

**INFRASTRUCTURE AND ENVIRONMENTAL
MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**
Council of the County of Maui

MINUTES

Council Chamber

December 16, 2013

CONVENE: 1:41 p.m.

PRESENT: VOTING MEMBERS:

Councilmember Elle Cochran, Chair
Councilmember Stacy Crivello, Vice-Chair
Councilmember Robert Carroll
Councilmember Donald G. Couch, Jr.
Councilmember Don S. Guzman
Councilmember G. Riki Hokama
Councilmember Mike White

STAFF: Regina Gormley, Legislative Attorney
Pauline Martins, Committee Secretary

Ella Alcon, Council Aide, Molokai Council Office (via telephone conference bridge)
Denise Fernandez, Council Aide, Lanai Council Office (via telephone conference bridge)
Dawn Lono, Council Aide, Hana Council Office (via telephone conference bridge)

ADMIN.: Michael Hopper, Deputy Corporation Counsel, Department of the Corporation Counsel
David Goode, Director, Department of Public Works
Patrick Wong, Corporation Counsel, Department of the Corporation Counsel (Item 27)
Richelle Mary Thomson, Deputy Corporation Counsel, Department of the Corporation Counsel (Item 27)

OTHERS: Sarah McLane, Presenter, Ola nā Papa i Mālama `ia
Robin Newbold, Chair, Maui Nui Marine Resource Council
Darla White, Marine Scientist, Division of Aquatic Resources, Department of Land and Natural Resources, State of Hawaii
John Gorman
John Gelert
John Seebart
Amy Hodges
William Spence

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John Summers
Takeo Miyaguchi
Larry Stevens
Rich Brunner
Mia Charleston
Lucienne de Naie
Edwin Lindsey
Rob Parsons
Plus (4) other people

PRESS: *Akaku Maui Community Television, Inc.*

CHAIR COCHRAN: ...*(gavel)*... Aloha. Will the Infrastructure and Environmental Management Committee please come to order. It is Monday, December 16, 2013, around 1:40 p.m. And I am the Chair of the Committee, Elle Cochran. And before we begin, please silence any noise making devices and phones. Let me introduce really quickly here Members that are present. I have Vice-Chair Stacy Crivello.

VICE-CHAIR CRIVELLO: Aloha, Chair.

CHAIR COCHRAN: Aloha. I have Councilmember Donald Couch.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Aloha, Chair.

CHAIR COCHRAN: Aloha. Mr. Councilmember Riki Hokama.

COUNCILMEMBER HOKAMA: Chair.

CHAIR COCHRAN: And Councilmember Mike White.

COUNCILMEMBER WHITE: Aloha, Chair.

CHAIR COCHRAN: Councilmember Don Guzman.

COUNCILMEMBER GUZMAN: Good afternoon.

CHAIR COCHRAN: Aloha. And just rolling in is Councilmember Bob Carroll.

COUNCILMEMBER CARROLL: Good afternoon, Chair.

CHAIR COCHRAN: Aloha. And from Administration, I have Deputy of Public Works,

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David Goode, aloha. And Corporation Counsel, Mike Hopper. As for Staff we have Legislative Attorney, Regina Gormley and also Carla Nakata. For Committee Staff, someone new to the Committee, Pauline Martins. Aloha, Pauline, you're in for a ride. And, Members, because we, and general public, because we did go overtime in our Policy Intergovernmental Affairs Committee this morning, I am going to take a 30-minute recess from here so we all can recoup, renourish and regenerate to come back for an exciting Environmental Management Committee meeting. So at this point, Members, we are in recess for 30 minutes. . . . (*gavel*) . . .

RECESS: 1:43 p.m.

RECONVENE: 2:26 p.m.

CHAIR COCHRAN: . . . (*gavel*) . . . Aloha and welcome back to the Infrastructure and Environmental Management Committee meeting. We are reconvening from our brief recess. Thank you, Members. And let me introduce the Members that are back. I have Vice-Chair of the Committee, Stacy Crivello.

VICE-CHAIR CRIVELLO: Aloha, Chair.

CHAIR COCHRAN: Aloha. And Bob Carroll.

COUNCILMEMBER CARROLL: Good afternoon, Chair.

CHAIR COCHRAN: Good afternoon. Donald Couch.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Good afternoon. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR COCHRAN: Welcome. And Mr. Riki Hokama.

COUNCILMEMBER HOKAMA: Chair.

CHAIR COCHRAN: Mike White.

COUNCILMEMBER WHITE: Aloha, Chair.

CHAIR COCHRAN: Aloha. And Mr. Don Guzman.

COUNCILMEMBER GUZMAN: Good afternoon.

CHAIR COCHRAN: Aloha. And from Department of Public Works, Director David Goode is here and Michael Hopper from Corporation Counsel and from Staff members, I have

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newly appointed Committee Secretary, Pauline Martins, and we have Legislative Attorney, Regina Gormley. Thank you folks for coming back. And also during this meeting we shall have, let's see, resource personnel in regards to the reef item that we'll be discussing later on, Sarah McLane from Ola nā Papa i Mālama `ia, that's Item 27, and Robin Newbold, and also thank you for the last minute call-in, Ms. Darla White of Department [sic] of Aquatic Resources from DLNR. So at this point, I shall open up the floor for public testimony and testifiers will be limited to speak on behalf of the items that are listed on our agenda today. You will be given three minutes to testify with one minute to conclude, if needed, and please state name, any organization or any affiliation you may be a part of, and I shall now check in with our outer Districts to make sure that our connections are intact. Ms. Alcon from Molokai, are you there?

MS. ALCON: Good afternoon, Chair. This is Ella Alcon on Molokai.

CHAIR COCHRAN: Aloha. And from our Lanai Office, Ms. Fernandez?

MS. FERNANDEZ: Good afternoon, Chair. This is Denise Fernandez on Lanai.

CHAIR COCHRAN: Aloha, Denise. And from Hana, Ms. Lono, are you there?

MS. LONO: Yes, good afternoon, Chair. This is Dawn Lono in Hana.

CHAIR COCHRAN: Great. And thank you, ladies, for being there. So let me, I'm gonna start with a couple testifiers from our gallery, 'cause at this point I believe our outlying Districts do not have any testifiers at this time. So we shall be in contact with you ladies via e-mail and if you do get testifiers that come in, please respond to our Staff and I'll make sure that we get them, you know, get their testimonies in. So jumping to our Chambers, first person to testify is John Gorman, who is testifying on Item 27, of the Maui Ocean Center.

... BEGIN PUBLIC TESTIMONY ...

MR. GORMAN: Aloha, Chair, and Committee members. My name is John Gorman. I'm the curator at Maui Ocean Center, also representative on the Maui Nui Marine Council. I urge the Committee to support the Maui Coral Reef Recovery Plan. The Plan was put forth by a group of reef management experts, scientific researchers, as well as members of the community. Based on documented decreases in coral cover on a number of reefs, the Plan sets forth a goal to address the major causes of reef decline. The Plan proposes documentation at selected sites, accumulation of knowledge, encouragement of public awareness and the creation of stakeholders as participants in coral reef management. And that's actually pretty important that we actually try and create stakeholders. The Plan acknowledges the aesthetic value, as well as the huge economic value of Maui's coral

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reefs. Snorkel dive boat operators derive their income from a healthy, functional reef system, as do whale watch organizations and a multitude of other ocean activities, including Maui Ocean Center. There's also future economic value in the perception that a destination community cherishes and nurtures its ocean reefs. More and more visitors, tourists are travelling to destinations where the perception is it's a green environment. It's, there's, the effort there to protect the environment and that's becoming much more important in tourism than it was in the past. Based on documented decreases in coral cover on reefs and fish populations, the Plan sets forth a clear goal to address the major causes of reef decline. Faced with the status quo, there's various studies scientific and a multitude of anecdotal observation of reef decline. The Plan aspires to successful implementation utilizing five core values: optimism, that's important, pragmatism, credibility, accountability and respect. The Maui Coral Reef Recovery Plan gives us today a beginning in unifying across-the-board different entities, County government, scientific participants and community groups, in planned actions that we can take to protect our most valuable and vulnerable reefs. Thank you. I really appreciate the time. Aloha.

