

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

Council of the County of Maui

MINUTES

April 9, 2015

Haiku Community Center

CONVENE: 6:02 p.m.

PRESENT: Councilmember Mike White, Vice-Chair
Councilmember Gladys C. Baisa, Member
Councilmember Robert Carroll, Member
Councilmember Elle Cochran, Member
Councilmember Don Couch, Member
Councilmember Don S. Guzman, Member (in 6:28 p.m.)

EXCUSED: Councilmember Riki Hokama, Chair
Councilmember Stacy Crivello, Member
Councilmember Michael P. Victorino, Member

STAFF: Carla Nakata, Legislative Attorney
Clarita Balala, Committee Secretary

Stacy Takahashi, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Mike White
Troy Hashimoto, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Mike White
Arthur Suyama, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Stacy Crivello

ADMIN.: Robert Parsons, Administrative Assistant, Office of the Mayor

OTHERS: Patrick McGoldrick, Ambassador, Best Buddies Program
Justin Maalea, Hui Malama Learning Center
Thomas C.K. Lum Jr., Hui Malama Learning Center
Keonilea Nakila, Underage Drinking Prevention, Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc.
Ashley Rendon Castardo, Underage Drinking Prevention, Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc.
Chloe Uhiwailani Cohen, Boys and Girls Club of Maui
Ty Simpson-Kane, Boys and Girls Club of Maui
Jacelyn Kane-Simpson, Boys and Girls Club of Maui
Luis Garcia, Unit Director, Boys and Girls Club of Maui
Caeden Flores, Paia Youth and Cultural Center
Dante Gomez, Paia Youth and Cultural Center
Leo Hardacker, Paia Youth and Cultural Center
Zoey Driskell Feliciano, Paia Youth and Cultural Center
Sedona Estomo, Youth of the Year, Boys and Girls Club of Maui
Christine Estomo, Boys and Girls Club of Maui
Barry Rivers, Director, Maui Film Festival

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Miyo Kim, Director of Veterinary Services, Maui Humane Society
Lehn Huff, Co-President, Malama Maui Nui
Teya Penniman, Manager, Maui Invasive Species Committee
Clayton Fuchigami, President/CEO, Maui Federal Credit Union
Francis Quitazol, Natural Resource Manager, The Nature Conservancy
Michael Bascar, BEST Program, Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc.
Harriet Witt, Maui Chapter, Hawaii Farmers Union
Erica Christiansen, Enlace Hispano, Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc.
Rose Potter, Executive Director, Paia Town Association
Peter Niess, Board Member, Hui Malama Learning Center
Chelsea Freitas, Head Start, Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc.
Sarah McLane, Board Member, Malama Maui Nui
Karen Harmer, Feed My Sheep
Karen Chun, Secretary, Sierra Club Maui Group
Maria Eugenia Cara, Head Start, Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc.
Allison Borell, Community Outreach and Education Liaison, East Maui
Watershed Partnership
Tyson Saucier
Astrid Watanabe
Brendan Welch, Feed My Sheep
Paula Phillips
Margaret Sneed, Assistant Program Director, Parents and Children Together
Betty Lynn Moulton, Hoolawa Community Association
Susan Gebb, President, Hoolawa Community Association
Maile Kawakami, Feed My Sheep
Alfred "Flako" Boteilho, Heritage Hall
Kathy Kaohu, Open Space Preservation
Alex Haller, Molokai Princess
Deborah Coleman, Transportation, Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc.
Nikhilananda
Rose Marie H. Duey, Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc.
Betty Uwekoolani, Maui Puerto Rican Association
Jorge Barboza, Paia Youth and Cultural Center
Geraldine Carroll
Sherman Baisa
Others (14)

**ITEM BF-1: PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2016 BUDGET FOR THE COUNTY
OF MAUI (CC 15-41)**

VICE-CHAIR WHITE: . . .*(gavel)*. . . Good evening. This meeting of the Budget and Finance Committee . . .*(turning on microphone)*. . . They could hear me anyway. This meeting of the Budget and Finance Committee will come to order and I want to thank you all for showing up. This is a wonderful crowd for Haiku and we look forward to hearing

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from you and hearing your concerns and your manao and with that we'll just get right into it. I'd like to start by introducing starting from this end of the table, Bob Carroll from Hana.

COUNCILMEMBER CARROLL: Good afternoon.

VICE-CHAIR WHITE: And sitting next to Bob is Elle Cochran.

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Aloha.

