

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE
Council of the County of Maui

MINUTES

April 4, 2014

Lanai Senior Center

CONVENE: 6:01 p.m.

PRESENT: Councilmember Mike White, Chair
Councilmember G. Riki Hokama, Vice-Chair
Councilmember Elle Cochran, Member
Councilmember Donald G. Couch, Jr., Member
Councilmember Stacy Crivello, Member
Councilmember Don S. Guzman, Member
Councilmember Michael P. Victorino, Member

EXCUSED: VOTING MEMBERS:
Councilmember Gladys C. Baisa, Member
Councilmember Robert Carroll, Member

STAFF: Jordan Molina, Legislative Analyst
Pauline Martins, Committee Secretary

Denise Fernandez, Council Aide, Lanai Council Office

OTHERS: Ron McOmber
Linda Kay Okamoto, President, Lanai Changes
Mason Trevino, Student, Coalition for a Drug Free Lanai
Dorothy Tan, Vice President, Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc.
Christian Galapon, Student, Lanai Youth Center
Stephanie Richardson, Executive Director, Lanai Youth Center
Jose Angelo Matute, Student, Lanai Youth Center
Jayde Fernandez, Youth Alliance, Maui Economic Development Board
Beth Humphrey, Teacher, Women in Technology Program, Maui
Economic Development Board
Jasmine Conroy-Humphrey, Student, Women in Technology Program,
Maui Economic Development Board
Brooklyn Bradford, Student, Women in Technology Program, Maui
Economic Development Board
Tiffany Fernandez, Student, Women in Technology Program, Maui
Economic Development Board

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Keona Conroy-Humphrey, Student, Women in Technology Program,
Maui Economic Development Board
Adriana Sanchez, Student, Women in Technology Program, Maui
Economic Development Board
Bridgette Beatty, Women in Technology Program, Maui Economic
Development Board
Chelsea Trevino, Board President, Coalition for a Drug Free Lanai
Stacey Purdy, Board Treasurer, E Malama I Na Keiki O Lanai
David McHugh, Board member, Lanai Youth Center
Yvonne Urbas-Leboeuf, E Malama I Na Keiki O Lanai and Coalition for a
Drug Free Lanai
Saul Kahihikolo, Jr., Board member, Coalition for a Drug Free Lanai
Joelle Aoki, Executive Director, Coalition for a Drug Free Lanai
Kris Kahihikolo, on-call childcare provider, Parents and Children
Together
Lorna Sanches, Teen Advocate, Women Helping Women
Diana Shaw, Executive Director, Lanai Community Health Center
Sol Kaho`ohalahala, Kalaupapa
Gail Shin, Program Administrator, E Malama I Na Keiki O Lanai
John Ornellas, Program Coordinator, Coalition for a Drug Free Lanai
Linda Mau, Health Services volunteer, American Red Cross
Winifred Basques
Kelli Gima, Director, Lana`ians for Sensible Growth
Butch Gima, President & Secretary, Lana`ians for Sensible Growth
Patricia Moynihan
Debbie dela Cruz, Board member, Lanai Community Health Center
Beverly Zigmond, Program Coordinator, Women Helping Women
Serenity Chambers, Psychologist, Lanai Community Health Center
Julia Oyama
Others (34)

**ITEM BF-1: PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2015 BUDGET FOR THE
 COUNTY OF MAUI (CC 14-31)**

CHAIR WHITE: . . .(*gavel*). . . This meeting of the Budget and Finance Committee will come to order. It's so nice to be on Lanai. You all are so fortunate to live over here and we're so fortunate to be able to come over and spend some time with you. My name is Mike White, and I'm the Chair of the Budget and Finance Committee. And I will let Mr. Hokama introduce the Members from the various districts.

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VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you, Chairman White. First of all, the key person of this Committee is the man right here. His name is Michael White. He's the Chairman of this Budget and Finance Committee and comes from the Paia/Haiku district, and he is one of your nine Council members. Let me go to the ladies first. To my left, your...my right, your left, your Councilmember from Molokai who represents you is Stacy Crivello. And then to your right, the lady that represents you from West Maui is Elle Cochran. From South Maui, your Councilmember is Donald Couch. From the Kahului District, your Councilmember is Don Guzman. From the district of Wailuku, none other than Shane Victorino's father, the great Michael Victorino. Of course, we have our Staff in the back there. We have Pauline and Jordan. And of course we have our own Ms. Denise Fernandez helping out in the back.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Riki. So I know all of you have read the Budget from cover to cover, and know everything there is to know about the Budget. We look forward to hearing your thoughts and concerns about how the Budget affects everybody here on Lanai and we're looking forward to your thoughts and concerns. So we'll get right into it. And just to point out once again, we do take the young and the old first. So that's...I have the... I can't argue with that. Okay. So starting off, the first batter up is Ron McOmber.

...BEGIN PUBLIC TESTIMONY...

MR. McOMBER: Okay. I had the privilege this morning of speaking to you through the electronic version of this. I wanna thank you for passing that bill on the cigarette butts. It helps us even though our park is not a County park, it's a private park. Quasi-public, but it's still owned by the company, and run by the company, and run by a group of people called Hulupoe Park Council, part of a 1988 MOA. So that park is really for the people of Lanai, and it's preserved for the people of Lanai. We're having a terrible influx of outside boats, but we'll get into that some other time. But what we've been contemplating is that we've heard our park rangers say that they're having a terrible time with cigarette butts in the sand. And we didn't know how to handle that because we really didn't wanna be jump down people's throats that smoke, you know. They got enough problems doing that. But we didn't know how to handle that. Then I see the State and the counties are gonna do this. It makes it really easy for us. So we could do the same thing. We're gonna file a suit and I think the park council will come together with this and stop the smoking at the beach, at the Hulupoe Beach. I went through this, Mike. I don't see Lanai's name in here very often, not at all in some places. What I'm concerned about is we have 65 acres out here that is meant for affordable housing hopefully. I'm not sure, and I don't see in the next three years, anything mentioning for Human Services for our affordable housing program on Lanai. I recommend, and I'll probably get hit in the back of the head for saying this, I think we should look at letting Pulama develop that, rather than the County. You guys don't have the money. Look

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how you've fought over this last budget thing. I don't know how Pulama, maybe Pulama may have just fell off her chair probably, but it's something that has to be done. We need the housing terribly. And if that's the only area that we are now set up to put housing on, let's do it. And I'd like to encourage you folks to get with Pulama and see what we can do about that because we need the housing desperately. And not only housing, but it's assisted living housing, everything. So I don't know what else to tell you except that I'm not gonna linger on with this here, but this Budget, I didn't see much in here for Lanai. I don't know. You probably don't have any money for Lanai. But just because --

MR. MOLINA: Two minutes 30 seconds.

MR. McOMBER: --Ellison is here, doesn't mean, don't forget about us. Okay. And I thank you very much. And again, thank you for coming to Lanai and listening to the youth, and the elderly, and the crippled. Thank you very much.

CHAIR WHITE: And the others, if any of them showed up tonight. No, I know that. I was just joking. Okay. The next testifier is Lynn Okamoto, or Linda Okamoto. I'm sorry.

MS. OKAMOTO: Hi. I'm Kay Okamoto, Linda Kay Okamoto.

CHAIR WHITE: I'm sorry.

MS. OKAMOTO: And Gail Shin is here with me. We're representing Lanai Changes. And we have written testimony, which I am going to just pass out I think to save time. I know there's so many people who testify. Lanai Changes has been in existence for the last three years. We are a community development corporation as well as a nonprofit hui. We have almost everyone here, our members of our Lanai Changes. And we are working especially with the elder care project right now. We have received funding in the past and one of our biggest issues is we received funding July first. We still do not have a signed contract. So you're not talking, we're not asking for next year. Really we're asking for two years because by the time the contracts get signed it seems like if they sign them by June 30th, I mean, you're a year late already. And so I think that's something that hopefully you folks can work on. The funding, then, is even after that. So you may get funding for a certain calendar, fiscal year, but it doesn't happen that way. So I will pass out our testimony. I do have testimony from about four of our members. And so I will pass that out and Gail and I are both on the board. We have a few other board members here who probably also will speak up for Lanai Changes. And I do have two other real quick things. I agree with the book. You can't find, I know that there are other things there. If you went, as you go out if you'd make a list of, you know, here's what Molokai is, here's what Lanai is, here's what Hana, it would help us as individuals to look and say oh. But especially for the nonprofits because those frequently come under some other budget. So I think it would be helpful in the future, if you would designate

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the different items. And then affordable housing. I can't say enough. I think the County can work with Pulama, but I think the County still has to take the lead on getting the affordable housing. Thank you.

CHAIR WHITE: Just a clarification. You're saying that you have not, not only not gotten your contract signed yet, but you also haven't gotten the funds yet that were awarded in, not for this fiscal year.

MS. OKAMOTO: Right. Correct.

CHAIR WHITE: Unfortunately, you're not alone.

MS. OKAMOTO: I understand that. And I think that's a real issue that I don't know how the Council needs to deal with.

