

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

Council of the County of Maui

MINUTES

October 2, 2012

Council Chamber, 8th Floor

CONVENE: 1:31 p.m.

PRESENT: Councilmember Joseph Pontanilla, Chair
Councilmember G. Riki Hokama, Vice-Chair (In 1:33 p.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 (In 1:33 p.m.)

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

ADMIN.: Sananda K. Baz, Budget Director, Office of the Mayor
David C. Goode, Director, Department of Public Works
Jo Anne Johnson Winer, Director, Department of Transportation
Jeffrey T. Ueoka, Deputy Corporation Counsel, Department of the Corporation Counsel

OTHERS: **Item BF-77:** Fred Ruge
Paul Laub, President, Maui County Veterans Council
Mitch Skaggerberg, Director, Vietnam Veterans of Maui County

Item BF-111: Lyn McNeff, CEO, Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc.
Lawrence Winer

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

CHAIR PONTANILLA: . . .(*gavel*). . . The Budget and Finance Committee meeting for October the 2nd, 2012 is now in session. Chair would like to recognize Committee Members that are here. We do have Member Carroll, Member Baisa, Member Cochran, Member Couch.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Good afternoon.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Good afternoon. Member Victorino.

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COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Good afternoon, Chair.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Good afternoon. Chairman Mateo.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Good afternoon.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Good afternoon. Excused at this time is Members Hokama and White. From the Administration, we do have the Budget Director, Mr. Sandy Baz.

MR. BAZ: Aloha.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Aloha. And from...Corporation Counsel, we do have Jeff Ueoka.

MR. UEOKA: Good afternoon.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: And then supporting the Committee we do have Michele Yoshimura as well as Scott Kaneshina and Camille Sakamoto. Members, we have three...three items on the agenda this afternoon. But before we go into the agenda'd items, I...we do have people signed up for public testimony. So at this time, the Chair would like to receive public testimony. And for those of you that are providing testimony this afternoon, you have three minutes to provide your testimony, one minute to...Chair will allow you one minute to conclude. Once you're done, if you could stay at the podium for a few seconds, you may have some questions from the Members that are here this afternoon. Before we start though, can every one of us turn off our cell phones or put it on the silent mode? Okay. Thank you. At this time, the Chair would like to recognize the presence of Member Hokama and Member White. Okay. First person to sign up for public testimony is Fred Ruge.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Roogie.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Roogie?

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Roogie.

...BEGIN PUBLIC TESTIMONY...

MR. RUGE: Good afternoon, my name is Fred Ruge. And I'm a member of the Disabled American Veterans Chapter 2 and I'm the legislative representative for them. And I'm testifying on behalf of BF-77, Councilman White's bill on the taxes for the widows and disabled veterans. I'm 82 years old so I can relate to some of the older guys, older veterans and their wives. I do a lot of volunteer work with the veterans and one of the complaints the old veterans tell me that, it's kind of a paradox, they're living into their nineties, but they never thought they'd live so long and they've spent all their savings. And alot of these veterans are just living on a social security and only thing they do is they own a house but they bought that house three or four decades ago for

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30 or 40 thousand dollars and its worth half a million dollars now. But the problem is inflation goes up the same rate. So they're living on a small pension and paying more for food and everything else. So they really do need assistance. And I think that Councilman White, you're a true patriot for thinking about the veterans. Thank you very much.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, any questions for Mr. Ruge? Seeing none, thank you, again. Next testifier is Paul Laub.

MR. LAUB: I'm Paul Laub and I'm President of Maui County Veterans Council. And I don't mean to put the cart in front of the horse, but I want to thank you in advance for your kind attention. And frankly, we feel that you *all* are great supporters of the veterans and we all greatly appreciate it. Thank you very kindly.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, any questions for testifier? Seeing none, thank you again, Paul. Last person to sign up for public testimony is Mitch Skaggerberg.