CHAIR COCHRAN: Thank you, Mr. Gorman. Members, is there any need for clarification, reemphasis of testimony? Seeing none, Mr. Gorman, thank you for your time.

MR. GORMAN: Thank you. Aloha.

CHAIR COCHRAN: Aloha. Next testifier is John, is it Gelert or Gelert, sorry if I mispronounce your name. And also testifying on Item number 27.

MR. GELERT: Yes, good afternoon, Council members --

CHAIR COCHRAN: Aloha.

MR. GELERT: --and Chair. I'm here to ...

CHAIR COCHRAN: And your name, sorry, for the record.

MR. GELERT: --oh, my name is John Gelert --

CHAIR COCHRAN: Thank you.

MR. GELERT: --and I'm just speaking for myself. I'm just here to pass on the recommendations to help save the reefs and just want to say I go snorkeling a few times every week and so I know what the coral looks like and it's mostly dead around Kihei, starts looking much better as you get further south of Makena, like around, and south of the Maui, Makena Beach and Golf Resort, you know, Ahihi Reserve and all that stuff, it's

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looking beautiful. But I think that a lot of the problem here is caused by the agricultural chemicals, the herbicides, the pesticides and the dust from, you know, plowing up the sugar cane and stirring up the dust and the chemicals and all that stuff landing on the reef. Certainly the ash winds up in the water and it doesn't float away, it sinks to the bottom where the turtles hang out and, you know, it's possible that the turtles have those cancerous growths on their shoulders and their heads because of the, because of the stuff in the reef. And, you know, Pacific Whale Foundation, they say that there's only 8 percent of the reef left, still alive over in Maalaea, and I was looking at briefly at the report on the, on what we're doing here today that there's like a 100-page report on saving the Maui's reefs. In 1993 it says Maalaea had 50 to 75 percent of its coral was alive, so that's quite a decline in the last 20 years, and they probably changed a lot of the chemicals they used for agriculture in that time. Certainly, GMOs were introduced in, you know, mid-'90s, so it could have to do with their operation there too with Monsanto. But, of course, Olowalu reef is still really quite nice and pristine, most parts of it and the only place in Hawaii, I understand, where you can see 300 manta rays. So I urge you to be cautious about any development right near the ocean there, you know, cause all that chemicals that run off from palms and, you know, lawns and, you know, just human use. So it's a really special place and I hope sometime we can tackle the other chemical dust and everything that gets in the reef, because my biggest concern also in Maui County is Molokai, cause there's a lot of GMO farming happening there with the chemicals and --

CHAIR COCHRAN: Mr. Gelert.

MR. GELERT: --just getting into the river ...

CHAIR COCHRAN: We'll just need to, yeah, please stick to the --

MR. GELERT: Right, right, right.

CHAIR COCHRAN: --subject matter and the --

MR. GELERT: Well it's just all --

CHAIR COCHRAN: --item on --

MR. GELERT: --the same --

CHAIR COCHRAN: --agenda, thank you.

MR. GELERT: --we're saving reefs for Maui County and those chemicals are washing down the river, down to the reefs that they depend on for subsistence on Molokai on the south shore. So anything you can do for Molokai too, that'd be very much appreciated.

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CHAIR COCHRAN: Thank you. Thank you --

MR. GELERT: Thank you.

CHAIR COCHRAN: --Mr. Gelert. Members, any need for rephrasing or clarification of testimony? Seeing none, thank you for your time.

MR. GELERT: Thank you.

CHAIR COCHRAN: Next testifier is John Seebart also testifying on Item 27.

MR. SEEBART: Aloha, Council and Chair. My name is John Seebart. I live on the West Side in Kahana. I primarily am a volunteer with the Makai Watch organization, which is part of or sanctioned by Department [sic] of Aquatic Resources and also the organization CORAL. I'm on the board of the West Maui Taxpayers Association and I have a group called the Slower Road and we're all, almost all these organizations, I don't speak for any of them in particular, I'm just speaking for myself, but we all have an interest in the reefs here on Maui. There's all kinds of clichés, you know, the economy is the environment and all that kind of stuff. But, as this other gentlemen said, the reefs in Maalaea have declined from roughly 80 percent coral cover down to I believe the figure is 8 percent today. Now our hope that North Kaanapali is that we can prevent that and that's why the State made that herbivore reserve. Anyway, that's just the background. I'm very interested in the reefs. I'm out there every day as long as I can see, I don't go in the murky water. But I support this effort and I think it's a great thing to try and restore some of these things that have been lost, especially Maalaea Bay is so heavily damaged and there are other reefs up north of me in Napili area. I go out there and there's a lot of algae, macro algae, that, it just looks like seaweed, not like in California but, not the giant kelp, but stuff that's that deep where it's completely smothered the reef. Any rate, I support the Plan, Maui Nui Resource Council and the Coral Reef Recovery Plan and I hope that you all will support it as well. Thank you.

CHAIR COCHRAN: Thank you, Mr. Seebart. Members, any need for clarification from the testifier? Seeing none, thanks for your time, Mr. Seebart. Next testifier is Amy Hodges also testifying on Item 27.

MS. HODGES: Aloha, Council members. My name is Amy Hodges. I'm a resident of Maui and I work with the Maui Nui Marine Resource Council, and I urge you to support the Maui Coral Reef Recovery Plan. Coral reefs are the world's oldest living ecosystems and they are where we work, live and play. They offer ongoing visitor use attraction, they buffer us from storm surge and tsunamis, and provide an important food source for the people of Maui, both recreationally and commercially. The Coral Reef Recovery Plan is

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a science-based, results-driven, community and peer reviewed plan. It's a good plan and the first of its kind. Let Maui be a showcase in reef recovery for the rest of Hawaii and the world. I urge you to vote in support of the Maui Coral Reef Recovery Plan to help protect Maui's important coastal resources from which we all will benefit. Thank you.

CHAIR COCHRAN: Thank you, Ms. Hodges. Members, any need for clarification of the testifier. Seeing none, thank you for your --

MS. HODGES: Thanks.

CHAIR COCHRAN: --time, Ms. Hodges. And the next person who is signed up to testify is Director William Spence, but he unfortunately was called away and on his behalf, well in the gallery, if needed for any questions and comments, is John Summers from Long Range Planning who did state to me that Mr. Spence had to be called away and that he is in support. So I just wanted to state that for the record. So next testifier is Mr. Takeo Miyaguchi also testifying on Item 27.

MR. MIYAGUCHI: Aloha, Council members, Chair Cochran.

CHAIR COCHRAN: Aloha.

MR. MIYAGUCHI: My names if Takeo Miyaguchi and a member of the Maui Nui Marine Council. I strongly urge the Committee to support the Maui Coral Recovery Plan. I have lived on Maui for most of my life and have raised my children here and I'm an avid fisherman and spear fisherman also. I have witnessed a severe decline in fishes and limu and a degradation of the corals in shallow waters, and I am deeply troubled by these changes. The island's coral reefs hold cultural, economic and ecological importance. I have enjoyed teaching my children and my grandchildren to practice pono fishing ways and to respect the aina. We have an opportunity, you as well, and myself and people here today, to set a good example and to secure these resources for our keiki's future. Plans are scientific and community-based approach, offers a good, real chance at successfully recovering the reefs, and I respectfully request that you support the adoption of the Maui Coral Recovery Plan and its implementation. Thank you. Are there any questions?

CHAIR COCHRAN: Thank you, Mr. Miyaguchi. Members, any need for clarification from Mr. Miyaguchi? Seeing none...and Mr. Miyaguchi's a little humble, he's also a surfer, very avid surfer too. So, he, so ...

MR. MIYAGUCHI: I might add that I'm 81 years and I still love to go spear fishing.

CHAIR COCHRAN: Excellent.

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MR. MIYAGUCHI: Thank you.

CHAIR COCHRAN: Thank you for being here, Mr. Miyaguchi. Okay, next testifier, Larry Stevens and he shall be testifying also on Item 27.