CHAIR WHITE: The Council has tried, and unfortunately the Administration has tried. And it's a very frustrating situation.

MS. OKAMOTO: It's frustrating for all of us, too.

CHAIR WHITE: And I'll leave it at that.

MS. OKAMOTO: Okay. Thank you.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you. Yes, please. Please provide that to Jordan. We'll be happy to take a look at it. Okay. Next we have Mason Trevino.

MR. TREVINO: Hi. My name is Mason Trevino. I'm 15 years old and in the ninth grade. I'm a student representative on the Coalition for a Drug Free Lanai Board. We would like to thank you for your support and ask that you continue with the funding of \$41,000, which helps with things like prevention programs which I'm actually about to start one at the Lanai Youth Center.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you for what you do. Thanks for keeping people away from drugs as much as you can, very important. Members, questions for the testifier? Okay. Thank you, Mason. Next testifier is Dorothy Tan. Dorothy will be followed by Christian Galapon. That's fine. She doesn't look like she needs any help being held up.

MS. TAN: Also MEO members. My name is Dottie Tan and I'm vice president of the MEO Lanai area council here on Lanai. Our president, Nora Kawasaki, was unable to do her speech, so I'm gonna do it for her. Where is Mayor? What happened to Mayor, Mayor Arakawa? Didn't make it? Oh, okay. Well she had...anyway aloha County Council and

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Committee members. My name is Nora Kawasaki, MEO on Lanai area Council senior club president. I'm grateful for this opportunity to express our deepest appreciation to you and the Maui County Council for providing funds and supporting the MEO transportation. MEO transportation and human services, specifically senior services, which our seniors are deeply and graciously involved with senior club excursions, Lanai excursions, senior meetings, kupuna aloha luncheon, senior fair, nutrition program, dialysis, rural shopping, banking, medical shuttle, and to include youth transportation for youth center and paddling. MEO is asking for a 5 percent increase to cover operational costs, insurance, health, utilities and salary adjustments. We ask for your overwhelming support in this as we need in Maui Economic Opportunity to continue to be successful as it will impact the services needed for our seniors, youth and persons with disabilities. Once again, we truly appreciate your time and efforts to be here tonight to listen to our concerns and our desires. Mahalo nui loa. And I'm behind, and want the members of the MEO club here supporting our president and we hope that we can make a difference and continue our MEO services here on Lanai, which is badly needed and is ongoing. So don't cut it out of the budget. I know we're only Lanai. We're very small but, and our resources are very rare also. So hopefully with the growth on Lanai with our new owner, Mr. Ellison, maybe there'll be more improvements or other resources that all of us, not just the seniors, will benefit from it, young and old.

CHAIR WHITE: Yes. Mr. Victorino.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: If we could have that and make copies of that, Mr. Chair, I'd appreciate it, her testimony.

MS. TAN: Sure.

CHAIR WHITE: Any other questions for Dottie or the other members?

MS. TAN: I guess we said it all.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you very much.

MS. TAN: Thank you.

CHAIR WHITE: Christian Galapon will be followed by Stephanie Richardson.

MR. GALAPON: Hello. I'm sorry. Hello. My name is Christian Galapon. I am a student from LHES. And I'd like to start with saying thank you for supporting the Lanai Youth Center. It's really fun there actually. I go there for homework help, I go there for fun, although some people ask me why is it so fun.

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CHAIR WHITE: What do you tell them?

MR. GALAPON: I actually answered that they give a lot of homework help and fun activities. One of the most popular at the youth center is actually dodge ball. Although, even though that they provide so much good things for us, for the students of LHES, I'd like to acknowledge the limits we have. The Lanai Youth Center actually has out of date equipment, so it's kind of hard for students like myself to type or find research on the Internet 'cause we don't have Internet access there. So we kinda need that. And one thing that one of the aunties like to acknowledge is actually we need a full kitchen 'cause a lot of students from the school actually come to the youth center just in case they're hungry. And they provide food. I know, but they can't really provide that much food if we don't have a full working kitchen. They just scramble. No offense, Aunty Stephanie.

CHAIR WHITE: Aunties are good at scrambling.

MR. GALAPON: Like eggs. Thank you for listening.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Christian. I guess Aunty is next.

MS. RICHARDSON: Hi. I don't know how I got an early slot. Thank you for all coming to Lanai. My name is Stephanie Richardson. I am the executive director at the Lanai Youth Center. Even though this title is new for me, Lanai is not. I was raised here and as an adolescent, I went to Lanai Youth Center. So I know through the CPG grant, the County of Maui Community Partnership Grant, the County of Maui has been one of our biggest supporters helping us operate and provide activities that assist with homework help, nutritious cooking activities, prevention, drug prevention, alcohol prevention, arts and crafts and culture. And effective, we were recently informed, like at the end of last year, that effective fiscal year 2014, youth centers are no longer funded under the CPG grant, the collective funding. So we will have to receive annual individual line item funding. So with that being said, we are trying to testify and just say we need your support because that's a huge chunk of our funding coming from the County of Maui. Back when the Mayor came last year, he came and did a site visit and looked at our facility. That was one of our huge concerns because child safety is a priority for us. One of our old facilities was donated back in 1998. So thinking back, this is 2014. 1998, that's a long time of wear, tear, deterioration. There's an infestation of termites, rotting wood, and especially with the rain and the moisture we've had on this island for the past month it's getting worse. So due to his site visit, Mayor Arakawa had recommended the allocation of \$1.5 million instead of, as opposed to a facelift to get rid of the facility and build a new one with in-store storage and a full-size kitchen. I looked in, just recently looking at this, it's not, money has not been allocated for Fiscal Year 2015, but for the upcoming fiscal years. With that being said, we still need to fix the facility. So if the upcoming fiscal year, if we could get \$70,000 to help renovate, you know, replace the roofing, the

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flooring needs a lot of work, and the walls need to be gutted and replaced. Also, the previous grant we weren't allocated money for medical benefits for full-time employees. We have been recently granted money taken out of our donations to provide and offer full-time benefits for just the two full-time employees. We are asking for \$9,978 to help with covering the medical costs. And lastly, I'd just like to talk that we do have a strong partnership with all the people that come that are here testifying.

MR. MOLINA: Three minutes.

MS. RICHARDSON: MEO does help us with transportation. CDFL is one of our strong partnerships where they provide us with prevention programs. We are partnered with them with the Friday, middle school Friday afternoon activities where we offer programs to help kids with life skills and also with CPR training and whatnot. So we just want you to continue support, not only CDFL and MEO transportation, Lanai Changes, Women Helping Women, Lanai Community Health Center, Lanai Art Center, Na Keiki o Lanai preschool, Lanai Pono Softball Girls So thank you. I appreciate it.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Stephanie. Mr. Victorino. Stephanie, come back.

MS RICHARDSON: Sorry, I got caffeine, too much caffeine.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Yeah, too much caffeine. Slow it down. Slow it down. And you not even Portuguese. Slow it down.

MS. RICHARDSON: How do you know? No, I'm not.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: You know, I was pointing out that the Lanai Youth Center, we just set aside \$1.649 million to do, provide a educational, recreational activities, and also adding funding for the construction of a new 2,886 square foot facility to be included with a full kitchen, indoor storage, restrooms, central air conditioning. It's all in the budget. And if you look under the Mayor's Budget, that's a big document. You gotta look at page 326. Okay. So I tell you where to go look for it. No, not in that. It's in this big book.

MS. RICHARDSON: That's what I figured.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: I'm telling you what's in the big book. And then under our Details on budgeting, it's on Page 7 of the ordinance itself. Okay. So you can go look it up. And Riki has been very instrumental in helping you in this area. He's been pushing real hard. So I just want to let you know, it's there. That doesn't mean you're gonna get it, but we'll work real hard to make sure.

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MS. RICHARDSON: Please.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Drink less coffee and we'll get it done. Thank you.

MS. RICHARDSON: Thank you again for your support. We do appreciate that.

CHAIR WHITE: I will also, I'll also point out that many of the items that were easy to find in the budget before for various organizations have been folded into bigger amounts. So the money is basically there. It's easier for the Mayor to put it all in one place. It's more fun for us to take it out so you can see it. So that's the process that we're going through now. So I will say that this Budget is very challenging because we have very large tax increases, total of about \$36 million in tax increase. That's just real property tax increases. But we also have approximately from 2013 to this year, over a two-year period, we have approximately \$21 million in salary and wage increases for all the County employees. So everything is competing for those same dollars. So that's the challenge that we have and it's not gonna be an easy, easy time because people don't like to pay more taxes. But we're gonna work very hard to see what we can put together.

MS. RICHARDSON: Whatever you can give us, we appreciate it. I mean, again, it's for the youth. So they are our future, so please continue to support us. Thank you.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Stephanie. Next is Jose Angelo Matute. Not sure if I got that right.