VICE-CHAIR WHITE: And to my immediate left, lovely lady from Kula, Gladys Baisa, and from South Maui, Don Couch, and Don Guzman should be here fairly soon. And the other two are traveling on the mainland and will be rejoining us on Monday back in the Chambers. So thank you very much for being here and we'll get started with our first testifier, and it's Patrick McGoldrick. Come on up to the microphone, Patrick.

. . .BEGIN PUBLIC TESTIMONY. . .

MR. MCGOLDRICK: Hi, my name is Patrick McGoldrick and I'm a Best Buddies ambassador. Today I want to tell you about how Best Buddies has improved my life. Best Buddies helped me find friends and made me who I am today – kindhearted. I came today to ask you to please support Best Buddies. Thanks for listening.

VICE-CHAIR WHITE: Thank you so much, Patrick. Great job! And our next testifier is Justin Maalea, followed by Thomas Lum.

MR. MAALEA: Hi, my name is Justin Maalea. I am 16 years old. I am from Haiku and I am a high school student at Hui Malama Learning Center. This is my fourth year there. I have stayed at Hui Malama Learning Center because I wanted to get my GED. I first came to Hui Malama because I used to get into trouble when I went...when I was in public school. One thing I like about Hui Malama is our computer room that was donated by the Friends of Children's Justice Center. I like using the computers to do math on Khan Academy and design houses on the SketchUp Program. At Hui Malama we also study science through fishing every Tuesday morning. We learn how to tie knots, catch, and prepare fish to feed our families. I enjoy cooking class with Kumu Mike. My favorite meals to make are chicken Caesar salad and healthy burgers. I also like to do PE. In PE class we learn how to play soccer, football, ultimate frisbee, kick ball and dodge ball. The teachers at Hui Malama are also really helpful. They are there for me in all parts of my life, not just school. They also take us on a lot of excursions to learn about careers and different parts of Maui. My favorite excursion was to Honokohau on the West Side. In Honokohau we helped to clean out a taro patch at Uncle Willy Wood's place. I felt good doing the work because it was my first time going to Honokohau and I was happy to help Uncle Willy because I know that it's a lot of work for him to do all by himself. When I came to Hui Malama, I hated school and never did my homework. Now I always do my work even when I don't want to. My

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reading and writing has gotten a lot better. After I finish Hui Malama, I would like to join the Navy. I would like to be able to travel the world and see different places. Being at Hui Malama has helped me to learn how to study harder and take care of myself so I can reach my goal. Thank you for supporting Hui Malama because if you didn't who knows where I would be now. Thank you for your time tonight.

VICE-CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Justin. Good job! Thomas Lum will be followed by Keonilea Nakila.

MR. LUM: Aloha. Council Members, good evening. I'm Thomas Lum, also known as Kumu Koi, and gardening teacher and Hawaiian studies teacher at Hui Malama Learning Center. It takes a lot to stand up here in front of the community and Justin did a fine job. And I'm just here to really commend all you folks and all your continued support from the County and just appreciate the time and the mana'o sharing tonight. Appreciate it. Mahalo.

VICE-CHAIR WHITE: Thank you very much, Thomas. Keonilea will be followed by Ashley Castardo.

MS. NAKILA: Hi, my name is Keonilea Nakila. I'm 15 years old. I go to King Kekaulike High School. I've been in MEO for about four years now. In MEO we talk about underage drinking and how it's bad for youth but we also talk about suicide prevention, community service, and so much more. Something that I have done at MEO that I wouldn't have been able to do outside is go to Wainapanapa and Keanae. In Keanae we got to put...we got to be in different groups and we compete against each other. One night each group had to pick a song and sing it in front of the other groups. My group got called out from the purple team. We just looked at them and said, "It's on." The next day we woke up at 4:30 to wake up the sun with an oli. On our way back to Camp HOPE we got to jump in the ocean at the nearest beach. We all forgot that we were in our PJs. MEO means so much to me because they are like my family and I feel like I am cared for. So I ask you, please continue to support MEO. Thank you for your time.

VICE-CHAIR WHITE: Thank you very much. Nice job. Ashley.