MR. STEVENS: Hello, Madam Chair and Council members. My name is Larry Stevens. I also work with the Maui Nui Marine Resource Council and I just have two quick points for you. One is that I have been so impressed with the group that put together this Plan, because it involves not just a bunch of pointy-headed scientists but also people from the community who live and depend upon the reefs for their livelihood and for their recreation and many other things. This is a unique plan. You won't find anything like it anywhere in the world, and it comes from just about the entire community of Maui. Second point is that it's so important for us, and your responsibility, to help protect the people of Maui and I just want to remind you that the people of Maui depend on their reefs to be, for their livelihood, to keep the visitors coming, and to, and to enjoy the benefits of this beautiful place. I'm starting to see letter after letter in the Maui newspapers of people bemoaning the state of our ocean and the state of our reefs. If this gets to be more and more visible to people who come here, that can threaten our visitor industry and that's the one thing we can't lose if we're going to have a successful community here. Thank you.

CHAIR COCHRAN: Thank you, Mr. Steven. Members, any need for clarification from our testifier? Seeing none, thank you for your time Mr. Steven. Next testifier looks like Rich Brunner, Brenner, sorry if I mispronounced ...

MR. BRUNNER: Brunner.

CHAIR COCHRAN: Brunner, okay, also testifying on Item 27.

MR. BRUNNER: Good afternoon. My name is Rich Brunner. I am with the Resource Council as well. I'd like to thank you, Chair, for allowing us here today to speak and you folks' time as well. Also like to thank you for your, your letter, your opinion in the paper yesterday. I just wanted to come here and, in support, voice my support for the resolution as well. Somebody said that John was, John Gorman's a tough act to follow and he certainly is, so without belaboring...I see he's gone already, as well as Larry...I just wanted to kind of reiterate some of the economic benefits from the Plan that Maui needs to maintain a place, I feel, in the global market as well. Amongst all these other important points, I don't wanna carry on about things you've, I see you've got a copy of the Plan, I hope you get a chance to read it, look it over. But just wanted to voice my support. One other thing I would like to mention is that picture. It's very unfortunate that while we do have beautiful blue water around the islands, that this is not really an accurate depiction of what goes on in the water, and I realize that the County just goes to

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the water's edge and is not very, is not responsible for what goes on beyond that, but it would be nice to have a picture that would perhaps depict some of the reef as well. One last thing I would challenge you all to get in the water this holiday break and enjoy the reefs around, around our County here and see what, see what we're talking about if you haven't seen it in a long while. Thank you for your time.

CHAIR COCHRAN: Thank you, Mr. Brunner. Members, any need for clarification from our testifier? Seeing none, thank you.

MR. BRUNNER: Thanks again.

CHAIR COCHRAN: Alrighty. Okay, next testifier is Robin Newbold. She also will be testifying on Item 27.

MS. NEWBOLD: Aloha. My name is Robin Newbold. I'm a marine biologist and former professor. Thank you, Councilmember Cochran, for introducing this resolution. We really appreciate that and I want to thank all the Council members for your consideration of the, of the resolution. In 2007, our late kupuna Ed Lindsey and I co-founded the Maui Nui Marine Resource Council. At his request, I took over and currently Chair the Council on which a diverse cross section of Maui residents serve. Our goals are to reverse the precipitous decline in coral reef fish and the coral itself in Maui nui. As you know, healthy reefs are critically important to our island life and to our economic and cultural well-being, as others have mentioned. We deeply appreciate the financial support that the County has given us over the last few years. The County, which you represent of course, was the first entity that recognized the importance of the work that we are trying to do on behalf of the people of Maui and have continued to support our efforts. In 2010 we noticed that the County didn't have a coral reef recovery plan even though it's now referenced in the Maui Island Plan, and so we decided to leverage the funds that the Office of Economic Development entrusted to us with funding from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation in order to develop a coral reef recovery plan. Such plans occur in other ecosystems but as far as we know, no such plan occurs anywhere else in the world for coral reefs. We basically wanted to do this as a gift to the people of Maui. We assembled a diverse team of coral reef scientists, some of the best known names in the world, cultural representatives, fishers, County Planners like John Summers who's here served on our team, and we hired John Parks, an excellent person to facilitate the development of the Maui Coral Reef Recovery Plan. During all-day meetings periodically held over the next three years, we finalized the Plan and we've now developed a work plan, so we're ready to proceed with implementation, and that's like great news for us, you know, it's taken us three years to get to this point. So this is a very exciting time for us and a perfect time for you to be considering a resolution to acknowledge the importance of the reefs and the fact that we simply, there's a great

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danger to no action and that we do need a recovery plan. I want to thank you again for your support, particularly at this very critical juncture, in the development of the Plan.

CHAIR COCHRAN: Thank you, Ms. Newbold. Members, any need for rephrasing or clarification from our testifier? Seeing none, again thank you very --

MS. NEWBOLD: Thank you.

CHAIR COCHRAN: --much for all your work in this, Ms. Newbold. Okay, Members, next testifier looks like Mia Charleston also testifying on Item 27.

MS. CHARLESTON: Aloha, Council members.

CHAIR COCHRAN: Aloha.

MS. CHARLESTON: My name is Mia Nikala, or, excuse me, Mia Charleston. See, I knew I was going to do that, recently married, sorry. I urge the Committee to support the adoption of this resolution, which will help to support the Maui Coral Reef Recovery Plan. My interests in the Plan is mainly for personal reasons; however, I understand the economical value of the reefs and that I worked on a variety of snorkel boats for about seven years out here showing thousands of visitors the fascinating world, underwater world that I hope you've all been able to enjoy at some point. Those visitors who did return noticed the degradation of the corals, which I also noticed throughout the years. In order to do something, I actually joined the Maui Nui Marine Resource Council several years ago as the Administrative Assistant and I learned throughout the process of the Maui Coral Reef Recovery Plan with the team, all these wonderful people coming together and creating this hopefully for you to use. I think it's a wonderful tool for you to have because it basically touches on the variety of issues that we have out here on our coral reefs and also some potential solutions. So thank you very much and Happy Holidays. Thank you.

CHAIR COCHRAN: Thank you, Ms. Charleston. Members, any need to repeat or restate part of her testimony? Seeing none, okay. So next testifier is Lucienne de Naie and Lucienne will be testifying on also Item 27.

MS. de NAIE: Thank you, Chair Cochran, and Mele Kalikimaka to all of our, hardworking Council members, the days are ticking down. My name is Lucienne de Naie and I too serve on the Maui Nui Marine Resource Council Advisory Board representing kind of an East Maui perspective, you know, the perspective of the folks who kind of depend on these resources. A lot of folks out our way are, they're into subsistence, you know, they work in jobs, but they depend on the reefs for fishing. I have several neighbors who are fishermen right in our little neighborhood in Huelo, and, you know, I won't belabor the

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problems that we've had with our fish populations and our reefs, but when I served on the General Plan Advisory Committee, when we looked at the kind of policies for our future, we were told, you know, don't just look at what is, look at what could be. And so we put in policy saying yeah, we're gonna grab this bull by the horns, we're gonna look at ways that we could appropriately, for our community, really try to do something to improve conditions and to not just let everything go to heck in a hand basket. So, of course, you know, you can't just be heavy handed and just regulate everybody out of existence. It needs to kind of come from the bottom up and that's what I really appreciated about how this Plan was done. It was the process. There was a lot of input from people that spend a lot of time fishing, that spend time in the water, that spend time looking at things, and then we had the scientist and we had the regulatory, you know, perspective as well. And so it's, it's trying to take a pragmatic approach, okay, what, what can people do? And no one has mentioned this but Maui Nui, Takeo is involved in this, they have two, actually three community-based fisheries management areas that is just about the community working to make things better, to learn about what's going on and then to take appropriate actions and to educate their peers that use the areas for fishing, diving, so forth and so on. And this is really, I think, the wave of the future because it doesn't cost that much and it gets traditional knowledge and passes it on and gets it out to the next generation and gets it out to the malahini who, you know, who wouldn't know. And so, you know, it's the right way to do things. And that's all incorporated into this Plan as well. So thank you for your support, and we look forward to implementation. Aloha.

CHAIR COCHRAN: Thank you, Ms. de Naie. Members, any need for clarification or restating of testimony? Seeing none, thank you, Ms. de Naie, for your time. Okay, next testifier we have is Edwin Lindsey also here to testify on Item 27.