MR. SKAGGERBERG: Aloha, Chairman, Council members. I want to thank you all...two weeks ago we had the honor of sitting in...testifying and listening to your heartwarming endorsement of this measure to fix the property tax for the totally disabled vets and to accelerate it. I know this is a historic moment for the veterans. I've got so many calls; it's amazing how quickly this got out to the veteran community, especially at the Fair and at the traveling wall that Janet has created. So...we will always remember this, the veterans don't need a lot, they don't ask for a lot, but when you do something significant and it doesn't have to cost millions of dollars, it makes a huge impression on them. And the spouses, especially, when they've heard about this...they are so relieved. We lost four Vietnam veterans in the last two weeks. And I want to thank Ed Tanji, especially, we honored him on Saturday night and he always...supported Vietnam vets, any veterans with articles in the paper. He was just one of our staunch supporters. But you have become our staunch supporters. And secondly, I want to thank Mike White for saying you know what, we've been working on this almost two years, let's get it done now. Enough's enough, we've dragged it on so Mike--and I know everybody else said the same thing, let's put it into the Fiscal 2013 Budget, amend it...and that's what we're testifying in favor of. So thank you very much for all you're doing for the veterans. Four years ago, five years ago there was another historic moment here--when the tour companies were desecrating our cemetery up in Makawao. And we came down and unanimously you said you know what, that will stop. So these two things, we will carry to our next dwelling place. Most Vietnam veterans are 65 and over now. So I'm testifying on behalf of the Vietnam veterans of Maui County, as one of the Directors. So, thank you.

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

MR. SKAGGERBERG: Thank you, thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Seeing none, thank you very much.

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MR. SKAGGERBERG: Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Members, Mr. Skaggerberg was the last person to sign up for public testimony. Is there anyone in the audience that would like to present public testimony at this time? Seeing none, Members without any objections, Chair would like to close public testimony.

COUNCIL MEMBERS: No objections.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you.

...END OF PUBLIC TESTIMONY...

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Members, today we have three items on our agenda. The first item is BF-77, Real Property Tax of Unmarried Surviving Spouses of Veterans Who Died While on Duty and Totally Disabled Veterans.

ITEM BF-77: REAL PROPERTY TAX OF UNMARRIED SURVIVING SPOUSES OF VETERANS WHO DIED WHILE ON DUTY AND TOTALLY DISABLED VETERANS (CC 12-156)

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Since our last Committee Meeting on September 18th regarding this matter, the Committee in receipt of a correspondence from the Budget Director, transmitting a proposed bill to amend Appendix B of the Fiscal Year 2013 Budget, by adding a reference to Section 3.48.475, Maui County Code, as it pertains to the real property tax unmarried surviving spouses of veterans who died...on duty and totally disabled veterans. So at this time, Chair would like to recognize Mr. Baz. Comments?

MR. BAZ: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Good afternoon, Members. As discussed by the Chair, we did present a revised or revision to the Appendix B, Rates and Fees. And it basically, to explain that, if you look at the bottom, underneath the...it's in the transmittal dated September 26th, on the backside. The minimum real property tax is set each year in the annual Budget Ordinance, and you had set it this year at \$250. If you continue on reading, it says: "except tracts leased under Section 207 of the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act, those portions of real property tax designated as kuleana land and granted an exemption pursuant to MCC 3.48.554", which is existing in there. And all we did was add the reference to Maui County Code 3.48.475, which is the proposed bill...the companion bill that you have with you here. And what this would do then is reference back to the...your proposed bill as far as setting the minimum...property tax rate for this item here. So Mr. Chair, that's what we have, just to...we are in support of the concept of this and here to ask...answer any questions.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, questions for the Budget Director? Mr. Hokama.

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VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: So, Chairman, my understanding of this process, I see the proposal regarding rates and fees. I think that is half of the...one of the two things we need. So where is the Budget Ordinance revisions or amendments to revenues and expenses?

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Mr. Baz, if you can?

MR. BAZ: Thank you, Mr. Chair. We reviewed the impact of this reduction on our estimated revenues, and the estimated revenues that or adopted in the annual budget are still...even with any reduction with implementation of this bill, still we would still be receiving more revenue than we estimated. So we do not feel that a budget amendment is required.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Mr. Hokama.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Then the Budget we adopted is fat? Okay. Extra money that we haven't accounted for, Chair.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Any more questions? Seeing none, okay. Chair's recommendation at this time is to pass on first reading A Bill for an Ordinance Amending Chapter 3.48, Maui County Code, Relating to the Real Property Tax of Unmarried Surviving Spouses of Veterans Who Died While on Duty and Totally Disabled; (2) A Bill for an Ordinance Amending the Fiscal Year 2013 Budget for the County of Maui as it Pertains to Revenues - Fees, Rates, Assessments and Taxes for the General Fund, Real Property Tax; and (3) filing of County Communication 12-156.

COUNCILMEMBER WHITE: So moved.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: So moved, Chairman.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. Moved by Member White. Second by Member Hokama. Members, any more discussion? Seeing none, all in favor of the motion, please say "aye".