MR. MATUTE: Hi. My name is Jose Angelo Matute. And you said it correctly. I represent the youth center. And I will start with thank you for giving money to the youth center so it can operate. If I calculate the mathematics ...(*inaudible*)..., the youth center and the County Council has a symbiotic relationship. In the youth center, I finished making a TV. Not a real one, but real size, with 3D and no 3D. And we have activities. After I turned in the TV, I got an A. And there is new children and you made new friends. Sometimes we get to cook pancakes. Youth center is like a club house, so we can hang out there. Summing up the chapter, you are the glue that makes the youth center stand up.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you. Good job. Any questions for Jose? Seeing none, our next testifier is Jayde Fernandez. Sounds like you brought some supporters with you, too.

MS. FERNANDEZ: I know, right? Thank gosh. Aloha, Council members. My name is Jayde Fernandez, and as a member of the Maui Economic Development Board's Youth Alliance, I humbly ask that you continue funding our program. This is my first year as part of the Youth Alliance and I wanted to share a few special experiences I've had due to the program. My first time attending the Youth Alliance was great. We went to the

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Maui Police Department and was able to tour it and learn about what they do there. As a teenager who is interested in forensic science, I found it very informative and very fun. The second time I went, I was able to learn about Maui's watersheds and some of the invasive plants that we have in Hawaii, especially the strawberry guava. We were able to cut down trees and enjoy the beauty of Hawaii and nature. This program has helped me by allowing me to discover new things about Maui and its infrastructure. I'm able to learn with hands-on experiences and create new memories and friendships. Most of all this program opens my eyes and mind and gets me prepared for the future and makes me want to take part of it. Thank you very much for considering my testimony for funding the Focus Maui Nui Youth Alliance Program.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Jayde. Any questions for Jayde, members? Seeing none. Thank you very much. Our next testifier will be Jasmine Conroy-Humphrey. Jasmine, however you'd like. Just let me know which names...I've got...

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Jasmine, Keona, Tiffany, Adriana...

CHAIR WHITE: Brooklyn. All right.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Bridgette.

CHAIR WHITE: I don't have Bridgette, but that's all right.

MS. HUMPHREY: My name is Beth Humphrey, and I'm here as a parent, a guidance counselor, and a teacher. We have been involved with Women in Technology through MEDB for about three years now, mostly heading over there for opportunities, but they're starting to bring opportunities here for us which is great, so some of the girls are gonna share the activities that they've been involved in. I guess as a teacher, they've given us professional development here and on Maui. They've provided technology. They've given us some computers and brought over students from Maui who have actually taught students here. I'm just gonna check my notes to make sure I got everything.

CHAIR WHITE: I'm sure they'll cover it if you miss it.

MS. HUMPHREY: Yes. They made us a STEMworks school so we're able to participate in their STEM conference, which is coming up in May. Charlie Fitzpatrick from ESRI was brought here as part of our professional development, and they're planning on bringing more technology over for us.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you. Who's gonna be first?

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UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: With Women in Technology, I've participated in the STEM conference, and with this, I've learned about the different fields of STEM that are available to women and other people.

MS. BRADFORD: My name is Brooklyn Bradford. I'm an eighth grade student. I participated in Introduce a Girl to Engineering Day, where we had an opportunity to job shadow a local female engineer.

MS. FERNANDEZ: My name is Tiffany Fernandez and I participated in the STEM conference. And while I was there, I learned a lot about leadership skills and different engineering careers I might consider in the future.

MS. CONROY-HUMPHREY: My name is Keona Humphrey and we have enjoyed, for the past three years, different STEM opportunities and activities.

MS. SANCHEZ: My name is Adriana Sanchez and with Women in Technology, I have the opportunity to participate in tech careers where we visited Haleakala National Park and the career opportunities that are available there.

MS. BEATTY: My name is Bridgette Beatty. I'm a middle school science teacher. I teach seventh and eighth grade life and earth sciences. The last three years, MEDB has allowed me to take students, last year I was able to take the entire eighth grade class with me over to the AMOS Conference, as well as girls to the Career Tech and up to Haleakala, also the STEM conferences and different professional development they have provided.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you. Members, any questions for the organization? Seeing none. Great job, girls. And our next testifier is Chelsea Trevino.

MS. TREVINO: Hi. I love speaking in the mic. Thank you for coming. Thanks for listening to us. Thank you for serving our community. I'm here on behalf of the CDFL Board. I'm the president. I'm also the parent sector of the board. Mason is my son, who testified earlier. We completely appreciate your support of the CDFL through the line item that you provide for us. And I'm sure you're all well aware, but I'm gonna just mention it again. This line item is a matching fund and allows us to continue to receive our Federal funding, which is a hundred and twenty-some thousand dollars. So really the amount that you're giving to us is actually increasing the funds that we receive dramatically. And also I just wanted to, I was thinking as I was sitting there, you know, I'm always trying not to say the same things over and over because you guys hear from everyone about it. One thing I think we need to start thinking about, in our prevention efforts and our educational efforts is with all of this development and with this new ownership, yes, we're gonna have new opportunities for support and whatnot. But the other thing we

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have to start thinking about is the makeup of our community is gonna change. The prevention efforts or education that maybe we've been doing is gonna probably change. The dynamic of this community is going to change. There's going to be different stressors, different avenues of releasing stress and whatnot. So I think that, to keep in mind that the continued prevention efforts, it's not just about what's happening now, but it's about what's gonna happen in the future. And that's something that we have to start thinking about because as you all know there's a housing issue. Everything is kind of inter-related, right. We've got these housing issues, we've got this new development, we've got community members who are feeling like they have no say. Then we've got community members who are just all happy and hooray about this new stuff that's going on. But we're definitely gonna have a huge change happening, be it emotional, physical, whatever. So just to keep in mind that your continued help with the CDFL supports our community all the way around. It supports the youth center. As you know, this community is so small, everything is kind of intertwined. And prevention isn't just for youth or just --

MR. MOLINA: Two minutes, thirty seconds.

MS. TREVINO: --for adults or...is that my time? Okay. So anyhow, just again, to please continue to keep that line item if at all possible. I think 41,000 is what we're at, and I think that's what we're asking for again. And we do appreciate that. And, as you know, that dollar goes a long way for us.

CHAIR WHITE: We, I think I can speak for all of us, we appreciate the fact that we know that when we give a dollar to one organization on Lanai or Molokai, that we're actually giving it to a whole bunch of organizations because you guys work so well together. We appreciate you making our dollars work even harder and spread even farther.

MS. TREVINO: Thank you. Thank you.

CHAIR WHITE: Any questions? Seeing none, thank you very much.

MS. TREVINO: All right. Thank you.

CHAIR WHITE: And next is Stacey Purdy.

MS. PURDY: Good evening, Budget Chair White and fellow Council members. Aloha and welcome to Lanai. My name is Stacey Purdy. And I am going to testify on behalf of Keiki O Lanai Preschool. I am the board treasurer. I would like to extend our appreciation for your past and current support of this crucial early childhood education program. Funding from the County of Maui has helped to keep this program sustainable and thriving. We are very fortunate to have the dedicated, hardworking staff that we do.

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Our staff, under the leadership of program administrator Gail Shin, have been working extremely hard on the process towards achieving our reaccreditation. Thank you for the additional funds last fiscal year to help us achieve this endeavor. The proposed line item request for Fiscal '15 is 88,200. These funds will go directly to families showing need for financial assistance with tuition. The total budget for E Malama I Na Keiki O Lanai Preschool is 206,860. This will be, this year it will be a different process from previous years. In the past, funds were in a line item request for the preschool directly. However, this year, the funds will be disbursed in name of families who demonstrate the need for tuition assistance. Therefore, the money you put aside for E Malama I Na Keiki O Lanai is extremely important to help families with the cost of the tuition. Once again, we come before you to ask for your continued support to give the littlest of our Lanai citizens a great head start in life. On, taking off my hat as treasurer and Stacey the person, please listen to our nonprofits. They have such worthy organizations here on Lanai, from youth to seniors. We have the health centers, we have Women Helping Women, who we all know that their victims cannot come here and testify. So we have to do it for them. Also support CDFL and many other organizations, MEO that have come here to see you guys this evening. Thank you for your time. Aloha.

CHAIR WHITE: Aloha. Thank you, Stacey. The next testifier is David McHugh.

