.

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Hi. What...how much is the funding currently?

MS. THOMAS: Sixty thousand --

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Thank you.

MS. THOMAS: --in 2012 and that's what we requested for 2013.

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Okay. Thank you.

MS. THOMAS: You're welcome.

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CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Member Baisa.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Yes. Thank you very much, Chair. And thank you, Ms. Thomas for being here this afternoon. You know, we're hearing rumors about the economy turning around. Is that the case of what you're seeing in what you do or is...you're still seeing increases and where are they? Are they in the in-home meals or people coming in or what are you really seeing?

MS. THOMAS: Okay.. We, we have anticipated a higher increase than what we're seeing for 2012 and so, the numbers that I just quoted you are less than were actually in our application. But we still continue to see an increase and there...we actually are seeing fewer...right now, but that of course could change, right now we're seeing fewer in-home meals being delivered, but we continue to see a high number of people who come on site. We're...right now we're feeding about 45 people at home every day and between a hundred, a hundred and ten at the window at St. Theresa's Church.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Thank you.

MS. THOMAS: If that...does that help?

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Yes. Thank you.

MS. THOMAS: Okay. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Mr. Victorino.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Just along those same lines, because that was part of my questioning was do you see also an increase in children and other...and I've been told that, that now there are more families showing up than in the past.

MS. THOMAS: There have...

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: There used to be a lot more single men but now we find families showing up. Is this a trend that's occurring also?

MS. THOMAS: That has happened this year. It, it seems to go up and down. Right at this very moment, I would say it's fewer families but earlier in the year it was more. And, and you know, let's hope that the, that the fact that the economy is turning around is, is helping that.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Okay. Yeah. That's the fragile part of that program.

MS. THOMAS: Uh-huh. Absolutely. And we're trying very hard to have good security on site so that families feel safe to come there.

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COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Well, I've seen a lot of improvements. I saw the wall go up so I told Father Terry, the great wall of Kihei is going to protect you. Thank you.

MS. THOMAS: That's right.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Any more questions, Members? Thank you again for being here.

MS. THOMAS: Okay. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Max Tornai followed by Lucy Feinberg.

MR. TORNAI: Hi, good afternoon Vice-Chair Pontanilla and the Council. I genuinely appreciate you giving us the opportunity to testify in person on behalf of our programs and our organizations so, thank you. I'm the Executive Director for Mediation Services of Maui. And Mediation Services has been providing the Maui community with professional, effective, and affordable dispute resolution for 30 years now. And we've had mediators that have been volunteering for the agency since the beginning. Through mediation, and community trainings, and meeting facilitation we've served over 1,400 community members last fiscal year. The types of disputes that we handle are very serious and can cause intense stress for the participants involved such as divorce, and family conflicts, debt and business dispute; we do elder mediations, special education disputes, temporary restraining orders, and landlord/tenant just to name a fraction of the case types that we service. Additionally, we have partnered with the Mediation Centers of the Pacific on Oahu to start handling non-judicial Act 48 foreclosure mediations, and we're hoping to include judicial foreclosures to our case types this upcoming fiscal year, which is serious and...a serious problem for the entire Hawaii community and the nation's, and the nation overall. In 2010, we included Molokai in our service area when the, when the Mediation Center of Molokai shut down, and we're now the only community mediation center in all of Maui County. We send mediators to District and Small Claims Court to mediate on site in Wailuku, Lahaina, and Kaunakakai, and we very much miss our Lahaina court mediator, Elle Cochran, from a few years ago. We wish we could have her back. Of the cases that we receive from court, we are able to resolve or remove over 50 percent from the court docket, saving significant money for the taxpayer while also allowing, while allowing cases that are really appropriate for litigation to move through the, through the judicial system faster. We do not refuse service for the inability to pay, but we otherwise charge on a very moderate sliding scale. Mediation is significantly less expensive than going to court. Many services, many sources will cite the average cost of divorce for example, at about \$20,000. In comparison, the average cost per case through Mediation Services of Maui last year was \$285. Especially since the majority of our clientele are from lower income households, this service is crucial for providing all members of the community with a safe place for disputants to focus on mutually beneficial solutions with the help of trained mediators using a process that really works. Many people simply cannot afford an attorney fee of \$200 an hour and call us because they do not know where else to turn.

MR. KANESHINA: Three minutes.

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MR. TORNAI: Although our agreement rate is between 50 and 50 percent, 65 percent, in our participant feedback surveys, 90 percent of participants report a positive change in relationships between the parties. And we find that even if they didn't come to an agreement in mediation, the improvement in relationships allow them to work out a solution on their own afterwards. I appreciate your time and consideration in our grant application, and I'm happy to answer any questions that you might have.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, questions for the testifier? Member Baisa.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Just one quick one. Max, thank you for being here.

MR. TORNAI: Sure.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Can you tell me, is there a service like this on any of the other islands?

MR. TORNAI: Yes. Most of the other islands besides Lanai and Molokai have a community mediation center. We all are under an umbrella organization called Mediation Center of Hawaii.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: I see. Thank you very much. I wondered if others had that opportunity. Thank you.

MR. TORNAI: Sure.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Any more questions, Members?

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Chair?

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Member Cochran.

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Chair. Yeah, and, and thank you, Max and everyone, for being there. And I miss you folks too. I'm just trying to find your line item and what is the amount that you folks have been receiving?

MR. TORNAI: Uh-huh. It was a Community Partnership Grant and it was, we requested \$47,000 this year.

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Okay. Thanks ...*(inaudible)*...

MR. TORNAI: Sure.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Any more questions, Members? Thank you. Lucy Feinberg.

MS. FEINBERG: Good afternoon --

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CHAIR PONTANILLA: Hi.

MS. FEINBERG: --Vice, Vice-Chair Joe Pontanilla and the esteemed Members of the Council. I'm Lucy Feinberg and I'm the Maui Regional Director for Parents and Children Together. Thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak to you in support of our continued Partnership Grant for our Family Peace Center Domestic Violence Program including our Pu`uhonua or "place of refuge" and Kuleana which of course is "responsibility" and Na Opio which means "youth" for our anger control group. Our batterers program is the only Judiciary contracted program on Maui. We serve the entire island as well as Lanai. We have groups for Ilocano speakers as well as a combination for substance abuse and domestic violence. Funding from Maui County has allowed us to provide quality services especially for survivors of domestic violence. The Judiciary contract does not support the actual cost of the Pu`uhonua victims unit or even the cost of the Kuleana unit which is the reason County funding is so essential for us. We assist with Temporary Restraining Orders and court advocacy. Matter of fact, we, we provided services to over 500 people who came in for restraining orders last year alone. Going to court can be a terrifying experience for survivors and we are there to support them. It can be traumatic as they often have to be in the same room with the perpetrators of the abuse and have to relive, relive, relive the situation which created the need for the TRO in the first place in front of a judge. We provide them increased safety and emotional support before the hearing as well as after. We encourage them to attend our 11 session group which is curriculum-based and skill building after their TROs have been approved, and some come to the group even if they don't decide to do a restraining order. The Judiciary provides a minute amount of funding for the group participants. We look forward to continued funding and having as a real priority for Maui County the safety of women and children who have been victims of domestic violence. I should also mention that men make up about 30 percent of those who are seeking safety in, through the TRO process. Many of you remember the murder of Celestial Cassman last fall who was visitor from California, killed by her companion. Celestial was an attorney in Santa Cruz which reminds us that DV crosses all incomes and socio-economic status. One in four women are reported to have suffered from abuse by an intimate partner at some time in their lifetime. Our program seeks to change beliefs so that our keiki do not have to grow up in, with the fear that they are in danger from the person who is supposed to love and care for them the most. Thank you again for your concern and your continued support which is needed now more than ever.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, question for the testifier? Chairman Mateo.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Ms. Fisher [*sic*], good afternoon, and thank you for being here and sharing your, your need with us. You referenced the Judiciary playing a very small financial role in, in the programs. Is there any specific reason why they're not seeing this as one of their primary responsibilities?

MS. FEINBERG: That's a very good question. They just say that they're strapped, that they don't have the funds that they need, so in fact we haven't received any increase over the, at least 8 years. I've been with the program almost 4 years, and they've kept it exactly the same. So, Maui

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County is very different the way the Judiciary handles this program. The rest of the State provides cost reimbursement type of contract so, but, Maui is different in that Maui is fee for service so, they pay, if the client shows up for us. If they're sick, we get no compensation, as well as the fact that for some of the clients they don't pay anything. So, it's up to the client if they're...and they're court ordered to get this service so, that's the way that the administration here does it and it's been that way for at least 15 years.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Thank you. Then in servicing your women and children primarily, what makes your organization different from Women Helping Women?

MS. FEINBERG: Okay. One of the differences is we are accredited by the Council on Accreditation so our program has to reach not just County standards, not just State or Federal, but international standards for how we go about providing services so, that would be one way that we're different. We do collaborate with Women Helping Women in many ways and so, we support each other, but that is one of the differences.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Then knowing that, that finances are becoming more and more difficult, have you at least engaged with discussion with Women Helping Women in terms of a potential future merger in trying to get bigger bangs for your bucks?

MS. FEINBERG: We have never discussed a merger, so to speak. The fact is that clients have a right...they can choose between the two organizations, and they, they, that has been important to the Judiciary that there are two and not just one. There was...

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Yeah, but they don't finance it so, I don't know what kind choice they should have. I thank you.

MS. FEINBERG: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, any more questions? Thank you again, Lucy.

MS. FEINBERG: Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Ruthann Quititquit.

MS. QUITITQUIT: Council members, I see some old faces sitting around the table. My name is Ruthann Quititquit and I'm the president and CEO of Parents and Children Together. And I came to Maui today for a couple days to kind of work with Lucy and also to see the process here. If you wouldn't mind, I'd like to answer a couple questions maybe with a little bit more clarity than Lucy, 'cause I can't follow her great knowledge of the program but maybe I can explain the funding a little bit better. The Judiciary does fund the Batterers program and they fund it, like Lucy said, on a fee for service. So, she gets \$42 for every time a man or woman could be a

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batterer walks in the door, and she delivers a service. As she says, if the person doesn't come in, we can't charge the, the Judiciary for that. Where the County money has been more like an additional support to the work that we do, because if the victim, the batterers don't come in, we still got staff that we have to pay. The thing that's a little bit different also with the Judiciary, they really see that they are mandated to, to assure that there are...that they pay for batterer services. For the children's program and the teens, and the victims services except for the TROs, we get a flat fee of, I think \$220 a month to see the victims if it's not TRO related. So, the kind of the how the all the funding comes together is very unusual and, and, and Second Circuit is the only circuit that does it this way. In relationship to Women Helping Women, we're great collaborators with them, especially around the area of domestic violence shelters 'cause we also run a shelter on Oahu and a transitional place. What is different is that they do, they do TROs and victim services basically around their shelter. They don't do any work with batterers. And so, we have had, many of us in the field have had conversations of what it would be like, you know, for different agencies to come together in different ways, and that certainly what we have done with Women Helping Women around shelter services where we all belong to a coalition and really helping the State understand more about the issues with women going into shelters.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, questions for the testifier? Chairman Mateo followed by Mr. White.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Thank you very much for the additional information. As you get together to do your collaboration, perhaps you should...part of that push should be in helping to have the Judiciary understand the complexities and difficulties that you guys are in because, madam, the pie has become a tart. There's not much left in our cabinet so, it's time to start working with the other entities, and I, I, I congratulate you because I know the complexities of your job in doing your very difficult tasks. So, thank you very much.

MS. QUITITQUIT: And I just wanted to say one more thing. We have had a long term, a long time board member who has been from Maui, and she retired from our board about a year ago and in that process we've been looking for another board member and we're very happy to say that Bart Santiago from the Grand Wailea is now on our board.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Mr. White.

COUNCILMEMBER WHITE: Thank you, Chair. Thanks again for coming. We've heard that the other counties don't provide quite the level of funding that Maui does. Is there any way in which that has changed the behavior of the Second Circuit Court in the way they deal with payments? I guess what I'm asking is does the Second Circuit Court treat you all differently than you're treated on other islands because Maui County is providing more assistance?

MS. QUITITQUIT: That's a hard one to answer. And, and one reason I say that is like on Oahu, the City and County of Honolulu, they give out quite a lot of money out to the nonprofit sector; however, we don't necessarily go back to them for DV services because of the way that we're funded through the First Circuit for Judiciary. So, but we go for them, to them for other types of

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funding. The same thing for the Big Island. What has been very unique, as, as Lucy says, is there's been a legacy for as long as PACT has been delivering domestic violence services on, in Maui, the Second Circuit to always be very tight with their money. I, I can't explain it. I don't know why they do it, it's always, you know, we beg, we talk, we say about how we don't have any money, we don't know how we're going to do this, and truthfully, the County money has been tremendous in helping us out. And also Lucy has done a fantastic job in the last two years that we have not had to use what we would call board designated money to help get Family Peace Center Maui out of the hole, because we have in the past, used hundreds of thousands of dollars. The referrals are up which is not good but in some ways its good because at least they're getting services and Lucy has streamlined her work. I think a lot of people feel like they'd like some time off and not have to work as hard as they are, but we try to do the best that we can. I wish that Maui would do the cost reimbursement. It's cleaner; it's easier; it's just they never have. I mean, it was like that under Bonnie Brooks and it hasn't changed.

COUNCILMEMBER WHITE: Okay. Thank you. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, any more questions? Member Couch.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: I guess the question that has gone unasked then is if for some reason you got your funding cut, would they step up?

MS. QUITITQUIT: My guess, no.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Even if they do in the First and on the Big Island?

MS. QUITITQUIT: Every...every circuit is handled differently.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: So they'll just let it go then, let the...

MS. QUITITQUIT: They would probably hope that we would look at other avenues to bring in funding. We would...it, it would be hard to say. There used to be another provider of batterer services in the, on Maui and that was Child and Family Service and--a year ago, right?--two years ago, they walked away. They said we can't do this anymore. So now we are the only provider of batterer services. And again, for about a year, Women Helping Women did not do TROs. They've always done the shelter and very well but they haven't done TROs. They are now doing TROs again. A lot of people have had to walk away because of the lack of funding. And we just...we believe and my board believes and we try to figure out ways that we can put the money together. And I understand everywhere the money is less.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Okay. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Any more questions, Members?

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Chair?

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CHAIR PONTANILLA: Member Baisa followed by Member Cochran.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Just--thank you, Chair--just a quick comment. I want to thank you, Ruth, for being here. I know how many years you've put into trying to help. And I know that you've been through it all; you've seen it all; you know the fights. And I want to thank you for all your good work.

MS. QUITITQUIT: Thank you. But I often --

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Member Cochran.

MS. QUITITQUIT: --say to people I would love my job if I didn't have to worry about money.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Everybody would. Member Cochran, you had a question?

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Just the amount that--sorry --

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Excuse me.

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: --the amount that's funded to you?

MS. QUITITQUIT: Right now and it has been about the same or very close to same for the last like 4 years is 78,648. We have asked for a little bit more I think 'cause they just rounded it off because this year it like 79,500, I think they just rounded off salaries or something to make it work better. Why \$900 more is beyond me.

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you.

MS. QUITITQUIT: Thanks.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Next testifier is Doug Akin followed by George Reioux.

MR. AKIN: Aloha. So, I don't know how many people are familiar but there's a law that you can't, a rule that you can't dance in venues that serve alcohol. And it, it seems a little unfair for people that enjoy music, right, 'cause you guys know sometimes like you hear a really good song, you're in your car and you want to dance to it, right? Maybe it's the Beatles; maybe it's Michael Jackson; maybe it's, you know, some luau music, whatever it might be, you want to dance to it. So that's cool that you could drive and dance to a song that you really enjoy that like has this rhythmic pulse going through your body. I think you guys know the sensation, right? But you can't do it when you're in a public venue and it just seems off where we are in 2012 that you can't celebrate music, that you can't actually have fun, right? There's kind of a restriction on fun

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that we're allowing people ___ say, hey, are you like, you like to drink and that's fun, but you can't dance and drink and even if you don't drink, like I don't personally drink, I like water, and delicious food. So, let's say I went to an establishment that had water and delicious food and awesome music and I wanted to combine those ingredients and actually allow myself to dance which is kind of a natural state, right? Like, we all historically, indigenously have danced, right, to ask for rain for our crops, to celebrate festival or momentous occasions in life, like marriage or adulthood, all these beautiful things so, dancing is pretty beautiful. I don't know if that's something that could be argued. I think it's beautiful, and I think we should celebrate it, and I think we should have more fun in life, and if dancing can be one of those ingredients then let's do it. Let's not limit dancing to just the car or just your apartment. I don't also believe that dancing injures people. Like people definitely have drank too much and fallen but it's usually not attributed to dancing, it's just kind of...maybe that they've had too much to drink. So, assuming that we just celebrate the art and the history of dance with no money involved, no ask to say, let's, let's get \$100,000 to do a huge dance party in Maui and celebrate the heritage of dance, although we could totally talk about that, if you guys, if anyone in the room is interested, I have a huge background in planning awesome festivals and spectacular things. So, what I'm concluding with is a free opportunity for us to enjoy life more and to dance more. And just ask the liquor people, I think they probably could sell more liquor as well if people were enjoying themselves and having more fun, like when you're with a colleague and you're like hey, you know, oh man--

MR. KANESHINA: Three minutes.

MR. AKIN: --there's that Michael Jackson song! I love that! And you just, you kind of just want to start dancing with that colleague. You would...the next day you'd be like, man, that was an awesome night. We danced to that song, like we had that awesome water, right? It just would be...it would be great and I think there should be more of it. So, I look forward to dancing with all of you somewhere and drinking water. And if you guys want to have a cocktail, I'm cool with that too. I just want to dance. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, questions for the testifier? Seeing none, thank you very much.

MR. AKIN: Okay.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: George Reioux. Members, George Reioux is the last person to sign up for public testimony. And I'm afraid to ask if there's anyone that want to provide public testimony, please sign up with the Secretary in the lobby. Go ahead, George.

MR. REIOUX: Hi. I'm George Reioux. I'm the Transportation Director at MEO. Thank you for the opportunity, Committee Chair Pontanilla and Committee members. I just want to thank you for the funding that you have done for the Human Services transportation that MEO's provided for a good number of years now. It's vital for the community members that use it. It services our kupuna when they go to the Kaunoa events and to the nutrition sites; it helps our disabled to go

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to work and also people with low incomes; our daycare clients to get them to and from their needed care and giving their caregivers respite; for the Ka Lima and Easter Seals clients who do the same; Ala Hou for our disabled community getting them to and from their appointments; our rural shuttles that take...go door to door and pick up the people who are not close enough to ride the Maui Bus and can't carry their, their bags, that whatever they're getting, you know, to and from. It's all very, very important. The youth transportation afterwards getting the kids to the venues. As we know, transportation is key to the success of so many different programs. You can have a great program. If you can't get the people to it, it doesn't do much good. So again, we want to thank you for your funding that you've given us in the past and that we hope you continue to do that. Also, for those more isolated areas, we're talking about the Hana community, we're talking about Lanai, and we're talking about Molokai, MEO is very critical in the transportation to get those people to what they need to do because there are no other options for them there. So again, thank you so much. We also want to acknowledge that we have a very good relationship with the Transportation Department and I enjoy working with all of you. So, thank you. Any questions?

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, questions for the testifier? Seeing none, thank you again. Going to ask one more time, is there anybody in the Chambers, Chamber that haven't provided public testimony and would like to provide public testimony can come up forward. Okay. Seeing none, Members, if there's no objections, Chair would like to close public testimony.

COUNCIL MEMBERS: No objections.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you very much.

...END OF PUBLIC TESTIMONY...

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Good afternoon again, Members. This afternoon we do have the members from the Liquor Control, but before we do that, we'll take a ten minute recess and then we'll reconvene this meeting at 2:40. So, we're going to take up the Liquor Control and then go into Grants soon after that. This meeting is in recess 'til 2:40. ...*(gavel)*...

RECESS: 2:29 p.m.

RECONVENE: 2:43 p.m.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: ...*(gavel)*... The Budget and Finance Committee meeting is now reconvened.

DEPARTMENT OF LIQUOR CONTROL

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Members, if you can turn to Page 6-191. This afternoon we got the Liquor Control Department, going to review their request for 2013. If Director Silva...and with us this,

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this afternoon is Director Frank Silva. We also do have Georgette Medeiros [sic]. And Deputy Director of Liquor Control is none other than Traci Villarosa. None other. ...*(Chuckle)*... Director Silva, if you want to provide some opening comments?

MR. SILVA: Thank you, Chair Pontanilla and Members of the Budget Committee. I'm Frank Silva. I'm Director, Department of Liquor Control and present our budget to you. Basically, we're looking at a flat budget. Basically, we have a flat budget. Last year's budget was \$1,412,308. Fiscal Year '13, \$1,426,108. Anyway, our budget is like \$345 less than what it was last year. We're not buying any vehicles; we're not buying any equipment. We're leasing one copier. Personnel is...we have 19 personnel currently, 7 positions vacant, 2 positions already interviewed for and will be hiring one on the first of May, and one on the 15th--I'm sorry--16th of May.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. Anything else?

MR. SILVA: I'm open for your questions.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. Fine. Okay. Members, on the A Account, which is Salaries and Wages, Mr. Carroll, you got any comments?

COUNCILMEMBER CARROLL: Our last testifier seemed to have a question for the Liquor Department concerning dancing.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: We can go to goals and objectives...

COUNCILMEMBER CARROLL: When we reach over there?

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER CARROLL: It just was interesting question. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Yeah. I...okay. Member Baisa.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Not on the A Account. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. Ms. Cochran?

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Not at this time. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Mr. Couch?

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: No, thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Mr. Hokama? Mr. Victorino?

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COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Not at this time.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Mr. White?

COUNCILMEMBER WHITE: Thank you, Chair. Just one, one question. We...it was told to me by somebody from Oahu that they have a lot more licensees per inspector on Oahu. And just so that we can to some degree benchmark, would it be possible for you to provide us with the liquor fee amounts, the liquor fee percentage for the other counties, and the number of licensees, and the staffing levels for the other counties? 'Cause I, I really appreciate your flat budget but I'd, I'd just like to get a sense of how, you know, how our budget looks compared to the other counties. And if you could add to that, if there are differences in the way we operate that make it more challenging for us or challenging for them, that would be very helpful too.

MR. SILVA: Okay. I'll get that back to you.

COUNCILMEMBER WHITE: Okay. Thank you. That's all, Chair.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. Thank you. Chairman Mateo?

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: No questions.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: The B Account. Chairman Mateo?

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: No questions.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Mr. White?

COUNCILMEMBER WHITE: No questions.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Mr. Victorino?

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: None.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Mr. Hokama?

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Chairman, I just want to thank the Director. He is one of the few that breaks it down into Vacation Pay and Premium Pay. And again, you know, while I appreciate Mr. White's question on, on the earlier one, I, I think unless the Director's here, you know, he's made adjustments also by not filling positions as I understand the report. So, you know, maybe at a future time, Chairman, you might want to have that validated regarding the positions of Liquor Control Officers that has not been requested for filling.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay.

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VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Mr. Couch? Ms. Cochran?

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Nothing.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Ms. Baisa?

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: No B.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Mr. Carroll? On Equipment, according to the Director, he has none.
Mr. Carroll, any questions on Equipment?

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: No more nothing.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: No more nothing.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Member Baisa?

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: There's nothing.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Member Cochran?

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: No.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Maybe you guys want to add something to him. Member Couch?