COUNCIL MEMBERS: Aye.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Motion is carried--nine "ayes"; zero "noes". Thank you very much. Thank you, veterans, for being here.

MR. SKAGGERBERG: Thank you.

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VOTE: AYES: Chair Pontanilla, Vice-Chair Hokama, and Councilmembers Baisa, Carroll, Cochran, Couch, Mateo, Victorino, and White.

NOES: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: None.

EXC.: None.

MOTION CARRIED.

ACTION: Recommending FIRST READING of bills and FILING of communication.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: The second item for this afternoon is BF-110, Budget Amendment Fiscal Year 2013 Capital Improvement Projects, Highway Fund, Countywide, Hana Baseyard Emergency Improvements and Uakea Road Emergency Improvements.

ITEM BF-110: AMENDING FY 2013 BUDGET: CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS, HIGHWAY FUND, COUNTYWIDE (HANA BASEYARD EMERGENCY IMPROVEMENTS AND UAKEA ROAD EMERGENCY IMPROVEMENTS) (CC 12-196)

CHAIR PONTANILLA: The purpose of the proposed bill is to amend the Fiscal Year 2013 Budget by (1) increasing the appropriation for Carryover/Savings in the Highway Fund by \$830,534; (2) adding a \$130,534 appropriation for Countywide Facility Building Improvements in the Highway Fund; and (3) increasing the appropriation for Countywide Road Resurfacing in the Highway Fund by \$700,000. And a Certification of Additional Revenues for Fiscal Year 2013, dated September 13, 2012 which was signed by Mayor Alan Arakawa. This afternoon we have Director Goode with us from the Public Works Department. As this time, the Chair would like to recognize Mr. Baz first. Comments?

MR. BAZ: Thank you, Mr. Chair. In...towards the end of Fiscal Year 2012 we had transmitted a Budget Amendment to amend the Fiscal Year 2012 Budget. But it was right near the end and we weren't able to get it heard. This Amendment basically, Mr. Chair, is related to the floods that happened in March of 2012 and the Department's quick reaction to fix the road and fix the baseyard area. And we...so they used some funds and we have some additional funds available that we're recognizing to replenish the monies in the Facilities...Capital Improvement Project as well as the road resurfacing so that they can continue on with their budgeted items. So the Director's here...he can answer any questions.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Mr. Goode, comments?

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MR. GOODE: Thank you, Chair. Good afternoon, Members. Thank you, Mr. Baz, for that. Yeah, as everyone's very aware of in March of this year we had significant rain event in Hana. And on the topside, the...our baseyard facility and the fire station were impacted. The slope went almost all the way to the...towards the fire station. So we worked together with Fire...to get out the emergency contract and get that repaired. And we split the cost 'cause basically it was half in our property and half in Fire Department's property. Farther down that same gulch, Uakea Road was wiped out, it was impassable. We got...we went through the emergency procurement process, Hawaiian Dredging came in, final cost was about \$700,000. We used Countywide Resurfacing Funds for that as a stop gap measure, which we're hoping to replenish today or start the process to get it replenished today. That work...ultimately, we've gotten FEMA to reimburse us so we'll be going through the reimbursement process. I can't remember the exact percentage, but it's close to the full 75 percent. We will get some reimbursement, eventually, on the other...the improvements on the fire station side. But because we actually *improved* what was there before, the improvement portion would not be eligible. So ultimately, I think we're doing the right thing here, we've used the funds that we had available. We need to replenish those funds because we're out to bid right now in almost every one of your *districts*, and unless we get this money back, we're going to have a hard time making those contracts work. So it's very important that these funds go back to the Countywide Resurfacing as well as Countywide Facility Improvements.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Mr. Carroll, have any questions regarding...

COUNCILMEMBER CARROLL: No questions, just a fast comment. That I'd like to thank the Administration for the fast action. The damage was *really*, really severe. And the amount of time, especially working in Hana, it's really difficult. And the community is very happy with the Administration's response to our needs. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, any more questions for the Department? Member Hokama.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Director Goode, if I understand...part of the request...the 130,000...this was supposed to be for ADA. And my understanding, it's part of our compliance requirement. So I'm trying to understand why are you going to tap ADA money.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: That's a good--

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: I thought that was part of the rationale why Council appropriated to deal with compliance...Consent Decrees.