MR. McHUGH: Aloha, Chair White, members of the Council. My name is David McHugh, and I've been a member of this community for the past 39 years. Although I am retired from the Department of Education, I find an emotional need to give back to the community of Lanai. What can I say except to, whatever students came in front of you today, that represents 2 percent of our student body at school. And I think that's a great thing. So our youth, at the youth center, I'm really speaking on the youth center, on behalf of the youth center, it looks like you took care of our unsafe and unhealthy activity building. So I won't go into that. However, we are ready to shut down. So we are really looking at, you know, \$75,000 to renovate. We don't know what the timing is. A County of Maui inspector is coming anytime now to determine that. We don't feel that we can determine what is safe and unsafe. Okay. Secondly, we're obligated to offer medical coverage. In the past, our employees have been using their spouses' coverage. Okay. So total cost there is approximately \$10,000. Third, our staff, if we're gonna keep good people, we gotta pay them accordingly. Our staff has not had a raise since 2007. So we're asking for a 4 percent across the board raise for our staff. Total cost approximately \$5,000. Okay. And last is to repair and maintain our infrastructure. You know, Stephanie and her staff has a hard time changing light bulbs at times, or fixing a light fixture, and that's because there's zero money, you know, in that area. So we've all been begging and pleading to get things done. The good part is in this community, everybody helps each other out. And that we feel that is very important. Okay. And again, I wanna show on behalf of the youth center, we appreciate what you do for us. It was a pleasant surprise what we found tonight, a pleasant surprise. And then again, just last week, our policy

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committee, our newly formed policy committee, met and we're trying to put a new, updated vision together with the new owner on the island, a new vision for our youth. And what we found, we cannot agree 'cause it's gonna take a while. It's gonna take a while to get something down. But what we agree on is the parents today were children of the '80's and '90's. Grandparents were children of the '50's and '60's.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Three minutes.

MR. MCHUGH: And we really don't want that to change. Are there any questions?

CHAIR WHITE: Any questions for David? Seeing none. Thank you very much for your testimony. Next is Joelle Aoki.

MS. AOKI: Councilman White, would it be, may I ask your permission please to allow some of our other coalition members to go first because I believe that they may have young children that they need to care for, please. Saul.

CHAIR WHITE: Sure.

MS. AOKI: Thank you. Saul Kahihikolo, and then --

CHAIR WHITE: We have Kris, and Saul.

MS. AOKI: Yvonne Urbas-Leboeuf.

MS. URBAS-LEBOEUF: Thank you for being here. I just wanted to...

CHAIR WHITE: Could you say your name please.

MS. URBAS-LEBOEUF: Yvonne Urbas-Leboeuf.

CHAIR WHITE: Okay, thank you.

MS. URBAS-LEBOEUF: The Chance to Dance program is funded by CDFL, and it's an awesome program. We have been fortunate enough to have it a number of years, and every year we are so lucky to have the same talented and highly qualified dance instructors to come to Lanai High and Elementary School. Every year the kids are so ecstatic to participate in the program. They are bursting with excitement and enthusiasm to do and learn all that the Aunties Marty and Maggie from Chance to Dance are going to teach them. Even the shy and reluctant kids find their way out of their shell to participate. It is pretty awesome to watch, as a teacher, the blossoming of your students. Students are not just learning different moves to dances, they are learning much more.

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They are learning another way to have fun and take care of their physical fitness. They are learning about themselves and their own personal limits. Students learn about different cultures through dance, and they are learning things from different areas of the curriculum. The instructors do a great job of understanding the different standards for instruction, picking standards to focus on and applying those to dance. For example, my third grade math kids, I'm a third grade teacher at Lanai High and Elementary School, my third graders they might, the kids will...the teachers, they take time to notice the Common Core State Standards. And they will work on teaching them science, teaching simple machines through dance, teaching geometry through dance. I learn amazing things watching them about, things I can use in my classroom, how to get kids more enthusiastic and encouraged in participating in learning. It's an amazing program and I hope you'll, I'm just gonna kind of say it in my own words and give you this, but I wanna just hope that you will continue to support that program. It offers so much to our kids beyond just simple dance moves. I have some other teachers here, Jen Montgomery, another third grade teacher. If you like, I can either submit this or read it. Would you like me to read that? I know, yeah. Me, too. It's a little bit annoying. Okay. You want me to stop? Okay.

CHAIR WHITE: Jordan will be happy to distribute them.

MS. URBAS-LEBOEUF: And I just wanted to, also as a teacher, support the youth center. We don't have tutoring after school in our program, except for the youth center. And the people who work there are awesome with our kids. And I'm just so glad it's there. And lastly, I'm on the board of Keiki O Lanai. It's the only preschool we have. Please continue to support it. Our kids desperately need a good preschool to start their education. Mahalo.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you very much.

MR. KAHIIHIKOLO: Aloha, Council members. My name is Saul Kahihikolo. I'm a member of the Coalition for a Drug Free Lanai. I know you're gonna hear more from Joelle, so I'm just gonna keep it brief. But I really appreciate all of your support and the funding, the \$41,000 really is gonna help. As you can see, Lanai is very integral about moving and working together. And so what affects us affects everybody. And so not just on behalf of CDFL but Keiki O Lanai Preschool, MEO, all the different organizations out here appreciate all your help with the funding.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you very much, Saul. Any questions for the testifier? Now Joelle.

MS. AOKI: Thank you for allowing me to allow them to excuse themselves now. I'm Joelle Aoki, the executive director of the Coalition for a Drug Free Lanai. And yes, I apologize. You do hear the same thing from me every year, but I believe strongly in a squeaky

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wheel is heard. So we thank you once again for the line item allocation of \$41,000 for the Coalition for a Drug Free Lanai. We are now in our ninth year of funding and approaching our tenth, which is the maximum number of years for this award with the drug free community's grant through SAMSA and the Office of the President. And in this ninth year, actually starting at the seventh year, we were required to increase our match funding by 125 percent, which meant that we had to raise \$150,000 a year to match that money. And we appreciate it because we did get a little increase in the past couple of years, and we're very grateful for it. Thank you very much. Your commitment to our efforts continues to make a tremendous difference in our community, such as the annual student drug and alcohol use survey, which I will e-mail to Denise, and with her permission, she can forward it on to our Councilman, and on to the Council members. And you can take a good look at what's been happening. We're also doing a comparative study so you can see with this next upcoming survey, which will be administered in the next month, what the trends have been in the past five years. So we've been providing the survey to you every year. Well, this next one that we're doing in the next month will show you the differences and what the trends have been in our community. It's also allowed us to continue our prevention education in partnership with Lanai High and Elementary School, sorry, and the Lanai Youth Center, the health fairs for the community, and Four Seasons employees, evidence-based educational programs, training opportunities for partners, strategic planning, and environmental studies which provide hard data specific to the island of Lanai. The collected data is a much needed resource for all organizations on Lanai needing data-specific information to our island. I again have brought the most recent survey, which I didn't bring it with me and I apologize, because we realized we ran out of paper today. And so I could not make copies for you all of our testimony, either. However, I believe Josh, Jordan will assist us with getting copies to you all. Thank you. Moving forward, the CDFL has been encouraged by our Federal partners as a veteran coalition to assist our neighboring communities who are interested on Maui and Molokai in mobilizing and starting a movement in developing coalitions in communities within our County. This will assist with collaboration and partnership of prevention efforts amongst the tri-isles. This will also allow the Lanai community to look at a new strategy for another year, ten-year prevention grant by working with others in the prevention field and expanding our reach throughout the County of Maui while serving the island of Lanai, as well as our continued emphasis on environmental strategies relating to tobacco, drug use, underage drinking and alcohol abuse at our private/public beach park, as well as public facilities within our community, and continued support of compliance checks at all licensed alcohol sale points. We ask for your continued support of our partners, the Lanai Youth Center, Keiki O Lanai Preschool, Maui Economic Opportunity, Women Helping Women, and also the Coalition for a Drug Free Lanai is a member of Lanai Changes. We are asking for your support of continued support of that agency, the monies for elder care and the line item that they are requesting. In closing, I would like to kindly request your support of the Coalition for a Drug Free Lanai and to match our continued Federal funding with the Mayor's line item

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allocation of \$41,000. And I'd like to thank you very much for supporting us. And one more thing I neglected to write down on my testimony was I would like to thank you for your support through the Office of Economic Development for our Lanai Community Hospital Auxiliary, which we serve as a fiscal agent.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Joelle.

MS. AOKI: Thank you.

CHAIR WHITE: Questions for Joelle, Members? Thank you very much.

MS. AOKI: Thank you.

CHAIR WHITE: The next testifier will be Kris Kahihikolo.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Test. Just waking everybody up now.

CHAIR WHITE: Actually I think we could probably do without the mic. Just understand the static's not coming from us. Please proceed.