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: No.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Member Hokama?

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: He can train the other departments, Chairman.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Member Victorino?

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: No.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Member White?

COUNCILMEMBER WHITE: No.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Member...Chairman Mateo? No. Okay. Goals and Objectives. Mr. Carroll?

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COUNCILMEMBER CARROLL: We had a testifier earlier that was asking about the policies that the Liquor Department had concerning dancing in establishments that concern liquor. I seem to recall it before but could you update us on why we have that policy?

MR. SILVA: Basically, dancing is a State statute. According to this...Chapter 281, commissions may allow dancing provided the premises provides facilities for dancing. Facilities we've forever interpreted that "facilities" mean dance floors. So, any licensed premises that has, any licensed premises may have dancing if they're, if they have music and entertainment and if they provide a dance floor of at least 100 square feet, a designated area for a dance floor. This dance floor may be also used as a service area when not used as dancing, as a dancing area. As far as not allowing dancing, no one in Maui County has ever been cited for not dancing on the dance floor. The policy is if the investigator goes in and someone's dancing or people are dancing other than on the dance floor, they'll alert the management. The management will then take whatever action they want to. They can either allow it to continue. They can tell them that Maui County rules doesn't provide for it, and they can stop it or not. Then we can take...we've never had to take action against any licensee for people dancing other than on a dance floor.

COUNCILMEMBER CARROLL: Thank you. That was my understanding right after the testimony. I just wanted to make sure. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Member Baisa?

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: I guess I might as well ask another dancing question. I, I, I think what we're hearing, and you know, we're not there so we don't really know, we're just trying to get impressions from what the testifiers tell us, but if somebody's sitting in their chair, and you know, they're playing a salsa beat and the person is, you know, doing what probably you and I would do, tapping our feet and kind of moving around, they're saying they're not even allowed to do that. Is that true?

MR. SILVA: Depending on which side they move first. It's a...no. I'm sorry.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. Go ahead.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: That's a good answer but.

MR. SILVA: No. As a matter of fact, the Dance Advocate has already taken...has already run its course. They, they've, they requested that the Commission, the Liquor Commission define dancing. Liquor Commission decided that dancing was already defined in the dictionary, refused to define dancing. They appealed to the Circuit Court. They went to court; the judge determined that they didn't have standing, that dancing was not a Constitutional right so, threw it out. They went to the State Legislature, requested that the State Legislature define dancing. It was...it never made it out of Committee. From what I understand, it's back up on the floor. I think Kyle Yamashita has brought it back up to be heard during this session. I don't know, but I don't know how the interpretation came about as far as what the licensees will allow and what the Liquor

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Department will allow, but as I've said, anybody with, with a Dispenser license with a CII that allows for music and entertainment, all they have to do is apply for a dance floor, designate where the dance floor is going to be, and it's...no one has ever been disapproved for dancing.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: I hear what you're saying but I also hear the testifiers. And case in point, we have a person with disabilities who obviously is not able to get up on a dance floor and dance, but is able to sit in a chair and, you know, rock with the music. And I am understanding this is not allowed. That's the issue.

MR. SILVA: If it's not allowed, it's not allowed by the licensee, by the owner of the, of the, of the premises.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: So, it isn't law; it's their interpretation?

MR. SILVA: It's their interpretation of whether in fact you're dancing outside of the dance floor or not.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Okay. I think that's very clear. I think what we thought was this was a law that you couldn't do it, but it's really up to the licensee.

MR. SILVA: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Okay. Thank you very much.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Member Cochran?

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Yeah. Thank you. I, and you are right, Mr. Silva, I don't recall in 25 years of bartending anybody actually getting a ticket or cited or taken away in handcuffs for dancing outside of a dance floor per se. But I, we, my customers have been, you know, addressed by commissioners and our, you know, we as bartenders as cardholders we're told the rules, we took the test, and you know, we'd have to say otherwise we'd be in violation of the law itself as the, the establishment. So, but I understand where the Dance Advocate people are coming from, because sitting in your chair and move, bobbing around a little bit or standing at the rail of a bar, and you know, moving your body around, they were told you can't dance, that's not a dance floor. So, it puts a little damper on the whole mood and the whole environment whether it's Halloween or whether it's, you know, a busy, jumping night in town, in Lahaina. So, I mean, I see both sides and I, I get the picture. It's a State law. And so, do every other county abide by this and have you heard of any, you know, similar concerns and issues with this particular dance, dance issue in other counties in our State?

MR. SILVA: No.

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: No. Okay.

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MR. SILVA: No. And, and by the way, if I can...our investigators are not allowed to interact with the patrons. In other words, if there's somebody dancing other than on the dance floor, they're not allowed to go up and talk to that patron and tell 'em you supposed to be dancing on the dance floor. They'll go to the manager and they'll alert the manager that there may be a violation, you might want to take care of it. And the manager then will, will decide whether or not that person is actually dancing outside of the dance floor and if he is, take action, ask him to go on the dance floor or leave.

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Okay. Thank you. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Thank you. You know, I was looking at your Goals and Objectives, and I guess your number one goal is to ensure a safe and healthy environment with the liquor industry, and you know, for the general public so, you know, I kind of understand where you're coming from, Director. Member Couch?

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Thank you. And just to finish up on the questioning of the other three Members, have, have your inspectors told the manager that that person who's doing this in the seat is dancing? Is that...because I'm, I'm guessing that the manager's going to allow for as much leeway as possible, and if they're told by your inspectors that no, that's dancing, is there something, you know, how are they defining that as dancing then?

MR. SILVA: That's completely up to, up to...see what happens when, when the Liquor Inspector is on the premises --

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Uh-huh.

MR. SILVA: --whatever's taking place at the time, it's always the Liquor Inspector's fault. I mean, what they'll do is...and we, we encourage this, we encourage them to say, rather than take the hit and, and get a patron where they won't want to come back --

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Right.

MR. SILVA: --tell them the Liquor Inspector's here and they're going cite me if, if you don't stop doing whatever it is that you're doing.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Right. But is the Liquor Inspector saying hey, look, Mr. Baz is there dancing in his chair by bobbing his head, you gotta stop him. Are the Liquor Inspectors doing that?

MR. SILVA: No. No.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: They're not saying that's dancing...

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MR. SILVA: No. They'll point out that there's a potential violation but then it's up to the manager what he does about it.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Okay.

MR. SILVA: And let's say for instance, somebody is dancing outside the dance floor and the, and the Liquor Inspector sees it and alerts the manager to it. If he doesn't take action, they could issue a notice of violation and a notice of violation is all it is. It's not citation. It's that a violation was seen and occurred at a certain time and a certain place.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Okay. On your Goals and Objectives, number 1, it says number of premises inspected in 2011, the actual is 18,000 and your estimates in 2012 and 2013 are 15,000. How come there's a drop? Have we lost that many establishments or?

MR. SILVA: No. It's not that, it's just that we've, we're short of personnel right now and we're dealing with trainees so, that's the reason.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Okay. And lastly, Goal 2 and 3 both, it has a large number as your estimates. Are those including, for instance in Goal 3 it says total number of permits issued 600 in, in 2013. That including renewals because it doesn't seem like we're getting 600 new bars a year. Or...

MR. SILVA: No. Go ahead.

MS. TYAU: No. That would be permits from licensed premises but also to include direct wine shipments.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Oh, okay. Okay. Alright. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Mr. Hokama?

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Does every inspectors board cruise ships regarding compliance, Director?

MR. SILVA: Yes. Yes, they do. They check for certification cards, license posted, and just like we do on shore.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay. 'Cause I do know, Chairman, you know, the Department requires them to have Maui County licenses once they enter our waters so, again, it's good to know that they follow up with the inspections as well. Thank you, Department.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. I think we asked you that question last year too. Mr. Victorino?

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Yeah. Thank you. And, you know, I'm glad for that clarification, Mr....because in the many years I worked in security on the West side, never were your people or

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I ever saw any of them talk to the patronage. They go to the managers and many times the managers would call us in security, you know, that was to do the dirty work 'cause they never like go talk to the client, and so I know that for a fact that your people never went to a constituent or a guest at any of our facilities to talk to them so, that I can verify in the years I that I worked out there. The question I had for you was how is the underage drinking--okay now wait, there my brain went--you know, like stores, you know those--what do you call those?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: : Undercover.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Undercover.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Yeah, undercover, yeah, stings. Yeah. Thank you. I'm sorry. I knew what I wanted to say, it just wouldn't come out. The sting operations I know for a long time you had these reports, I know Oahu it always makes the news so that's why it's always there. How's Maui faring as far as percentages overall, you know?

MR. SILVA: Maui's doing pretty good. We, we've done, how many of 'em? I think it's around 80, 87 that we've done last year --

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Uh-huh.

MR. SILVA: --and the last I remember we were about 87 percent, 78 percent, I'm sorry.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Of the?

MR. SILVA: Compliance.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Of compliance. So, in other words, the vast majority have been complying.

MR. SILVA: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Okay.

MR. SILVA: We, we conduct...we...all year long sting operations.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Right.

MR. SILVA: With, with the Police.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: In conjunction with the Police?

MR. SILVA: Yeah.

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COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: And has anyone an establish here, 'cause I know establishes in Oahu have been shut down, has any establish committed repeated offenses and have been shut down say in the last couple of years, that because of repeat offenses in that particular area have been shut down or, or have revoke, had revocation of their license in Maui County?

MR. SILVA: No. Yeah. Not due to minor stings.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Maybe other issues but not that.

MR. SILVA: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Okay. Well, I'm glad to hear. And keep up the good work 'cause there's still too many ways these minors seem to, you know, and "Being [*sic*] a Jerk" is one of the programs today out there, but I still think, you know, there's too many other ways these guys somehow manage to get liquor along with everything else, yeah.

MR. SILVA: Oh, yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Thank you very much.

MR. SILVA: Sure.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Mr. White?

COUNCILMEMBER WHITE: Thank you, Chair. I have no problems with the way they operate. I think they've always been very professional in all the dealings that I've had with them. So, mahalo.

MR. SILVA: Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Chairman Mateo?

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Chairman, Chairman, thank you. Actually, Mr. Silva, I was born to dance. So, so, when all these issues start to come up, you know, it's really hard for, for me to understand, you know, why, because it just seems, you know, kind of ludicrous that because we're not on the dance floor we're kind of restricted from actually enjoying the music. But I guess the, I don't know what the justification actually was, I mean, something must have happened somewhere to cause this to happen so that it became State law. And, and I, I think at this point, because, you know, you heard a few of the testifiers this morning and this issue has been going on for quite a while anyhow, your Department, have you done any education, any, any PR to, to kind of like share adequate information as to the justifications for this State law? To put it to rest.

MR. SILVA: No. We haven't.

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COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Is there intentions to, to share?

MR. SILVA: Pardon me?

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Is there intentions to provide information to the general public so that everyone can understand what the State law actually dictates?

MR. SILVA: Well, when, when it was going through the process, when, when the Advocates came to the Commission, they made, made the press pretty much, and I thought that that was enough to let the public know what was going on with the, with the dancing.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Okay. I, I guess I will just...

MS. FUJITA VILLAROSA: Basically this rule is, is a, is fairly consistent, I think nationwide. You can't drink on the dance floor. I think we've all heard that rule restriction and that's, that, that's the justification for it. It's just a safety measure. If you're drinking then you shouldn't be...I'm sorry, if you're dancing then you shouldn't be drinking at the same time. And the location and the size, I mean, that's all determined by the licensee, you know, the owner of the bar or the restaurant, they determine number one whether they're going to have dancing at all, because some places simply don't want to have dancing in their premises and if they do have it, they determine where it's at, how big it is. I mean, they could have a big, a huge dance area, you know, where people can dance all they want but they just won't be able to consume alcohol there. I mean that's the restriction.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Okay. Then I think the confusion becomes who's dictating? Is it, it the law that you need to implement or is the owner/operator of the establishment?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Uh-huh.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: And I think the, I think it falls in the hands of the owner/operator of the establishment to dictate whether or not they are in compliance. So, that's for another story, maybe when the music's a little a better we can dance again, but thank you very much.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. Thank you. Member Couch.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Thank you. And, and, and I know this is, it's along the line of questioning but may not be involved in the Budget. I just looked up the definition of dancing. Is there a way we can come up with an ordinance to define it because it says basically moving in the rhythm of the music.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Well...

MR. SILVA: Moving of the feet in rhythm with music.

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COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: It says any kind of movement. So, it's...I can understand.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Well...

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: And I know it's not a budget thing.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: No, no. What I'm going to suggest is that I'm just going to cut it here in regards to dancing. I think we getting off the subject here. And, and if you want to introduce something, Mr. Couch, then maybe a Committee can listen to, you know, what we were talking about, about the issue about dancing, what is dancing and the whole bit, because as the Director had said it's at the State Legislature, Mr., Representative Yamashita, you know, is introducing something. So, you know, that's something that we need to keep abreast with, you know, as soon as we hear what it is, and, and you know, the Director can come back later on in a meeting, Committee meeting setting --

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Okay.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: --yeah, to discuss this issue even further.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: I guess this is a question for Corp. Counsel. Can we write laws since it is a State law and liquor rules. There's really no ordinance in between.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Corporation Counsel.

MR. UEOKA: I don't believe they said there's a State law regarding the dancing. It just gives the authority to the Liquor Commission, the County Liquor Commission to regulate it so, I think it would be something we'd have to look into further and we could probably draft something along those lines though.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Okay. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Yeah. Okay. Member Baisa.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: I have a question. I think 'nough about dancing. I'm like Member Mateo; I'm going to get up and dance. But I was looking at the money that comes in from liquor sales. And this year's budget says that the gross liquor sales were about \$250 million a year. In light of what's happened economically, have you seen this fluctuate very much?

MR. SILVA: No. It's basically, pretty...other than a few years—when was it?—'91 I think it went down several thousand, but it's, it's been pretty constant.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: So, it, it's stays pretty much at that 250 million regardless of good times or bad times. We drink when it's good and we drink when we're suffering.

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MR. SILVA: Oh, yes.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: You know, it's really important because I'm looking at your budget and your budget is, you know, in the neighborhood of almost \$3 million a year. And it seems like a very small part of all those sales; \$3 million out of \$250 million is not a whole lot of money. And so, what I've had my eye on for a long time and I guess it'll take some kind of State law would be that some of this revenue would go to alcohol prevention and treatment programs, and while we've talked about it, it's never gone anywhere but I really would like to see it go there. Any ideas?

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Director?

MR. SILVA: Yeah. I, it comes up just about every year. And, and it makes the State Legislature, I mean, it comes up there and...but the industry has strong lobbyists and so, they're very, very cognizant watching to where the money goes.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Well it's really sad 'cause you know who's bearing the brunt of that is the County. We're having to pay for the alcohol treatment and prevention and youth programs and whatever. And to me this is where it should come from, but that's something we'll have to work with with the Legislature. But thank you very much.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. I just got one more question, Director. In regards to your rentals for Fiscal Year '13 it's \$184,000 so, do you rent any space away from...other than the David Trask Building?

MR. SILVA: Yes. We rent from Human...we're at the Senior Center in, in Lahaina. We have an office there.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: That's it?

MR. SILVA: That's it.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. Fine. Thank you. Okay. Members, any more questions for the Department? If not, I, I want to thank Director here, Director Silva, Deputy Director Villarosa, and Ms. Medeiros [*sic*] for being here this afternoon. So, yours was quick. Thank you.

MR. SILVA: Thank you. Thanks a lot.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: What everybody's been waiting for, I'm going to bring up the Planning Department first. This is the order that we're going to take it. Okay. Planning, Parks, Water, Transportation, and the two largest one, Housing and Human Concerns, Office of Economic Development, I think both of them going probably end up tomorrow.

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GRANTS – DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING

CHAIR PONTANILLA: So, Planning. Okay. Page 8 on the long sheet here. We do have the Planning Grants. First one up is the Wailuku Main Street/Tri-Isle Main Street Resource Center for Fiscal Year '13 is zero. Planning Department, please explain.

MR. SPENCE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There's actually two grants that our Department administers. The Wailuku Main Street/Tri-Isle Main Street Resource Center Grant we decided, the Administration felt it would probably be better--considering the Attorney General's investigation--just to, to be safe right now, and instead put, put money into the Budget for Small Town Planning. You know, the Mayor does want to express his support for planning in our small towns. They have unique needs that, that need to be met. The...we envision instead of giving one grant, we envision that other groups--and we were listening to the testimony and we're a little surprised at how many people came forward--that other groups could come forward and request money for certain projects and then also, if everything turns out with the Attorney General's Office and we can also work with Main Street at that time.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: So, do you know when it's going to be taken care of with the Attorney General?

MR. SPENCE: No, I'm not, I'm not privy to the Attorney General's timeline or his plans.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. Then in regards to Small Town Planning formerly known, you know, where you moved the money to, is there any kind criteria that they need to meet before the County of Maui grant any dollars to those small town associations? And if we could get it in writing.

MR. SPENCE: Okay. We can certainly respond to the Committee in writing. It...some of it's going to be dependent on the kind of project envisioned. The...I mean, if some group, as you know that there's...our small towns have had new organizations pop up within the towns. You have Makawao Community Association, there's a forming merchants association, same for Wailuku, same for Paia, and we would expect that those organizations they would either request a grant, excuse me, we would either...they would either request a grant from the Department or say, for instance, this last year and there was a very good article this morning about the re-Wailuku project, that was a collaborative effort between, you know, organizations and there wasn't a grant involved but there was considerable oversight of the money spent.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. And then you do have personnel that will ensure that compliance to whatever rules you guys make?

MR. SPENCE: Yes. We do have personnel who, for instance, helped manage the re-Wailuku effort but we would be happy to follow, you know, standards for grants that the other departments have to go through, you know, Office of Economic Development, et cetera.

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CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. Fine. Chairman Mateo.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Thank you. Mr. Spence, but this still does not preclude Molokai...Molokai, Wailuku Main Street from actually submitting an RFP for the funds itself so all we're doing is, is just more or less centralizing the fund, making it available to anybody and everybody who has a specific small town project. That's kind of it or are you saying because we're pending the Attorney General's decision or whatever it may be that they will not be eligible to tap any of these funds until that ruling?

MR. SPENCE: A little of both. The...when we...it is desirable, I think to open it up to other groups who have, you know, they have specific needs, specific knowledge of their town that they could apply for where they could apply for planning monies or we could aid them in certain studies. The...but considering the Attorney General's investigation, I mean, I don't know if we would be putting County funds at risk if it...you know, I'm not trying to speculate which way it would go, but I would not want to be, you know, I want to be careful with County funds, with taxpayer dollars.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Thank you. Thank you, Chairman.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Mr. White?

COUNCILMEMBER WHITE: Thank you, Chair. So, this would mean that for example, if we wanted to bring Dan Burden in for a design charette for Makawao that that would be a way that that could be funded?

MR. SPENCE: That's correct. And we would have a specific budget for that and oversight of the funds, et cetera.

COUNCILMEMBER WHITE: Okay. Thank you.

MR. SPENCE: And, but something like that we would probably, like we did last time, we would probably have other benefits to other towns.

COUNCILMEMBER WHITE: Okay. Thank you. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Mr. Victorino?

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Thank you. You made it clear and what your intent here is and I do agree, caution cannot be more important at this time when it comes to this kind of situation. The only concern I have, you said there is a number of new organizations "popping up" as you used the term, you know, starting up and then the being careful with these new organizations that their intent and their methodology of spending money or using money is in the best interest and I think that's what you're going to have to be monitoring. And now you're going to have a whole

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bunch of 'em out there so, although I support your intent and I agree, but I also say there is caution in that also.

MR. SPENCE: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: And 'cause, right in within Wailuku you get Wailuku Merchants Association; you get Wailuku Community Association; you get the Wailuku Owners Association, I mean, in my community there's a lot of associations all wanting to do good things --

MR. SPENCE: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: --but I think you're going to have what I consider duplication or maybe even competitive for the same thing so, that's the only thing I'm concerned about. We only have a limited amount of money; I want it to do the right thing, but if it's going out to different areas and they become competing factions, I would be concerned and not only for my little town but I think any little town. I can see that happening, and so, that's the only thing I see with this as being problematic, you know, if anything, you know, so. And last thing is what about areas, you, you're looking at only small towns, right?

MR. SPENCE: That's correct.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: So, an area like Waihee or Waikapu would not be considered a small town or would that still fall under that?

MR. SPENCE: That...I would think that it would still fall under that.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Thank you. I was curious.

MR. SPENCE: And Waihee has, I believe they're incorporated, a community association.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: The same thing with Waikapu, but I just wanted to make sure that you know, those kind of questions because small towns can be taken in many respects, Mr. Chair, and so, I think now if you're opening up to the word "small towns" now we gotta make sure that that definition of small town is incorporated in how you do it.

MR. SPENCE: And there's, I know there's other towns that don't have necessarily a community association which would also need caution such as Hana or Kaunakakai, but you know, they have their specific needs as well.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Yeah. Thank you. Thank you, Chairman.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Thank you for those questions, Mr. Victorino, because we get so many small towns over here on Maui, Maui County. What I'm afraid of is that, you know, is

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243 dollars...thousand dollars can support all those small towns. So, how do you, you know, provide for small towns request if a whole bunch of 'em come in at one time? So, you know, those things I guess still need to be worked out and, you know, I wouldn't mind if the Planning Department come back at another time to tell us how you going implement this program. Because I don't think \$243,000 will do it. I don't think so. One charette may cost what? Thirty, forty thousand dollars?

MR. SPENCE: Yeah. I'm not sure that it would...like when we did re-Wailuku we partnered...the Planning Department partnered with the MRA and the Wailuku Community Association so there's an ability to make some of those dollars stretch. You know, it's not one, just one pot paying for everything.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. What I meant, you know, bringing in special people to do special projects for us.

MR. SPENCE: Yeah. Those costs would be shared, but I understand the Chair's question that, I mean if you just say, you know, open it up to anything in the world, you know, you're going to have requests, you know, God only knows what would come up. So, no, it would definitely have to be defined, you know, as it is in the proposed budget and there would have to be considerable oversight to it.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. Thank you. Mr. Hokama?

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: I thought you asked a good question, Chairman. You know, we're doing our update on the Lanai Business Country Town guidelines and standards but that was community driven so, you still see this pot of potential money to be applied to by community-driven process and a community-driven group like a community association or do you see your Department driving this?

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Department?

MR. SPENCE: It could be either. I mean, just because there's money available that a community could request assistance in some planning project it doesn't mean we would forgo, you know, revising the Business Country Town Design Guidelines for Lanai City. If there was a special project that, for instance, the Paia...like a public facilities plan where do you, you know, where do you plan for public restrooms, additional parking, those kinds of things, that might take a special study or something like that to do. Lanai may have a need for a special study so we can...the regular planning functions are not going to be by the...

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Yeah, but if I remember correctly, Chairman and Director, that came from a Public Works budget component. I think that was funded through Public Works not Planning Department.

MR. SPENCE: Okay. I'm not familiar with that.

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VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Trust me.

MR. SPENCE: Okay.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: So, you know, I'm just trying to figure out 'cause I, you know, I hear from my colleagues that let's say for whatever reason all the small communities in the County sense a rainbow pot of gold and they going all apply. So, this is not going to go far. I agree with the Chairman. So, do you have a priority type of list of how you going to prioritize and who gets the consideration before another community, small community?