MR. LINDSEY: Aloha.

CHAIR COCHRAN: Aloha.

MR. LINDSEY: I'm Edwin Lindsey or Ekolu Lindsey also. I'm here in support of the Maui Coral Reef Recovery Plan. I was also part of a delegation about two years ago that went down to Palau from Hawaii and when we went diving out there, it was amazing to see the biodiversity of not only marine life but the coral biodiversity. And when I went down and saw the palate of colors and fish, it was such a wonderful vision to have for our own home. I also am part of a group called Polanui Hiu. It's based off of my family's backyard in Lahaina. So we're one of those community-based, community-managed makai area networks that is working on plans to bring back a recovery of our reef. So a supplementation with support for this resolution would bring another layer for us to move forward in bringing back balance to our ocean, our life, our ice box as we say. So it's important for us to malama this area and it's also your responsibility to pass this so that we can do the work and make sure it survives for future generations. It's a huge

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economic impact that we've talked about. There's also a large, more importantly, the cultural impact associated with it. We have a lot of scientist that are involved in this and I'm there, as well as the others who are culturally sensitive side, to put culture first and have science support the cultural aspect of it. Culture is more important. I shouldn't say more, it's just as important as science, but science needs to support the cultural version of it. And if you put that first instead of the visitor industry and the economics it supports, the rest will follow. So I really, truly believe people come to Hawaii for its culture, its people and when they go under water they need to see that we know how to take care of this area and what's under the water. We have a right. We also have to maintain that right to take care of these things. So I strongly urge you to support this resolution. Thank you.

CHAIR COCHRAN: Mahalo, Ekolu. Members, any need for clarification from our testifier? Seeing none, thank you so much. And last but not least, lucky number 13 testifier, is Mr. Rob Parsons and he will be testifying on Item 27 from our Mayor's Office.

MR. PARSONS: Thank you, Chair, Council members, Happy Holidays to all. Thank you for the opportunity to offer my support as the Mayor's Executive Assistant for environmental concerns on the resolution before you today to support this well thought-out and explicated plan. Going back a few years, the Maui Nui Marine Resource Council was the idea and vision of Uncle Ed Lindsey, Jr., the father of the previous testifier, Ekolu, and like many organizations, it immediately went into some growing pains but shortly thereafter really found its footing and found its way, and I've been so impressed by the work and the guidance and the vision of the previous two executive directors, both of whom are here today, Robin Newbold, who you heard from, and also Sarah McLane. And I have read the Recovery Plan cover to cover and I think that it does a good job of not just explaining the stressors to our coral reef ecosystems, many of which you already have heard of, but also in great detail explains the whys and wheres and some science to back it up, but also it gives a clear path to recovery. The Maui Nui Marine Resource Council is supported by the Office of Economic Development. As Ekolu said, there's a clear link between the health of the environment and the health of our economy. To this point, there's, I think, been good outreach from this group. They've, they're known for public presentations on just about a monthly basis. Anybody in our community can go to one of their presentations and learn particulars about our coral reef ecosystems. On Page 13, it very, it lists four main goals of this Plan and they are to provide evidence of coral recovery at selected sites around Maui, to use science to advance knowledge, improve understanding of the state of Maui's coral reef ecosystems and document coral recovery. Goal three is strengthen public awareness regarding the status of threats and trends facing Maui's coral reefs. And then finally goal four, strengthen the capacity for effective coral reef management on Maui. And the number one objective of goal three is by 2014 to ensure that the Recovery Plan has been reviewed, endorsed and adopted by Maui decision makers and residents. That brings us right to where we are to date. And I

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probably don't need to let you know that a resolution doesn't obligate the County financially or legally to anything in particular, but it does show our vision and our direction that we as a community and you as decision makers wish to take, and it is my hope that you'll join me in supporting all the work that's been done to this point in developing this Plan and to give it your endorsement, to give them your mahalo for all the work they've done and will continue to do. And I thank you for the opportunity to share that. Thank you.

CHAIR COCHRAN: And thank you for your time, Mr. Parsons. Members, any need for clarification from our testifier? Seeing none, thank you again, Mr. Parsons. I guess we have a couple more that signed up. Members, we have Ms. Darla White here to testify on Item also 27.

MS. WHITE: Good afternoon, Council members and Chair. Thank you so much for the opportunity. So my name is Darla White. I am here testifying on my own behalf today. I am a marine scientist. I work for the Hawaii DLNR, Division of Aquatic Resources. I'm also a member of the Maui Coral Reef Recovery Team. I'm an ex-officio member of the Maui Nui Marine Resource Council. So a lot of my thoughts are already in the Plan, so, but I did want to also mention that, you know, I've been doing coral reef research in Hawaii for over 13 years. I've had the rare privilege to dive almost every island in the archipelago and I have a really good sense of what's going on under water. I spend close to half the year there. This, I strongly support the adoption of this resolution and I hope you will too. One of the Maui Island Plan heritage resource goals is in such good alignment with this, where it talks about an intact ecologically functional system of reef, shoreline, and near shore waters that are protected in perpetuity and for far too long our island systems have been divided by jurisdictional boundaries where the County jurisdiction above the high tide line and the State from the high tide to three miles out but our ecosystems don't recognize these boundaries. They do not know cities or districts such as Olowalu and Ukumehame, that's one functional reef. That whole reef is one functioning ecosystem. All of our reefs around Maui nui are connected. So if you degrade or lose one reef in one place, it can have a cascading effect on other reefs around Maui nui. Functionally, the ecosystems are connected from the top of the mountain to beyond the reefs under water, so what happens on the land has impacts on our near shore ecosystems in ways that slowly degrade these habitats, these complex and precious coral reefs that are so vital to our way of life here. In turn, the loss of a reef can have implications to fisheries, shoreline and infrastructure protection, tourism, recreation and lifestyle. Our lives and livelihoods extend mauka to makai. This is reflected both in traditional ahupua'a system and in the contemporary water shed systems. It's all connected and here we have an opportunity to recognize that by adopting the Maui Coral Reef Recovery Plan into the Maui Island Plan. The Coral Reef Recovery Plan was put together by a team of some of the most knowledgeable scientists, managers, cultural advisors, fishers, water quality experts and local agency professionals in Hawaii. The

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Maui Nui Marine Resource Council has been there to lead the process and give input throughout its entirety. This is a practical plan based on the best available science by a technical team of experts with priorities driven by the Maui community. It's a strong start in the right direction, one where there is a good opportunity for success. This team is recognized by the U.S. Coral Reef taskforce and will also be available to educate and provide technical expertise to decision makers, such as yourselves, on future decisions. So I'd like to also invite each and every one of you to come out into the water with me. Let me show you the reef. And let me show you how I see it. And that is all. Thank you.

CHAIR COCHRAN: Thank you, Ms. White. Members, any need for restatement of the testimony? Seeing none, thank you, Ms. Darla White. And now I believe, last but not least, we have Ms. Sarah McLane here also testifying on Item 27.

MS. McLANE: Aloha. I will be giving a presentation in a couple minutes too but I just wanted to say a couple things first. My name is Sarah McLane. I am in full support of this Reef Recovery Plan, and I wanted to point out that I know a lot of times when you see conservationists up here, we're, you know, worried about something or we're complaining about something or we need something to be protected. This is one instance where I think it's really different in that it's not political at all. It's an opportunity to actually move forward and do something about it instead of just us having to keep coming up here and saying oh, the reef is dying or this is happening with our water, you know, this is actually a step in the right direction. I think it's also important to point out that we've already gotten started on this, and we have a lot of stakeholders at the table and the County is a really important stakeholder. You know, what Darla and others were saying about jurisdiction is true, you know, the County doesn't have the jurisdiction in the water, but as you'll see later in my PowerPoint and what several other people have pointed out, a lot of what happens in the water is totally affected by what's happening on the land, and so this resolution, while it's kind of more ceremonial, it's still really important, and I really liked what Rob said about that it sets the tone for what we want as a vision for our reefs. So, yeah, I just wanted to say those, those couple things. Thanks.