MS. CASTARDO: Hi, my name is Ashley Rendon Castardo. I'm 14 years old. I go to King Kekaulike High School. I've been in MEO for about three years. What we do in MEO is talk about underage drinking and how adults give kids alcohol and let them hold it and it's bad for youth kids. But we also learned about cyber bullying and suicide prevention, also leadership skills and community service. Some things that I have done in MEO that I have never done was help pick up cigarette butts at UHMC and do beach cleanup and many more activities. We also visit places that I have never been to and meet new people and make new friends with, and we all work together and work hard to get the job done. In leadership training we learn to become leaders and train the younger kids to become leaders. We also help plan on what we are going to

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do next like do a sign waving or plan the next camp. MEO got me moving around seeking better opportunities and helping the community and becoming leaders, not followers, and about issues like bullying, suicide, and underage drinking. I really like...I really enjoy going to MEO and I want to come up and thank the Council Members for continuing to support MEO Youth Service.

VICE-CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Ashley. Good job. Our next testifier is Chloe Cohen, followed by Ty Kane or Ty Simpson-Kane, I'm sorry.

MS. COHEN: Good morning, County Council. My name is Chloe Cohen and I have been at the club for one and a half years. I go to Haiku Elementary School. What I like about the Boys and Girls Club is that they are kind, I have many friends, there are no bullies, and there are five staff, and their names are Yaya, Aunt Joy, Devin, and Luis. Yaya is the staff that holds up all the sporty clubs. Aunt Joy holds clubs like Smart Girls, Kids Café, Girls Club, Money Matters, and Gardening. Devin holds Art Club. Alex holds clubs like Singing and Dancing. My favorite club is when we do sports because they don't judge you by the way you act. They don't even judge you at the Boys and Girls Club. If there was no Boys and Girls Club, I would not have a safe place to hang out after school. I would not have gained a lot of great experiences that I have. The Boys and Girls Club has shown me many great things like cleaning up after yourself and being responsible. The Boys and Girls Club is a perfect place for me to be in. Thank you for listening.

VICE-CHAIR WHITE: Thank you. Great job, Chloe. Ty. Yeah, you can just pull it down a little bit. There you go.

MR. SIMPSON-KANE: Aloha, Members of the Maui County Council. My name is Ty Simpson-Kane. I am 11 years old, a fifth grader at Haiku School, and a proud member of the Haiku Boys and Girls Club. I have been a member of the Haiku Boys and Girls Club since the third grade. Haiku Boys and Girls Club started out as a safe place for me to be after school while I waited for my parents to finish work and pick me up and now has turned into so much more. At the Haiku Boys and Girls Club we are not just a safe environment, we are ohana. The staff assist us with our daily homework assignments, class projects, and upcoming tests. Our computer lab helps us do our online school homework like IXL and Kidbits. The teen room provides a meeting area for awareness like drug and alcohol programs like Be A Jerk. We have bumper pool, ping pong, and weekly challenges. Boys and Girls Club also has physical programs and challenges like soccer and flag football, baseball, and fitness test like push-ups and sit-ups. We also go on excursions and do community cleanups around the island. With the Boys and Girls Club summer surf team I went to Lanai for the first time last year or last summer. The staff is like extended family to me now. Aunties and Uncles I can go to to talk with if I need someone. They encourage us to be good people, outstanding members of society, future leaders, and graduates of high school. They encourage us to always do the best we can in school and in our sports. Knowing that I have this extra support has helped me be more confident in my

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schooling and my surfing career. I look forward to being at the Boys and Girls Club every day. I would be very sad if I didn't have the Haiku Boys and Girls program to go to everyday after school and in the summer while my parents go to work. I probably have to wait after school hanging around with no supervision and nothing to do. The Boys and Girls Clubs are a place where kids can go to be safe, to participate in programs, and challenges that will help us build character and become outstanding citizens and positive additions to society as youth and Maui's future. Thank you for your time and continued support of the Boys and Girls Club.

VICE-CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Ty. Our next testifier is Jacelyn Kane-Simpson, followed by Luis Garcia.