MS. KAHIIHIKOLO: Good evening, Committee members. Excuse me. Thank you for being here tonight to listen to what community members feel are the priorities for the Fiscal Year '15 Budget. I'm Kris Kahihikolo, and I've been working for PACT, Parents and Children Together, for the last three and a half years for the Lanai Integrated Support Services program, as well as the Family Peace Center here on Lanai. I've been a resident on Lanai over the past 20 years with a little break in between. And I'm familiar with some of the needs of our island. Excuse me. We appreciate the County's support for PACT's domestic violence intervention program, the Family Peace Center through the community partnership grant, and we look forward to your support again for this coming year. The Family Peace Center serves clients on Maui and Lanai. In 2013 on Maui and Lanai, our staff and volunteers assisted 293 persons in obtaining temporary restraining orders, court advocacy, developing family safety plans and victim support counseling groups. We provided intervention to 476 men and women in our Kuleana Batterers Program. On the island of Lanai, we provided child, excuse me, support for child witnesses to domestic violence, as well as perpetrators of domestic violence with the goal of changing beliefs in order to stop domestic violence and gender violence. Last March on Molokai, we lost one woman to domestic violence. This year, within a space of one month, two women have gone missing on Maui. While Carly Scott's case has been reclassified to a homicide, Moreira "Mo" Monsalve is still listed as missing. The common thread was that both had been seen by their former boyfriends. Lanai has also lost victims to domestic violence as well. We know that our Maui County directors and Budget Finance Committee have many serious needs facing them. We wanna highlight

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the need for domestic violence intervention before tragedy occurs. We appreciate the support you've given the community by providing funding to support the programs of PACT here on Lanai that address violence prevention and intervention. We need to continue to look to our County for support for this program as the State Judiciary only provides partial support in Maui County for domestic violence intervention. The County provides needed support to our Family Peace Center. Victims should not be forced into a situation that asks them wait until tomorrow and come back then. For some, tomorrow will be too late. And finally, I wanna leave you with this message. We know how to end the violence. I'm passing out to you 36 ways to stop violence in the homes of our community. One of the ways is just what I'm doing right now tonight. That is to ask our local and elected officials to take action to stop domestic violence through adequate program funding. Please pass the information on to someone you care about. Working together, we can hope to make domestic violence a thing of the past. Please approve the full amount that the Mayor has requested for community partnership grants to support PACT and other valuable community resources.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Kris. Any questions for Kris, Members? Seeing none.

MS. KAHIHIKOLO: Mike, do you mind if I also put in a couple of perks also to please, please support the youth programs here on Lanai, especially E Malama I Na Keiki O Lanai Preschool, as well as the youth center and our senior citizens most definitely.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you.

MS. KAHIHIKOLO: Thank you.

CHAIR WHITE: And the next testifier will be Lorna Sanches.

MS. SANCHES: Aloha, Chair Mike White, Vice-Chair Riki Hokama, Budget and Finance Committee members. I'm giving testimony on behalf of Women Helping Women. My name is Lorna Sanches, and I'm the teen victim advocate for dating violence, and I'm also an advocate for domestic violence. I wanna thank you for your support over the years, and ask for your continued support by approving the line item in your budget. This funding enables our office to continue its much needed work on our island. Women Helping Women has been providing victim services to victims of domestic violence on Lanai. These services include crisis intervention, emergency shelter, filing of temporary restraining orders, and advocacy in whatever necessary for safety and support. I also ask for continued support of our teen victims program. This program consists of individual advocacy, group support services, crisis intervention, and outreach efforts to teens that are in an abusive relationship or come from a home of domestic violence. The teen victims program has brought awareness of dating violence and unhealthy relationships among students and classmates. Please continue your support of Women Helping

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Women's rental assistance program, which helps victims of domestic abuse escape abuse and avoid homelessness by providing money for security deposit and/or short term rental subsidies. As with many other service providers, Women Helping Women has experienced an increase in demand for services. And boy, were we busy. It is crucial that Women Helping Women is able to continue providing help to this small community. With your support, this is possible. And I ask your continued support for all the other nonprofit organizations. Thank you.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Lorna. Any questions for the testifier? Seeing none, thank you. The next testifier is Diana Shaw.

MS. SHAW: Aloha. Thank you so much for the opportunity to present testimony. I did provide you with written testimony and also provided about six or seven letters from additional members either providers, patients or board members who couldn't come today. Basically, I wanted to first off thank you for the strong support that you have provided to us in the past. It's been invaluable for the Lanai Community Health Center, primarily in two ways. Number one is the line item, which has supported our behavioral health program. And secondly, for the CDBG program. I come to you today and humbly ask for additional support and continued support. Our first request for 2015 is that you again continue to provide funding for our behavioral health direct service program. As many of the agencies here in our community have found, there has not only been a continued need, but an increase in the need for these services. Even though individuals do have the ability certainly to work now, which they didn't have before, there's additional stresses that actually come along with that and also with the housing shortage that we have. So we've actually moved forward to expand our services by bringing on a second individual. We've chosen a less expensive way by going with a post-doc fellow who works under Serenity Chambers, our psychologist, her supervision, but provides good quality services. In order to get licensed in our State, you have to have almost a year's worth of service, and that's what she's doing here. So we're asking for a small increase in that particular line item so that we can help support that particular additional expense. In addition to that, we're asking for capital funding for \$866,000. As you know, we did apply for the CDBG grant. I won't bother going into why it wasn't funded. We understand.

CHAIR WHITE: We all know.

MS. SHAW: Exactly. And I appreciate as hard as you all fought for us for that hopefully there will be something that will change in the future so that that particular issue won't harm us or other programs that have a good request. Without that particular funding, we are at risk for losing \$500,000 of Federal funding. And we're also at risk of losing a new market tax credit partner, which will provide \$2.4 million of funding. The individual that we have secured to provide new market tax credits is actually headed to New York City to try to sign the deal. And if that all goes through, we actually will be closing our new

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market tax credits within the next two months. So without this funding, we will once again be stopped and potentially lose funding. The third request is actually new from us. We actually submitted a community partnership grant this year for the first time ever, with the idea that we wanted to continue to expand the wellness services that we currently provide to the community. Knowing that food is an important part of a wellness program, we actually put in a small grant to support a farmer mentor program. And we would like to partner with a number of individuals within the community if this does get funded. Again, thank you very much for all of your support. We do ask that, like many of the people who have come up, that you do support others. Our partners are very strong within the community, especially Women Helping Women with a number of the issues that we've had to deal with behavioral health. Any questions?

CHAIR WHITE: Do you know which of your requests are in the Mayor's budget?

MS. SHAW: I looked through the Budget, and I actually couldn't find any of them. Now I was looking online, and it was very difficult to look through the various sections, but I didn't see anything, so I don't know if I missed it.

CHAIR WHITE: As I said earlier, a lot of the requests have been combined into larger caches of money.

MS. SHAW: So I'm not sure.

CHAIR WHITE: And I have to say, Riki does a wonderful job of fighting for you all.

MS. SHAW: I know he does.

CHAIR WHITE: He beats us up. He beats us up all the time.

MS. SHAW: Just let us know if you need some help punching okay. We do appreciate it.

CHAIR WHITE: And I think everyone on this table would agree that the CDBG hearing was the most frustrating hearing that we have taken part in in a long time. So I apologize that we didn't cross the finish line there.

MS. SHAW: Again, I appreciate the efforts. I saw the efforts. I heard the anger and the angst, and I do appreciate that. So if something good comes out of it in the future that's, at this point, the best we can hope for. So thank you.

CHAIR WHITE: Yes, Mr. Victorino.

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COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Just to let you know that you have, we have a line item for \$78,868 for you.

MS. SHAW: So that would be for the original funding for the BH program.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Yeah. It's in here. So just to let you know.

MS. SHAW: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: I have the book in front of me, so I'm gonna kind of watch what you guys ask.

MS. SHAW: Thank you.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you. Our next testifier is Sol Kaho`ohalahala.

MR. KAHO`OHALAHALA: Hi. Aloha, Chair White and Finance Committee and Committee members. First of all I wanna just be here to kako`o all of the testimony that has come prior and just be thankful that the community of Lanai is engaged and coming forward to the most probably opportune moment in the Council when you're present here talking about Budget and Finance, and that has a direct impact on all of our programs on Lanai. So I wanna support that. I also wanna acknowledge and thank the kids for participating in this process. It's a really wonderful process in which they can become advocates and owners of their own betterment, and knowing that this is part of that community process that they're engaged with at such an early age. It's a really good thing. I'm here, and I wanna also add my support to a line item that has been provided by the Administration, and that is for the funding of the Kalaupapa memorial project. And I just wanted to touch a little bit upon that. And the reason for my coming forward to support and advocate for that is that the Hansen's patients at Kalaupapa many years ago had invited the National Park Services to come and preserve what they felt was to be their legacy. And as a result of that, they were empowered by their own processes to make a decision about what they felt was most important, and what we should know is that of the 8,000 people that were sent to Kalaupapa, over 90 percent of them were native Hawaiians. And while Hansen's was not indiscriminant, you know, in its disease, all ethnic groups in Hawaii were impacted by Hansen's. But in Kalaupapa today, of the 8,000 people that had been sent there, there are only 900 marked graves, meaning that the majority of those who were committed to Kalaupapa are in unmarked graves. And so it became a priority for the residents of Kalaupapa to not forget all of those who were sent to a place of which ended up becoming their final home and resting place, and that their efforts were to leave a legacy and to remind us all, and looking forward into the future that no one is ever forgotten in Kalaupapa. And while this project is under the authority of the Department of Health, who has really jurisdiction over the patients, I wanna appeal to the fact that the

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people that were sent to Kalaupapa included all of our islands, and Maui Nui had a good amount of people. In fact, the oldest Hansen's patient sent to Kalaupapa was 105 years old when he was taken from his home on Maui and sent to Kalaupapa. And these are the people that we should, from our opportunity as a County political subdivision, lend our support to the residents of Kalaupapa. So I wanna advocate for your consideration in looking at this line item to support those that come from the patients themselves, and that we will be added to the kind of support that they need, not just Statewide but perhaps nationally and internationally as well. So mahalo for being here. Thank you for giving us all this opportunity to come before you.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Sol. Questions, members? Thank you. Next will be Gail Shin.