CHAIR COCHRAN: Thank you, Ms. McLane, and looking forward to your presentation later. Members, at this point, do we need any further statements from Ms. McLane? Seeing none, thank you for your time and service to the Maui Nui Marine Resource Council. Okay, and Staff, do we have any testifiers from our outlying Districts? Have they called in or emailed you at all? Ms., Molokai, Ms. Alcon, any testifiers there?

MS. ALCON: There's no one here on Molokai waiting to testify.

CHAIR COCHRAN: Thank you. Lanai, Ms. Fernandez, any testifiers?

MS. FERNANDEZ: There is no one waiting to testify on Lanai.

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CHAIR COCHRAN: Thank you. And in Hana, Ms. Lono?

MS. LONO: No one waiting to testify in Hana, Chair.

CHAIR COCHRAN: Okay, well then, thank you, ladies, for being there for us, and service to our community, and happy holidays. Members, at this point...anyone from the gallery want to step up to the podium and testify? Seeing no one rushing, at this point, Members, without objections, I shall now close the floor for testimony.

COUNCIL MEMBERS VOICED NO OBJECTIONS.

... END OF PUBLIC TESTIMONY ...

CHAIR COCHRAN: Thank you. Okay, moving on. We have two items on our agenda today and the first is IEM-32 and this is a time-sensitive matter that was referred to this Committee at our last Council meeting of December 6th. The other item, IEM-27, involves support for a plan to restore Maui's coral reefs. We are happy to have with us today various representatives from that group, which I believe all have testified, that have developed the Ola nā Papa i Mālama `ia.

IEM-32 HAUOLI STREET DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT LAND ACQUISITION (MAALAEA) (C.C. 13-378)

CHAIR COCHRAN: And also I shall now proceed to our first item, which is IEM-32 and it's a resolution approving the acquisition of real property at Maalaea, island of Maui, Hawaii for the Hauoli Street Drainage Improvements Project. And this, Members, is a County Communication 13-378 from Director of Public Works, David Goode, transmitting a proposed resolution entitled Approving the Acquisition of Real Property at Maalea, Island of Maui, Hawaii for the Hauoli Street Drainage Improvement Project. The purpose of this proposed resolution is to authorize the purchase from Alexander & Baldwin, LLC of two parcels of land identified as TMK: 3-8-005:017 (por.) and then 3-8-005:003 (por.) for public purposes. So at this point, I shall now turn the floor over to Director of Public Works, David Goode, for some comments.

MR. GOODE: Okay.

CHAIR COCHRAN: Mr. Goode.

MR. GOODE: Thank you, Chair. Good afternoon, Members of the Committee and those in the audience today. First of all I want to thank the Chair for taking this up in a timely manner. This particular project was approved by the Council in FY '13 for the Hauoli

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Street Drainage Improvement. As you may recall, Hauoli Street, the culvert there kind of in the middle of the road, the condominiums, suffered substantial damage in I think it was January of 2011 and to the point where the culvert was completely wiped out. The project involves, this project involves, upsizing those culverts and installing a drainage basin mauka of the culverts, which would help to slow down water, to allow for the water to settle and also for sediments to drop and then to proceed through the culverts, giving it greater capacity. Because the property that we need to acquire is valued over \$100,000, in accordance with the Maui County Code, we need a resolution from the Council to proceed with that acquisition. These funds do lapse at the end of this calendar year in two weeks approximately. The project is ready to go, it's been designed, we've got all our environmental permitting done, we have construction contract ready to execute, the project is on budget. And again, I apologize for the delay, we needed to, the delay was in part caused by a few factors. One was in order to identify the area that we needed to acquire, we needed the design to be substantially completed, 'cause we needed to know exactly what the basin was going to look like, including the access roads to get around the basin and maintain it. Secondly, these, there's two parcels involved here. They're owned by A&B and because the parcel line is basically along this drainage ditch, these parcels hadn't been searched by title companies maybe forever and so that took a lot longer with the title companies. And thirdly, A&B prefers not to use our standard acceptance letter but rather a purchase and sale agreement, almost exactly like the purchase and sale agreement you folks saw for the 209 acres that was recently purchased. So those factors led us to transmitting this later than we would've liked. Nevertheless, I understand we can still get it through the full Council if you see it favorable today. The appraisal used as comparables, the Wailuku Country Estates parcels in Central Maui, which are smaller parcels. The two parcels we're acquiring are a little over an acre and they're all zoned Ag, so that was a reasonable comparison. After using those comparisons, the appraiser then took off 40 percent of value from Wailuku Country Estates to these parcels, 10 percent because of the location, rather than having a nice hilltop view, they're located behinds condos and then another 30 percent was taken off because it didn't have full access to utilities, primarily no water currently to the parcel or parcels. So it seemed that the 40 percent reduction of those comparisons was reasonable. And that, Councilors, is a summary of the project. I'd be happy to answer any questions you may have.

CHAIR COCHRAN: Thank you, Director Goode. Members, the floor is now open to you folks for some questions and comments for Department. Yes, Mr. Hokama.

COUNCILMEMBER HOKAMA: I'd like to ask a question.

CHAIR COCHRAN: Yes.

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COUNCILMEMBER HOKAMA: Director, thank you. That was a very good explanation to the Committee. You know, one of the things with the Wailuku Estates sort of and this site is, of course, this site is not going to have any structures. So was there any consideration, since there was going to be no structures, for an additional discount, because you can put up a house, an accessory dwelling related to agriculture in Wailuku Estates?

MR. GOODE: I didn't see that in the appraisal. I think the appraisal looked at it as if we're buying 1.1 acres of land without consideration for what we would do with it. If the same parcel is available on the market, that's the, what someone else may pay for it and they may have other uses for it.

COUNCILMEMBER HOKAMA: Okay. Okay, thank you, Chair.

CHAIR COCHRAN: Thank you, Mr. Hokama. Members, any further, yes, Mr. White.

COUNCILMEMBER WHITE: Thank you, Madam Chair. I have some, some concerns about the appraisal and the price that was reached, because while it is, it's being compared to Wailuku Country Estates, Wailuku Country Estates is subdivided, has all the ability to be sold as an individual parcel so I don't believe this would normally be priced this way. But based on the time, the time element that we're faced with, I guess we don't have much of a choice and we have a lot of the appropriate amount of money for the overall project. So it's just my concern.

CHAIR COCHRAN: Thank you, Mr. White. Members, any further comments for, questions? Yes, Mr. Couch.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Thank you, Madam Chair. Mr. Goode, you've heard 14 testifiers talk about protecting the reef. A lot of it was, talked about being from runoff and whatnot, and this is a perfect example of something that we can do to help mitigate runoff. Now you were mentioning that the acreage is to be for a settling basin so that sediment will settle down. Is that how that's gonna work?

MR. GOODE: That'll be the partial function of the, or one of the functions of the basin. I don't know if I could call it a true sediment basin. Some are designed specifically to retain sediment as its primary function and the ones in West Maui do that, and that's kind of related to where the outlet is located in reference to the bottom of the basin. We just can't dig that deep there. We're gonna get water pretty quickly. So, but it will slow the water down. It will allow some sediment to settle out. It, basically the nature of the storms here and especially these basins here, these basically, the storms, the basins come off the West Maui Mountains on the South side and they come down rather quickly and the flood of that is quick. If you looked on a curve of what they call a hydrograph, it happens real quickly and then it goes away. And when those come real quickly, the total volume of

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water may not be that great but it comes a lot at one time. So if you can have an area to have it settle out, we can have smaller culverts and hopefully we won't be in the situation where we did last time whereas, you know, a lot of material probably end up in the reefs, right? So when we have those types of events where the water goes everywhere and it's taking stuff from condos and God knows what else, by having the basin there we can have less likely occurrence of those events. So all in all it works to improve the situation we have now, especially as relates to the runoff going into the reefs.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Yeah, so this in essence this will help with the, lessen the impact on the reef?

MR. GOODE: Correct.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Of what little reef is left over there.

MR. GOODE: Correct.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: That might help in future, okay.

MR. GOODE: Uh-huh.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Have you looked at potential...yeah, I realize, yeah, you can't dig very deep because of the water table. Any other types of filtering of the water going through? I know maybe that is because it's coming too fast, you really can't filter it either. Any other sort of natural way or any other way to potentially clean the water before it goes in? Get it cleaner than it will be?