MR. SPENCE: We'll probably have to hear from the individual communities and we'll establish criteria.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Because I think each small community is going to ask to have certain uniqueness become standards. Just like how Lanai's asking for standards. We're not satisfied with guidelines anymore because of how the Department has interpreted the County Code.

MR. SPENCE: Okay.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay. So we're going to move toward standards and that takes time and that takes attorneys involvement and whatnot so, I see this as a something we need to think about hard regarding the level of funding that's appropriate. I think one of the things that Lanai has shared that I think all the other small communities in this County is going to have to deal, will be dealing with is you've heard the statement that a lot of the partial revisions we going through currently on us updating our guidelines and creating standards is to wait 'til it's after the community plan process because they want the revised community plan to be one of the drivers for this new review of guidelines and standards. So, but you asking us for this money now before we even go to community plan processing and adoption of those new revisions. Any comment to that?

MR. SPENCE: I think despite the, I mean the community plans are going to specify a lot of things as we go into review but as you know, the community plans often call for certain studies or certain things to take place.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Uh-huh.

MR. SPENCE: The...I believe that part of this money would go to implement the current community plans. You know, there's always going to be a need, there's always a current need to do things. We could start, I go back to the say restrooms in Paia or you can even talk about public restrooms in Makawao or I heard testimony this morning, you know, resolving circulation issues. Those things can be taken care of now and not wait for the community plan process to take place.

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VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay. So, let me give you a scenario because it's already in the workings. Lanai is ready to move community plan forward because I'm ready through Policy to appoint those people.

MR. SPENCE: Uh-huh. And we look forward...

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: So, would they have priority over the funding since that community plan process is going to be first?

MR. SPENCE: The community plan process will probably take, I forget what the timeline end is in 2.80B, but it's probably going to take two years from the time that Community Plan Advisory Committee is impaneled. They go through their process. We submit something to the Lanai Planning Commission and then it comes to County Council for adoption. I mean it's...you know, we're applying for these funds now --

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Uh-huh.

MR. SPENCE: --so, it would, you know, we would expect, it'd be expected to expend the funds in the coming fiscal year.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay. Because right after that before the end of this calendar year I'm hoping to then move Molokai forward. So, is this enough to take care of Molokai too?

MR. SPENCE: I would expect it...well, the community plans are a separate part of our budget so that we're not...

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: No. And that's what we need to know. Is this a supplement? Is this only, you know, 'cause I know community plans going to be...have a specific funding component.

MR. SPENCE: Uh-huh.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: So, I'm trying to just understand where this fits since, for Mr. Mateo and I, our whole island is part of a small community component.

MR. SPENCE: Sure. We envision this for specific projects within each community plan area. And we're...I mean, special projects and you know, parking management within Wailuku, you know, the current topic of discussion; a shoreline --

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Uh-huh.

MR. SPENCE: --I think it was brought up earlier, a possible shoreline improvement plan for Paia. You know, the community plans, you know, that's going to be three or four years off, we can start doing some of those things now --

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VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay.

MR. SPENCE: --and incorporate those into the plans. Very specific focused projects that probably won't be covered in the community plans.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: That's disturbing to me what you just shared.

MR. SPENCE: And I, when I say not covered, I mean the level of detail that goes into those kind of studies where public access points should be, you know, if there's property that needs to be acquired, those kinds of things that even the community plans don't get down to that level and so, I'm talking, you know, very minutia detail.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Yes, yes. No, I understand. Is there any community that wouldn't qualify? You mentioned Wailuku so far. For some people, Wailuku and again right or wrong some people call it Wailuku-Kahului already like a metropolis.

MR. SPENCE: Probably . . .*(inaudible)* . . .

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: They would qualify for Small Town Planning money?

MR. SPENCE: It'd be...I would say...

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: You know, Kahului is considered the big urbanized --

MR. SPENCE: Yeah.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: --center of the County.

MR. SPENCE: Kihei would not.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Kihei would not qualify. Lahaina would qualify or maybe components of Lahaina would qualify?

MR. SPENCE: I think that possibly, we'll have to look at that. I know that there was also testimony about the right around the wharf. There's some definite needs there that are in that kind of scale. You know, that human small town kind of scale --

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay.

MR. SPENCE: --as far as, you know, studies for large subdivisions and those kinds of things that it would not, definitely would not be going into that kind of thing.

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VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Chairman, I would ask because I think it's only fair to allow the Director and his people maybe think some things through and maybe submit something to us for give us a better definitive uses and parameters of this fund.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you, Mr. Hokama. The Chair's intent is just that and, you know, you and I, I think we almost think the same in regards when we spend public's, public money.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay. Thank you, Chairman.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Yeah. Mr. Couch?

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Thank you, Mr. Chair. And, Mr. Spence, Chair Pontanilla and Vice-Chair of the Committee Hokama have asked some interesting questions as far as, you know, what if this small town wants to do something and that small town wants to do something and that one. Right now as the current contract exists, do those same small towns start asking questions and are they being serviced right now through the one entity, the WMSA?

MR. SPENCE: The...right now there are like there's the Paia...you have the overall organization of Wailuku Main Street and then you have Paia Main Street and Makawao Main Street. I'm...I believe, I don't think there's a Kaunakakai Main Street anymore but they do have meetings. You know, those boards, they have meetings in their towns and at the end of every year we get a list of things that, you know, topics they worked on, whether it be, you know, the vacation rental bill, the bed and breakfast bill. Then there's also...so there's these really broad things that they discuss. We're not sure of what...we're not given that much more information than what I'm just telling you. There are listed specific properties but we're not quite sure in the list we're given, we're not quite sure what has taken place. Whether it was a remodel, if it resulted in a Building Permit or anything like that so, they do discuss within their individual towns, but the information we get is not ...*(inaudible)*...

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: So it sounds like you're saying that they essentially facilitate meetings with these small town organizations.

MR. SPENCE: We're not real sure how those meetings are conducted. Like I said, we're just given a list of things that they have discussed.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: 'Cause I'm trying to reconcile it with what Chair Pontanilla and Vice-Chair Hokama were saying where you have individuals...the potential with this new setup is you have individual small towns now wanting to tap into the funds which were, are currently seemed to be used for facilitating meetings. Is that a legitimate assumption?

MR. SPENCE: I think the big difference is that, I mean, as said, we're not real sure...we don't get a lot details from Main Street on how they conduct the meetings or what is discussed. The, one of the things that we're envisioning with the way that the Small Town Planning funds would be

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expended, there would be a lot more direct staff involvement, and if there's grants, you know, we have a lot more leeway on the required reporting of those grants.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: So...

MR. SPENCE: There, there's going, there would be a lot more intimate, I would say more intimate details brought forward with these things with specific projects, with specific deliverables, like if we need a study for shoreline or we need a study for circulation that would be delivered to the Department and those things would then be able to go forward for CIP or whatever the need was.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Okay. So, it sounds like that the Administration is saying they get, they think they can get more bang for their buck the way they proposed it this time than what they're getting now. Is that what?

MR. SPENCE: We would certainly have more solid deliverables. Right now, we're not really sure how the grant is benefiting Maui County --

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Okay.

MR. SPENCE: --because we don't have the information of whether, you know, a certain project, what project was undertaken, what the result of their review was, whether it was, you know, Building Permit, SMA Permit, or whatever, we're given a name of a project and that's what they did but not much more. They're tracking it, they, they're recommending approval of it. We're just not sure what that information means.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Okay. And you were saying that Kihei's not a small town? I gotta remind you that Kihei is actually Kihei, Wailea, and Makena, so three small towns all lumped in one zip code, so I would think that Kihei itself would be a, would qualify as a small town.

MR. SPENCE: With all due respect to the Council member, there's not a lot of Business Country Town Zoning and those kinds of things within Kihei.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: I got question, a couple questions. First of all, have you attended any of the meetings that Wailuku Main Street/Tri-Isle Main Street Resource Center? Either of you?

MS. MCLEAN: There's only been one public meeting that we've been made aware of and that was the annual meeting in December that I attended.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. And any of your staff members attend any of those meetings?

MS. MCLEAN: Their board meetings are typically closed to the public and...

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CHAIR PONTANILLA: Including your staff member that is assigned?

MS. MCLEAN: We...yeah. Yeah.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: You mentioned about shoreline study, yeah. And we do have a Sea...University of Hawaii Sea Grant. What does that person do in regards to shoreline?

MR. SPENCE: That particular grant, we're separating out two very different things. The one we're referring to in Small Town Planning would be like if we're talking shoreline we're not talking...for Paia we're talking about how the town would be enhanced, the business environment, or the environment for the residents of that town, how those things would be enhanced for those purposes.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Not necessarily the shoreline itself.

MR. SPENCE: Right. When we're talking about the Sea Grant grant we're talking about things, shoreline setbacks for development; we're talking about coastal hazards with tsunami, for hurricanes. The Sea Grant is dealing with a much more scientific side of things than a business or the, you know, Maui residents side of things.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: One last question before I move on to Member Cochran. You know, Mr. Hokama brings up a pretty interesting topic in regards to community plans, yeah, being reviewed. Should a small town organization, association come up with a particular project for any small town and during the community plan review process, you know, you're going have probably 10 or 12 members sitting in that group look at what was presented by the small town group and find that it need to be changed. So, what is the Planning Department...or which takes precedence should that happen?

MR. SPENCE: I think it's going to depend again on the particular project. The...just because I've been using the example, say if the community plan--I hope this is answering the question--the community plan would say, you know, hey, we need public restrooms in Paia or Makawao. The community group would come forward to do a study of, you know, where's the best location, you know and do a feasibility analysis and those kinds of things. That's what those monies would be coming for.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: So, nothing major then, small things.

MR. SPENCE: Yeah. It's not going to...it's...the funds...these kind of funds are most definitely not going to in any way replace the community planning process.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay.

MR. SPENCE: That's specified by law. There's a lot of community involvement, a lot of Council involvement with that, you know, that's a whole separate track.

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CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. And the other thing I foresee this whole thing coming about is that we do have the small associations and in the end the County is going to, you know, bear the cost of any improvement, improvements that what comes out of . . .(inaudible). . . and it may not be in the Planning Department, but you probably be looking at the Parks Department, Public Works Department that provide infrastructure to meet, you know, I guess the people's demands so.

MR. SPENCE: Uh-huh.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Ms. Cochran?

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Thank you, Chair. And so we're discussing both grants at this point then because I...

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Yeah. Both grants almost tie hand in hand.

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Okay. Okay. Well, thanks for everyone's comments on the new Small Town Planning Grant which I am very excited to see here. I do consider Lahaina as a small town so, I believe entities in Lahaina can be open to going and tapping into this fund as in Theo Morrison's testimony earlier this morning I feel is a great idea. Hint, hint. I think putting some money that way for that Lahaina Harbor interpretive master plan that she sort of eluded to would be wonderful and it's definitely needed. And Lahaina also needs public restrooms as well as Paia so, I think this is a wonderful thing. Again, I'm looking forward to having the Department definitely prioritize how you are going to pick and choose who gets to tap into these funds, but again, I think you know, studies and things of that nature that will lead up to improvements and revitalization or redevelopment of a small town is appropriate here. And then of course, tapping into CIP that's a whole different subject matter. And I, as I take it, things like Olowalu Town will not be able to tap it. They're trying to pipe up they're a small village town thing but that would not be priority to give funding to.

MR. SPENCE: I might say we're, right now we're looking at existing small towns.

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Oh, okay. Gotcha, gotcha. Thank you. Thank you very much. And as and then following up, Chair, on the Sea Grant. This is in particular--what is that--\$78,000 plus for Tara Owens in particular.

MR. SPENCE: That's right.

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: She is our CZM. And just real briefly, does she address our County cemeteries that are along a shoreline that are being eroded and iwi being exposed and what have you?

MR. SPENCE: Not specifically that I'm aware of as yet but --

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COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Okay.

MR. SPENCE: --she would have input into that.

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Okay. Yeah. I'd like to dialogue more with your Department then about that.

MR. SPENCE: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Thank you. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Member Baisa?

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Yes. Thank you very much, Chair. This discussion of this Small Town appropriation is very interesting; however, I really think that we're kind of putting the cart before the horse. It was told to us that we're awaiting an AG's opinion and I think until we have that it's going to be very difficult for us to make any decision about what to do with this money other than leaving it in a pot unnamed for where it's going to go. Because there's a consideration that if that opinion is clean does that then alter the planning that we're doing? And I also think that it's really, really important that there be some kind of plan and process if it is going to change from one big grant to helping several organizations because otherwise we're going find ourselves where were when we started the Community Partnership Grants. It was very rocky in the beginning 'cause process, standards, procedures, forms, those things were not all set up and it evolved over the years. So, I think that'll be very important if we are going to switch and do other things besides giving it to one organization, we're going to need a really good structure to do that and good standards. And one of the reasons that worries me is that the more small grants you give out, the more danger of monitoring and fiscal monitoring 'cause you gotta make sure that every recipient is not only qualified but capable to manage it financially correct so, that we don't create more nightmares for us to audit and keep track of. You know, the more organizations you have the more paperwork is involved, the more chances of stuff happening. So that's just a caution out there. 'Cause no matter if it goes to WMSA or to others, we still need to have the plan and the standards. And I think for now, the best thing for us in lieu of an opinion is to just set that money aside and wait until we know. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Member Baisa, the Chair's intent is to proviso this thing so that when the Attorney General decision comes down and until we receive from the Planning Department how they going run this program, then this Chair's intent is to make sure that we don't spend this money.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Thank you, Chair. I fully concur.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Member Carroll?

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COUNCILMEMBER CARROLL: Thank you, Chair. I too am concerned about how this money, you know, would be distributed, but one thing I do worry about about just holding on to it if the Wailuku Main Street Association had projects going and you have people or organizations out there whether it be Wailuku Community Association, whoever that are dependent on monies for this following year for ongoing programs. I would hope that Planning Department might have the flexibility to look at programs that are ongoing and perhaps consider funding those through this money that is set aside. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Member Hokama?

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Chairman, okay. I think all the Members gave good comment; however, I don't want to see more E/P counts requested because we're going change how we're doing it, and don't forget every grant must have it audited, must give us an audit that Ms. Baisa brought up. And you know, unless we change the rules, Finance Department is going to have to audit all those small grants, okay. And I'm not sure I want it done all in Finance Department's lap. They got a lot of things they need to do on the County's behalf --

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Uh-huh.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: --with the monies that we get for Special and General Funds so, to do all this nonprofit audits is going to...I consider a burden at this point in time without proper controls. So, I think we need to think this through and that is why your Policy, our Policy Committee is reviewing restructuring the whole grants program for this County 'cause if you so small that you going, you know, under the current terms the County's going to do the audit then I'm thinking you shouldn't even apply for the grant.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you, Chairman.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. Members, the next grant and I think Ms. Cochran already started is the University of Hawaii Maui Sea Grant. Ms. . . .

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: You started.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: I did? I just asked the question. Chairman Mateo?

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: It speaks for itself.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. Member White?

COUNCILMEMBER WHITE: No questions.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Member Victorino?

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COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: I'm satisfied.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Member Hokama?

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: No.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Member Couch? Member Cochran?

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: No, I asked my question.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. Member Baisa?

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: No.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. Member Carroll? Okay. Good. So those are the three grants, two grants that actually sits in the Planning Department. So, thank you, Will. Thank you, Michele, for being here.

MR. SPENCE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman and Committee members.

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CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. The next group, Parks.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: What page?

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Page 8, same page.

MR. BAZ: Six dash two-seven-four.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: I'm looking at my long sheet.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Yeah. I don't know. They cannot find the long sheet.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: This one.

MR. KANESHINA: Mr. Chair?

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Yeah.

MR. KANESHINA: I call the Members attention to the far left, left hand side of that long sheet.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Uh-huh.

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MR. KANESHINA: There should be the page numbers.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: The page numbers. Yeah.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: There.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Yours don't have?

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: He no more the sheet.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Oh, you don't have the sheet. Okay. Parks, the first grant is the Maui Community Correctional Center for Workline Program. If you can provide us a brief comment on that.

MR. MATSUI: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This is the annual grant that we give to MCCC for their Workline crews and it includes buying supplies for them, inmate compensation, meals, vehicle repair and maintenance, equipment and maintenance, and clothing. And it's for \$117,000. Essentially there's four Workline crews and they work on various projects for the Parks Department as well as some other community events. Some of the stuff that they do for us is they put up post and rails or and repair the post and rails. They do certain clearing projects like maintenance of the hillsides, I think KCC is one, if you're familiar with KCC, cleaning along the slopes. There's some drainage areas they clean, and things of that nature.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. Thank you. Mr. Carroll, you got questions on that? Member Baisa?

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: No. But I'm a large supporter of the program and I'm very happy to see it in here. I wish there was more. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Ms. Cochran?

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Yeah. Thank you. I too am very happy to see this here. We've been able to expend all the monies that are given to this program though?

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Department?

MR. MATSUI: Yes, we have.

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Because if I recall last year there was discussion that they were, we were having difficulty getting Workline out there due to lack of ACOs from the facility to oversee the crews on the job and what have you so, that hasn't been an issue anymore? Just...I can't recall exactly what...must have been some park work or something we were talking about.

MR. MATSUI: As I recall last year the issue was trying to get more people out.

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UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Right.

MR. MATSUI: And one of the reasons was that, you know, they were limited to the ACOs that they had.

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Uh-huh.

MR. MATSUI: So, there was discussion about if the County were to fund more ACOs, that kind of thing.

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Okay. Alright. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Mr. Couch?

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: So, I guess that means that they haven't, they don't have enough ACOs still or they don't want to support more?

MR. MATSUI: Yeah. It's difficult to say. You know, I think from their part they have limited staffing but there's also looking at, you know, who...the prisoners that are...that should be out there working. So, you know, I think maybe you need to ask the Warden and those people that kind of question.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: They don't give you an estimate of we get so many guys that you can use through the year therefore it's going to cost \$117,000-ish?

MR. MATSUI: No. It's kind of based on, you know, what's been happening in the past, but you know, they have four crews or four ACOs but then they may not have them all the time.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: And you're using them to the full extent you can?

MR. MATSUI: Yes, we are.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Okay. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Mr. Hokama?

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: I think the Department should come up with a performance measurement on the use of this funds in this division, Chairman, 'cause I would like to see annually every project they worked on, who they ...what project they performed, who was the requestor, how many inmates was participated, and how much out of the total pot was utilized for each project. Because we've got other departmental requests that I would like to see Workline on and that includes Public Works --

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CHAIR PONTANILLA: Uh-huh.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: -- with our drainage and culverts issues before storm, as part of storm mitigation and I'd like to know where they doing the work. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Do you folks have a tally sheet of some kind or some accounting sheet saying where they are, what projects they're working on, manpower hours?

MR. MATSUI: Yeah. Yes, we do. Yeah, we have a list of projects that they've completed and it was more than--what is that--170 projects, different projects that they've done.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Yeah.

MR. MATSUI: We've listed 'em by work crews too.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Good.

MR. MATSUI: There's the four different work crews.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. If you can provide that ...*(inaudible)*...

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: And the level of recidivism, because you know, I'd would like to know the effectiveness also. It's like drug court.

MR. MATSUI: Okay.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Mr. Victorino?

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Thank you. And I really support this program and I've seen the benefits. My question to you is the State, has the State made any changes or any upgrade as far as ACOs are concerned, you know, I know there's been cutbacks and that was one of the biggest problems and not filling vacancies. But I've also been told that there has been bigger push for public safety and ACOs is one of the portions that they're putting more funding in. So, have you heard anything in that respect?

MR. MATSUI: No. I haven't.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Mr. Chair, I'd like to have a letter to --

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Sure.

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COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: --the Department of Public Safety via our Warden here and so that we know what's occurring, because this is a good program where I'd like to see more money put in if we could get more Worklines. And Mr. Hokama is correct, there's a lot of areas in Public Works, in other things that could really benefit from this, just not Parks and Recreation, but availability is the bottom line in all of this, yeah. So, if we could get some answer from them I think that would be greatly appreciated.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Mr. White?

COUNCILMEMBER WHITE: No questions. I just support what Mr. Hokama brought up about making broader use of the, of the Workline and I'll look forward to seeing the details on what they've been able to accomplish and see how we might be able to expand on it. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Chairman Mateo?

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Ditto.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. The next grant is the Lahaina Restoration Foundation. Mr. Matsui.

MR. MATSUI: Again, it's an annual grant, \$178,828. Basically, it's to fund the maintenance of the areas in the historic district along Front Street, the courtyard, and some of the parks around there, the library, those things. Most of it is for personnel and fringe benefits. And then there's rubbish disposal contracted, they have to contract out for 50,000, and then miscellaneous equipment cost.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: So, we grant the money and they contract out to somebody else to pick up the rubbish?

MR. MATSUI: Right. Like we, the Parks does it too. You know, to take it over to the landfill you have one of those companies with the big dumpsters go out and dispose of it at the dump.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Chairman Mateo?

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Mr. Matsui, is there any kind of an evaluation or a performance level that they provide you with on some kind of a frequency?

MR. MATSUI: Yeah. They provide a quarterly report.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: It's the quarter...and their quarterly report generally explains all of the services that they're providing for this 117,000?

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MS. ALMEIDA: Yes. It covers what they've achieved for the quarter and what they have remaining for the, you know, the remainder, the duration of the grant.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Okay. And access to those reports can it be made available?

MS. ALMEIDA: We do that...we do have those on file. Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Can it be made available to us?

MS. ALMEIDA: Sure.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Maybe a question for Budget Director. You know, we get so many grants and every time come to grants we talk about goals, objectives, meeting targets and the like, is there a possibility of getting that kind information placed into our Budget books so that when we review each nonprofit that we have some kind information in regards to the services that they provide this County?

MR. BAZ: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I may not have mentioned this before but that is something that we were planning, in fact the Office of Economic Development has started putting together something. What we'd probably do is create like an addendum to the Budget or some kind of supplemental information as it'd be pretty significant, the number of grants that we have and then the performance measures. But a majority of the funds that we allocate to nonprofits are done with specific performance measures and the like as well as the historical information that they report on on a quarterly basis to the Grant Manager. So, the information's available, it's just a matter of collecting it and putting it into a consolidated supplemental information for the ...*(inaudible)*...

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. Good. Mr. White?

COUNCILMEMBER WHITE: Thank you, Chair. This a contract more than it's a grant, isn't it? Because they're providing specific services and I'm assuming it's under a contract.

MR. BAZ: I'm not sure of the exact type of agreement we have with Lahaina Restoration Foundation. I can tell you though it's budgeted to be a repair and maintenance contract. That's correct.

COUNCILMEMBER WHITE: Okay. And the \$50,000 for trash removal is because it's basically like a commercial operation. We have to...we don't...the County doesn't provide refuse collection for the, for either Parks or for this operation. Is that correct? Or maybe Mr. Matsui.

MR. MATSUI: Yes. That's correct.

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COUNCILMEMBER WHITE: Okay. Thank you. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Mr. Victorino?

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: No. I think most of the questions I would have have been asked.
Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Mr. Hokama?

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: So, all parks through the Department uses commercial haulers for refuse whether it be green waste or regular, you know...

MR. MATSUI: Yes. We do a annual RFP and get bids.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Have you folks done any assessment to see if interdepartmental agreements whereby, you know, for somebody with big green waste, use Highways and do one interfund transfer. They got the loaders, they've got the dump trucks, they've got the equipment; they've got dozers, you know, to help you knock down trees and whatnot. So, has the Department done to see if we can do it more cost effectively by doing an interdepartmental consideration and then do interfund, interdepartment transfers?