MS. SHIN: Aloha, Chair Mike White and Council members. I'm Gail Shin, program administrator at E Malama I Na Keiki O Lanai Preschool. And thank you for providing this opportunity for me to sincerely express my appreciation for your past and current support of our program. Our program services families of Lanai, and especially families with financial need. We are requesting County funds to provide monthly assistance towards childcare costs for families that demonstrate need in our program. And in Fiscal Year 2015, all families with children in our program will complete a Maui County childcare subsidy program application with Maui County Early Childhood Resource Center to determine need for financial assistance. Families are also being encouraged to submit applications with MEO Head Start, PATCH Preschool Open Doors, Arbor Child Care Connection and Keiki O Ka Aina's Hawaii early learning partnerships for childcare program. In our program this year, 48 percent of families qualified for free or reduced meals in the child and adult care food program. 36 percent received SNAP or TANF assistance. And 56 percent received tuition assistance from MEO Head Start, Preschool Open Doors, Child Care Connection, Women Helping Women during family emergencies, and a foundation grant to our preschool. All returning students for next school year, approximately 50 percent will continue to qualify for childcare subsidies. And I feel that these figures demonstrate that a significant number of families in our community have a need for childcare financial assistance. I wanna thank you for supporting the organizations here on Lanai and also on Maui. We continue to have a partnership with MEO Head Start for five students, and as I've mentioned, Women Helping Women have stepped in and collaborated with us in family situations to emergency to help offset the cost of tuition. Lanai Changes, which has provided some grant research support, and children in our program that just as community members receive services from the many other organizations, especially the support programs. We are respectfully requesting 88,200 for Fiscal Year 2015. We wanna thank you, a very big mahalo, for supporting our program and helping us to achieve our purpose and goal to provide a safe, nurturing, age and developmentally-appropriate childcare learning environment with opportunities to experiment, explore, question and play as young

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children further develop their skills in becoming successful learners and responsible members of our community. Mahalo.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you very much. Members, any questions for Gail? Seeing none. Thank you for your testimony this evening. And next is John Ornellas.

MR. ORNELLAS: Chair White, Members, thank you for coming to Lanai. You know, I thought I'd do my due diligence and go hunt this down and read it before, and so I can look somewhat educated when I comment before you. And so I'm reading this thing and I'm saying there's gotta be something missing because there's nothing in here for Lanai. \$245,000 in capital expenditures for this island for the year 2015. He coulda put, the Mayor should be embarrassed with this. But 0.02 percent of the budget for Maui County is for Lanai. You could have put our budget on this piece of paper rather than clutter everything up with this and save money. I first wanna also say thank you for approving our new police commissioner, Nora Kawasaki. We've been without a police commissioner for over four years. And thank you for putting her on the police commission. Lanai definitely needs a police commissioner. I also wanna talk about the veteran's cemetery. I know you guys have basically kind of just funneled money to the veteran's cemetery over on Makawao as well as Lanai and Molokai. So I've talked to the Veteran's Administration because our veteran's cemetery is in dire need of repair. The water tank that's there, there's no water up there for both cemeteries, our community as well as our veteran's cemetery. There's no water. So they have a big water tank at the veteran's cemetery, and so the County goes up there, supposedly goes up there and fills this thing up with water, and then they use that to irrigate the, turn on the bathrooms 'cause the building has bathrooms, and kitchen. But over time, it has a huge hole in it. So they can't fill it up because it doesn't hold any water. So there's no water at our veteran's cemetery. So the building up there, the bathrooms, the kitchens, that building is shut down. We cannot use it. Luckily, it's been raining a lot so the grass is green and at least they can cut the grass. So I've talked to the veterans both in Hawaii as well as I have an e-mail to Shinseki for the veterans about our situation here on Lanai, and hopefully they can do something about it. But you guys get the funds, and then you guys can allot it to fixing our veteran's cemetery. I know there's been a few people up here talking about Lanai Changes. I am a board member, and we asked, I've talked to Don about getting money, and I've talked to you guys today about it takes forever and a day for any of the nonprofits to get paid.

MR. MOLINA: Three minutes.

MR. ORNELLAS: So, you know, the preschool... I mean, Lanai Changes, we use it for different things, but it's not as essential as the preschool. They use that for payroll, and it took over eight months for them to get paid. So you want me to come back at the end? You act like...

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CHAIR WHITE: Well, you still have one more minute to go, but you've brought up a number of issues.

MR. ORNELLAS: Oh, okay.

CHAIR WHITE: I've got a question. When did the preschool finally get their funds? Why don't you come up to the mike? Thank you, Gail.

MS. SHIN: The grant has been fully executed. It was done so in January. I received the notice in February. I did e-mail my grants manager the middle of March just to get an update on the status of payments 'cause we haven't received any. I sent a second e-mail this past week and did get a response that due to the death of one of our teachers, in the grant for 2014, there was money allocated for us to actually work an additional Saturday a month. And that was to help us towards the accreditation process. Well, there are other forms that I need to fill out, which I haven't received yet. But I will be seeing our grants manager tomorrow, so I'll get further information.

CHAIR WHITE: And who is your grant manager?

MS. SHIN: Kaina Bonacorsi. She's the Maui County Early Childhood Resource Coordinator.

CHAIR WHITE: Okay. Well, we apologize for you having such a late payment, and as I said earlier, unfortunately, you're not alone.

MS. SHIN: I realize that. Thank you.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you. Sorry, John.

MR. ORNELLAS: No, that's okay. That's okay. But it just proves a point, that the nonprofits here on this island, I mean, are only maybe one, two people. And if they don't get paid, they're gonna look for another job, and then we'll be without that services here. Women Helping Women, it's the same thing. If they don't get their funding, they're gonna shut their doors. Youth Center's talked about doing that. And we are, I should get to who I work for, right?

CHAIR WHITE: I didn't mean to throw you off.

MR. ORNELLAS: Coalition for a Drug Free Lanai. I work for those guys. I work for Joelle. So, you know, she basically said everything that we need to get. And of course we support all our partners and the nonprofits here on this island. So, you know, it's tough, I

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know you guys gotta make some hard decisions and stuff but, you know, they just gotta continue, and that's why we're all here trying to fight for our piece of the pie. All right.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, John. Any questions for Mr. Ornellas? Seeing none. Thank you very much for coming tonight.

MR. ORNELLAS: Thank you.

CHAIR WHITE: Linda Mau is our next testifier.

MS. MAU: I just wanted to thank you for all that you do. It's such a tedious task. So before I start, I'm actually here to talk about Red Cross. But I'd like to put in a plug for the Kalaupapa because I had the privilege of going there for two days. And it's such a spiritual place, and I think preserving it as a National Park would really maintain that feeling of Kalaupapa. Anyway, I am a health service volunteer with the American Red Cross. I've been on island for about a year and a half. And when I first got here, I think I've said this before, but there was one Red Cross volunteer, and we are now probably a team of 14. And we are gonna be having our third training the end of this month. So we'd like to recruit more members, because without volunteers, we cannot serve the community as far as emergency management. Stacey Purdy sits on our Emergency Management team. As members of the Red Cross, we have responded to two major disasters. One, a house fire, and another, the airport crash. And I'm deeply sorry for all of your loss. They have also participated in two disaster exercises, Makani Pahili and the airport fire drill. And coincidentally enough, the airport fire drill was an exercise exactly as the airport crash. We've also had the opportunity to open a shelter for potential tsunami threats. And also I've done some outreach and surveyed several shelters, and also acquired new partnerships with the vendors for food and supplies.

CHAIR WHITE: It's all right. You're gonna make us cry.

MS. MAU: We ask for your continued support in emergency medical services. I wanna say that we just finished our cert training and I know at the Mayor's budget you told me that you were setting aside monies for emergency preparedness on Lanai. So again, without our volunteers, we won't be able to serve one another as good neighbors. Thank you.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Linda. Our next testifier is Winifred Basques.