MR. GOODE: Yes, for this...the 130,000, that's the fire station's side. Initially, we used the Countywide Facilities index code. We had some other projects that we had lined up to use those funds. So we wanted to...looks like we're going to lapse some money in the ADA portion. I think for the most part, we are caught up--at least on the Public Works side of our Consent Decree responsibilities. And we also used those funds to supplement other projects where ADA

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issues come up. And it looked like we're going to have savings, so that's why we've requested to utilize those savings and transfer it to cover the Countywide Facilities for which we have other projects that we need to use those funds for.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: So since you folks took money out of pots to do the emergency work, why do you need for us now to ask us to put the money back? Why don't you guys just put the money back?

MR. GOODE: I think maybe Council action, we can't just...put money back.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Well, you guys never asked us to...take the money from one pot to another project. You told us you just shifted funds.

MR. GOODE: We didn't *shift*, we *utilized* funds that were suitable for that purpose. We can not shift money; and then we just won't do these other projects. So what we tried to do is identify where we had *savings*, 'cause in both these appropriations--the 700,000 and the \$130,000--we've identified savings. Some of those savings were actually savings that we generated by doing some more in-house work rather than contract work. So I think we're doing the prudent thing in that we found these areas where we have savings; transferred them back so we can get--especially in the case of the 700,000, that's more road paving that...we want to get out.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: So I'm trying to get a grasp now, because part of this transmittal is also talking about Highway Fund in 830,000. So can you help us out?

MR. BAZ: Mr. Chair.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Go ahead.

MR. BAZ: The \$830,534 is a combination of the 700,000 in the Road Resurfacing and the 130,534 for the Facilities.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: What is the advantage of we putting it back in Highway Fund?

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Departments?

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: You're asking us for shift General Fund, right?

MR. BAZ: No. Mr. Chair. This is Highway Fund Carryover/Savings that we're recognizing. So it's Highway Fund to Highway Fund. Yeah, there's no transfer between funds.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: And there's no concern regarding any of our ADA requirements?

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Mr. Goode.

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MR. GOODE: Yeah and I mean, that's, obviously a very good question and we might need to make sure we meet those obligations. But we feel confident we're up to speed on our Consent Decree and the projects that we have ongoing doesn't look like we're going to need any ADA supplementation on. So we think we're going to have the savings.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay. Director, thank you for your response. Thank you, Chairman.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. Members, any more questions for either of the Directors at this time? Seeing none, Chair is going to make his recommendation.

COUNCIL MEMBERS: Recommendation.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Chair's recommendation is to pass on first reading A Bill for an Ordinance Amending the Fiscal Year 2013 Budget for the County of Maui as it Pertains to Estimated Revenues; Capital Improvement Projects, from the Highway Fund, Countywide; Total Capital Improvement Projects Appropriations; and Total Appropriation, Operating and Capital Improvement Projects; and the filing of County Communication 12-196.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: So moved.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Second.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Moved by Member Hokama. Second by Member Couch. Any more discussion? Seeing none, all in favor of the motion, please say "aye".

COUNCIL MEMBERS: Aye.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Motion is carried. Nine "ayes"; zero "noes".

VOTE: AYES: Chair Pontanilla, Vice-Chair Hokama, and Councilmembers Baisa, Carroll, Cochran, Couch, Mateo, Victorino, and White.

NOES: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: None.

EXC.: None.

MOTION CARRIED.

ACTION: Recommending FIRST READING of bill and FILING of communication.

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CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you, Mr. Goode.

MR. GOODE: Thank you.

ITEM BF-111: AMENDING FY 2013 BUDGET: DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (GRANT TO MAUI ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY, INC. FOR VETERAN'S ONE CALL ONE-CLICK PROGRAM) (CC 12-197)

CHAIR PONTANILLA: The final item is BF-111, Amending Fiscal Year 2013 Budget: Department of Transportation, Grant to Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc. for Veteran's One Call One-Click Program. The purpose of the proposed bill is to amend the Fiscal Year 2013 Budget by (1) increasing the appropriation for Carryover/Savings in the General Fund by \$50,000; and (2) adding a \$50,000 appropriation for Grant to Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc., for Veteran's Call One-Click Program. A Certification of Additional Revenues for Fiscal Year 2013, dated September 13, 2012, which was signed by Mayor Alan Arakawa. So...we have Ms. Winer from the Transportation Department with us. But before I call on Ms. Winer, Mr. Baz, any comments?

MR. BAZ: No, Mr. Chair. Just that...thank you for taking this up in a timely manner. We...this is Federal money that we have received a grant for, that will be passed through to the operator so that we can provide assistance to the community through this One Call One-Click FTA Grant. So...Director Winer is here to answer any questions you might have.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Director Winer, comments?