MR. GOODE: Off the top of my head, I would think that the various conduits that are taking the water from the mountains to eventually through the sugar cane field to our facility, to a degree those have more natural drainage features. Alright, so less likely to be hardened with concrete but to have grass swales for instance. That, that can, that can definitely help. On the drier side of the island, that's more difficult to implement because you'd probably need to irrigate it or to have some type of, this would be more maintenance intensive. So that would be one aspect. To the degree, I guess, our basin could be larger, we could, you know, double or triple the area, would also assist. Whether or not that total cost to double or triple the area is, could be shown has some demonstrated value to the reefs. At some point, I guess, if it's 99 percent effective, going to 99.9 percent is like ten times as expensive, it may not make sense. So that off the top of my head are a few things that could, could assist.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Okay, thank you.

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CHAIR COCHRAN: You done, Mr. Couch? Okay. Oh, what do I hit? Do I hang them up?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: The gray button, with the phone.

CHAIR COCHRAN: Okay. Members, any further discussion, questions, comments for Director? Okay. Seeing none. So, Members, as we know, as I explained, this is a time-sensitive matter. Mr. Goode explained the lapsing of funds and what-have-you. And, Mr. White, I hear your concerns, I mean, we are up to our eyeballs in looking at these types of appraisals right now and things, and this is like the last thing we wanted to deal with but it is here in front of us. So my recommendation is to defer this in order to get it to full Council this Friday, to have a discharge and then waive the Committee referral in order for us to vote on it. So that is my recommendation in order to address this time-sensitive item in front of us today.

COUNCILMEMBER CARROLL: No objection.

CHAIR COCHRAN: No objections, Members?

COUNCIL MEMBERS VOICED NO OBJECTIONS.

COUNCILMEMBER WHITE: No objection. I would just add that I'm in full support of the project.

CHAIR COCHRAN: Right.

COUNCILMEMBER WHITE: Don't take my comments ...*(inaudible)*...

CHAIR COCHRAN: Right, right, yeah, no, I understand, Mr. White, and myself included. Otherwise I'd, you know, be taking it in a different route. But, no, it's definitely needed and we do know the negative impacts that have already occurred and it kind of falls in place with this whole, you know, recovery reef plan and protection and all this other stuff. So that is why we're, the route I've taken today. So thank you, Members, for your concurring on my recommendation and we shall be taking care of this, Mr. Goode, on Friday then.

MR. GOODE: Right, thank you very much.

CHAIR COCHRAN: And thank you for your time. And thank you, Members, for your discussion on the matter today. Alrighty, and I guess we're good on that.

ACTION: DEFER pending further discussion.

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IEM-27 RESTORATION OF MAUI'S CORAL REEFS (C.C. 13-303)

CHAIR COCHRAN: Moving on to the next item of the day, which is IEM-27. And this is the resolution urging support for the restoration of Maui's coral reefs, and this is a County Communication 13-303 from myself, Councilmember Elle Cochran, transmitting a proposed resolution entitled Urging Support for Ola nā Papa i Mālama `ia: A Practical Plan for the Technical and Cultural Restoration of Maui Coral Reefs. And the purpose of this proposed resolution is to support Ola nā Papa `ia of Maui...wait a minute... Ola nā Papa Mālama `ia: A Practical Plan for the Technical and Cultural Restoration of Maui's Coral Reefs. We shall also be receiving a presentation and overview from, I guess, Ms. McLane. So, Members, at this point we shall have a very brief recess in order to set the Chambers for this presentation. We are now in recess. . . . (*gavel*) . . .

RECESS: 3:25 p.m.

RECONVENE: 3:27 p.m.

CHAIR COCHRAN: . . . (*gavel*) . . . Will the Infrastructure and Environmental Management meeting please reconvene. And we are now going to receive a presentation from Ms. Sarah McLane of the Maui Nui Marine Resource Council. Ms. McLane, the floor is all yours.

. . . **BEGIN PRESENTATION** . . .

MS. McLANE: Aloha, Chair. Thank you so much for letting me do this today and I also really appreciate you bringing this resolution to the floor today and giving us an opportunity to tell you a little bit more about the Plan. I know I've met with all of you individually about this but I wanted to go into a little bit more detail. But I think just also after the discussion earlier and hearing some talks I might breeze through this a little fast. I know you guys have been in meetings all day too. So feel free to stop me at any time if you have questions or if that's not the protocol, do what you know is best. The Marine Council was formed back in 2007, because people were really realizing that we weren't doing a very good job of taking care of our marine resources. The Council at any time consists from between 20 and 28 different representatives from all different types of backgrounds: fishers, ocean tourism, scientists, educators and cultural practitioners, and we also have a series of non-voting advisors that are representatives from government entities, both State, Federal and County people are considered non-voting advisors. Our major accomplishments include the Community Managed Makai Areas that we were speaking about earlier--these are known as the CMMAs--our Maui Coral Reef Recovery Plan, and if you remember we also hosted a bunch of flood forums in Kihei recently. So what do we do with the Marine Council? Our focus is on three things: clean water, having an abundance of native fish, and supporting our communities to manage their own

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resources. And our Council is supported in lots of different ways by all of these agencies, including the County. As Robin and others said earlier, we have been a recipient of an Office of Economic Development grant for the past three years, I believe, yes. I'm not going too into depth here but I just wanted to make sure we were all on the same page. Coral reefs are living creatures, they start up as a polyp, they need a hard, rock substrate to fall onto which then they would grow from. So we are talking about live coral reefs here not just dead rock. Coral around Maui nui, we do still have some good coral left. The areas shown in yellow and red are more than 50 percent coral cover. The areas in blue are our really low coral cover areas. On Maui, in particular, you see, we have a big swath there in the Olowalu area and some off of South Maui as well. You can see that Molokai still has a pretty extensive reef that is still over there. We had been seeing decreasing coral cover in Maui over the last 20 years, and this graph is, this is DLNR-DAR data for the past 20 years or so. You can see in the red areas, those are reefs that have been declining. So the North Shore we see Honolua Bay up there, used to be at 42 percent coral cover, it's down to about 8. I'll point out though, one thing we've been hearing a lot of is the issues with sunscreen. And I just wanted to point out that in our reef recovery plan, sunscreen is not pointed out as one of the major contributors to reef decline. And you can take a look at Molokini right there, it's in the black, in the middle, kinda hard to read, but essentially it's considered a healthy reef and we have millions of tourists that swim and snorkel there every year. So I just wanted to point that out because I hear that a lot and I don't, and our Coral Reef Recovery Plan doesn't point that out as one of the major contributors to coral reef decline. Oh, and you guys all have this new, updated graph, I guess Darla just gave that out. So why are coral reefs important? They're important for biodiversity, they're important for a source of food and to protect our coasts when we have storms, hurricanes and tsunamis. There's three major factors that do affect coral reefs. Mostly it's land-based sources of pollution, excuse me, unsustainable fishing, and climate change. And, you know, climate change is kind of the monkey in the room but we can't do as much about that as we'd like but the first two we really can do things about. This is a picture I took from my parents' condo in North Kihei on a pretty normal day, unfortunately there, but this is just one example of what we see, the dust blowing out. That dust does settle in the ocean, it doesn't just go away magically, and it settles on our reefs. This is a picture from Northwest Maui and after a severe rain in the Napili area. This is all sediment out in the water that has washed out. And what happens when we, when we have sediment that comes out, is that not only can wind, excuse me, not only can waves, you know...sorry, I'm having a hard time talking today for some reason, you guys must make me nervous. The waves can churn it up but also the daily trade wind regime. So, you know, one of things, the biggest issues they have on Molokai, they have this amazing reef and in the morning it can be beautiful but when the trade winds turn on in the afternoon it just gets resuspended day in and day out. And so what we're really talking about is, can our reefs be resilient to deal with things like this. So what is ecological resilience? Essentially we're trying to say that we want to avoid going from a coral-dominated ecosystem to an algae-dominated ecosystem. And