MS. BASQUES: Good evening. My name is Winifred Basques. I live on this island for the past 51 years. I have been relocated from Honolulu. Okay. The issue I wanna talk about is the smoking down at the beach. There are a lot of people who flicks the butts. And you know how long it takes to pick up all the butts? People do not have no sense. They don't think, they don't have no conscience. They just do what they wanna do. But to me I

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think it's disgusting. When you see all this kind stuff, you try to prevent people from not doing, smoking in the public area. The thing is when you do this kind stuff, it reflects back on the Lanai people. And we don't know if it comes from Maui, Honolulu, whatever. The thing is that when they do this kind stuff, I hate to say it, what can we do to stop this issue? It's a big issue, and I saw this on the Maui County Council several nights ago, when the lady had talked about the smoking on the beach, and she had to pick up all these butts. Four beaches she had to pick up and there was over 25,000 butts on the beach, the sand. Now the thing is that there is another issue. The County roads is very, very hazardous, I telling you. They patch here, they patch there. Don't they resurface the road? Do they have money for the roads to be resurfaced? The reason why I telling you folks this is because my husband was a supervisor for the State Highway for 29 years. And I worked with him on the roads, so I know about road, any kind asphalt, whatever. Please can you tell your utility, County workers, to take care of the five feet shoulders because the grass is so long, you know when you driving up the road. The grass is knee high, the road is not being taken care of. What do they do? The thing is the taxpayer is looking at all these things. It's taxpayer's money, okay, paying for their wages. If they can do it would be better, but see, they only limit only about four people who drives on the truck, who does these things. And another thing is that I love going to Maui on the bus. I love it. The Maui Bus and I use an MEO bus, too, as well, from here to the harbor, to Lahaina. And it's very, very good because you can bring all your okana. Okana means you can bring your coolers or whatever you got, because when you go on the Maui Bus, you cannot take anything that is larger than a big cooler. You can only take one small one on top your lap. That's it. But thank you for coming. And we shall see you again. Please don't be long time, one year. Come a little, six months or what. You know what I mean. I know money is very, very crucial, right, but there is always a way. And of course, I do not work for nobody. I work for the man upstairs. Thank you.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you. Thank you, Winifred. Staff has added up the items in the budget that are identifiable to Lanai. And in addition to the 1.6 for the youth center, there's grants totaling about \$615,000. So I think we've heard a number of those numbers so far this evening that make up that 615. So hopefully that helps you feel a little bit better that there is a focus on Lanai. Our next testifier is Kelli Gima.

MS. GIMA: Good evening, everyone. Thank you for being here. My name is Kelli Gima, and I am the Child Protective Services and Adult Protective Services Social Worker here on Lanai. You know, I'm sitting back there and just listening to all the testimony, and I feel so proud to be a part of this community, to see everybody here tonight testifying for various, you know, concerns or issues, and nonprofits. So thank you for taking the time to listen to everyone. I'm here tonight to just testify on behalf of various organizations here on Lanai. And I thank you for the continued funding for these nonprofits. Although it may appear that right now everything is great on Lanai, people are happy, people are back to work. That's not entirely true. I see pretty much on a daily basis with my job the

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problems that our community, specifically children and families face, everything from child abuse and neglect to domestic violence, to substance abuse problems, to the lack of elder care. And the list goes on. Yes, we have this multi-billion dollar new owner for the island, but let me remind you that Mr. Ellison is not funding every single program and organization here on Lanai. I have the great privilege to work so closely with these nonprofits. I utilize the Lanai Community Health Center, Women Helping Women, for referral sources for my families. And these nonprofits, their staff work tirelessly, tirelessly to serve our community, specifically our children. Women Helping Women has been an amazing part of our community in advocating for victims who just simply can't advocate for themselves. Beverly Zigmond, who's the woman of the organization here on Lanai, does such great work and I mean can't appreciate her services enough. The Lanai Community Health Center, I work very closely with the Behavioral Health department. They have been an amazing addition for our community, not just with their medical services, but specifically behavioral health services. We have members in our community who have mental illnesses, who have faced trauma, and their behavioral health services have just been such a great addition. It's been a great working relationship with them. So I ask for your continued support for both Women Helping Women and the Lanai Community Health Center. In addition, you know, you've heard about CDFL and about the youth center and all that they do for the programs and activities for our children here. There's simply just not enough for our children here. We all know that if the children aren't involved in some program and services --

MR. MOLINA: Three minutes.

MS. GIMA: --that, you know, they're gonna go out and engage in risky behaviors. So continue support for them for the preschool. And then lastly for Lanai Changes and their efforts to look at the elder care situation here on Lanai. That hits me personally. I had a grandparent who had to move off the island to spend her last years alive. And that is just not fair for our elderly. They deserve to live here and end their lives here. So please, I ask that you continue to support Lanai Changes because they're doing just wonderful work for our elder population. Thank you.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you. Members, any questions? Seeing none, our next testifier is Butch Gima.

MR. GIMA: Good evening. My name is Butch Gima. I wanna piggyback on what Kelli said about Lanai Community Health Center. Please do support their request because, you know, they provide a option, a choice for our residents if they don't wanna go to Straub. Lanai Community Health Center is very progressive in their care for our residents because they provide an integrated model which includes taking care of you physically, medically, in addition to behaviorally. And yes we do work very closely with them. And we just supported, I mean our State agency provided a support letter in their grant request

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on a national level. When Gail came up and talked about the difficulties of getting their funding, we had talked to Don months ago about this. And one of the suggestions we made was okay, why don't you guys come up with something like a promissory note so the Department of Housing and Human Services, if let's say my agency gets a grant award, give us a promissory note. Then we can take that to the bank and maybe take out a loan until the County gets their act together to get the money to us. So please, I know Don tried to do that, ran into some roadblocks, but please don't give up on that. That may be something that can help in the short run. Three, I wanna talk about the drainage plan. Please allocate monies, probably in phases, to supplement what Pulama has already begun to do. Please keep in mind that in 2005, Castle and Cooke contracted R M Towill and so we have a Lanai City and Koele project district drainage plan. We need that and it's a good plan and, you know, we just need the money. This recommendation is consistent with the draft community plan that's before the Lanai Planning Commission, and will come to you in about four or five months. I also wanna echo the testimony about housing. Please allocate monies for the development of already entitled lands. The only entitlements we have right now is the 65 acres. So whether the County does it, whether Pulama does it, or whether you guys do it together, the important thing is we need those housing units. Again, that's also consistent with the draft community plan update. Lanai Changes, I also sit on the board, and a lot of attention is with the development of the elder care infrastructure system. And so whether that comes, whether that means we have home health care, adult day care, hospice, the main thing is we want to develop a system, and that is driven by what the needs of the community is right now. And so we've had meetings every month.

MR. MOLINA: Three minutes.

MR. GIMA: We've had about 15 people at the meeting each time. So please, you know, continue to support Lanai Changes. We've appreciated the allocations that have come through the Office of Economic Development. We too are waiting for this year's grant. One of the things about economic development that Lanai Changes is trying to do is to make policy makers such as you aware that there are other options besides Pulama Lanai. Pulama Lanai doesn't wanna be everything to everyone. We wanna move away from the mindset that the company is gonna take care of everything. We want you to contact other entities on Lanai besides Pulama Lanai, such as Lanai Changes or Chamber of Commerce. Now what you have before you on your, in front of you, is from Lana'ians for Sensible Growth. Lana'ians for Sensible Growth took two young adults to the Leg last week, and also met with our attorneys, Native Hawaiian Legal Corporation. The goal being for the last several years, Lana'ians for Sensible Growth wanted to recruit and bring in younger board members. It's their turn to take care of this community. So one of the goals of going to the Leg was introducing young Lana'ians to our legislators, getting them familiar with the process and the names and faces, but also having to, starting for the Legislators to become aware of young adults willing to step up. And

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hopefully we will continue to do that, and you too will also talk to the younger adults, and not just Jordan Ellis or Ron McOmber or Sally or Robin Kaye or myself. It's time for the younger ones to step up and we need you to take some responsibility also to contact the younger ones because they have a different perspective on this community. They're not really of the pineapple plantation, and they have a different view of the company and the deep pocket owner, very different from how our generation viewed David Murdoch and Castle and Cooke. Having finished the community plan, I would like the Council to put in their budget a position for a Lanai staff person to implement the community plan. Without that position, no one agency, no one will be responsible for the implementation. Without it there will be no accountability, and without it all the work of the CPAC, the Lanai Planning Commission, then you guys and the Planning Department's Long Range Division will be all poho. You know how strategic plans and community plans look. They sit on a shelf. We want a position to implement it.

CHAIR WHITE: I've let you go beyond your four minutes, so if you could provide some concluding comments, I would appreciate it.

MR. GIMA: Last one is about governance, which is in the community plan update. We would like the Council to provide travel funds so that boards, commissions and the Council Committees and the Council can come to Lanai more often, especially when there are Lanai-related issues. You know, we appreciate the audio feed that we can testify, but I think it's important not only for us to be able to face you and testify, but I think it's a different feel for when you guys come here and get to see things and interact with the residents in a formal setting and then outside the formal setting, whether at Blue Ginger, or Canoes or at somebody's house.

CHAIR WHITE: One last thought.

MR. GIMA: That's it. Thank you very much.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Butch. And I need to apologize. I skipped over Patrice Moynihan.