MS. JOHNSON WINER: Yes, thank you very much, Budget Chair. We also have Lyn McNeff from MEO who I also asked to attend the meeting if any of you have questions about this specific program. Because it takes awhile, as you well know, for Federal grants to come through--the paperwork, the memorandums of agreement--took us a little while. So we would have ordinarily had included that money, the additional \$50,000 in our budget. But we were not sure exactly when that period was going to take place. So now that we have all the documentation, we're ready to move forward. If you need a breakdown of the budget detail...the actual grant amount with...from the FTA was \$233,129, and then our \$50,000 would be a cash match from the County, and MEO's providing an in-kind total of \$10,721. And this is for the establishment of a web-based program to assist veterans who require access to transit that is appropriate for their needs. And so we all met--the various providers of transportation--and we are networking in cooperation with MEO who was kind enough to act as the core agency in providing this particular program support. And so we're moving forward to try to give veterans greater access to the information as regards to transportation.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, questions for either Directors? Member Hokama.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Chair, I just wanted to make it...this 50,000 budget amendment is the County's share we have to pay to receive the Federal dollars.

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MS. JOHNSON WINER: Yes, that's correct.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay. So this is a General Fund request for the County to put up its \$50,000 for this new program?

MS. JOHNSON WINER: Exactly. Yes.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: And this is a one-time thing? Or every year were going to have to add 50,000?

MS. JOHNSON WINER: No. This is a one-time program. It may be. If there are other amendments to the program in the future, we don't know. But right now for this particular purpose, we are asking for the \$50,000 based on what we wrote as the grant, what was submitted. And we don't even know if there will be additional funds made available. But at least this will enable us to start this particular program. And then MEO, hopefully, will be able...once we get this system in place, I think we'll see if there are other needs. I can't promise that we wouldn't come back and ask for, perhaps, supplemental funds in the future. But with the uncertainty with the FTA-- where they're going right now and the funding actually being provided through the Federal agencies--this is very iffy.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay. Director, in my recollection of the...when we talked about the...this program and the budget, you know one thing I thought MEO did very well is the...for the last few years, they've...were able to show a hundred something thousand dollar surplus every year. So I'm just wondering why do you need a Budget amendment to certify new money when this entity has shown responsibility and lived within their means and have always shown like a 100,000-plus balance that would cover this \$50,000 request. Can you give comment, please?

MS. JOHNSON WINER: Yes, I can. Actually, where this money came from, we tried to do exactly what you had said--was to utilize monies from past grant where money would not have been accessed by MEO. Unfortunately, because of the timing and because we had already inadvertently closed out that particular grant, we could not access that money. But that is where the source is actually coming from. It would be treated...in fact, I think there was a total...perhaps Director Baz...there was a \$167,000 that was carried forward of unused monies from that. So we are asking for 50,000 from *that* particular money and that's where it's coming from, you know, out of those unused funds.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Try wait.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Go ahead.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: I need you to help me. Okay. You just said that...what I had...asked you to consider was already done, but that wasn't doable, but now you're telling us that you're still

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going to take 50 from the 160 savings that...I'm trying to understand you 'cause I thought you just told us no?

MS. JOHNSON WINER: I'll let Sandy address that.

MR. BAZ: Yeah, Mr. Chair and Member Hokama, I had the same question, you know as I was reviewing this. The...while...Director Winer's correct in that there was some additional funds used--I think it was a...Fiscal Year '10 or '11 grant, unused monies that had been...it became disencumbered during Fiscal Year '12. So we did...weren't able to access those funds, and that's where this money is coming from, the...we're certifying this revenue. I mean...it's General Fund revenue, so, but you know that we're...it's coming from that 164,000 or something like that. But what I looked at was their Fiscal Year '12 grant which just ended and if there was any savings from that grant. And there was zero. They did expend that full grant amount. So...and we anticipate that they would spend the full Fiscal Year '13 grant as well. There was some shifts in the contract in Fiscal Year '12 that Director Johnson worked with MEO on so that they were more flexible in their operations so that they can provide more service. Rather than having a significant Carryover/Savings, they actually...Director Winer asked them to provide more services. And so they provided more services with those additional funds versus in the past. But I did look at Fiscal Year '12, and there was no unspent monies for Fiscal Year '12 in their grant.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay. Okay. I hope you're clear on that, Chairman. 'Cause we depend on your leadership to help us go through this various Funds, Chairman. So, okay. So we're going to get 50...you're asking us 50 from County General Fund to access 200,000 of Federal funds for this Veteran's program that is already contracted for MEO to provide our County.