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what does that really look like? Well it means that we have high coral cover, a high diversity of different types of coral, low amounts of disease, good water quality, a good broad range of size and age classes of fish. We have corals that can survive repeated stresses such as, if we do have storms 'cause we're gonna have storms here in Hawaii, good recruitment and connectivity between the different reefs. And when we talk about connectivity, this is a really important point, and Darla brought this up earlier that all of our reefs here in Maui nui are connected. These were buoys that were dropped by the U.S. Geological Survey in 2003, and it shows you where they dropped them and it shows you where they ended up on the final stage. And this just shows what happens to a coral larvae when it spawns from West Maui, it's essentially seeding the reefs on the North Shore of Lanai and the South Shore of Molokai. So all of our reefs, if we lose one, we could potentially lose others. We're also seeing that, you know, we've been losing a lot of our reef fish, and this graph here just shows you that a lot of people, I think, have the misconception that it's all commercial fishers that are taking all of our fish when, in fact, recreational fishers catch a lot of fish as well and recreational fishers are our friends and neighbors and we can work together to, to come up with better ways to make sure that there are fish on the reef for them to take for their, you know, future families. In this graph, sorry it's a little dark, it really just shows you what we're going for. The reefs in the dark, the bright green on the far left, that's the Northwest Hawaiian Islands. This is the amount of biomass of fish that they have in the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands. So we're looking at almost three tons of fish per hectare in the Northwest Hawaiian Islands. The comparison is West Maui is I think three from the right over there. So not even, you know, a quarter of a ton per hectare. And so we're really shooting to be on that left side over there. That's really our goal, increasing biomass. So as Robin Newbold testified earlier, a couple years ago we got money from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation to create a reef recovery plan. This is, as far as we know, the first one created in the world so we're really pioneering this. It was created by a group of people that was very similar to our Council, a lot of different backgrounds, but the goals and objectives are, are pretty basic, that we just want to have evidence of coral reef recovery. That's really, that's something that we have right now. We want to advance the knowledge of our understanding of what's happening in the coral reefs and document their recovery. We want to strengthen public awareness regarding the status, threats and trends facing the reef and also strengthen the capacity for coral reef management. And our vision, although it's long, I'm not going to read the whole thing, but essentially it just is saying that we want to have a thriving and sustainable ecosystem that can be around for future generations and that we can be recognized around the world as, you know, a culture of people that really care about our marine resources. So I'm going to go through these goals pretty quickly but I did want to put these up here. All of you guys should have this, it's in the Plan, but this is kind of the science behind what we're trying to do. We really want to see an increase in live coral cover with essential fish habitat at two priority sites by 2020 and by five sites at 2025. We want to increase the relative abundance of functional groups of culturally and ecologically important coral reef fish and

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invertebrates, and invertebrates being corals and other small little animals out there. We want to see a decrease in the algae cover, both invasive and native species. You can have too many native species also and that can kill a reef, it's important to have a good balance, at two sites by 2020 and five sites by 2025. By 2020, we want to measure and document an increase of coral reef recruitment and survivorship as well as decrease in disease, and we want to incorporate native Hawaiian traditional management practices into these restoration activities. That would include working through our CMMA sites that we help. Goal 2, advancing the knowledge. We want to periodically monitor the status of these reefs, both at paired priority sites and control sites to see that what we're doing is actually making a difference. And we want to summarize and communicate these findings via a State of the Maui Reefs assessment conducted every three years and share this with not only the public but with relevant government agencies. And all of this is also kind of honing in on Objective 2c, we really need to refine our understanding of the causes of coral decline, including the relative contributors and the different interactions, the synergistic interactions between the different locations. There's still a lot that's unknown about this and so this is a really important objective. Strengthening public awareness regarding these trends. We want to ensure that this Recovery Plan has been reviewed and endorsed by Maui decision makers, so you guys. We want...well, and there's other Maui decision makers too. By 2015, we want to increase the awareness of Maui residents regarding the status, threats and trends of the reef and the relationship between the reef and their own economic and cultural well-being. I think that that's a really important part there. We want to have active community involvement and consistent local participation in these management efforts at at least three sites by 2015, including proper stewardship practices by both residents and visitors. And by the end of this year, we are actively working on this, we want to share recommended methods and processes for remediation and scientific research with the priority target audiences, so that includes like what I'm doing today. And finally, Goal 4, strengthen the capacity of coral reef management on Maui. We actually convened a Coral Reef Recovery Team back in 2011, I believe, to actually write this Plan. This team is still meeting quarterly and they, their goals are to ensure that our objectives and activities are achieved in a timely manner, to make things more transparent with the collaboration between community groups and non-governmental organizations. We want to allow them to provide input to decision makers on how to incorporate these coral reef protection actions, and also they will also guide spending for our own reef recovery implementation. By June of 2013, we wanted to, we wanted to work with Maui County and local partners to have a clear set of coral reef policies, actually we're still kind of working on that. So that one has not been completed yet. By mid-2015, we want to support and expand our community involvement in the CMMAs to at least five successful sites. By 2015, we want to incorporate the Recovery Plan into local policy and practice, improve the awareness and technical ability of County decision makers to address the threats facing our reefs and include adequate protection in the County plans, decisions and actions by using recommended coral reef and water shed management tools. By 2020, we want to

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secure grant funding and initiate a private sector partnership led by the tourism industry where they would support coral reef and watershed restoration and management activities to a level equivalent of 5 percent of the total gross revenues of all ocean-related activities. By 2015, we want to have a partnership-driven process to add two full-time enforcement management and scientific staff within relevant County and State agencies to focus on water quality, watersheds and coral reef management, growing to five staff by 2020. So as you can see, these are all very lofty goals and we're very driven and we want to make this happen. And these are the strategies that we will use to accomplish those goals. We have four main categories: direct restoration, indirect restoration, cultural and traditional management, and public and partner engagement. I should bring out that the specific activities and methods will be developed and reviewed by our Reef Recovery Team for each site, so they will be site specific. This Reef Recovery Plan was written to be an overarching kind of instruction manual that could be implemented anywhere, and then at each site we would pick and choose from this list here of the most appropriate management strategies for each site. So it could include things like restocking some of the native marine species or removing invasive algae, simply increasing community involvement, encouraging the use of traditional resting periods, you know, identifying and engaging key stakeholders, and we've ranked them over here on the right. As you can see, most of them are high priority because we have a lot of work to do. And, but this is basically what we're gonna be working on. And how are we gonna measure our success? There's two ways: socio-culturally with looking at our sustainable fisheries and our traditional knowledge and customary practices, or we can look at biological recovery targets, so how is the coral reef habitat doing, how many fish do we have, how are our wetlands doing. But in this Plan, biomass is going to be the primary target in recovery. And so what we're looking at is an increase in coral cover, an increase in fish abundance, a decrease in algae cover, an increase in coral recruitment, we want larger and older fish, and we want an increased recruitment events and survivorship at all of our sites. So the recovery standards for the coral reef habitat include: we want a stable or relative increase in percent coral cover of 10 percent, an increase in coral species richness of 10 percent, a decrease in macro algae cover of 10 percent within 10 years and a decrease in the disease frequency of 10 percent within 10 years. And then for the reef fish and invertebrates, the standards are: a stable or relative increase in coral sediment of 10 percent within 10 years, an increase in the abundance of 10 percent for target female fish of reproductive size and a relative increase in abundance of 5 percent for target fish recruits within 10 years. So our next steps are that we will continue with our Maui Coral Reef Recovery Team to determine the science at each of the individual sites. We will continue to do our outreach and share this Plan with all of the implementation partners. We have determined our priority, our two first priority sites. One is at Olowalu and one is at the Polanui Hiu CMMA. This is a map of the Olowalu area. The area marked with the gray hash marks at the bottom, that's actually the Makai Project Area for the Reef Recovery Plan, but I just wanted to show the size of the watersheds that drain into this reef. So we're looking at about 10,500 acres or so that, you know, drain into this reef here in Olowalu. I know