MR. MATSUI: You mean if we're to contract with Public Works waste disposal?

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Or just have an agreement, you know. Let's take Lanai, the park. Those big Norfolk Cook pine trees fall down, you know, Public Works has the big dump trucks, you know, Refuse has the big loaders; we got bulldozers; we got wheel loaders, you know. Does it make sense to just utilize them when available and then do an interdepartmental transfer regarding the, the funding and just do a cost transfer than hiring outside procurers?

MR. MATSUI: I'm trying to understand your question. We do get assistance from Public Works on a lot of things.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Uh-huh.

MR. MATSUI: When their equipment is available, and in the past, or in the recent past, we've gotten a lot of, you know, help with them.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Yeah. Good. Good.

MR. MATSUI: And so, there's no like written kind of thing, but it's something like if we feel they have some equipment that's available, we'll ask them and go through their request procedures, and they've helped us a lot of times.

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VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay. But, you know, take the community centers out, yeah. Just parks, just like green waste, that no matter what should, you guys feel it needs to still be through commercial entities? That couldn't be done by our own personnel or equipment in the County?

MR. MATSUI: You mean like trash disposal?

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Yeah. Just green waste, grass, you know, leaves, you know throw it to your sod farm for mulching and whatnot. And again, so you can appreciate, yeah, you know, the last four weeks, what, we've heard a lot of requests for more money, yeah, from various components of the community, you know, and before I look at raising taxes I want to see how...if we can do certain things more efficient then I get little bit more money for discretionary General Fund use for other considerations. And then if not, ending up going ask the people if, you know, you want certain things you might have to be willing to pay more taxes. So, my thing is part of is there opportunities for additional efficiencies how all our departments are operating so we can realize some additional use of General Funds in other areas. And that's why I ask, you know, if we can do things interdepartmentally instead of through one contract service.

MR. MATSUI: Yeah. I think, you know, with this Administration, they're looking at, you know, being one family, looking at each department working together to help each other. And, you know, I've seen it happen just more recently, there was a storm in Hana that washed a lot of debris into Hana Bay and, you know, I think in the past everyone would start pointing fingers and say that's the ocean that's not my debris and you know. But we asked Public Works, they went right in with their equipment and just, you know, took it out --

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Uh-huh.

MR. MATSUI: --and hauled it to the landfill. So, you know, I think case by case you kind of gotta look at you know, what...do we have the equipment, do we have the manpower. You know we always, you know, looking at trying to get better.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay. Thank you, Mr. Matsui. You know, just hearing that you folks willing to review things and you know, do what you can, when you can, you know, pleases me. Thank you, Chairman.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Mr. Couch? Ms. Cochran?

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Thank you. And yeah, Lahaina Restoration Foundation has been a big, you know, entity in our town, and it was odd when I did read their grant and it was about maintenance and picking up trash and stuff. I didn't realize that they had, this is more geared towards that. So, it's kind of, seems like it's in a strange place to me like it should be with Department of Planning because they do take care of things in the historical sense, historical district, the signage, interpretation, Cultural Resource Commission type, you know, recommendations and get approved by them. So, I think this is a foundation that does some good thing. It has great ideas that come around so I'd like to continue the funding. I'm just

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curious when...they've been around for what? Since the early '60's, and so, is that when the County decided to not do all the, you know, responsibilities these guys are doing now, the trash pickup and what have you down in, on Front Street? The County quit doing that back in the early '60's like before I was born?

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Department?

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: And why...and these guys did the job?

MR. MATSUI: I don't know the exact history, but I recall the first County project was to do the lighting, the street lighting, to get it you know, not just your County street lights but like a historic lamp. And then more recently they did planters and trash receptacles and landscaping so, you know, as that type of public projects was completed, there was a need to maintain those improvements.

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Okay. Okay. Thank you. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Maybe they needed people after the whaling spree. Member Baisa?

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Nothing, Chair. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Member Carroll? Okay. Thank you, Parks. Thank you, Pat, Lisa, for being here. I think that's the only two, yeah? Yeah. That's the only two that you have. Chair is going to call for a short recess. We'll reconvene at 4:20. Okay.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Who's next?

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Next is Water, our favorite Department, Water. Meeting is in recess 'til 4:20. . . .(gavel). . .

RECESS: 4:13 p.m.

RECONVENE: 4:27 p.m.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: . . .(gavel). . . The Budget and Finance Committee meeting is now reconvened.

GRANTS – DEPARTMENT OF WATER SUPPLY

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Members, on the long sheet, we're on Page 9 of 9 and in your binder it's Page 6-454. Majority of the grants are basically for Watershed Protection. There's two, one for Maui Botanical Gardens and then the other one is Miconia Containment and Removal, USGS for Na Wai Eha for stream monitoring and studies. I'll take all of the watersheds first. Member Baisa, you got any questions to the watershed funding?

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COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: No questions, Chair, except to be very supportive of it. It's very, very important and being that, you know, Maui County is so depended on for this, we just have to keep doing it, and if we had more money, I'd be happy to put more. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Member Cochran?

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Thank you, Chair. So, this is just the general title called Watershed Protection and as...

CHAIR PONTANILLA: No. I, I'm taking all of the Watershed Protection one time, yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Oh, all of...

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Yeah. But...okay.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: And then...

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: I'm just looking in particular that one line item 415,000 --

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Uh-huh.

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: --and so how's that broken up, I mean because the, all the other line items have its designated amounts, correct?

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Yeah. It's new and then we can have the Department . . . *(inaudible)* . . .

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Okay. That's, just, that's my question. Thank you. So when we, I don't know if he wants to do that now or later.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Yeah. Department?

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Any opening comments?

MR. BAZ: Mr. Chair? If I might respond?

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Sure.

MR. BAZ: Okay. Thank you. In the past there have been grants for Watershed Protection out of the Department of Water Supply and out of the Office of Economic Development. And I met with the Planning Program Manager who is with us today. And she was in the process of looking and seeing what OED's grants were for and what Water Department's grants were for and looked at

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it and found that they were, they're very similar. And looked at the different criteria and different things like that. I was very impressed with the work that she had done, and it was my proposal to put these two grants together. I do have to...I was just notified that there are funds in Watershed Protection in that lump sum. It had generally been split up between the 5 different Watershed areas, \$83,000 per Watershed. One of those goes to Lanai which there are no Water Department, you know, utility rate payers on Lanai so, I might suggest, Mr. Chair, if that \$83,000 can be taken back out of that and put into OED as to not charge the Water Department rate payers for an area that's not covered through their fees. But we can discuss that at as we get, go along.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Oh, okay. Yeah. I was going ask you this question, why should we give it back to OED?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: For Lanai.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Oh, for Lanai.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: ...*(Inaudible)*...

MR. BAZ: Yeah. Mr. Chair, it depends on how the Committee wants to...we're open to any suggestions by the Committee.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Oh, okay. Fine.

MR. BAZ: Yeah. And I'm sure Member Hokama might have some suggestions.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. When we get to him, he going ask you all kinds questions. Ms. Cochran?

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: So, wait. Were you going to say that some of these watersheds are actually in this one lump sum?

MR. BAZ: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Individual...

MR. BAZ: Maybe Pam can explain what the watersheds do, the five different watersheds and what they do with this money, if you'd like.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay, Pam. Please identify yourself, please.

MR. MEYER: I'm Deputy Paul Meyer. This is Ms. Pam Poque. Pam joined us last year. She's our Division Manager for the Resources and Planning group and they administer all of our watershed grants. Pam.

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MS. POQUE: Thanks, Paul. Yes. That'd be...I'd be happy to explain. There...the \$415,000 was split 5 ways, 83,000 each to Leeward Haleakala, West Maui, East Maui--I'm trying to think--MISC obviously, and then Lanai. So, it was an even five way split between those five watersheds. Yeah. It's Molokai not MISC. I'm sorry. Okay. I do want to mention something that I did put together and maybe this might help clarify any questions you guys have. I've put together a document that basically summarizes all of the metrics for all of the watersheds. It's fairly comprehensive. It basically tells you what you're getting for your money. It tells you what the watersheds do, how they differ, but more importantly what it does is it has maps so that you know exactly when we say "East Maui" what we're talking about, when you say "West Maui" what we're talking about so that there's no overlap. You can see the commonalities amongst the grants then you can also see where they differ, but I do have that right here that I did prepare for you. Basically what happened was each one the watersheds, I prepared a template and a format and they filled it out, and they really did a great job, a very, very good job so, I don't know what the process is, but I, I have them here.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: We'll have somebody pick it up and then --

MS. POQUE: Okay.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: --distribute to the Members. Okay. You have any more questions?

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: I just...okay, sorry, Chair, maybe I'm just not getting it. But, it just seems like the Watershed Protection entities are kind of getting double dipped here. I mean they're getting both ways, right? They're getting money out of this Watershed Protection General Fund and they're each individually getting funded. This is where I'm trying to find the connect or the disconnect, whatever's happening here. If somebody could simply explain that.

MR. MEYER: Thank you. It is a little bit misleading. The \$415,000 was added simply as a transfer item from OED and it should be in and in the future will be broken down into its 5 individual components, and 4 of them, 4 times \$83,000 will be added to the East Maui, the East Molokai, the West Maui, and the Leeward Haleakala portions. So you won't see that \$415,000 anymore. Eighty-three thousand dollars, the part that belongs to Lanai will likely move to another department or we'll find other funding for it.

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Okay. Thank you, Mr. Meyer.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Mr. Couch?

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: No, thanks.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Mr. Hokama?

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VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: I understand why, you know, Lanai shouldn't be using the Department's...I guess this is unrestricted funds from the Water revenues?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yes.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: So, I understand, I understand it and I know why you gave the comments you gave, but you know, when I look at all these regions, you know, I know not the whole region is given service by the Water Department. You know, there's some that have private systems, some are on catchment, and so, you know, I, I'm open to assisting you in making this work very well because I also agree it's very important, you know, the watersheds. And work with of course, DLNR, you know, let's leverage it out and 'cause I don't feel at this time to give County money to take care their feral mammal problem although it's impacting us also. But with this Watershed Protection, I'm like Ms. Cochran, yeah, I would rather you just tell us in this, for this Committee to just add 83,000 to East Maui, add 83,00 to East Molokai, and that, that's very upfront and clear and again, you know, people like us are very supportive of those type of considerations so, I don't have an issue with that. But then again, you know, for the Lanai component if, you know, I ask for your recommendations, you know, why you think it should be, and I don't have a problem also with any of this watershed monies to have some kind of component that they must come up with either dollar for dollar with Lanai or for you know, the other four components if they need to come up with 20 percent of additional matching funds at a minimum. And use our money to leverage and get other people, foundations, State--wait, let's forget about the State--Federal monies or whatever they may be as leveraging so we can do more than less, and so I'm very supportive of those kinds of adjustments for you to consider, please. And then my other question is I always thought the Miconia, you know, the Invasive Species program was also connected to the Watershed Protection, so should we view it in another manner, Paula [*sic*] or Deputy Director?

MR. MEYER: Thank you. First of all, I'd like to address the question of leverage or multiplying our efforts here. It's difficult because the, these agencies, the nonprofits haven't finished their budgets as we go forward, but as near as we can tell our funding, the County of Maui funding and Department of Water Supply funding represents between 15 and about 30 percent of the funding of these agencies.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Uh-huh.

MR. MEYER: Some cases it's at the lower end, one case it's at the higher end, and the rest represents State funding, Federal funding, and private grants, private contributions. Most of the agencies also have volunteer activities that do a lot of the work. In the case of Leeward Haleakala most of the work is done by volunteers --

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Uh-huh.

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MR. MEYER: --and in some cases as a condition of the Federal funding there has to be local funding from the State and the County, so that our funding here that we're talking about today is really critical to the success of these agencies. Pam, do you want to answer the other question?

MS. POQUE: Yeah. I thought you had a really good point, Councilmember Hokama, and that is why is it we're funding when you look at the maps and you see individually there are clearly some areas that have private water systems. I think the thing to keep in mind is that we're talking about watersheds as opposed to political jurisdictions or where the lines might be in terms of what pipe is servicing what homeowner or what community. So, when you're looking at watersheds, you know, you brought up a great point about MISC, MISC is basically about revegetating those areas so it can capture fog drip, rain, and so forth and recharge the water. So, when you look at these areas you're talking about there might be some private water systems like West Maui for example; however, West Maui, I mean, they're doing a fantastic job, the partnerships. You really have to think about it in terms of watersheds and ultimately aquifers.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: No, again, I, my, I know how the West Maui component work and that's why I am supportive of General Fund considerations, because those entities are also property owners that pay property taxes so, I can appreciate a General Fund consideration, yeah. But also, you know, while I appreciate the 83, one area that I hope we would also look at and you know, give your recommendations, you know, I'd like to see us support also West Molokai. You know, it's not under the County jurisdiction but yet, they have their concerns too regarding potable water issues, and you know, we went through an experience of, that I wish we don't repeat, but it was difficult for us to take care of our friends and neighbors on, on West Molokai also, yeah, regarding potable water issues and whatnot. So, you know, I am hoping you would give us and if you believe it's still should be under the Office of the Mayor or under the Department of Management to relocate and put those General Fund components for Lanai and maybe West Molokai and if it's for other areas that makes better sense then, you know, people like me are open to that. So, I am happy to hear that. The last one, is again, back to the Miconia Containment. That is for a Countywide effort, the MISC program?

MS. POQUE: There's two MISC programs actually. One is, well, you're right, Countywide meaning Maui island and there's also one in Molokai so, there's two, and that's contained in that information.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay. Has anyway MISC, well, MISC does work on Lanai too, so, again, you know, they helping us out and doing a great job. But you know, if there's anything that you can share with me that continue to support, because again, you know, for Lanai, we cannot screw it up, we got only one mountain to serve a whole island. And so, I'm very . . . (*inaudible*) . . . of how we do things there. So, you know, any assistance being water professionals that can assist us, I would be most appreciative. Thank you.

MS. POQUE: I'd be happy to.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you, Chairman.

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CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Mr. Victorino?

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Thank you. And I'm glad you clarified that matter because I also want to remind my esteemed colleague the West Maui mountain stretch all the way across to Wailuku so, when you say West Maui mountains it's primarily private, well, I will tell you it stretches across to one of the biggest users in the area that uses the most water. So, I can support what you folks are doing. I like this taking it out of OED and putting it where it belongs under the Department of Water, and I also was glad that you clarified about the leveraging because they have come testified many, many times in what they do, the hours they put up there, and many times pro grata. They don't get paid for a lot of stuff they do, and if it wasn't for these groups today this island and this County could be short a lot more water than we are today. The ungulates, and the ferals, and the pigs and all that other stuff, deer is causing havoc up in the watershed area more than anything else at this time, more than Miconia at this time. That's the facts. Understand the facts and you understand the problem then you don't have a, really question what needs to be done. I wish, like Ms. Baisa, we could put more money in here 'cause the State sure ain't, they sure talking a loud talk but they ain't doing nothing, Mr. Chair. I haven't seen a dime come that direction yet. So, thank you for your guys efforts, continue the good work, and I hope that somewhere, someday along the line we'll have more money to put in this area 'cause if we ever lose these watersheds, we're going to be desalinating some water real quick and then we'll see what expense means. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Mr. White?

COUNCILMEMBER WHITE: Thank you, Chair. I'd be interested in you all taking a look at the, having gone through this process of evaluating the work in the watersheds, the easy thing for us to do would be to put \$83,000 more into each of the existing budgets for the watersheds. But I'd be interested in your feelings as to whether one at this particular juncture might be in more need of assistance than another or if a couple are in more need than others, or would it be better for us just to leave it as additional funding and you guys can use your own discretion at a later time?

MR. MEYER: That's a really good question. Can we confer on that for a second?

COUNCILMEMBER WHITE: Sure.

MR. MEYER: Thank you, Councilman. That's a very creative and positive offer. I think at this point, we'd like to leave the funding proportional 83,000 as it is. There are a couple of issues in terms of high level water in Waikamoi that we'd like to see, but at this time, I think preserving the funding because it's the basis of the budget for these agencies and allowing them to continue the work uninterrupted with their existing staffing and their existing programs would be a more productive approach for now.

COUNCILMEMBER WHITE: Okay. Yeah.

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MR. MEYER: Thank you very much.

COUNCILMEMBER WHITE: I have no interest in reducing the funding, I'm just...we'll try to leave you as much flexibility as we can.

MR. MEYER: Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER WHITE: Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Can you kind of explain Waikamoi high level water?

MR. MEYER: Yes. The Waikamoi is a preserve and that area which is managed primarily by the Nature Conservancy is our water source for the Olinda Treatment Plant and for Piiholo as well. We have a number of diversions in that area. That's where the flume draws from and --

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Uh-huh.

MR. MEYER: --that's where Piiholo Water Treatment Plant draws from. In addition, those same gulches at a lower level feed the ditch system, the Wailoa Ditch, and that is the system that we use for the Kamaole Treatment Plant as well. So, Waikamoi's a very important high level water source for us overall.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. It, it's not a high water aquifer?

MR. MEYER: No. That's surface water. It's water that comes down from rainfall and from the rainforest, down the gulches and into diversion works.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. Good. Chairman Mateo?

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Chairman, I support the funding request. I have no questions.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Mr. Chair?

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Mr. Couch?

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: They brought up something that triggered a question in me. The...we have the Soil Conservation Districts as well and it's in your report.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yes, it is.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: What are the differences? I mean, shouldn't they all be under Water or are we kind of doing that because of ag? But soil conversation is very key to watershed as well.

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MR. MEYER: That's in part true. Soil conversation also involves managing and advising farmers on how to control erosion, how to keep dirt out of the ocean, keep it from stifling the reefs, those kinds of activities, and it's a little broader mandate in terms of some of the activities. And it's also a question of maintaining, as close as we can, line of sight to our source of water for our customers. And most critical from our perspective in terms of the quality of the water and the amount of the water is preserving that watershed that really the water comes from.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Okay. So you work closely with them then in other words?

MS. POQUE: Yeah. Councilmember Couch, we do. And I think one thing to keep in mind is that Soil Conversation Service gets much of their money from NRCS, the National—I know you know what that is—the National Resource Conservation Service, and they use our funds, County funds, in OED to leverage that money. In many cases of the Watershed Partnerships, when you have particular issues down your way dealing with runoff and also in Lahaina area in terms of runoff because of, you know, lack of vegetation, forestation, and so forth into and off of offshore which, of course, is going to choke the reefs and affect the reefs and water quality, Soil Conservation Service is working with the Watershed Partnerships. One example be is there's a NOAA project in West Maui, in Lahaina area, of which the Soil Conservation Service, NOAA, and the West Maui folks were all working together.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Okay. Thank you. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Couldn't that be in the...located in the Water Department, this particular grants? Can this particular grants be located in the Water Department instead?

MR. BAZ: Mr. Chair? You're talking about the Soil and Water Conservation grants?

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Yeah.

MR. BAZ: I believe that from the description they include things like protecting the reef and other areas as well that there's a less of a correlation to the Water Department, but it up to this Council.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. And then Environmental Protection would be the whole gamut then?

MR. BAZ: Yes, Mr. Chair. When we go through Office of Economic Development's grants and the Environmental Protection area you'll see they do provide a very wide gamut of areas that they service.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. Members, any more questions on the Watershed Protection? We got one more over here which is the Maui Nui Botanical Garden, Inc. Mr. Carroll?

COUNCILMEMBER CARROLL: No questions.

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CHAIR PONTANILLA: Ms. Baisa?

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: No questions.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Ms. Cochran?

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: No questions but I gotta say that they are really improving and that's true, getting more people to want to go to the Gardens and learn and see all of our native species all in one place is just awesome and that Ho`omau was incredible. So many schools profited. There was a huge turnout, bigger than they expected and I walked home with a truckload full of plants from them and they do wonderful work so. Thank you. I support this.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Mr. Couch?

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Thank you, Mr. Chair. The question I have is for the Maui Nui Botanical Gardens. Why don't we have all their funding come out of this, you know, come out of Water Department if they're, if that's your main emphasis for funding them is for all the native plants. That's one question. The other question is and I guess this is to the Chair and the Members, is I thought this was one of the agencies that swore that they were going to wean themselves off of us and they're actually asking for more money this year in another location.

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: That's true.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: So, yes, it's important for watershed because we need the native plants. Maybe we should fund them through that as opposed to, you know, all over the place?

MR. MEYER: Thank you, Councilman. It's my understanding that Maui Nui does have multiple tasks in its mission. One is the demonstration garden, another is education, another is to share plants with schools for local gardens, and then lastly to provide native plants for Xeriscaping for low water consumption gardens in people's homes and that sort of thing, and they charge a fairly modest price for those. It is not generally a large scale propagation program for some of the native watershed plants. For those, there are a number of nurseries and other programs that are, that are preparing large scale plantings and replantings to take the place of some of the invasive species that get pulled. But I think Maui Nui does an excellent job at what it does. Pam, would you like to add?

MS. POQUE: No.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Should they be a large scale, I mean, as long as we're...

MR. MEYER: We have a couple of programs that are getting into that right now. There are three, I believe native plant nurseries Upcountry that do large scale plantings, and these agencies do bid and acquire their plants from those nurseries. In addition, we have a grant for the first time this last year for, through MISC for the purpose of developing disease resistant varieties of koa that

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look very promising and that's going to increase the survivability of koa plantings from 25 percent to in the neighborhood of 75 percent --

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Wow.

MR. MEYER: --which is a fairly dramatic improvement. And that comes out of University of Hawaii, Hawaii Advanced Agricultural Research Center and a forestry researcher, Nick Dudley. So, we're fairly excited about that program because we think it's going to dramatically improve the, the native propagation.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Okay. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Mr. Hokama?

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Does the Department utilize plantings from this agency to assist your requirements?

MR. MEYER: No, we largely leave MISC and the other agencies that do plantings to their own devices to bid for the best quality they can and the best prices they can.

MS. POQUE: Actually, I do want to add this year that we do use Maui Nui Botanical Garden plants and we used them, we have a project we've been helping out with with Community Work Day at Lahainaluna, and we, I know did a huge planting and irrigation project at one of the shelters. So, on occasion, we do actually go to them for plants and they provide them. That's part of the deal.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay. And that was?

MS. POQUE: Sorry?

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Did you buy those plants or that was just --

MS. POQUE: No. No.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: --what the agency provides upon request?

MS. POQUE: The agency provides them upon request.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay. Well, you know, my hope is that they'll come up with some kind of improved revenue generation program 'cause I think they can make some decent money running a program at the site and selling those important plantings. You know, the State, and again, you know, for people like us there's the State nursery under DLNR also and during the tenure of Governor Ariyoshi, in a four year time, you know, First Lady Lynn, not Lynn, but the First Lady Ariyoshi project was 1 million trees of aloha to be planted Statewide, 1 million trees. Okay. And they achieved their goal. So, obviously we have the ability and through State nurseries and

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whatnot to provide planting material for our watersheds, and so, I hope, you know, we utilizing as much of the resources available so that people like me can reduce the cost on the taxpayers. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Would you know if they work hand in hand with the County's nursery horticulturists in regards to the type of plantings for Maui County use? I know, we do have a small nursery, just in the back of this Maui Nui Botanical Gardens. Would you know?

MR. MEYER: We're not familiar with the County nursery.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Chair? That, if I'm not mistaken, is Parks and Recreation has that little, that --

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Oh. No, no. Yeah, I understand that.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: --back one, yeah.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: But I'm asking if they work hand in hand with the County?

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Oh, I see.