MS. JOHNSON WINER: Yes.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay. So this is just a perfunctoral [*sic*] process we need to go through to get the program implemented, Director?

MS. JOHNSON WINER: Yes, it is.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Is there is a deadline that we have to start this up by?

MS. JOHNSON WINER: Actually, we entered into all the agreements already, so this is the only thing that MEO would need in order to move forward with getting a consultant on board. And then also making sure whatever the software is that we purchase...you know or they purchase, that we would have the capital there so they could actually go out and solicit different quotations for that software.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay. Thank you for that response, Director. Chairman, thank you.

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CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, just for your information. Yes. MEO had returned to Maui County funding that was provided to them. Which was...a very responsible thing, and I think it's the last three years, if I remember right. Member White, followed by Member Victorino.

COUNCILMEMBER WHITE: Thank you, Chair. What is One Call One-Click?

MS. JOHNSON WINER: Basically, it's a program that was conceived by the Veterans Administration. But in cooperation with FTA--that it's very difficult for veterans to understand, many of them have...you know traumatic brain injuries, they have other challenges, post-traumatic stress disorder. So when they get a call and they try to locate the proper transportation or a way that they would be able to maybe get to a doctor's appointment if they have a disability, whatever it might be, they oftentimes get very rattled, they get very upset trying to go through this maze of, I guess, information. So rather than make it difficult, the One Call One-Click Program was basically conceived to have like a one-stop shop where they would be able to go to either an individual or to a website and be immediately directed to the kinds of services that they need with as little stress and as little hassle as possible. Because they really need that help and then the program is not specifically limited to veterans, there others who have other issues--mental health issues, difficulty maybe even in communications. So what this software and the program would be able to do is provide that more instantaneous access instead of having the individual be frustrated with having to go down many roads and then eventually finding the service that they need. So that is the theory and we're going to try to work with MEO to see that that is the reality.

COUNCILMEMBER WHITE: And when do you estimate the breakdown of the expenses to be of the roughly 200,000...

MS. JOHNSON WINER: There was a total budget submitted by MEO, which we can provide you a copy of. I'd be happy to do that...I think that I may have it with me. But essentially it was a very simple budget...I think it was a consultant...I don't know Lyn may have it there. Lyn, do you have the budget with you? If you would allow Ms. McNeff, Mr. Chair --

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Sure.

MS. JOHNSON WINER: --to respond.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Lyn. Please identify yourself.

MS. McNEFF: I'm McNeff, CEO of Maui Economic Opportunity. The budget includes a Project Manager that will...an engineer design...

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Lyn, can you bring the mic down a bit? Thank you.

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MS. McNEFF: Okay. It will be an engineer-designed communication system. We will acquire a communication system where anybody in the County will be able to call one number and that person will be able to click them over to the service that they would need, that's the idea of it. It's a...person's going to design website so that they can go on the website access or a...software system that would do the same thing.

COUNCILMEMBER WHITE: So what is the breakdown in those expenses between...I guess what I'm wondering is how much are we spending on the Project Manager and is that a Project Manager just to set up the system?

MS. McNEFF: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER WHITE: And is that position is a consultant that goes away or are we...

MS. McNEFF: It will be hired for...by MEO but will be for the purpose of this program.

COUNCILMEMBER WHITE: And then...so how much is the software...as a...

MS. McNEFF: The software is...\$120,000.

COUNCILMEMBER WHITE: Okay. And then is this adding staff that will be needed to take care of the program? Or...

MS. McNEFF: No.

COUNCILMEMBER WHITE: Okay. So it's being done with the existing...

MS. McNEFF: This is just the design and implementation of it...designing of it.

COUNCILMEMBER WHITE: Okay. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Mr. Victorino.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Thank you. And I'm glad Ms. McNeff is here. You mentioned "opened to everyone".

MS. McNEFF: Correct.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Yeah.

MS. McNEFF: Even though it was for veterans.

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COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: For veterans, so this would be anyone in the County of Maui would have need, they could call there and this will automatically transfer them to whatever service their looking for?

MS. McNEFF: That is our desire--is that it's not...it is veteran-driven, but we did meet with many, multiple groups. Robert's, taxis, churches--met with all of them to see where the services are in order to connect as many people in Maui County. Yes, it is veteran-driven, but we didn't want to limit it to...veterans.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: So it's open to everybody, that's the question. Yeah.