MS. MOYNIHAN: Hello. Good evening. I'm new to this island. I moved here in February. I'm Patricia Moynihan, Patrice Moynihan. And this is a sad tale I'm hearing here. I want to be involved, want to volunteer and want to help out, but it seems like there's some very important priorities over what I'm going to say, but I'm going to say it anyway. I just learned that the shuttle bus for Lanai residents is going to be discontinued and I was wondering if we could request a bus service for Lanai. It could be the size of the shuttle bus or maybe larger. MEO has been very helpful, but not everyone qualifies for MEO. So we're not gonna have any way to get down the hill and get up the hill unless we hire a limousine, and they're talking \$20 round trip. And for seniors in particular, and low

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income people, this would be a problem. I want to know where we can go from here on this. Is it a transportation issue, can you address it this evening? Who shall I get in touch with? And I thank you for the opportunity. I love living here, and I love retiring here, too. It's perfect. Thank you.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Patrice. Any questions for the testifier? Seeing none, our next testifier is Debbie dela Cruz.

MS. DELA CRUZ: My name is Debbie dela Cruz. I'm on the board of the Lanai Community Health Center. I thank you for coming to Lanai to hear our requests and for your support in the past. Our executive director, Diana Shaw, has presented the numbers and the reasons behind our request. I'd just like to add a personal face to her comments. I was born and raised on Lanai, left for over 20 years and returned in 1990. It was an eye opener to experience life here as an adult. There was stress created just by virtue of the small population where coworkers, employees, bosses, customers, friends, neighbors and relatives interact daily. You shop, eat and play in the same places. I worked in a position where my behavior could reflect negatively on my employer, so I tried to be on my best behavior when in public, which was a real pain in the butt. Anyone with customer experience...

CHAIR WHITE: We know that.

MS. DELA CRUZ: Anyone with customers experience is the same stress. That would extend to all our hotel workers. I worked as a crisis worker here for a year, another eye opener. The extent of the domestic violence and the people committing and experiencing that violence were a surprise. I kept thinking not him, not her. But yes, that's the way it was. Lanai is, by nature, a peaceful community. However, we have seen not only domestic violence, but other violence, some of which has been fatal. People get to a point where they don't see alternatives to the violence, or they just snap as we've seen so many times elsewhere. We thank you for your support of our behavior health program, and request continued funding. And we would especially like expanded funding for our new post-doc fellow. The program helps head off crisis situations. It has given people an outlet and some tools for handling everyday and uniquely Lana'ian stresses. Regarding the capital funding, let me first thank Councilman Riki Hokama and Chair White for their support for the CDBG funds that we ultimately lost. If you haven't already, please take a drive to the health center building up on the hill. Picture our patients climbing that hill. Also picture lab work, telehealth, routine exams, pharmaceuticals, behavioral health, medical record keeping and records, receptions, et cetera, all taking place or housed in that small building. Picture the physical therapists from Maui who now provide services on Lanai working in our small conference room. Picture the ultrasound equipment that will save the expectant women of Lanai the travel expenses and time off from work to go off island for their ultrasounds. The requested capital funding is needed so we can construct and

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equip an efficient facility in an easily accessible location to handle all the aforementioned. I also ask for your support for the other nonprofits, such as Women Helping Women, the Lanai Youth Center --

MR. MOLINA: Three minutes.

MS DELA CRUZ: --Lanai Changes, and others. Their efforts, your funding and support, and many volunteer hours all help keep our community together. And can I just put in a little pitch for the Lanai Changes effort regarding our senior citizens. As Riki knows, I have a 94 year old mother still living on Lanai. But most of her contemporaries have had to leave because it's just not possible to live here on their own. Thank you for all your support.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Debbie. Members, any questions? Our next testifier is Beverly Zigmond.

MS. ZIGMOND: Chair White, Vice-Chair Hokama, Committee members, good evening and thank you for coming to Lanai and listening to our needs. My name is Beverly Zigmond, and I'm the program coordinator for the Lanai office of Women Helping Women. I'd like to thank you for your continued support of our line item and ask for you to keep on continuing it. You have been doing so for almost all of the 12 years that we've been here. And as you have heard, from a number of people that the need for our services is increasing. On the surface it looks like everything is just lovely. It's not. You've heard that from others. Chelsea said that she's concerned about what's gonna happen in the future. We're already seeing it happen now. Just to give you an example, two weeks ago, I mean, the tension is palpable. And it's erupting more frequently. Two weeks ago, we did four restraining orders for family court in four days, and then we followed it the next day with a district court restraining order. And this seems to be the trend. Kelli has told you about what she's saying all the time, and I have to put a plug in for Kelli. We are so very fortunate to have her with us, and her understanding of the needs. I have a couple of maybe four or five testimonies that I have submitted to you all, including one of a client who actually was willing to write something on paper in pencil that I can hardly read, but I'd like to read it for you. I think the funding for Women Helping Women shouldn't stop because they have always been there for me when I couldn't get help I needed on my own. Women Helping Women was always there, no questions asked. I love the people there. They don't judge, and always make sure my children were safe. If it wasn't for them, my children and I would be homeless. I'm a mother of four, and have had a couple of really bad relationships. Because Women Helping Women was available, they always made sure I had a safe place for me and my kids. I'm very thankful for everything they have done for me and my family. Please continue to fund them. So I think Lorna told you about all the services that we provide if you haven't, I think you all know that already. And I would just like to switch for a moment

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and put on my hat as board chair for the Lanai Community Health Center and ask you to continue our line item for behavior health to fund our capital funding if there is anything there that we can get. And also I recently submitted Community Partnership Grant. As the Domestic Violence provider, I refer many of my clients to the Community Health Center for Behavioral Health. And I can attest to the positive impact that these services have on my clients, helping them to move forward and regain control of their lives. And with all the other nonprofits, I ask you to continue supporting us all, including the preschool, Lanai Youth Center, CDFL and them all.

CHAIR WHITE: Beverly, we think everyone on this table... I can only speak for myself, but we're gonna work very hard to make sure that the Lanai Health Center doesn't lose any money. We'll find it somewhere. We may have to switch a few other priorities, but we'll find it.

MS. ZIGMOND: Thank you.

CHAIR WHITE: Next we have Serenity Chambers. What a great name.

MS. CHAMBERS: No, I didn't name myself. People always ask me that. I'm Serenity Chambers. Thank you for coming, for being here, for listening to us. I am representing Lanai Community Health Center's Behavioral Health program. I was hired about a little over two years ago to come here from the mainland and live here and serve as the first full time, live on-island, kind of resident psychologist in the integrated Behavioral Health program. I know you guys have heard quite a bit about our program, but I thought I could kind of fill in some of the blanks. So as Diana had mentioned, we have been planting a lot of seeds in the community. We do more than just sit and talk with people in the office. I say we but really me. We do a lot of outreach and so we've been planting a lot of seeds, especially around smoking cessation. I testified this morning about this, smoke-free parks and beaches, and working on the community on that. So I'm a trained tobacco treatment specialist, and I'm also trained to train others on how to give brief interventions. These are all happening in the last couple of years while I've been here so that we can create a real sustainability around smoking cessation on the island. I'm also a yoga teacher, so I've been providing kind of wellness classes and yoga and breathing and meditation and that kind of thing in the community. So as I've been doing those things, our services have grown, the needs have grown. And that's why we hired our post-doc psychologist, Cori Takesue. And she moved here in February from Oahu. Her specialty areas complement mine in that she works mostly with children and adolescents, and she also does substance abuse services. So she kind of fills in some of the areas that I'm not as strong in. And since arriving, Kelli has made countless referrals to her as she has mentioned. She's been very, very busy. And so it's kind of this, Butch and I were talking the other night, it's kind of this build it and they will come kind of thing. Like you might not think that people need services, they survived without a behavioral health

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program here for all these years, why does anybody need that? But as soon as we built it, people have really come out of the woodwork and started to tell their friends. So we hope to continue to grow our program. As you know, we're asking actually for an increase in the behavioral health program line item grant. I had the number here, but you probably have it as well. It's 107,868. I just wanna mention again about the increase in services, the build it and they will come. We have, I looked at our numbers from 2012 versus 2013, and we have had a 30 percent increase in behavioral health visits and a 10 percent increase in the number of our behavioral health patients. And with the population increasing and all the problems that everyone's mentioned, we definitely continue to see this, expect to see this continue to increase. And as everyone has already plugged us, you know, we work with everyone really closely, really with Kelli's office, with Butch Gima's office and Adult Mental Health Division and Women Helping Women especially. I wanna give that a plug 'cause as Beverly mentioned we kind of really work as a team. So I just wanna ask for your continued support. Thank you so much for coming and that's about it.

...END OF PUBLIC TESTIMONY...

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Serena. Any questions? This is your only chance to get some answers from a psychologist. And our last testifier is Julia Oyama. And if you would like to testify and you haven't done so...oh, she's gone, okay. Is there anyone else who would like to provide testimony this evening that hasn't already done so? Seeing no one coming forward, I'm gonna thank you all for participating this evening and giving us a chance to hear your concerns. We really appreciate it. Mahalo. ...*(gavel)*...

ACTION: DEFER pending further discussion.

ADJOURN: 7:50 p.m.

APPROVED:



MIKE WHITE, Chair
Budget and Finance Committee

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CERTIFICATE

I, Amanda Kaili, 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 this 29th day of April 2014, in Kahului, Hawaii.



Amanda Kaili