MR. BAZ: Mr. Chair?

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Mr. Baz.

MR. BAZ: Yeah. When the Mayor and I met with Maui Nui Botanical Gardens that discussion did come up and they offered to assist the Parks Department in whatever way possible to assist them with their nursery management and selection of trees and things like that.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: That would be good because it's right there.

MR. BAZ: Yeah.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. Mr. Victorino?

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Thank you. And again, I remember that discussion also and I think they are working in that direction. But they do provide a great service for you folks and if I'm not mistaken and just what you talked about the koa and the promagation [*sic*] from, you know, survival of 25 percent to 75 percent, that alone can pay itself in ten-fold. So, I think where we take the money and put it to help this program I have no problem but so long as we continue because they are an integral part and hopefully, one day can lead this County into having better drought resistant and well as other types of native plants that belong here and stop bringing in from someplace else which Miconia and other things have been devastated for this, devastating for this environment. So, continue the good work and thank you very much. Thank you, Chair.

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CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Mr. White?

COUNCILMEMBER WHITE: No questions.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Chairman Mateo?

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: No questions.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. Thank you. That's all for the Water Department. Thank you for being here, Paul, as well as Pam. Thank you.

GRANTS – DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Next up is Transportation on Page 8 of the long sheet and 6-439 on the Budget book. And Members, we going to go up to 5:30 and then we'll take a dinner break and then we'll take dinner break 'til 7:00. Yeah. So, we'll just start with the Transportation Department. But before we go into the Transportation Grants, I'm going to call on Scott Kaneshina regarding this particular sheet here. Scott.

MR. KANESHINA: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Just to clarify, I shared this with a few Members during the break but if we look down to the, on the long sheet, for Public Transportation program, the 6.9 million and then the 10.7 million. I kind of discussed this with the Budget Director on Friday and what, what's happening here is that prior to 2012 the public transit program was a grant or it's called a grant. So, historically we've been tracking it as grant. Now in '12, it became a program so rather than, you know, remove it from this sheet and kind of lose the history and kind of skew our grant numbers, we've maintained it, and just be known that, that in '12 and the proposed '13 it is operated as a program and not a grant. But I think for the historical trend it was kind of important to leave it in there for the time being. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. Good. So, we'll go into the first grant, Air Ambulance Program. Mr. Mateo?

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: No.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Mr. White?

COUNCILMEMBER WHITE: No questions.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Mr. Victorino?

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: I think we got the answers to that question earlier if you remember. Thank you, Chair.

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CHAIR PONTANILLA: Mr. Hokama?

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Are we still partnering with the State on this program?

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Please identify yourself and then answer.

MR. TAKAMORI: I'm Marc Takamori, Deputy Director for Transportation. Yes. Yes, we are.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: And, you know, I appreciate our Staff giving us some adjustments that will be made and not losing historical numbers, but can you tell us the current year's numbers as of this quarter, three quarters, you know, went through three quarters already, so, you know, how much was it utilized, you know, what areas, was it mostly for Molokai and Lanai use?

MR. TAKAMORI: Up to March, 2012 there have been a total 20 trips done. The most trips were done from Hana to Maui Memorial. The second largest was Lanai to Maui Memorial and then Napili to Maui Memorial so, then it kind of gets to Ulupalakua, Molokai, Haleakala Crater, and then Molokai to Queens. So, those were all the different trips being done this year.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay. Through the Air Ambulance Program.

MR. TAKAMORI: Yes.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay. Just one quick one. You know mostly came to, you know, for Maui Memorial. The Molokai-Oahu, the Queens, while I can appreciate they have certain additional specialties and they're an acute care facility, as I understand the only one in the State. That was, was that something some unique situation and that is why it went to Oahu instead of Maui? If you don't have the information, you know, it's...I just was...that was just...it just sticks out. And I can appreciate the Queens facility.

MR. TAKAMORI: Yeah. We're not really told what the purpose of the trip was.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay.

MR. TAKAMORI: We just know that it happened from on a certain day from Molokai to Queens, yes.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay, okay, okay. So, the amount of funding you got with where we are now, what was the amount expended percentage-wise? Seventy-five percent?

MR. TAKAMORI: Basically how this grant works out is that at the beginning of the fiscal year we deposit this money to the State with the MO...MOU...MOA. So, basically they just get the money upfront.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: So, who's accounting for the money?

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MR. TAKAMORI: This goes to the State Department of Health.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: And we don't get it accounted for at the end of the year? There's no auditing done?

MR. TAKAMORI: We do get monthly reports.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Who does the annual audit?

MR. TAKAMORI: That I would have to check in on.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: You know, we need to know the annual auditing, who's doing it, and whether or not there's a management letter saying how to improve or if there's, you know, and I think one of the short areas now is what you telling me is we're not getting the right financial accountability information for make the next annual consideration of this kind of request. Okay So, I hope we tighten it up and, you know, if you there's...you need something from the Council to assist you, please let us know, but I would like an annual audit number, please. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you.

MR. BAZ: Mr. Chair?

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Mr. Baz.

MR. BAZ: Just so I understand Member Hokama's request, this, the grantee if you will, is the State of Hawaii. Would you like their annual fiscal audit, their CAFER or?

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: I mean, I'd like to know what the hell they did with our money.

MR. BAZ: Yeah. Okay. Yeah, that's why I wanted to make sure 'cause it sounded like you wanted their annual financial audit and what it sounds like you want is a reconciliation of this...

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: I would like Health Department to tell us it took hundreds of thousands --

MR. BAZ: Yeah. Right.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: --of our dollars and this is how they spent it through the fiscal year and they provided this service for the County on Molokai, you know --

MR. BAZ: Okay.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: --but, you know.

MR. BAZ: Yeah. Thank you. I'll assist the Department in reviewing that.

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VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you very much.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. Mr. Couch?

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Thank you. I seem to recall from the discussion we had on this prior a couple weeks ago, that you said that the State spends a lot more than we give them. Has that been historically true so they're spending more than \$1.3 million on this project?

MR. TAKAMORI: They're spending more than our match basically. So, it's not a 50-50 match. They actually put out more money than we do.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Right. So, they're spending more than 1.6?

MR. TAKAMORI: Correct. Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Okay. Are they still doing the strangeness of going, if they get a call to go from the airport to Kula to pick up the crew and then go off to wherever they go so...

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Yeah. So is the helicopter crew still up in Kula or have they finally moved them down so they don't have to make an extra landing and take all that extra time?

MR. TAKAMORI: I'm not quite sure where they are currently located. I did ask the question this morning but I didn't get an answer.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Yeah.. If you could get that for us because it would be nice to cut down on the time and probably the expense --

MR. TAKAMORI: Yeah. I can ...*(inaudible)*...

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: --of doing a separate landing way up in Kula as opposed to having a Wailea crew just drive over there.

MR. TAKAMORI: Sure.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Alright. Thanks.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: That was my understanding that there is a landing pad up in Kula somewhere probably at the guy's house so. Member Cochran?

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Thank you. No questions. Looking forward to the answers to the questions we've given so far.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. Member Baisa?

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COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: No extra questions.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Member Carroll? Okay. We jump down to 6-...

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Chairman?

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Yes.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Just one, one quick follow up. We do not provide any funding from this program or anything in your Department for fixed wing? This is only for helicopter service, right?

MR. TAKAMORI: Yes.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay. But we also know that we have fixed wing service, yeah, as another way to deal with required services on possibly Oahu for Queens. None of this money is used for those fixed wing-type of operations? When I say fixed wings it's like the Cessnas or --

MR. TAKAMORI: Right.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: --you know, multi-prop...

MR. TAKAMORI: No, this is just for the helicopter service. Yeah.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: The helicopter service. Okay. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. The next one is Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc. for transportation services including Ala Hou, General Fund. Can you kind of explain what this is? And, Members, on 6-437.

MR. TAKAMORI: So this grant is basically given out to MEO Transportation. They currently provide transportation services for our seniors, youth services or youth transportation, and again, disabled community. Yeah. They have also included rural shopping shuttle and basically, they do a lot of outside service like Ala Hou. Ala Hou is the service that is similar to paratransit but that is being, they service areas that our current paratransit system does not cover.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. This is all for three islands?

MR. TAKAMORI: Yes. There...MEO does service three islands.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. Good. Mr. Carroll, question? Member Baisa?

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COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Yes. Just one question. I know that this particular funding takes care of the services on Molokai, and as far as I know, no expansion of services in this budget. Is that correct?

MR. TAKAMORI: That would be correct. No expansion in services.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: I just wanted to measure...mention it and I realize it's kind of the 11th hour but I was made aware last night at attending an event that there was a request by some of the Molokai seniors that they were looking for an additional run. because apparently we do one in the morning and they wanted one in the afternoon. Because they're finding that, you know, transportation is so difficult on Molokai with the cost of gas so high and no alternatives and I realize like I said, 11th hour and this maybe have to be thought about next year, but I just wanted to mention it so that they know that we had heard about it. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. And I think they expressed that on Lanai too. Member Cochran?

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Thank you. I heard you bring up youths and I've been getting calls in regards to the State can't, taking out school bus system, so, would this be helpful to that at all? I'm looking at areas in West Maui like Honokohau which is the valley past Honolua Valley where I live. Could this assist there? Or...

MR. TAKAMORI: Basically, these grants aren't set up for, I guess if they take out school bus services. We're not quite ready for the influx of students going on to our transportation system.

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Okay. And just clarification on the long sheet looking at, so the line just after Air Ambulance and then the 6-4...oh, we're on 6-437? Oh, I guess that was taken out, that second line and it's just sort of combined into this 6-437. Is that? I was just getting confused 'cause it's written twice on the sheet but I guess I'm getting it. It's double written but we're only looking at the one line with the figures of 5 million 6...

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Is that what's? So eventually, I guess Mr. Baz, these redundant, extraneous things will be deleted out eventually or?

MR. BAZ: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Okay.

MR. BAZ: Mr. Chair, the item's on there for historical information prior to the combining of separate items before into a single grant.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Uh-huh.

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COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Okay. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Mr. Couch?

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Oh, we're going that way.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Oh. Member Baisa?

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Chair, just one more question. I don't know if we got all the way down but anyway, on the...oh, okay. Not on the line we're on now. Okay. There's another line. Thank you. I can wait.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Mr. Carroll?

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: This way, boss.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: You going this way.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Oh, okay.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: I think you're going that-a-way. We've been here too long

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Next time no point to her, yeah? Mr. Hokama?

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: No. I think Ala Hou is a great Countywide program, Chairman, and I can be very supportive of continuing those services.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Mr. Victorino?

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: No. I can also support it and the concern, you know, and I think Ms. Winer covered it when you weren't here, is the immediate probability of bus service being changed in Central Maui not so much out in West Maui because they're looking next year, the next fiscal year of changing that. And taking all the bus service, so from Waihee all over we won't have. So, that's my concern but I guess we gotta cross that bridge when and if we reach there because right now there's still uncertainty. And the Board of Education hasn't made that final decision, and in talking to our member from here he will fight his darnedest but he's just 1 of 9. So, there is that challenge, yeah. So, we'll see what happens, but thank you for the . . .(inaudible). . . I can support this. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. Have you had any conversation with the State in regards to the Department of Education?

MR. TAKAMORI: Yes.

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CHAIR PONTANILLA: And their bus service, you know, doing away with the bus service?

MR. TAKAMORI: Yes. We, we've had several meetings with them I guess just discussing what could potentially happen, but they, I guess they keep on saying that they're hopeful that they will get their funding.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Mr. White?

COUNCILMEMBER WHITE: Thank you, Chair. And hopefully all the parents are writing to their State Legislators.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: I hope so too.

COUNCILMEMBER WHITE: Because that, that's going to be a big, big challenge. The question I have is what, whether you can tell us what the spending year-to-date has been or as recent the numbers as you've got for this program?

MR. TAKAMORI: I would have to get to you that numbers.

COUNCILMEMBER WHITE: Okay. That's fine. Thank you. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Chairman Mateo?

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Thank you. Just if you can tell us what the 3 percent addition reflects? It's the 163,8...133. Can you tell us what that represents?

MR. TAKAMORI: That would be a 3 percent increase on the request from MEO. I believe that is an increase in the cost of operations.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Cost of operations so...

MR. TAKAMORI: Yeah. So, the increase in like fuel, and yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Thank you.

MR. BAZ: Mr. Chair?

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Yes.

MR. BAZ: I have a expended to as of March 31, 2012 of \$5,461,089 for the Human Service Transportation. That could be the whole grant that has been encumbered.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. But you don't know the actual expense that already paid or...

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MR. BAZ: No. That would be I guess based on their quarterly reports and their quarterly allotment requests that comes into the County.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Oh, okay. Members, any more questions regarding this Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc., for transportation services including Ala Hou? If not, we go to Public Transit Program – Highway Fund. And you heard Mr. Kaneshina --

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Chair?

CHAIR PONTANILLA: --kind of explained...yes?

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Before we go on, I wanted to ask about the grant that we made for the Transit Center or you want to come back to that?

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Maybe it's good time. Yeah, what happened to the grant to the Transit Center?

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Yeah. I'm just wondering about the status.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Would you know?

MR. TAKAMORI: Yes. So the 250,000 that was requested this fiscal year basically we have a contract in place and I believe they, MEO did receive the check from the State, so once they, once that's set then we release the money. Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: So, the money hasn't been...no money's been released yet?

MR. TAKAMORI: The money has been released. Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Our money?

MR. TAKAMORI: Yes. The 250,000.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Okay. I just wanted to know. Thank you very much.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. Do you know the status of that project where it's at?

MR. TAKAMORI: We do have Debbie Cabebe here from MEO. She would probably be able to give you an update on that project.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. Maybe. Debbie, quick one.

MS. CABEBE: Good evening. We did receive our first installment from the State of Hawaii and then we did receive the money from the County so, we are in the process of moving forward with our

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project. We actually have another meeting with the Water Department, we have some, you know, hurdles that we're working through but we are moving forward so, things are looking very positive. And thank you all very much for the support and for the funding.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. So, what kind issues you have with the Water Department?

MS. CABEBE: Pardon me?

CHAIR PONTANILLA: What kind issues you have with the Water Department?

MS. CABEBE: Not issues but just some matters to discuss. Actually, it has to do with Fire and fire hydrant.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. Okay. That's issues.

MS. CABEBE: Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: You put it a nice way. Okay. Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Thank you, Chair.

MR. BAZ: Mr. Chair?

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Yes.

MR. BAZ: I did look up the actual expenditures that the County has paid out to MEO so far this year and it's \$4,095,816.75.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. Thank you. Okay. We go to the Public Transit Program – Highway Fund. Chairman Mateo, you got questions?

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: No, I don't.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Mr. White?

COUNCILMEMBER WHITE: I'm a little uncomfortable with a 26 percent increase but I guess we'll further review it. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Mr. Victorino?

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: No. I understand why. Although, I agree, it takes away something else but go ahead.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Mr. Hokama?

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VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: I will wait 'til Friday's proposals, Chair.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. Mr. Couch?

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: No.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Ms. Cochran? Ms. Baisa?

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Chair, I too have a concern with automatic 5 percent increases, but you know, we will have the opportunity to do a new contract at some point and we can deal with it then. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Mr. Carroll? Okay. Thank you.

MR. BAZ: Mr. Chair?

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Yes.

MR. BAZ: If I may make a note on that. The 10,000--excuse me--

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Ten million.

MR. BAZ: --ten million seven hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars, 50,000 of that is not included in the contract for the Public Transit Services but it is Highway Funds that we use for printing and signage and stuff like that.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Uh-huh. Okay. Good. Anything else on the Transportation Grants? Mr. White?

COUNCILMEMBER WHITE: I'm sorry, Chair. I would like a delineation between what part of the 26 percent increase is for expansion versus the existing coverage.

MR. BAZ: Mr. Chair, it's broken down on Page 6-442.

COUNCILMEMBER WHITE: Thank you. I knew we had it somewhere. Does that include all elements of it? I'm hearing comments down the line that maybe it doesn't include it all.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Mr. Baz, would you know?

MR. BAZ: Yeah. Thank you, Mr. Chair. If you go over the Expansion Budget Request Services, it reflects an additional appropriation of Transportation Services, 5 percent increase per contract of, that's a \$464,000 increase, added budget for the Kula route which is \$600,000, and then the matching funds for anticipated Federal funds, I think that description was cleared up. This is a

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not matching funds for anticipated Federal funds, it's to replace Federal funds that we were expecting that we didn't get to fund the Public Transit Program. And then the additional funds for the Kaanapali Island, Islander, 3 hours of service, \$134,000 and then the \$50,000 I mentioned.

COUNCILMEMBER WHITE: Okay. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. So that's all for Transportation Department.

MR. TAKAMORI: Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: The next one is the Housing and Human Concerns. Members, we'll take our dinner break now and then return at 7 o'clock. And then we'll start with Housing and Human Concerns. Chair's intent to go up to maybe 9 o'clock tonight and then adjourn and then we'll continue tomorrow morning with Housing and Human Concerns. So, the Budget and Finance Committee meeting is now in recess 'til 7:00. . . .(gavel). . .

RECESS: 5:22 p.m.

RECONVENE: 7:00 p.m.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: . . .(gavel). . . .(Inaudible)... reconvened. Members, this evening we do have representative from the Department of Housing and Human Concerns. We do have Director Jo-Ann Ridao as well as Deputy Director Jan Shishido.

GRANTS – DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND HUMAN CONCERNS

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Members, if you can direct yourselves to Page No. 1 of the long sheet and on the Budget book, 6-152. Jo-Ann, do you want to make opening comments of some kind or...

MS. RIDAO: No, Chair. I didn't have any opening comments for tonight.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. I just have a comment for maybe you or Mr. Baz in regards to the Affordable Rental Housing Program. I know there's one-two-three-four organization that will...

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Chair?

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Chair, before you start, you meant 6-157 not 152, yeah?

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: No, one-five-two.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: One-five-two.

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COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: One-five-two.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: One-five-two.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Where, where you looking at, Chair? Oh, on the top. Okay.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: I apologize, Chair. Okay, okay. ...*(Inaudible)*...

MS. RIDAO: Yeah. That comes before one-five-seven.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Yeah, yeah. Okay. I apologize, Chair. I'm sorry. Sorry.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: One-five-two, one-five-three, one-five...*(inaudible)*...

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: I was looking the wrong place. That's why, sorry.

MS. RIDAO: I couldn't resist.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Pardon me, Chair. I'm sorry. Made a mistake.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. On the Affordable Rental Housing you do have four organizations that I think, you know, going to be utilizing the funds and I don't know, what I need from you is how much do each of the organization at this time.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yes.

MR. BAZ: Oh, Mr. Chair. I guess the Director might have that information.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay.

MR. BAZ: From my understanding this pots of monies are RFP'd out and they get, they receive applications and a score and award them each year.

MS. RIDAO: Yeah. No, I don't have that.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: You have Family Life Center?

MS. RIDAO: I don't think I have that.

MR. BAZ: I can look it up, Mr. Chair, and get it to you.

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MS. RIDAO: Yeah.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. Members, the first grant is the Hale Mahaolu for homeowners' and housing counseling program, Fiscal Year '13 is \$35,000. Member Mateo, you have any questions?

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Pass.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Member White?

COUNCILMEMBER WHITE: No questions.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Member Victorino?

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: And I'm on the right page. No questions. Sorry.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Mr. Hokama?

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Chairman, thank you. So as I understand, this is a General Fund request, right, Mr. Baz?

MR. BAZ: Yes, Mr. Chair.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: And again, yeah, Chairman, you know, one of my comments before we, that we asked the voters to reauthorize the Affordable Housing Fund was for times like this whereby, you know, I think it's very appropriate that when we look at the affordable rental component of housing --

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Uh-huh.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: --you know, we've heard comments throughout the County regarding this particular area and so, you know, given the time 'cause I can create my own opinion of how to utilize the Affordable Housing Fund that the Charter establishes to potentially be considered by this body or through the Council to a revision by ordinance for maybe use some of the funds in that component to provide for expanded programs of affordable housing such as rental programs. And so, I would maybe have you request Corp. Counsel to re-review the Charter language 'cause, you know, like I said I can make an opinion that would fit that might qualify use from that fund to help provide funding for this particular area since I'm very supportive of trying to expand affordable rentals in this County, and again, you know, through ordinance we may be able to make some adjustments. So, I'm just looking at the 2010 amendments, Chairman, but I would like us to at least explore the opportunity that if it made sense and we may need a super majority vote to consider using that fund. But again, I'm just trying to again reduce the ability for us to need to look at big adjustments in taxation to pay for such programs. But I support the intent of rental housing, Chairman.

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CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. Fine. Thank you. I guess Corporation Counsel, you heard the question, right, in regards to utilizing General Fund or going into the Affordable Housing Fund to fund programs like this?

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Oh, Chairman, I'm sorry if I skipped the right area.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Oh, okay.

MR. UEOKA: What type of use are we questioning as to the Affordable Housing Fund right now? Sorry.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Again, Chairman, my apologies. I was looking at that \$825,000 request.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. Mr. Ueoka --

MR. BAZ: Mr. Chair?

CHAIR PONTANILLA: --if you can hang on to that question.

MR. BAZ: The 800...just to clarify, the \$825,000 request is a request for General Fund appropriation through the Department not their Affordable Housing Fund as set forth by the Ordinance.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. But if you can get me all that information.

MR. BAZ: Yeah. So, you're correct, Mr. Hokama, in your request.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Yeah.

MR. BAZ: Yeah. Just for the Committee's sake, if you recollect there was a request by the Department of Housing and Human Concerns in the Affordable Housing Plan which was part of the use of the Affordable Housing Funds, the 2 percent set aside for first-time homebuyer and for affordable rental assistance support, and I believe that was the question that was sent to Corporation Counsel. I'm not sure of the response.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. Fine. Mr. Couch, on that first item?

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: First item on the long page or the first item on...

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Long page. Hale Mahaolu.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Okay. No.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Ms. Cochran?

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COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: No questions.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Ms. Baisa?

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: No.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Mr. Carroll? Okay. The next one is that Affordable Rental Housing program. The breakdown of the, I guess funding for each of the four different organizations.

MS. RIDAO: Chair, we're going to have to get back to you on that.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. Mr. Carroll, you got any questions to that? Member Baisa?

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: No questions on that but in the prior discussion, I remember last year that we talked about possibly using some of the Affordable Housing money to supplement rental, and I understand there's a measure that was introduced, it's sitting somewhere, I don't know if it's in your Committee...

CHAIR PONTANILLA: It's in my Committee.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: In your Committee. And that was the intent of this and it was researched by Member Carroll's office and I think we were told we could do it. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Member Cochran?

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Thank you, Chair. Did we not receive a communication in itemized amounts for these, for the...

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: No.

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: No?

CHAIR PONTANILLA: I don't have one. Staff, you got an itemized...

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: The April 11th, Scott. No?

MR. KANESHINA: Are we talking about the umbrella, what we call umbrella grants from the Department?

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Yeah.

MR. KANESHINA: Yeah. There's a correspondence from looks like, Budget Office, April 11th.

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COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: They're not in there.

MR. KANESHINA: Well, and basically it's the, all the Community Partnership Grants, all the umbrella type grants that we're talking about. But, we did receive it into Committee on looks like it's time stamped 3:42 on April 11th.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Mr. Chair, that's not for the grants and disbursements for Housing program. That's for Community Partnership Grants which are different.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Oh, CPG. That's something else then. Yeah, this one here is the breakdown for Affordable Rental Housing programs. So, Jo-Ann, maybe you can give me that information later, if you can.