MS. McNEFF: Correct. Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: So, okay. And as far as the services, this would be a...you mentioned like taxis and Robert's and all that...it's basically a transportation-driven service.

MS. McNEFF: It is transportation-driven. Correct.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: So it's not for our purpose of a doctor coming to somebody's house or something like that.

MS. McNEFF: No.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: It's really for that person or persons to be able to be transferred --

MS. McNEFF: To access transportation.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: --to whatever necessary service.

MS. McNEFF: Correct.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Okay. That's very good. And he asked my other question, so that's the only other question I had. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, any more questions? Chairman Mateo.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Ms. McNeff, thank you very much. So what is the...is this 233,000 the total cost of the initiation of this project?

MS. McNEFF: The 233,000 is from the Federal government. Ten thousand is from MEO, and 50,000 is for County matching.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Okay. So the total cost of...

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MS. McNEFF: Two hundred ninety-three thousand eight hundred and fifty dollars.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: And we've got assurances, at this point, that the Federal match is just this one-time contribution at this point.

MS. McNEFF: This is a one-time grant to set up the system.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: And this is all you need, once the system is set up, there is no potential follow-up with Federal funds?

MS. McNEFF: No, we just have to track the equipment. There is no follow-up as far as we know. This is a one-time thing and that's all it was written for.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Okay. So MEO's transportation...the inclusion of this new concept into the transportation system, then, is not going to incur future costs like this?

MS. McNEFF: Not to my knowledge. No. 'Cause the basic cost is setting up the website and buying the equipment, that is the most expensive part of it.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Okay. So once the website is set up and once you've got your list of clientele that needs services --

MS. McNEFF: Correct.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: --there's no consideration for additional buses that you're going to need to handle these special equipment, none of that comes into play?

MS. McNEFF: That was not...no, that was not considered at all 'cause we're providing...gathering all the providers to see what services they have. So this is not to *add* services, this is *connect* people to existing services. Like a 211 for transportation.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Okay. It sounds good, but I just...I think there is some disconnect and I hope it's just with me--that I can see the call for service, but I'm still not getting the picture, service how? Are you going to need special transportation services, more equipped buses to provide these services?

MS. McNEFF: No. It's not additional services. It's very confusing for people to access the *proper* transportation in this County. Do I go to MEO for their...Ala Hou, do I go to Robert's for Paratransit, do I go to Robert's for *fixed*, do I go...? So that's to coordinate all these services and give the correct...with one call, connect you to the one service you need in order to provide the service.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: And just to connect this one call, it's going to cost \$293,000?

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MS. McNEFF: Well, it's a software system that one person will man and connect all in the coordination, yes. But its *designing* the website...to access that or the software system where it can be...you can connect the call to Robert's, to Paratransit, to County, to taxi. So it requires setting up the system to connect all these entities that will provide the transportation.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Okay. Thank you very much, Ms. McNeff.

MS. McNEFF: You're welcome.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: I...you know...in the wind. Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Chair.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Member Cochran.

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: And this program is strictly just for Maui island? This software or will it be able to accessed by other islands, Lana'i, Moloka'i?

MS. McNEFF: I believe it'll be Maui County.

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: County as a whole.

MS. McNEFF: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Okay. Good. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. Okay. Members, any more questions for Lyn? Lyn, thank you.

MS. McNEFF: You're welcome.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Chairman Mateo, one day you're going to call 211.

COUNCIL MEMBERS: ...*(laughter)*...

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Both, you and I both.

ALL: ...*(laughter)*...

MS. JOHNSON WINER: Mr. Chair, could I just clarify?

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Sure.