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you guys know a lot about Olowalu because we've been here a lot to talk about that before but just a brief overview. It has extensive aggregate reef with over 50 to 90 percent live coral cover. So it's one of those few remaining areas where we have an intact reef left with more than 24 species of coral, some of them extremely large and extremely old. We have a nursery of black-tipped reef sharks, over 300 manta rays, and it was considered one of the 10 most important reef sites Statewide by the DLNR. Most importantly, like what I showed in that graphic before, USGS has demonstrated that the corals at Olowalu provide the larvae seed for the reefs in West Maui, Molokai and Lanai, and it's currently threatened by urbanization, sedimentation and human use. Polanui Hiu is a little bit, oh and I should back up and say that Olowalu does not have really an active community that's currently managing the reef there. And so it's a relatively pristine site, there are some threats to it but there's not really a super active local community that's focusing only on the reef there. The comparison to that is our second site, Polanui Hiu. Polanui Hiu CMMA is a small community who is concerned over the decline over their own marine resources. The project site encompasses only 222 acres. So it's a small enough area that can be managed by this community group but large enough to show that there are biological gains with the appropriate strategies and threats to this particular area are different than what we have in Olowalu. They have a disruption of accretion and erosion patterns, overharvesting, a reduction of fresh water input and flow, they have some sediment issues, recreational overuse in the near shore waters and a discharge of chlorinated water from pools, and the chlorine does kill the live corals. So Polanui Hiu aims to educate, advocate, create awareness and reestablish best management practices to ensure a healthy marine ecosystem. So Polanui Hiu is located right about at 505 in Lahaina, if you guys know where that is. So the hashed area here in the reef is a much smaller area, but again I just wanted to show the Kauaula Watershed that drains into the area. So we're looking at about 5,000 acres as opposed to, or 5,400, as opposed to 10,000. But this area is a very important area culturally to the islands, you know, it's where the Hawaiian Kingdom, you know, used to be and the capital, so important area there to protect too. And these are just some pictures from Polanui and all the people doing, they've been actively learning about managing their own resources for a while and this Plan really helps support their efforts. We are looking to hire a coordinator to implement this Plan. We do have a two-year implementation work plan, and that two-year implementation work plan will start at these two sites. So we're gonna essentially begin the implementation of this Reef Recovery Plan at those two sites, build public and private support for it, document the recovery and then support the Marine Council with the administration and financing of this project. And, that's it. So if you guys have questions, I think you all have our e-mails and everything, and I can stand here and, if you have more questions.

... *END PRESENTATION* ...

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CHAIR COCHRAN: Thank you, Ms. McLane, for your presentation. And, Members, we shall now have a brief recess to reset the room. We are now in recess. . . . (*gavel*) . . .

RECESS: 3:49 p.m.

RECONVENE: 4:08 p.m.

CHAIR COCHRAN: . . . (*gavel*) . . . Will the Infrastructure and Environmental Management Committee now please reconvene. Thank you, Members and public, for the extended recess. In the meantime, I, at this point, will turn the floor over to Corporation Counsel, Patrick Wong, who is here to give us some comments.

MR. WONG: Chair --

CHAIR COCHRAN: Yes.

MR. WONG: --if I may, Committee members, it has come to my attention that there's a reso, resolution pending before this Committee that addresses a report that was not entirely provided to this Committee, that's the first thing. Secondly, I'd like to suggest that there's provisions in the report that I would want to discuss with you in executive session as it may impact other matters that are pending before the Council. In that regard, please be aware that according to Section 92-4, Executive Meetings, a board may hold an executive meeting, closed to the public, upon an affirmative vote, taken in open meeting, of two-thirds of the members present. Let me further suggest that under Section 92-5(4), (a)(4), to consult the board's attorney on questions and issues pertaining to the board's powers, duties, privileges, immunities, and liabilities. With that said, I would ask the Chair to entertain a motion for executive session to further discuss this matter.

CHAIR COCHRAN: Thank you, Director Wong, Corporation Counsel Wong. And so, Members, with that being said from our Corporation Counsel, the Chair will entertain a motion to convene an executive --

VICE-CHAIR CRIVELLO: So moved.

CHAIR COCHRAN: --session meeting. Thank you, Ms. Crivello.

COUNCILMEMBER HOKAMA: Second.

CHAIR COCHRAN: Seconded by Mr. Hokama? Mr. Hokama has seconded it. So as stated by Mr. Wong, under the pursuant sections of the law, we are now going to be, I guess, brief recessing to set up the room for --

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CHAIR COCHRAN: . . . (*gavel*) . . . Will the Infrastructure and Environmental Management Committee meeting please reconvene. Thank you, Members, for the executive session, Department and Staff. I will now turn the floor over to Corporation Counsel, Mr. Pat Wong, for comments.

MR. WONG: Chair and Committee members, thank you for the opportunity to present to you information for your consideration pursuant to Hawaii Revised Statutes 92-5(a)(4) and consulting with us, your attorneys, pertaining to your powers, duties, privileges and immunities and liabilities, and at this point, based on the information and discussion held in executive session, I may suggest that this body move to defer action on the pending resolution for reposting and redrafting.

CHAIR COCHRAN: Thank you, Mr. Wong. So, Members, you've heard our recommendation from Corporation Counsel, so I am looking to defer this item as stated and discussed during our executive session.

COUNCIL MEMBERS VOICED NO OBJECTIONS.

CHAIR COCHRAN: Okay, thank you, Members. For the public, we shall revisit. And at this point, any further discussion, Members? Yes, Mr. Hokama.

COUNCILMEMBER HOKAMA: Chair, I would thank you for bringing up the subject matter. I think it's, for people like me from Lanai, we appreciate the subject of protecting our reefs. I would hope in the future meetings that we could maybe bring up our own island `aha mokus because each island has its own unique way of viewing its resources. I'm sure Ms. Crivello can appreciate that. Molokai has its own unique way of malama'ing and protecting their resources just like Lanaians, but I can tell you that I am very much in support, especially the first proposed resolve clause that says we recognize the importance of saving, protecting, enhancing the reef ecosystem of the County for the cultural, biological, economic benefit. And in saying that, to our lady resource that spoke from the Department of Land and Natural Resources, I hope very much that her Department would give them the financial resources to do even a greater job in protecting our reefs. And, you know, I'd just like to say, you know, one of the things that continue being brought up is, of course, the human factor. And you and I know, and we've seen, part of it is because of we've got a lot of people who walk on the reefs that don't know how to walk on the reefs. And so just by walking on the reef, they're killing a lot of the coral. And I would say the State needs to be able to give us answers too, Chair, you know, I mean, for us the Kumu, the Moana Kali, the Maninis, you know, those specific native fishes that we enjoy a lot have been impacted by the importation of the Roi, the Mū, the Ta`ape, that's not native Hawaiian fishes, but we've allowed those species to enter our waters and prey upon our own native fish eggs. You know, so for me there's a lot of factors involved here . . . (*inaudible*) . . . with our reefs. But I would say, you know, I

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think our native Hawaiian kupunas had it right when they imposed the kapu system and let areas rest, recuperate and regenerate, and I hope that is something that the State would seriously consider, especially DLNR, for island `aha moku councils to consider designating and implementing for their own islands, the kapu system in various places to let those resources regenerate and replenish and be able to give back again to the people of those islands. Thank you.

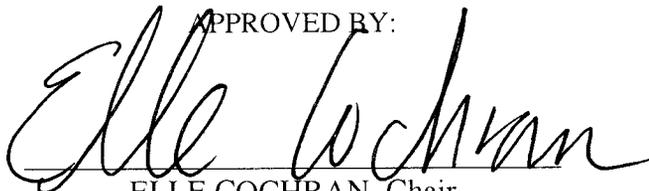
CHAIR COCHRAN: Thank you, Mr. Hokama. Members, any further comments? Seeing none, I just want to close by saying that the intent of, you know, the reso and, is extremely noble and I can say on the behalf of this body that we, is very supportive but with the light being shared via our Corporation Counsel at this juncture, the call is to defer.

ACTION: DEFER pending further discussion.

CHAIR COCHRAN: And with that, Members, and public, we shall adjourn. . . . (*gavel*) . . .

ADJOURN: 4:58 p.m.

APPROVED BY:



ELLE COCHRAN, Chair
Infrastructure and Environmental
Management Committee

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Transcribed by: Annette L. Perkett

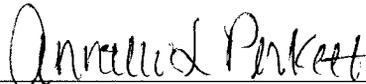
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CERTIFICATE

I, Annette L. Perkett, 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 8th day of January, 2014, in Haiku, Hawaii.



Annette L. Perkett