MS. RIDAO: Yes, we can be looking it up as we go along, Chair.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. Fine. Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: That was just my question.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: What's that?

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: The breakdown, but anyways, we'll get that later.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Oh, thank you, yeah, anyway. Member Couch?

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Just trying to help.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Thank you, Mr. Chair. The way I see the way this is broken down this really isn't, I mean this is Affordable Rental Housing for people in certain circumstances as opposed to something like a First-Time Homebuyer's Program and something that Mr. Hokama was alluding to that we have some sort of affordable rental assistance program. I know we do through MEO but do they have to go through...I mean, is that where we're going to do our rental assistance, 'cause I would certainly see, like to see more in rental assistance as opposed to affordable rental assistance as opposed to first-time homebuyers. Because you know, generally the people who need the help the most are the ones that need to at least have a place to live and if we can do affordable rental assistance much more than the First-Time Homebuyer's Program. I mean, it's nice that we have a First-Time Homebuyer's Program but I can imagine most of the people in this room would like to have had assistance in their down payment or whatever but you know, it's one of those things where you gotta work up to it, so.

MS. RIDAO: Mr. Couch, when we submitted our Affordable Housing Plan for the fiscal year it did include \$1 million for a rental assistance which we called a Tenant Based Rental Assistance Program which would be run parallel with our Section 8 program. In fact, it would be run through our Section 8 program. In addition, we asked for more monies for the First-Time

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Homebuyer's Program. Those two items were deferred so you're still going to...I guess it's still going to come up for your discussion.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: I guess this discussion also goes to the First Time Homebuyers Program so whenever we get to that one I'll continue. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay.

MS. RIDAO: Chair, we got the numbers now if you want them.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Oh, okay. Before I lose this thought here. We do have in Policy Committee the Charter amendment that Mr. Carroll is introducing. And for Ms. Baisa in regards to that Affordable Housing utilizing the Affordable Housing Fund for Affordable Rental I think the discussion at the time was that the \$1 million would almost like supplement the Section 8 and the program would run for two years. And that's the problem that I have, run for two years. And you know we could be funding this thing forever for you know, to the same individuals and not have any other family, families you know be afforded the chance to get into that pool. So, that's the reason why, you know, it's still in my Committee. Mr. Hokama, questions?

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: No, Chairman. I think you made a good point, and you know we're in the budget this year and maybe it's something we need to do through various ordinance revisions so I can understand. I'm just finding the way 'cause the current way I see the Budget being proposed, I'm going to have make choices because not everybody's going to be able to be funded. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Mr. Victorino?

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: I agree with Mr. Hokama and we're going to have really take a good look at it. You know, I support it, unless we can find more money to put into it we're going to have to make some hard choices but we'll see how that happens, yeah.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Mr. White?

COUNCILMEMBER WHITE: Thank you, Chair. I feel similarly to the other gentlemen on my right. The concern I have is that both of these programs, you know, as you said we're going to have to be...with the program as it was explained to us in Committee earlier it's going to run for a long time and it's going to be focused on the same people. And my concern is that when we do programs like this we'd like to use it as a, you know, something that lift people into a position where they can go on their own not become --

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Dependent.

COUNCILMEMBER WHITE: --dependent on it. And so that's one of my concerns. And I guess I need to hold off on my home buyer thing but the home buyer is kind of the same. We put aside

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\$200,000 and I believe it's 15,000 each which means that 13 lucky young families get 15,000 that no one else can get. And so it's just, again, my sentiment is that I'd like to have it impact more people than less and so, I'm not comfortable with the process. I'm reasonably comfortable with the numbers but anyway. Thanks.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. Mr. Mateo?

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. And I share the same concerns. Somehow I wish there was a clearing house with just one organization that would disseminate to all these other organizations based on some kind of a mutual standard or mutual need. Problem with this is that we've established kingdoms and yes, we've established dependency, dependency on this County and that for me becomes a problem because there's so much duplication of services that it becomes a question of on us, you know, who is the more popular organization, this one or that one? And that shouldn't be our choice. It should be which organization provides the best service for you know, the need to meet our County's needs. And I don't think we're doing that. This, you know, our dependency just continues and our problem for not understanding any kind of a breakdown is perhaps consideration, perhaps there's too many. So, to me, it's I think we should look at some kind of a clearing house where an organization, because if you look at the savings from administrative line ups there's cost savings there. You know, so, I think the word from the Administration was "bold". I think we need to do that. Bold step. But I don't think we have the political will honestly. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Okay. Jo-Ann, if you get those numbers.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Mr. Chair?

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: I just wanted to make a few remarks in regards to this rental assistance. There are different kinds of rental assistance programs going on and to make it very clear, the rental assistance program that is handled by MEO does have serious limits on it. You don't get it and get it forever. You have to participate in a budgeting, working, change your life kind of program and you only receive assistance as long as you do that. The intent is to make these people self-sufficient so they can get off of the program and not come back. The problem that we're mixing up is with Section 8 where you get on it and you get on it and you stay on it and you're on it for year after year after year after year. And so, to me, if we're going to put any money into a rental assistance program, I think we should put it on the goal with self-sufficiency so that there is an end. Because I too do not believe that you want to do this forever. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Ms. Ridao, if you got those numbers.

MS. RIDAO: Sure. The Affordable Rental Housing Program – Family Life Center has \$143,500. Ka Hale A Ke Ola Resource Center, \$181,250. MEO, \$256,250. And Women Helping Women, \$143,250.

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CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. Thank you. Members, any questions to those numbers? Member Carroll, questions? Member Baisa?

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: No, thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Member Cochran? Member Couch?

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: We're doing on those numbers she just gave us?

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: No.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Member Hokama? Member Victorino?

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: None.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Member White? Member...Chairman Mateo?

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: No.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. We go down to the First-Time Homebuyer's Program. Chairman Mateo, questions?

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: I can support this.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. Mr. White?

COUNCILMEMBER WHITE: No, I've already commented. I don't have anything else to say.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. Mr. Victorino?

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: This one I'm very torn, Mr. Chair. Although I'd like to see people in homes, I agree you limit the number of people you can help and what about those that, you know, I believe could be helped even more if we spread it out more or whatever. So, this is one of those I'll kind of just wait 'til we get that point and then I'll decide. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. Thank you. Mr. Hokama?

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: I would us, I would prefer us to look at a revolving fund, you know, I would even support no interest but I think part of helping them comes to a level of sufficiency is also taking responsibility. So for me, I don't mind a zero interest payback program because then another family gets eventually supported through the funding also.

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CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Mr. Couch?

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: I agree with my colleagues on the left. You know, this is too few people get helped with this and it's a lottery, you know, the luck of the draw is if you get it or not where we could put a lot of money into, again, rental assistance. Those are the people that need getting into a place and that's where they get their start. You don't get your start buying a home. You have to actually earn your way into that. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Ms. Cochran?

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Thank you. So, being a lottery, Ms. Ridao, how many people do you see do not, I mean, like what's the applicants and then how many can we actually give out so the percentage of...

MS. RIDAO: For the First-Time Homebuyer's Program?

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Yes.

MS. RIDAO: Last, I believe last fiscal year was the first time we did a lottery . We had over 100 applications and we can only assist 13 a year. We've done it for 3 years so, we've done about 40.

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Okay. Thank you. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Member Baisa?

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Thank you very much and I certainly share the sentiments of my colleagues about, you know, the numbers and some people are lucky and some people are not lucky. But it was my understanding and I totally agree with Member Hokama about the idea of a revolving fund. It'd be nice if we could get the money back and recirculate it. But I'm aware of the problem. The problem was that when these folks went for their housing loan this was recorded as a liability and the banks had problem with it and then they didn't qualify for loans. So, it's a hard way to try to do it because we won't be able to help them get into the housing. So, that's why we decided on a grant instead of a loan.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. Member Carroll? Ms. Ridao, in regards to the home program, is it similar to that, where you get Federal monies or do we have Federal monies that come to us that we can loan out in...to the various organizations for first-time homebuyers?

MS. RIDAO: I don't believe we can use home monies to do a First-Time Homebuyer's Program. We can use home monies however, to match a rental assistance program.

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CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. I thought we had a program where we provided like a \$15,000 down payment and repayment. If you live in the house forever, you know, you don't have to pay the County back so, I thought we had such a program. We don't?

MS. RIDAO: Yes. The program I think you're talking about was called the American Dream Initiative. And that was another program of HUD.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: So, do we continue to get funding?

MS. RIDAO: No. Those funds, they don't have those funds anymore.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Oh.

MS. RIDAO: They don't do...they don't have that program anymore. Yeah.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: On this First-Time Homebuyer's what is the medium income limit? Up to 160 percent?

MS. RIDAO: I believe it's up to 120 percent.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. And our Affordable Housing goes up to 100...?

MS. RIDAO: The Affordable Housing Program?

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Yes.

MS. RIDAO: It goes up to 160 percent.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. How come we don't include them?

MS. RIDAO: Can you repeat that?

CHAIR PONTANILLA: How come we don't include that income bracket?

MS. RIDAO: For the First-Time Homebuyer's Program?

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Yeah.

MS. RIDAO: We could change it very easily. I think that's how the program was first established and then the Affordable Housing Program was kind of we tried to match it with our Residential Workforce Housing Policy which was up to 160 percent.

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CHAIR PONTANILLA: Yeah. I think we provide more now on the lower bracket and we kind of tend to forget about the gap group so, that's something, you know, need to be considered and if we have to change ordinance than we going have to do that.

MS. RIDAO: Thank you, Chair. I have noted that.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. Thank you. Any more questions on the First-Time Homebuyer's Program. None? Okay. We go to the next area. This is nine on the sheet.

MS. RIDAO: I know Acculturation is a Molokai, I believe...

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Going down on that 8 ½ by 14 page, the next one down. Human Concerns County Grant Subsidies (inform [sic] providing budget details) and it's on Page 9 on your Budget Details. Ms. Ridao.

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: What page?

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Page 9 on your Budget Details. That more skinny...

MR. BAZ: Mr. Chair?

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Yes.

MR. BAZ: Thank you. The items listed by your Staff on, at the middle of the Page 1 of 9, shows on the very left hand side, page in Budget Details and it looks like what they did was in the Details there is a Sub-Object Code called 6317 which is County Grant Subsidy, and in...the, so the first one is the Acculturation Program Index Code under the Office of Immigrant Services and there's a County Grant Subsidy shown there of \$63,000. And so for each of these you would see and only in the Budget Details the County Grant Subsidy for those amounts.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: ...*(Inaudible)*... have any explanation ...*(inaudible)*...

MR. BAZ: No. They're not, I guess they're not pots of money that we've defined as pots of money and they're not line item grants, but I guess by definition they are pots of money because they're available in the program to spend.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: It's the sheet that they gave us under Housing and Human Concerns, Page 9.

MR. BAZ: Yeah. So if you look at Page 9, towards the top it says 914147 Acculturation Program and then Other Costs has 6317 County Grant Subsidy and I don't see Immigration Services.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. We'll just take the first one. Ms. Ridao.

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MS. RIDAO: The Acculturation I believe that is for the work that is done with the Enlace program on Molokai.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: On Molokai. Molokai?

MS. RIDAO: I think so.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Mr. Mateo, question?

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Not the Enlace program.

MS. RIDAO: Or...

MR. BAZ: It's not Enlace.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: No, it's not.

MS. RIDAO: It's Acculturation.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Yeah. Acculturation. Primarily for our other immigrants.

MS. RIDAO: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: And because our island has no other services because our immigration office on that island is limited, this program provides additional services for our immigrant youth and it's been an extended program for Molokai for the last number of years dealing with the community needs.

MS. RIDAO: Yeah.

MR. BAZ: Yeah. Mr. Chair, it looks like the payments go to Molokai Community Services Council.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: They're the umbrella.

MR. BAZ: Yeah.

MS. RIDAO: Okay.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. Mr. White?

COUNCILMEMBER WHITE: No further questions.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Mr. Victorino? Mr. Hokama?

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VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Is this where my position on Lanai's budgeted? For immigration services?

MS. RIDAO: I beg your pardon? Can you repeat that?

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Is that where the Lanai position is funded from?

MS. RIDAO: No. No.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: I remember the Deputy she had the information last week so, can you refresh my memory, please.

MS. RIDAO: The Lanai staff for immigrant services --

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Yes. Right.

MS. RIDAO: --is in the Immigration Services Staff budget.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay. Okay.

MS. RIDAO: Employee count. Yeah.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: So this 63,000 is just Molokai?

MS. RIDAO: Correct.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay. Thank you very much.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. Mr. Couch?

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Thank you. My only concern is that this is kind of buried in here and it isn't, there's no explanations for it or anything like that. It should be a line item like everything else if they're going to do something like this 'cause all it says, you know, is County Grant Subsidy and doesn't say what it's for. And so, I'm not, you know...

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Similar to the rest of 'em where they have a narrative.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Yeah. Where you got a narrative and it says what it is 'cause all this is is a copy of this so.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Is that a problem for future budgets, Mr. Baz?

MR. BAZ: No, Mr. Chair. I will, I'll my staff before we produce the budget verify any amounts in Sub-Object Code 6317 in any of the programs in the future.

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CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. Ms. Cochran?

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: No. Just have the same frustration trying to figure out what all this is and what's it for and who it's for and anyways. Just pass.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Ms. Baisa?

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Nothing to add.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Member Carroll? Yeah. Tonight we flipping pages. Before I move on, Ms. Ridao, you know on that First-Time Buyer's Program yeah, the question and I think Member Baisa kind of answered you know the questions that probably some of the Members and myself had. I know it was told upon us that if we did do a revolving fund that it would become a problem with the banks. Can you expound on that? And I don't know what other options do we have in the County that can create the revolving fund without any hardship to whoever is trying to get this First-Time Homebuyer's money.

MS. RIDAO: Okay. Let me try the best I can. It's my understanding that if...in order to establish a revolving fund the applicant or the person, family receiving First-Time Homebuyer's monies we would have to make it as a loan, and when you make it a loan it's counted in the calculations of, you know, what monthly payments you going have versus what income you have and so that'll kind of like tip the scale for people because it's a loan. If it's a grant then they don't have to count it in your debt and therefore they're able to qualify. So, I, I'm, you know, we can do some research on how we can maybe make it a revolving fund and maybe they can pay the 15,000 back later. I don't know. I would have to talk with the banks on how we do that.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Yeah. If you could. I think would help the program even greater so that we don't have to put too much County out, money yeah, output. So, if you could.

MS. RIDAO: I can. Yeah. I can talk to the banks.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. Thank you. Okay. County Grant Subsidy – Office on Aging.

MR. BAZ: Mr. Chair?

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Yes.

MR. BAZ: Looks like, I went ahead and pulled up GL transactions for these so that we could at least have some clarity on this --

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Sure.

MR. BAZ: --so we go forward if you don't mind. Looks like the Office on Aging-County Grant Subsidy went to family caregiver support through Maui Adult Daycare and some Lualaba

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Projects and volunteer recognition projects from the Maui Interfaith Caregivers HIV Na Hoaloha, MIVC.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: So how many organizations, three?

MR. BAZ: It looks like two, three different projects. They've spent \$12,000 so far this year.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. Mr. Mateo, questions?

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: No, no.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Mr. White?

COUNCILMEMBER WHITE: It's not a big number but what kinds of things does this go towards?

MS. RIDAO: You know, we have the Director here. She can probably come up and answer that more clearly for you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. Who's the Director, if they can come forward.

MS. RIDAO: Deborah. And then she can answer that one.

MS. ARENDALE: Good evening.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Good evening. Kind of tell us who you are. We all know you but you know, for the record.

MS. ARENDALE: Yes. Aloha. I'm Deborah Arendale, Maui County Executive on Aging. And I'm very happy to be here this evening. This line item that this County grant subsidy we use that to support family caregiver education and training opportunities and Na Hoaloha is a volunteer-based organization and we support their volunteer recognition activities. They actually, last year when we calculated it, their services resulted in about a \$480,000 cost savings to the County in services, direct services to our clients so, we support an annual volunteer recognition event with part of these funds.

COUNCILMEMBER WHITE: Thank you. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. Thank you. Mr. Victorino?

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Not at this time.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Mr. Hokama?

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: None.

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CHAIR PONTANILLA: Mr. Couch?

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: No. I'd just like to see it broken out next year, please.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. If you could. Ms. Cochran?

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Thank you. Yeah. That would help what Mr. Couch mentioned 'cause I'm looking at grant for services for the frail and elderly and it seems there's a whole list of Na Hoaloha things here and Hale Mahaolu and so, I don't know, I'm just getting all kind of mixed up at this point. But, okay.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. Member Baisa?

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: No. I'm okay with it. I just also think that maybe we better try and get a better presentation. It's a little confusing for us to try to figure out where the money's going and what's, what it's about.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. No. Okay. Senior Fair Program. Ms. Ridao.

MS. RIDAO: I'm sorry. Where are we, Chair?

CHAIR PONTANILLA: The next one down, Senior Fair Program.

MS. RIDAO: Senior Fair is exactly that, the annual Senior Fair. And usually that is contracted out to MEO, is it MEO?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Whoever gets the bid.

MS. RIDAO: Whoever gets the, whoever answers the RFP and is the low bidder.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: And the \$6,000 increase?

MS. RIDAO: Where are we? Oh, okay. That's Lanai and Molokai.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. That's the reason why for the increase?

MS. RIDAO: Yes.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. Good. Mr. Mateo?

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: I'm not going start. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Mr. White?

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COUNCILMEMBER WHITE: Well, I guess the question still is do we need that increase?

MS. RIDAO: We have never done a Senior Fair on Lanai or Molokai. I do know that the Office on Aging has been traveling to both islands on an increased basis to educate people to get them more services. So, I think \$3,000 for Lanai and 3,000 for Molokai to do a Senior Fair is well worth it.

COUNCILMEMBER WHITE: Okay. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Mr. Victorino?

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: How many people did we bring over in the past from Molokai and Lanai?

MS. RIDAO: For the Senior Fair?

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: For the Senior Fair, yeah.

MS. RIDAO: We don't bring anybody over.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: So, they never came over?

MS. RIDAO: No.

MR. BAZ: They used to.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Well, yeah, see, thank you. 'Cause I remember them coming so, I was going to question you on that part. So, how did they come and who's paying for them to come?

MR. BAZ: Mr. Chair?

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Mr. Baz probably has that answer.

MR. BAZ: Thank you. Yeah. When Maui Economic Opportunity started running the fair a number of years ago, that was part of it was that we would assist people from Molokai and Lanai with the ferry and transportation to the fair should they choose to come. And so the senior clubs, you know, Auntie _____ Senior Club on Molokai and the seniors on Lanai would ride the ferry over and we would pick them up and bring them to the senior fair. There has been a senior fair on Molokai for a number of years but it hasn't been supported through funding from the County. Hale Mahaolu has held it over at their location and everybody just kind of kicks in and volunteers what they can and puts it together. And they put a fairly decent program together but it sounds like the Department wants to enhance that with some support.

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COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: And, you know, Mr. Chair, I'm glad that clarification was made because that's important. And again, I understand the dynamics and I want to see our seniors no matter where they live have an opportunity to attend a senior fair and I think it would be more expedient and probably more cost effective if we take and use the money there instead of bringing 'em here. So I know they used to come; I remember that. And that must have cost some dollars when you figure that all out. And maybe if you can dig up some figures for us, Mr. Baz, you know, when...hey, well, don't think back that far, okay. But I just believe that even though these are still very austere times we owe them that much. And I think if we can figure it out and if we have enough then I'm going, I can support it, you know. So, I'd like to see them have same opportunities as our seniors here, you know, they should have that same opportunity. So, I can afford, I mean, I can endorse and handle \$3,000 for Lanai and Molokai. Those seniors deserve just as much as our seniors here. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Mr. Hokama?

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Will all the fairs be providing the same level of vendors, opportunities, and whatnot?

MS. ARENDALE: On Lanai this year we're going to partner with the Tri-Lanai group so that all of our efforts together can create an enhanced experience so, we'll be...we've worked...we've started planning last summer to create an event that would actually be substantive.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay. So this is with that health fair component is all part of this one big umbrella event?

MS. ARENDALE: Yes, sir. Yes, sir.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay. I know the community has been talking about that so, that's my main concern, if you going to provide something on Maui and then you're not going to provide similar type of offerings on Lanai then I got one problem 'cause I think everybody should be treated the same way. But, you know, for Lanai, I am happy to hear that you're trying to build a critical mass so that it's as successful as possible. And so, I can appreciate that but then, you know, again, I would expect the same thing for Molokai also.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yes, sir.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you, Chairman.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Mr. Couch?

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: No.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Ms. Cochran?

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COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: No questions.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Ms. Baisa?

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Being the oldest person, I remember the beginning of all this. and for years on Molokai the Senior Fair was put together by the elderly organizations and everybody would contribute. Hale Mahaolu would contribute and you know a lot of the people would give like tuna and bread to make tuna sandwiches and whatever. It was very simple. And all of the vendors of course are invited to go, and the thing is like Mr. Hokama was saying you have to have a critical mass because if you're a vendor you might not want to go to a fair if there's going to be 20 seniors. Now if there's going to be 2 or 3 or 400 of 'em, definitely you'll spend the money and take your company over for the day to do the screening or whatever. So, I think every effort is made to try to present the things that we present on Maui on Molokai and Lanai but I think some of that is having a critical mass. And in the past, the seniors used to come from Molokai and Lanai on their own. They would raise money and come and MEO used to help when we had money but that's kind of slacked off because it's become expensive to travel and so the, and the seniors are older. You know, what we don't realize is that the seniors that I started with they were in their 60's and now they're in their 90's and 100's and they don't...they can't do what they used to do, even the fundraising at the fair. They don't do what they used to do before because they can't. And so, the senior fair has changed but I still think it's a wonderful opportunity and we ought to have one on every island even if it's smaller, even if there's less. But it's a wonderful opportunity for them to get health education and access to resources 'cause we...I just read your...our survey of the seniors and I found it very interesting to see that it's the number two priority is this need for information. Transportation's number one and information and getting ideas about where I go for help was the number two need expressed by seniors. So, I think it's important.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Mr. Carroll? Okay. County Grant Subsidy-Volunteer Center. Ms. Ridao.

MS. RIDAO: Okay, Chair. I have the Volunteer Center, \$25,000 amount is used for volunteer recruitment. There's a volunteer expo that is done I think twice a year at Kaahumanu Shopping Center. Capacity building which is our volunteer leadership and hands on trainings. As you know, the Volunteer Center is, has computerized volunteer, volunteers going on there looking for volunteer work that they can do as well as people who need volunteers or programs that need volunteers can go online and the program will match the volunteers. As well as volunteer recognition. We just recently had a volunteer and volunTEEN heroes award and that's what those monies are used for.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. Thank you. Mr. Carroll, questions? Member Baisa?

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: No, thanks.

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CHAIR PONTANILLA: Member Cochran?

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: No, thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Member Couch?

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: No.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Member Victorino?

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: No.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Member White?

COUNCILMEMBER WHITE: No.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Chairman Mateo?

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: No.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. County Grant Subsidy-Early Childhood Resource Program.
Ms. Ridao.

MS. RIDAO: The Early Childhood Resource Program, I need to call Kaina up to the podium. It's a
\$9,410 amount. Kaina.

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Manini, yeah?

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay, identify yourself.