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MS. JOHNSON WINER: One of the things when I first learned about this program too, I had the same questions that Chairman Mateo did. And I think the thing that's really good is because the Veterans Administration has some vehicles, even churches we found out had vehicles, there are other services. So it was like we didn't even realize there were *that* many *transit* operators out there that could deal with the needs of...the disabled, wheelchair-bound passengers. Sometimes people just can't even schedule...they...sadly some people have Alzheimer's and they forget, you know, how to go through these steps each time. So by doing this, I think what it does is it just gives that individual that little bit of edge to find, as Ms. McNeff said, to find the right fit for their specific needs. It's *not* involving expansion of transportation, it's just a...a *matching* of the *individual's* needs with the *services* that are already out there.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. I was going to say something, but I...I better not. Ms. Baisa.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Thank you very much, Chair. This has been a real interesting discussion and it's not a new discussion. It's been going on for a very long time. You know we have a lot of services in Maui County, more than most people have. And it's very confusing to the public when they have an issue, they don't know where to go and they don't know who to call. And so if this is the specific way that you access transportation, if you have a transportation question there's only one number to call. And at that...when you call that number, somebody's going to take care of you and they're going to tell you, okay call Kaunoa, call Handivan, call MEO, call Robert's or whatever. It's really going to make a difference because it's hard for the public to know all these resources. It's hard for even the people in the business to do all the resources 'cause they change regularly. You know, we fund programs and they're gone and...or they're established and nobody knows. And let's face it, one of the things that nonprofits cannot do very well is advertising. There's just no budget to do that kind of thing. So to get the story out about what you're doing and how to get it and whatever...is their challenge--I know 'cause I have been in this world for years. But to have a one stop where you can just know that number, call it, and have somebody say okay your particular case you qualify for this and this, call this person, here's the number...really is a real advantage for us. I think it will really help everybody. So I think it's a wonderful idea and I think putting it with the MEO system is good. 'Cause a lot of people identify transportation with MEO. So it's a logical place for them to call and they can have...put it in with all the other things that they do. And maybe it will help, but I think it's worth a try. And unfortunately, these software systems and designing them and websites and whatever cost a lot of money. But it's nice to know that it can be coordinated with the system they have. And then once it's set up, then it should run. I think it's a great idea.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, any more discussion on this item here? Maybe, Ms. Winer, you know you guys gonna take it as a joke but I'm serious. What about people that are intoxicated at bars, can they call this number?

MS. JOHNSON WINER: If they could dial it, I think we'll answer.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. Good. Thank you.

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COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: That's a good question, actually.

COUNCIL MEMBERS: . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

CHAIR PONTANILLA: I know it's a good point. But...

COUNCIL MEMBERS: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: I can be that driver.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Sure. You can be that driver. Yeah. Okay. Members, any more questions for either Directors? If not, the Chair's gonna make his recommendation.

COUNCIL MEMBERS: Recommendation.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Chair's recommendation is to pass on first reading A Bill for an Ordinance Amending the Fiscal Year 2013 Budget for the County of Maui as it Pertains to Estimated Revenues; Department of Transportation, Human Service Transportation Program-General Fund; Total Operating Appropriations; and Total Appropriations, Operating and Capital Improvement Projects; and the filing of County Communication 12-197.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: So moved.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Second, Chair.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Moved by Member Hokama. Second by Member Victorino. Any more discussion, Members? Chair's going to call a one-minute recess. Stay in your place.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Recess.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Sorry, one minute recess. . . .*(gavel)*. . .

RECESS: 2:18 p.m.

RECONVENE: 2:19 p.m.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: . . .*(gavel)*. . . I know we're all anxious. Anyway, any more discussion, Members? And thank you for that short recess. Members, all in favor of the motion, please say "aye".

COUNCIL MEMBERS: Aye.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Any opposed? Seeing none, motion is carried--nine "ayes"; zero "noes".

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VOTE: AYES: Chair Pontanilla, Vice-Chair Hokama, and Councilmembers Baisa, Carroll, Cochran, Couch, Mateo, Victorino, and White.

NOES: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: None.

EXC.: None.

MOTION CARRIED.

ACTION: Recommending FIRST READING of bill and FILING of communication.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: And Members, we've done three items this afternoon. If there's no objections, Chair would like to ask the Members that...if there's nonsubstantive changes, that we allow us to have to do that.

COUNCIL MEMBERS: No objections.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Thank you, Ms. Winer, for being here, appreciate it.

MS. JOHNSON WINER: Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you, Staff. Thank you, Administration. Thank you, Members. The Budget and Finance Committee meeting for October the 2nd is now adjourned . . .(*gavel*) . . .

ADJOURN: 2:20 p.m.

APPROVED:


JOSEPH PONTANILLA, Chair
Budget and Finance Committee

bf:min:121002:km

Transcribed by: Karen Maeda

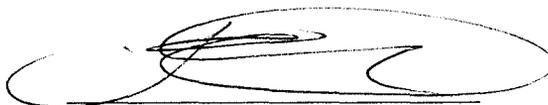
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CERTIFICATE

I, Karen Maeda, 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 23rd day of October, 2012, in Kahului, Hawaii.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several overlapping loops and a long horizontal stroke at the bottom, enclosed within a large, irregular oval shape.

Karen Maeda