MS. BONACORSI: Hi, I'm Kaina Bonacorsi, the Early Childhood Resource Coordinator. Sorry. The umbrella agency for this one is the Hawaii Association for the Education of Young Children and the funds primarily goes to supporting the Early Childhood Conference for our Maui County educators. So a big chunk of it does go to scholarships for our Molokai, Lanai, and Hana for their registration fees as well as their transportation to come to that event. It's also used for different quality improvement initiatives and activities, for example, this year it was used for a couple of different programs that are trying to improve their quality that needed some extra funds for materials.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Chairman Mateo, questions?

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Mr. Chair, yeah. Thank you very much for sharing information on the program. The existing programs that provides childhood services programs, they don't provide any additional assistance in resources to better train their I guess teachers or...

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MS. BONACORSI: Some do but it's very limited. The major State conference happens in October and a lot of our providers don't have the opportunity to get to attend to get that up-to-date information. Some programs who are striving for national accreditation do get individualized coaching and assistance but many of them don't for a variety of reasons. So, that's...does that answer your question? The opportunities are very limited for them to receive that kind of ongoing training.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Well, you would think that if it's their programs and it's the natural thing to do to train your instructors working with kids but that's neither here nor there. What happens if these, this \$9,410 disappear?

MS. BONACORSI: Then the conference that's here on Maui probably won't happen.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Mr. White?

COUNCILMEMBER WHITE: No, I think it makes sense to bring people from Molokai, Lanai, and Hana in for it. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Mr. Victorino?

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: I agree. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Mr. Hokama? Mr. Couch? Ms. Cochran?

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: No questions.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Ms. Baisa?

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: No questions.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Mr. Carroll? Okay. Good. Thank you. Go to Community Partnership Grants on Page 6-157.

MS. RIDAO: Chair?

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Yes.

MS. RIDAO: We have received the applications for the Community Partnership Grants. We have received the recommendations from the Grants Review Committee and it's currently with the Mayor for his review.

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MR. BAZ: Mr. Chair? I just wanted to add clarification.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Mr. Baz.

MR. BAZ: For clarification the entities listed under so Page 6-157, Community Partnership Grants FY Proposed Budgets, you know, \$1.1 million, the entities listed under the Community Partnership Grant underlined section there are the ones that have received it the for the past two years. So, they may or may not be the ones that applied or will receive funding for the future items but we showed this information for your historical purposes so you understood what this grant goes to.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: So, this is the second year for these organizations or?

MR. BAZ: No, Mr. Chair. The Fiscal Year '13 will be a new year.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: New.

MR. BAZ: Yeah.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. So we wouldn't know until a later time who gets what?

MR. BAZ: That's correct.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay.

MR. BAZ: Yeah. For all of these pots of money, if you want to call 'em, that's the case. What we show you is the historical information for your reference of who received it this year.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. And who does that?

MR. BAZ: The Community Partnership Grant, the Culture and Arts Grants, and the Youth Center Grants are handled by the --

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: GRC.

MR. BAZ: --Grants Review Committee. Those recommendations are sent to the Department and then forwarded to the Mayor for his review and approval, and then the other ones that are listed under here that are pots of money are ones that the Department either does RFPs or has selection criteria for and then makes the recommendation to the Mayor to fund in those different pots.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. How soon would we know who qualifies for these grants?

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MR. BAZ: Mr. Chair, I'm not sure. I'd have to check with the Mayor as far as his review and when he might look at approving either the recommendations or changing the GRC's recommendations so.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. Mr. Mateo, questions?

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: The current list that we're looking at right now the GRC, any of these entities are you aware whether there have been major cuts to any of their initial requests or are we looking at the status quo across the board?

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Ms. Ridao.

MS. RIDAO: From what I can remember it was pretty much status quo. I don't believe there was major, requests for major increases.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Yeah. Or reductions. Any...

MS. RIDAO: There are some reductions.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Yeah. There was that woman from Molokai that testified. Mr. White?

COUNCILMEMBER WHITE: Thank you, Chair. Could you give us a sense of how much the five largest recipients were awarded and who they were? If it's in the Details that you provided us then I'd be happy to go look but I couldn't find it.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: We don't have the numbers; they gotta give us.

MS. RIDAO: The larger numbers would be 148,000 last year to Aloha House. And then, no, I shouldn't use that as an example. And then in the...between 50 and...oh, here's a 190, Malama Na Makua A Keiki. It's a Malama Family Recovery Center. And then, yeah, I would say between 50 and 80, a whole bunch of them.

COUNCILMEMBER WHITE: Okay. Chair, it would just be a lot easier for us if we had the detail.

MS. RIDAO: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER WHITE: Not that, yeah, not that we need the...

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Where is it?

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: In a memo from the...Mr. Baz, dated April 11th.

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COUNCILMEMBER WHITE: Okay.

MS. RIDAO: And, Mr. White, you will get a, all of the numbers once the Mayor has made his decision.

COUNCILMEMBER WHITE: Yes. It's just to have an idea what the scope.

MS. RIDAO: Oh, last year's. Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER WHITE: Okay. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. So, last year's numbers are noted on a correspondence dated April 11th. Okay. Mr. Victorino?

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Thank you. And I'll go look for it 'cause I don't, just don't have it available. And it's one of those situations, Chair, we have a lot of papers and it makes it real hard for us to go look for something.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Really.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: But, I heard you, Ms. Ridao, say when the Mayor decides.

MS. RIDAO: Yes, Mr. Victorino. The process is the Grants Review Committee --

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Yeah.

MS. RIDAO: --takes all of the Community Partnership Grants that we...we advertise, we get responses --

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Uh-huh.

MS. RIDAO: --all of those applications are given to the Grants Review Committee made up of community people that have been appointed to those positions and they make a recommendation to the Mayor for his consideration of funding. The Mayor makes the final decision. He can go along with the recommendations. He can add or subtract whatever, you know, he decides would be his final decision.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: And would it be these particular entities that are here or it could be anybody?

MS. RIDAO: Could be any nonprofit.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Any nonprofit.

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MS. RIDAO: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: So, even if this Council's...let's just...Aloha House 'cause that's first thing on the line. We say yeah, we like that, it does good work, we say, hey, we want to give them money, Mayor goes and say, no, I don't think they do as good work as they said so-pfft-no, thank you. That means no, thank you.

MS. RIDAO: I believe his recommendation will come to you and Council has final say, no? Okay. No. No.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Okay. See, so let's...yeah. 'Cause I, I mean, this is important because there's a lot of rumors banded about, right, Mr. Baz, and so we want to know...

MR. BAZ: Mister...

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Go ahead.

MR. BAZ: Yeah. Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: I mean. I'm sorry, Chair. Excuse me. I apologize.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: No, no. Go ahead, Mr. Baz.

MR. BAZ: Okay. Thank you, Mr. Chair. The Grants Review Committee has overseen these pots of money that have been allocated to it for a number of years and this process of the Committee's recommendations and the Mayor's approval has been in place for pretty much ever. My...the, the Policy Committee has been reviewing changes to 3.36 which include the abolishment of the Grants Review Committee itself. It, it's seems to be a double layer of different things. Since this budget is a program budget what the Council is really approving is a pot of money called Community Partnership Grants at \$1.1 million.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Right.

MR. BAZ: And, you know, you're saying, we're saying that, you know, this funds should be, you know, in this category for this amount. And that's the way it's been in past just like the Affordable Rental Housing program and the Culture and Arts program and all the rest of these pots of money that we talk about that are funded. And then like I said the, the Department will go through a process in giving it out. If the Council decides that they want to fund these items specifically to agencies then they would no longer be Community Partnership Grants. They would be line item grants and that's something of course that the Council has the purview to do, nothing in 3.36, it says specifically, that nothing in that Chapter shall prohibit the Council or the Mayor from providing grants otherwise. It's just a suggested way of doing things and that's been, if I may be honest that's been one of the very difficulties of the whole GRC from the very

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beginning of trying to take it out of politics supposedly is what the purpose was but it's still...it just created duplication in funding opportunities.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Unfortunately, the world we live in there's politics . . .*(inaudible)*. . .; there's politics in school; there's politics with my son, but whatever, even politics in my own house, excuse me for being honest. I usually lose but that's another story. So, all I wanted to know and I wanted, the public has been asking this question is, you know, if you want money for a certain group like that's listed here and then, you know, and all of sudden they don't get anything for whatever reason and that's, you know the obviously the Mayor's prerogative and I don't want to change that. I'm not asking to change. Maybe we have to look at the changes. We just wanted to know that there was a process that was fair and equitable that something like, for example, again I use Aloha House 'cause it's the first one on the list, you know, and it does residential sober treatment, you know, I mean I think that's been very successful. I think it's been a big help in the community but all of sudden tomorrow the Mayor says, well, we wanna do something else and what happens to that program which we all know has been very, been a big benefit to the community. So, that was why the question was being raised, yeah. And, and then the other thing, Ms. Ridao, I've been told by a number of these agencies the word their getting back from your Housing Division is we want to start new programs. And okay. I ...you know, I'm glad you laughed because, you know, that's always important that we have a sense of humor here, but you know, again, I'm not against new programs but if something's working, there's an old saying, don't reinvent that wheel. But that's just my take on that. So, maybe you want to comment on that part, please.

MS. RIDAO: Very much so --

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Yeah.

MS. RIDAO: --Mr. Victorino. It's interesting that that's the rumors you're hearing because I have recommended against funding all new programs.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Thank you. And I'm glad you said that 'cause I didn't believe that was true.

MS. RIDAO: That's the fact, not a rumor.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Thank you. And I got it from the person themselves. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Mr. Hokama?

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Thank you, Jo-Ann.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Just the Community Partnership Program, correct, Chairman?

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CHAIR PONTANILLA: Yes.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you. No, I understand what the Director's comments. and the Council's Policy Committee will definitely after Budget propose a new way of doing grants in the County. And it's going to be all grants, Chairman, not only Community Partnership but grants in OED, whether it's Water Department, Public Works. It's going to be a new day of how we're going to do grants under new parameters, new oversight, new requirements including provisions for debarment which means if you get debarred you cannot ask for any County funds from any County entity in the State of Hawaii for X number of years. Okay. That's for noncompliance. So, you know, we're going to be reviewing that after Budget but as far as this is concerned, Chairman, you know, if the question is will the money go to those that have been recommended and how we reach the amount, total amount then this Committee's going to need to make a determination. Allow and follow the current Code as it currently exists or line item everybody . . . *(inaudible)* . . . project. Because for me it's interesting which guys are getting proposed increases, which guys have been given status quo and which guys are going to get cuts. So, I don't have a problem line item and making everybody know what's happening and who gets what. Thank you, Chairman.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. And that's the reason why they come see us. Mr. Couch?

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: That is indeed. First thing, Mr. Baz, probably, if we, if Council so chose we could proviso some of this, right? Technically? It'd be defeating the purpose but there is that opportunity, is that correct?

MR. BAZ: Yeah. I would have to confer with Corporation Counsel here but there is even in 3.36, there's, it's specific language that says there's nothing that prohibits the Council or Mayor from doing anything different.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Okay.

MR. BAZ: Even through the language there. So, yeah, if Council wants to enact their ability to restrict or direct the funds then that's the purview of the Council.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: I just, I just thought that might be another avenue. I'm looking at the list that you have in the long form and on Page 6-157 and then also in a list that you provided on the April 11th memo and there are some things missing from your 2013 list which I understand you talked about. One of the...actually the only one that's missing off the 2013 list is the Mediation Services of Maui. Are they not, are they no longer going to get any...unless I missed it on the...oh, it's not. It's in the book but it's not on the long list. Okay. That one's...then you have some things on the long list and Page 6-157 that weren't on last year's. Is that new projects?

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Seems like.

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MR. BAZ: Mr. Chair, hold on. We'll get out that response, the April 11th response so we can respond to you correctly.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Okay. We found the Mediation Services that was just something that in translation to this long list disappeared so.

MR. BAZ: Oh, okay. Thank you.

MS. RIDAO: It's in here.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: No, I know. Mediation Services is okay. It's the Molokai Community Service Council, Molokai Acculturation Immigration Grant isn't on your April 11th list and neither is the Ikaika Teddy Bear Center for Molokai on your April 11th list.

MR. BAZ: The Molokai Community Services Council we discussed in the County Grant Subsidy and the Immigration Services Acculturation Program that's, that's specifically.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Okay. So, then they probably shouldn't be in this Community Partnership Grant? Because that, those dollars that you just talked about are in somewhere else. They're not in this Community Partnership Grant.

MR. BAZ: Yeah. It looks like that Molokai Community Services Council had three Community Partnership Grants last year. They're the umbrella organization, and in a small community like Molokai that happens where, you know, they're going have one organization. It was for three separate programs: Hale Hoomalu Violence Program, Kapili Umbrella Program, and Maurice Thompson Drop-In Center were the three Molokai Community Services Council items. The Acculturation program is under, is specifically under the . . .(inaudible) . . . grant.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: No, I understand that. But the issue is that you list them also...

MR. BAZ: It should...it was erroneously listed on this long sheet. It shouldn't be on there.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: It's in your Page 6-157.

MR. BAZ: Okay. It was erroneously listed in there too.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Okay. Alright.

MR. BAZ: It's part of the Immigrant Services.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Mr. Couch?

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Okay. That explains.

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CHAIR PONTANILLA: I'm going to have Mr. Kaneshina kind of explain.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Okay. Thank you.

MR. KANESHINA: Thank you, Chair. I don't know if I can explain but maybe I can shed some light on kind of what maybe what Director Baz was speaking to is that these umbrella grants basically the Council, the way that they're structured the Council's approving the "pot of money" --

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Right.

MR. KANESHINA: --the programs that are illustrated down below on the long sheet in both, and in the Budget Proposal is just kind of historical references. These are the types of partnerships that have occurred. These are the types of entities that have received those types of funds. So, but that's not to say that those people will receive that money after the appropriation is made and after the group does their RFP or whatever means they go about to procure for those services. So, I guess if you had any specific questions about an entity that you see on this list, I would probably direct them towards Housing to see if they've expressed interest in providing those services.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Right.

MR. KANESHINA: Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Thank you. And then the last issue with the, the April 11th memo it has 10,000 or 1,059,000 as an allocation in 2012 when you have 1,110,000. So, something's not on this list or I'm not quite sure. So, you're about, you're missing about 40-something K.

MS. RIDAO: I think we did not spend about 50,000. Correct.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Oh, okay. So you don't spend every...okay. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Ms. Cochran?

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Yeah. Well, after all that. So, the 1.1 million is basically the total ask here and however it gets divvied up it does in the end and we just don't quite know what that is just yet.

MS. RIDAO: Not yet.

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Is that kind of it? So, that 1.1 is not changing, this is what you're proposing that you're looking to umbrella here and that's that. Okay. Got it. Thank you.

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CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Member Baisa?

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Just a few comments. This GRC thing of course has been difficult since it was established. And one of the problems that we have with it is, of course, is this timing issue where we're here trying to close the Budget up and we don't know because the decisions haven't been made. And it makes, puts us in a bad situation as well as the agencies that are asking for money 'cause if they knew that they had been turned down they certainly would be here saying we didn't get any money from GRC, can you guys help us out? And so it kind of leaves everybody in limbo because we don't know how to decide 'cause we don't have information, and that's been my complaint for a long, long time. And I await with great anticipation the legislation that's in Mr. Hokama's Committee 'cause I think it's going to be very helpful to have a better way of handling all this. And it is true, it's my understanding that it's in the law that it's always said as far as GRC that they should fund existing programs before new programs.

MS. RIDAO: Yeah. That's in . . . *(inaudible)* . . .

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: So, that's in the law.

MS. RIDAO: Yeah.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Just a fast question. Who determined the amount? You folks? Must be, yeah. The 1.1 mil.

MR. BAZ: Oh, yeah. Mr. Chair. They just looked at flat funding for this specific CPG area.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: So, it's flat from previous year?

MR. BAZ: Yeah.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. Any more questions? Okay. We go to Page 2. Grants and Disbursement for Culture and the Arts, 6-159. Ms. Ridaao.

MS. RIDAO: Thank you, Chair. Yes. Culture and the Arts we did receive applications from DT Fleming Arboretum and I believe Theater, Theater Maui. I did not see an application for Maui Dance Council this year.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. And then you got the breakdown for these?

MR. BAZ: Just a clarification, it's not the Maui Dance Advocates.

MS. RIDAO: Yeah. Arts, arts, arts, arts, arts, Culture and Arts. Okay. DT Fleming applied for...the allocation last year was 25,000.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Uh-huh.

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MS. RIDAO: And Theater, Theater Maui allocation last year was for 17,000.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. And...

MS. RIDAO: So there is going to be a, if you add those two up it doesn't add to 64,000. Yeah.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Yeah. So Maui Dance Council – Chance to Dance.

MS. RIDAO: The what?

CHAIR PONTANILLA: It's for Mr. Couch and Ms. Cochran.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Question, Chairman?

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Mr. Hokama?

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Director, can you tell the Committee, it's interesting one arboretum asking for money under Culture and Arts so, what is the purpose of the grant request, please?

MS. RIDAO: I, I believe the Friends of DT Fleming Arboretum is an area that they are trying to maintain the—God, it's too late for me to think of those words—what do you call—indigenous plants, Hawaiian indigenous plants. And the people who work there are pretty much volunteers. I think they maybe have one staff and that's it; all of the rest are volunteers.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: So is this something similar that Maui Nui Botanical Garden does?

MS. RIDAO: I...no, because this more in a, in its natural state where it's located. I believe it's out in Lahaina somewhere, Honokohau.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: So, it's preservation of an existing, I guess for Lanai would be one of our dry land forest areas or for South Maui would be one of the native wiliwili groves kind of thing?

MS. RIDAO: Yes.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Is that it? Versus something that propagates and creates a nursery type of operation?

MS. RIDAO: Yeah. I'm not sure if they have a nursery but I know that they, their main focus is maintaining the indigenous plants in the area.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: In a specific area?

MS. RIDAO: Yes.

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VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Do you know, I mean, and not tonight, Director, I understand, you know, it's a long day for you and I appreciate that, but maybe if somehow you could give us a site map or something --

MR. RIDAO: Okay.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: --so, we...unless Ms. Cochran can help us with that later on.

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Yeah. I can shed more light when it comes my turn.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Yeah. Okay. Thank you, Chairman.

MS. RIDAO: And then on the Maui Dance Council.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: I don't have questions for them.

MS. RIDAO: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: I don't want to talk about dancing.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. Mr. White? Mr. Mateo?

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: I was born to dance.

MS. RIDAO: I heard that.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: No. No, so, Ms. Ridao, the, these two organizations Friends of and Maui Dance, these are new organizations or these are...

MS. RIDAO: No. These are, these were funded last year.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Funded last year.

MS. RIDAO: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Including the second one?

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Twenty-two thousand.

MS. RIDAO: Theater, Theater Maui. Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: No, the Maui Dance.

MS. RIDAO: Oh. Maui Dance Council, yeah they did last year.

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CHAIR PONTANILLA: Yeah. They did receive \$22,000.

MS. RIDAO: Yeah. They got \$26,000 last year.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Twenty-six? I get 22.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Okay. That kind of like does it for me. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Ms. Baisa, you got questions on that one?

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Do we have any report on what happens, what the program is that the Maui Dance Council puts on? I really don't know much about it. Of course, I'm very much in favor of dancing but I don't understand what this grant is about.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Ms. Ridao.

MS. RIDAO: I'm looking at...if they have...we don't have a description here.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: It's not important. It can come later, Chair.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. Ms. Cochran?

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Yeah. Thank you. I just want to...I can speak a little bit more about the DT Fleming Arboretum which is located at the very, very top of Honolua Ridge, kind of like Plantation Estates and all that, at the very top. It's basically this loop; it's a wonderful walking/hiking type of trail and it's all these indigenous native species and plants that Dr. Fleming actually came to start propagating to see if he can branch out and grow some type of crop for...you know, he ended growing pineapples, but he tried all these different things. And it's, it's pretty awesome and to see all the planting there it, I thought it was, you know, Maui Land and Pine, it's on their property and everything so, I was thinking it had something to do with their employees and what have you. I know probably the Pu`u Kukui Watershed people and all the partnerships there are involved. I just got a tour by that Chris Brosius gentleman that comes here and testifies so, I'm not exactly sure if he spearheads the whole program or what but I was there with a bunch of different nonprofit entities that were seeking a grant for fencing and things. But it's a very nice area but they...so, that's as far as I know what that's about.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: And no questions about dancing.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. The next one is Hana Arts, Inc. Jo-Ann.

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MS. RIDAO: Yes. Chair, this grant request is, I think they requested before and then they stopped and they're back again this year. Primarily what they're proposing to do is to do art, various kinds of art classes on Fridays at the school. I'm not sure if you're aware but Hana School only goes to school Monday thru Thursday, there's no school on Friday. So, they, this group is proposing to go into the school on Fridays to provide art education.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. Mr. Couch?

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Not on this one. Just in the whole, that one in general, isn't this, wouldn't this be the same place for the Maui Arts and Cultural Center education thing, wouldn't it be more appropriate in this?

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Ms. Ridaao.

MS. RIDAO: Yeah. I don't really have a preference unless Mr. Baz wants to make a suggestion, I...

MR. BAZ: No. Mr. Chair, we actually just started categorizing like this, I think last year to try to clump 'em so that you guys would have a better, a clearer picture of what we're doing in what categories since they're line item grants. Really, yeah, it, either way. It's a half dozen of one and six of the other kind of a situation. They're both arts and their both education so.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Alright. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Ms. Cochran?

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: No.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Ms. Baisa?

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: No. We heard quite a bit about this when we went to Hana budget hearing --

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: --and there was a tremendous amount of support for this program.

MR. BAZ: That, that's why it's in here. I mean, it was from when Mayor went to the community, the community really was strongly supporting it.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Yeah. We heard it again.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. Mr. Mateo?

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: No.

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CHAIR PONTANILLA: Mr. White?

COUNCILMEMBER WHITE: It just brings up a question. I support the program but the question in my mind is, is this a State responsibility if they're not holding school on a Friday shouldn't they be helping out with this and if...do you guys have any answers on that?

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Mr. Baz.

MR. BAZ: Well, Mr. Chair, the school is closed on Fridays and, you know, they don't provide services and anything and that's been the way the Hana community has decided to deal with, you know, it makes it better for them working in the farm or whatever they're doing in Hana to have that extra the day off. And since it's closed, since there's no instruction provided other things have come into to fill that opportunity. And there are Ma Ka Hana Ka `Ike, you know, the guy that does all the construction trade training works there on Fridays, and there's this, and I know, MEO went and did a youth center, youth programs out there did 'em on Fridays because that's when the kids are available. And so, it's not necessarily that it's a school event but that the school has free rooms to use and the kids are free because they're not in school so.

COUNCILMEMBER WHITE: Or on the farm, I guess.

MR. BAZ: Or on the farm, yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER WHITE: And what is the reason for making it a, its own line item as opposed to having it replace the Maui Dance Council?

MR. BAZ: It was something that was directed from when the Mayor went out there. It was not something that the...the other items are GRC directed and so it didn't go through the GRC process. It went through the Mayor and Department process.

COUNCILMEMBER WHITE: Okay. But you don't have anyone else that's applied for the grants, the 64,000 other than DT Fleming and Theater Maui?

MS. RIDAO: I'm sorry, Mr. White. But you're right. Only DT Fleming and Theater, Theater Maui applied this year for Culture and Arts under the Grants Review process.

COUNCILMEMBER WHITE: Okay. So from a dollar standpoint, we can take 26 out of the 64?

MS. RIDAO: It's just a different pot of money.

MR. BAZ: Theoretically, yeah.

MS. RIDAO: Yeah.

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MR. BAZ: But the only problem is, is that when the Department reviews the or the GRC reviewed their grants and made their recommendations it's based on what the Department was proposing so, like I said, I haven't seen them but if you look, if Mayor has approved them they're going to be based on the \$64,000 not on any less amount. But the Council has the purview to do whatever they'd like.

COUNCILMEMBER WHITE: I'm waiting for Mr. Hokama's suggestions on this as well. Thank you.

MR. BAZ: Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Yeah. Total appropriation last year was 64; DT Fleming had 25, West Maui Youth Theater, 17 so that means like 22 so. Mr. Victorino?

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Thank you. And I also agree. I like seeing this but I also have a philosophical problem with the fact that it's not school so nobody has to do it; it's more of a do you want to do it? And I heard from adults and I heard a few kids but, you know, again, we're going to put money and I'm hoping the money will be successful in helping them have something that will attract them and make sure that it's being done in a wise way, Mr. Baz. That's what I'm concerned with, you know and that's what, I want to see the program because I understand no school on Friday and you need some alternative and there's not a lot in Hana so I want to support it in that respect. But I also want some assurance that it's going to be used and not ten kids show up, and we spending all this money, and I'd be disappointed in that respect, yeah. So that's my concern and I just want that to be known. I support it, I want it for the kids and I hope the parents would, I don't want to say demand, but really make a big push to get 'em to go. 'Cause I'd be kind of disappointed to find 10 or 15 kids when you hoped there'd be 50 or 60 or whatever, you know, that's not on the farm, by the way, not on the farm. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Mr. Hokama?

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Let me ask Mr. Baz, please. Is this something you folks tried to work maybe possibly through the Hana Youth Center program? That could maybe fold it into as part of the Hana Youth Center activities since it is already something we fund.

MR. BAZ: Yeah. Mr. Chair?

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Go ahead.

MR. BAZ: It seemed from the community meeting that we had out there and discussions with them, it is separate activity from the Hana Youth Center and it would be a separate entity. They do their own fundraising and they have their own, you know, so they're going to have other funds as part of the program versus just having County funds to operate it versus a youth center which has very specific criteria and youth center guidelines that they have to follow. Also it is different than, I had a conversation with Mr. Vento from Maui Arts and Cultural Center on what they're

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doing in the communities and it's significantly different from that as well so, it is something that is needed to be a separate item. But that's a very good question. I had those same questions when we first started.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: So, in your, beginning of your response to my question, you say that they have the ability to leverage our money?

MR. BAZ: From what their comments to us at the public hearing that the Mayor's community hearing that we went to that was what they said, yes, they are. They have some funds; they're looking for additional funds to really make this a successful program. They will follow all the criteria that is required of any grant from the Department of Housing and Human Concerns, they're going to have to state, you know, all of those requirements that are in 3.36 that they have been applying, the DHHC has been applying those type of, you know, what's public purpose, what's the outcome that we're trying to achieve, you know, all that kind of stuff, quarterly reporting on those. So, they will be reporting to us and I'm sure the Grants Management Division will keep them from just getting a handout.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: So, requirements of matching funding is not an issue then?

MR. BAZ: I'm not sure. I haven't had any more conversations with them since that hearing. ...*(Inaudible)*...

MS. RIDAO: I don't believe that the application, grant application included a match.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: No. Thank you for that, Director. I'm just thinking to be fair either that or I'm going to look at cutting somebody else to potentially give this group funding. So, I mean, that's part of, I mean, unless we raise revenues, you know, that's what I'm looking at. I'm going to have to cut somebody to give somebody else. But you can share that with me later, you know, I don't need it now. Thank you, Chairman.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. Thank you. Going to take a short recess. Maybe about ten minutes.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Five or ten. Five is okay.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. We'll return here at 8:35. Meeting in recess. ...*(gavel)*...

RECESS: 8:26 p.m.

RECONVENE: 8:42 p.m.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: ...*(gavel)*... Members, tonight we going up to the end of Early Childhood. And we'll adjourn this meeting and then continue Housing and Human Services tomorrow morning at 9 o'clock. Okay. Right now, we're going to go into grants and disbursement for

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Early Childhood. The first one is Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc., Infant/Toddler Care Program. Ms. Ridao.

MS. RIDAO: Thank you, Chair. I'm asking that the Early Childhood Coordinator come to the podium so she can address each of these programs. This one is asking for a small increase, a \$2,000 increase.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay.

MS. BONACORSI: Do you want me to go line by line or wait for questions?

CHAIR PONTANILLA: We take the first one and then we go right down. Okay. Take the first one first.

MS. BONACORSI: Okay. So my list is different from yours. So, if you tell me the name of the program I'll tell you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: This is MEO, Inc., Infant/Toddler Care Program.

MS. BONACORSI: Okay. That is the Kahi Kamali`i Infant/Toddler Care Program. So, they provide center-based care for infants, ages 0 to 3, 1 to 3 years old. They are the only center-based infant/toddler care that we are, that the County's providing assistance for. Operation for infant/toddler care within our County is really expensive so, by subsidizing this, it helps the program also meet the mission, to serve those families that have the most need 'cause the director of that program does try and keep that in mind when she, when the families apply.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. Thank you. Chairman Mateo?

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: No questions. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Mr. White?

COUNCILMEMBER WHITE: And I see increases sparingly in this program...in the other programs and no increase for Early Childhood programs in the next two lines. What's the need for the increase in this line?

MS. BONACORSI: My understanding with the increase from MEO was that they had put in a 3 percent increase for all of their Early Childhood programs or all of their programs. So, I don't have the detail on what the increases would go for.

COUNCILMEMBER WHITE: Okay. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. Mr. Victorino?

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COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: No. I'm okay. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Mr. Hokama?

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: I'm good with this.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Mr. Couch? Ms. Cochran?

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Yeah. This one you call Kahi Kamali'i?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Correct.

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: I'm looking at another...there's a Hawaiian Kamali'i. Is that the same thing?

MS. BONACORSI: Different. That would be...yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Okay. Just checking wasn't...*(inaudible)*...double thing.

MS. BONACORSI: Not at all Early Childhood.

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Okay. Got it. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Ms. Baisa?

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: No questions.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Okay. The next one is Early Childhood programs. You get Hawaii Association for the Education of Young Children and Maui Family Support Services.

MS. BONACORSI: Okay. So the Hawaii Association for the Education of Young Children was the one I had referenced prior to this, the, in the Grant Subsidies for the professional development of early childhood providers. That doesn't come out of this 100,000. For this 100,000 that's the Good Beginnings, Maui of County, County of Maui subsidy for early care and education. So, that goes...there's one staffer. It's umbrella'd by Maui Family Support Services and it goes to subsidy assistance for families within Maui County in licensed programs. So, it could be family child care homes or center-based programs.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: So, you would know the funding for each of 'em?

MS. BONACORSI: For each...

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Yeah. For Hawaii Association for the...

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MS. BONACORSI: There's nothing for that one. That's a misprint. It shouldn't be there. It shouldn't be associated with Maui...this 100,000 at all.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: So, the 100 is for Maui Family Support Services?

MS. BONACORSI: Correct. To provide the County Child Care subsidies. And Maui Family Support Services serves as an umbrella for this one.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. Member Baisa?

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: No questions.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Member Cochran?

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Yeah. I'm...okay. So, Maui Family Support Services, I see also on 6-161, they're also there for Child Care Subsidy.

MS. BONACORSI: Six-one-six...

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Under Self Sufficiency Program umbrella.

MS. BONACORSI: Correct.

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: So, two different things?

MS. BONACORSI: They're...no. They are operating as the same program. They, we combine the funding to...so that we could stretch the subsidies even farther.

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Okay. Okay.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: So, when you say "combine" so the \$100,000 includes the 60?

MS. BONACORSI: No. The \$60,000 is for their Early Head Start Program which...

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. And then this one is for?

MS. BONACORSI: This is directly to, it doesn't go directly to families but families apply directly for subsidy assistance. So in other...the 100,000, she said it was the 40,000, right? Let me look.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Sixty.

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Sixty.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Sixty.

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MS. BONACORSI: Okay. That's a different program there. The 60,000 is Early Head Start and that is a Maui Family Support Services. They provide center-based care as well as home visiting programs for...it's similar to the Head Start except for the 0 to 3 year olds.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: So, there's a age difference.

MS. BONACORSI: Yeah. So, it's partially Federally funded. It's a partly Federally funded program and we use this to leverage their funding, their Federal funding.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Oh, okay. Can you tell us...

MS. BONACORSI: The 60,000.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Yeah. When, when you give your information and maybe for Jo-Ann too, if any of the monies would leverage, you know, Federal government subsidies, yeah. Make it easy.

MS. BONACORSI: Okay. So that's the 60,000.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay.

MS. BONACORSI: But the 100,000 is for, it could be family child care providers; it could be any of the private preschools, any licensed programming.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. Member Couch?

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: No.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Hokama?

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: This is targeted for our...those with financial difficulties, right?

MS. BONACORSI: Yes.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Low income, and up to...what is...how high do you go?

MS. BONACORSI: We go to 90 percent of the most recent State median income. The State's subsidy they stop at 85 percent of the 2006 median income. So, we're trying to service a gap group with a little bit more but still demonstrate financial need.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: The 85 percent is the what the State does, right? Not what the County...

MS. BONACORSI: Right.

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VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: And you're saying for us, our money you want to go up to 90 percent of the median income?

MS. BONACORSI: Right.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay. Okay. You know, I don't have problem helping those type of families but once you get over the 100 percent I going to start getting issues with funding, your people asking me for funding. Okay. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Mr. Victorino?

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: No. No questions.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Mr. White?

COUNCILMEMBER WHITE: No.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Mr. Mateo? Okay. The next one down is E Malama I Na Keiki O Lanai Preschool.

MS. BONACORSI: So this is to provide funding for the only preschool on the island of Lanai.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Mr. Hokama?

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Chairman, I think the preschool children spoke for themselves at the Lanai hearing so, I will defer to my colleagues. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Mr. White? Mr. Victorino?

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: No, I know this is so important for that small community and they spoke very highly about it, and Mr. Hokama has supported this in the past and I can support. When it comes to our keiki especially our young keiki, we need to continue to do what we can. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Mr. White?

COUNCILMEMBER WHITE: No questions. This is a great program.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Chairman Mateo?

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: No questions.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Ms. Baisa?

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COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: No questions. Absolutely necessary on a place like Lanai. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Ms. Cochran?

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Yeah. Is there like a...I mean somehow grading or getting comments I suppose after they leave preschool the next step in their schooling and have we ever gotten comments from the elementary school that they attend afterwards in regards to the quality and service that, you know, was provided in this Lanai preschool?

MS. RIDAO: Oh. I'm sorry.

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Sorry. You didn't hear me?

MS. RIDAO: I'm trying to get ahead of myself.

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: We're on the Lanai preschool and I...my question was if the Department has asked for comments, you know after these children leave the preschool, they go into their elementary school wherever, have we gotten comments as to what, you know, what their aptitudes and things are once they reach into the higher level?

MS .RIDAO: No. We have not done that.

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: I just say that, Chair, because I had gotten comments when I was last there, last weekend, couple weekends ago about the actual quality of the children that come into the elementary school after this preschool. So, I'm hoping that we may look into it a little more and perhaps get comments from the faculty that, you know, get these children into their school after this preschool.

MS. RIDAO: Member Cochran, I think Kaina would be very interested to hear what those comments are 'cause she works very closely with them and, you know, her job would be to help improve their situation so that, you know. You know, anytime the Council hears comments it would be very helpful to us to do our jobs better --

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Okay.

MS. RIDAO: --if you'd share the concerns with us. Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Sure.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Chair?

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Member Baisa?

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COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Thank you very much, Chair. Chair, I don't know about what, you know, might be going on Lanai, but generally, children that go to preschool and definitely Head Start which has been around since the 1960's, have shown that children that have that opportunity do much, much better later on in life. And so, I don't know if there's any kind of a particular situation on Lanai but across the country it's made a huge difference in people's lives.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Mr. Victorino?

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Yeah. And you know, I don't know, I heard pretty much the opposite from most of the people I was, I talked about or talked to on Lanai. But you know, it raises a good point, do we have any type of evaluation as these kids come out across the board? I don't just want to use Lanai 'cause I think it's only fair that, we know that, and I, and I've seen the statistics nationwide, anything done locally or Statewide?

MS. BONACORSI: The State does collect what they call the Hawaii State School Readiness Assessments and they do target the kindergartners or the kindergarten age to...they inquire about school readiness and you know, if they have preschool experience. They don't separate preschool versus non-preschool when they do that, but the data that you're talking about would probably be closest at this point to be gathered from the HSSRA data.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Is that possible to get some of that data?

MS. BONACORSI: Sure.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: You know, and I think just, Mr. Chair, overall, you know, that raises a good point in that respect. How do and all of these, Head Start programs that we help and of course Federal funding and other money, but are they really helping these kids? And I think nationally we've seen it, I just want to see it maybe done, you know, locally so that or at least we get something to see, hey, public, our money is being well-spent.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Chair?

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Ms. Baisa.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Chair, I cannot speak like I said specifically for Lanai but I can speak very well on the Head Start program in general. Nationally, it's required by Head Start that evaluations are done, testing is done, and many of the Head Start centers in MEO, I don't know

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if they are now, but when I was there, were accredited. And you know, to get accreditation, you gotta be evaluated and watched so, I don't know what the concern is, but I know that information is available 'cause it's required.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Chairman?

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Mr. Hokama.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Maybe we can make it part of performance measurements for the program.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: That would be good.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: And again, for all the programs we fund in this program area I think that would be helpful for future decision making.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. Ms. Ridao, you heard that? Ms. Ridao? You heard that?

MS. RIDAO: No.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: No?

MS. RIDAO: No.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Well, you know all of this Head Start programs and, you know, programs that provide education, find out, you know, results in regards to the service that they provide and the follow up on the child themselves.

MS. RIDAO: Sure.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay.

MS. RIDAO: We can get if they're accredited, if they have been evaluated, and assessments. Sure.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. I've done that with Hui Malama many, many years ago so. Okay. Next one is Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc., for Head Start Afterschool Programs.

MS. BONACORSI: Okay. So the Head Start Afterschool Programs offers an extended day because the Federal program, the Federal funding only allows for the Head Starts to operate to 12 or 1 o'clock so this allows them the opportunity to remain in care and get additional services for an extended day for five different sites.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. Member Baisa, questions?

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COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: No questions.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Member Cochran?

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: No questions.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Member Couch? Member Hokama?

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Did the State, maybe you know, and maybe you can ask for us but did the State every thought with the No Child Left Behind program that this might be one of the components of the DOE curriculum and how to get additional Federal dollars to help our, you know, our preschoolers?

MS. BONACORSI: This is where Maui County has been fortunate because across the State a lot of the extended day programs have been cut for the Early Childhood so it's not offered. They used to offer it when they had the NCLB stuff but in the recent two years they've really cut the funding to those programs so, this is where we've been really fortunate to extend it because it doesn't look like State or Federally they are going to put, invest those dollars into. At this point in time we're, you know, working on different planning to advocate otherwise because the statistics show that that's what the children need so.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: So it pretty ironic, yeah then --

MS. BONACORSI: Yeah.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: --with this No Child Left Behind philosophy or policy they cutting money so, that we leaving more kids behind.

MS. BONACORSI: Right. Yeah. And we're not giving them the start that we need.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: I mean, you know, like I said if we can afford it, I think we should be supportive but it's just kind of disappointing the other entities haven't stepped up, Chair, so.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. I just filled out a questionnaire and it was almost similar to what you're asking but this is in public schools where they set aside X amount of dollars for every student, but if you have certain disabilities then they add a percentage on to that. And some schools, you know they'll take as many disabled or not disabled but students with learning disabilities into their curriculum so that they get the numbers and they get added funding so. It's kind of unfair but.

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VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Yeah. One more point, Chair, is that, you know, of course, my era, I was more deathly afraid of my father seeing my report card so.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Uh-huh.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: But you know, the State...the concern, you know, in the State is about SAT scores and if you cannot instill at the young age the importance and excitement to learn, yeah, then how are we ever going to for the 8th, 10th graders motivate them for excel in the math and the English components of the SAT? You know, so, it disappoints me that the seed we plant early, they rather have weeds than --

MS. BONACORSI: Yeah.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: --you know, good fruit-bearing young people. That's my frustration. Thank you, Chairman.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Maybe one fast question for you. You know, where young children that go to this program if English is a second language how do you folks deal? How does Head Start deal with that types of situations so that as they grow, as they grow up, you know, it becomes, you know, the learning on the English language, you know, you verse, you reverse the process where now English is the first language, you know, for each child.

MS. BONACORSI: Head Start and Early Childhood, actually that's one of the best times to be exposed to dual language. Our dual language learners in the Early Childhood, their brain capacity and all those things, so learning two languages, that...they learn it easier than adult trying to learn a second language.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Uh-huh.

MS. BONACORSI: Having said that though, programs like, especially like the Head Start do make accommodations to address that so that they can communicate with the parents, they can provide the wrap around services to support the whole family that then supports this child. So, you know, putting them in school where English is the spoken language and them speaking at home, that's actually one of the best times for them to learn to get that language development. It's a rich learning opportunity.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Mr. Victorino?

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Thank you. And again, this is just a classic example of what's going on, and you know, when you say let's start really with the root the problem. It starts from the Feds because a lot of this money has always been pass through money. It ain't been the State giving us money; it's been pass through money. And without the source which is the Feds, the rest goes to pot. And you're right, we have been fortunate, we had the foresight and we have set up the programs to continue doing these things so, I hope the public understands that if there is

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increases in taxes and all that then these are some of the programs we've gotta keep because nobody else is going to do it. And we cannot expect 'cause these people that we are helping are the most or are on the lower economic scale and this gives them a chance to get out this poverty by working 'til 4:00, not getting, not giving up their job at 2 o'clock to go pick up their kids, you know. I never used it. My wife and I always had to figure it out but we had parents, our parents and our family helped us, but these people don't have even that. Am I correct?

MS. BONACORSI: Most of them, a lot of them don't. Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Most of them. And you saw some of them come in today, sir. So, I'm just saying, you know, we can talk the talk but right now we need to walk the walk and put the money in there. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Thank you for the "sir" by the way.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Mr. White?

COUNCILMEMBER WHITE: Nothing left to say after these two gentlemen. Thank you, Chairman.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Chairman Mateo? Okay. Thank you. Drop down to Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc., for Head Start Summer Program and I believe that's where the funding for Molokai was included in that particular line item.

MS. BONACORSI: Correct. So, on this one the Maui Economic Opportunity decided to combine the two programs into that one funding and has the intention of providing that funding along with the increase specific to Molokai so those children will still continue to get served. It's just that they for ease of doing the work with it combined the programs. But the intention is definitely to keep it with the services to those Molokai children. This program is for the extended school year. So again, the Federal Head Start programming only allows for the nine months of services. This is where the County picks up and allows another eight weeks of services so that their transition into the kindergarten program is that much smoother and they don't regress in their learning. So that's the intention of that program.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Thank you. Chairman Mateo?

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Chairman, no. I have no questions.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Mr. White? Mr. Victorino?

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: No questions, Chair.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Mr. Hokama? Mr. Couch? Ms. Cochran?

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COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: No questions.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Ms. Baisa?

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: No.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. Thank you. That was the end of the Early Childhood.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: One more, Kansha.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Oh, one more. I'm sorry.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Kansai [*sic*].

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Nisei Veterans Memorial Center Preschool d.b.a Kansha Preschool.

MS. BONACORSI: So they are an intergenerational. They provide services for the preschool as well as combine their activities with their adult daycare center. They provide for 14 children.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Ms. Baisa?

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: No questions.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Ms. Cochran?

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: No questions.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Mr. Couch?

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: No.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Mr. Hokama?

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Yes. Thank you. I don't need the name of the families specifically to remain some confidentiality but I want to know the income levels of those 14 families because I think they're over the 130 percent above medium. So --

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: --verify or verify my understanding or not but again I don't mind helping those that need help.

MS. BONACORSI: Okay.

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VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: But I don't have money for everybody in this year, Chairman. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Okay. If you can get that information. Mr. Victorino?

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: No. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Mr. White?

COUNCILMEMBER WHITE: I share Mr. Hokama's concern that's a...serving only 14 children that's \$1,700 each so, I'll look forward to that information as well. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Chairman Mateo? Okay. Does this funding only for the preschool or when, when you say intergenerational --

MS. BONACORSI: It does. It goes...

CHAIR PONTANILLA: --I look at the senior side too.

MS. BONACORSI: It goes only to the preschool.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay.

MS. BONACORSI: And if I were...it's really hard to compare it with others, you know, E Malama the Lanai preschool is the only other preschool that is not like a leverage funding type of thing for Federal dollars. If you go the...what I do have is the numbers if you did look at what it does cost per child per month for the E Malama what the County subsidizes as well as the same with Kansha. The business of child care is expensive across the board for all families. I don't know the specific demographics and income level. I do know that Kansha does have some of their families on the State subsidy assistance but I don't know the exact number of that. You know, so, you know, it's just...yeah.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: No. Just so we can make better decisions because I know for Lanai they're a structured tier, yeah, where the support goes to and it's by income as I understand it.

MS. BONACORSI: No. They are not a, they're not a structured tier. They give us the amount of their request for their overall operations so the...

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: But the tuition for the child...

MS. BONACORSI: The tuition for all children that go to E Malama as well as Kansha in essence is reduced overall for all the children that are there because of...they apply it to their operations budget. So, their overall operations budget they give us and then it's applied to that. So, it reduces the overall tuition for any family that applies even if they're the millionaire living on the

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April 23, 2012

island they would still pay the same tuition amount as the poorest person on the island unless they get subsidies. But the way that it's structured...it's not a ...*(inaudible)*...

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: That better not be happening, I tell you now 'cause I'm going to cut real fast if that's the truth.

MS. BONACORSI: For the...that's the way it is for the...

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Because if the ...*(inaudible)*... if they can afford that kind money then why are we subsidizing if they have that kind of income?

MS. BONACORSI: That's the way it's structured. So, if there's a restructuring of...

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Then you need to tell them that you know, people like me want it restructured because I'm willing to help those that need the help but those that can afford it better pay their full load.

MS. BONACORSI: Sure.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay.

MS. BONACORSI: Okay.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. Anybody else got any more questions in regards to this? Okay. Good. Okay. That's all for tonight. Oh, unless you guys want to continue? No. That's all for tonight and then tomorrow morning we'll continue with the grants and disbursements for Health, Human Services, and Education. And that's what you see on beginning with Page 3. So, thank you again for answering all of the questions for Early Childhood. So, the Budget and Finance Committee meeting for April the 23rd is now adjourned. ...*(gavel)*...

COUNCIL MEMBERS VOICED NO OBJECTIONS.


ACTION: DEFER pending further discussion.

ADJOURN: 9:09 p.m.

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APPROVED:



JOSEPH PONTANILLA, Chair
Budget and Finance Committee

bf:min:120423:jz

Transcribed by: Julie Zaner


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CERTIFICATE

I, Julie, hereby certify that the foregoing represents to the best of my ability, a true and correct transcript of the proceedings. I further certify that I am not in any way concerned with the cause.

DATED the 15th day of May, 2012, in Wailuku, Hawaii.



Julie Zaner