MS. KANE-SIMPSON: Aloha, Members of the Maui County Council. My name is Jacelyn Kane-Simpson. I'm a proud parent of a child that is a member of the Haiku Boys and Girls Club. The Boys and Girls Club of Maui, Haiku, has become an ever present structure of our ohana. The Haiku Boys and Girls Club not only provides my child a safe place to be after school, but the staff and the structure has provided him with a continued place of guidance and mentoring. Through various programs in the Boys and Girls Club our son, Ty, has been able to experience places and people we would not have been able to connect with on our own. Ty has been able to participate in awareness campaigns like the Be A Jerk Campaign, the Big Chef/Little Chef Program, he went to Lanai for the first time with the summer surf club last year, he was chosen to receive a brand new bike last Christmas from Jim Falk and Valley Isle Ford through the Boys and Girls Club, he gets to sign up and attend excursions throughout the island and assist in community services like beach cleanups. The reinforcement Ty receives from the Boys and Girls Club to graduate from high school, attend college, and to become a positive addition to society is priceless. I love that my son wants to be there, that he knows he can go to any staff member for guidance and counseling, that they all have his best interest at heart. They are supportive in all that he does both academically and in sports. Ty recently got accepted into Kamehameha Schools Maui. Letters of support were sent by the Boys and Girls Club of Maui and Haiku staff as well. Ty surfs competitively and represents Maui throughout the State, as well as is nationally ranked. The Boys and Girls Club always supports Ty in his achievements. They provide him with encouragement and a sense of confidence. They assist all the kids with school work, computer lab, foods, drinks, programs, and support. We feel so blessed to be a part of the Boys and Girls Club of Maui. It takes a village to raise a child and the Boys and Girls Club is part of that village. We couldn't do it without their help and support. We love that he has a safe place to be after school, during school breaks, and that he has other adults he can go to if he needs help with anything school or life-related, and that he has all these programs and experiences that he can participate in that will further his knowledge and love of life because of the Boys and Girls Club. We look forward to our other children joining the Boys and Girls Program soon and many more years of being part of such an incredible program. Thank you all for your time today and we ask for your continued support of the Boys and Girls Club of Maui. Thank you.

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VICE-CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Jacelyn. Luis will be followed by Caeden Flores. Aloha. Go ahead.

MR. GARCIA: Aloha. Good evening, County Council. I'm Luis Garcia, the Director of the Boys and Girls Club of Haiku. I've had the pleasure of working with our organization since last September 2014. In this span of time, I've seen some great kids learn and grow in so many ways—socially, educationally, responsibly—and I've watch their respect for each other grow too. I'm blessed with this awesome staff that truly cares and pours into our kids daily. As a parent of three of my own kids, I appreciate what the Boys and Girls Club does for us. My kids attend the Central Club in Haiku...in Wailuku, excuse me, in Kahului, and it's a great relief to know that my kids are in good, safe hands. This organization is not just an afterschool program. It's a program that provides a safe environment for our kids to play, learn, grow, make new friends, express their talents, and become positive influences in our community. One of my favorite things to hear about is when our former members runs into Aunty Joy or Yaya in town and they thank them for all the love they got from our organization. They give Aunty Joy and Yaya or Alex a report on what they're doing going to school, getting good jobs, education. Up until December of this past year we had one of our former members working with us. She had gone on to high school, graduated college, she got her bachelor's degree, and came back and worked for our organization. She's one of our program directors and then her husband went and got into medical school in California so she had to leave us. But that's a good example of what the Boys and Girls Club has done. This young lady got her education, came back, and poured back into the community. One of our biggest success stories is right here with us today. I'm not going to steal her thunder too much right now but Sedona Estomo, our Youth of the Year, she's an awesome example of what the Boys and Girls Club stands for. She has put Haiku Clubhouse on the map and is moving on to bigger and better endeavors and none of this would be possible if it wasn't for the support of the County Council. Your generous support helps us tremendously. If you ever drive by and see the kids running around eating snacks made by Aunty Joy or some of the kids on the beach cleanup, just remember you are a huge part of that organization that provides and encourages our youth and gives them hope. Thank you for your continued support. Mahalo.

VICE-CHAIR WHITE: Thank you very much, Luis. And Caeden will be followed by Jorge Barboza.

MR. FLORES: Hi, I'm Caeden Flores. I'm 14 and I'm thankful for the PYCC because there's so much to do there like surf, skate, sponge, make movies/film, photography, and I'm glad you guys helped us out. And yeah, thank you.

VICE-CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Caeden. Jorge is next.

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UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: We're having some medical discomfort so if we can move on to the next speaker, please.

VICE-CHAIR WHITE: Yeah, we'll hold Jorge for the next one. Okay, the next one is Dante Gomez, followed by Leo Hardacker.

MR. GOMEZ: Hi, I'm Dante and I go to Paia Youth and Cultural Center and I like the center because you can go in the water, go on the radio, you can skate, go in the media lab, you can learn how to cook, and the staff there is really helpful if you're like having trouble at school or something. And you can play dodge ball and there's just a lot of stuff you can do there like kickball or you can go into town. And the staff there is like really...okay, thank you for supporting PYCC. Okay, bye. Thank you.

VICE-CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Dante. And Leo will be followed by Zoey Driskell Feliciano. Leo is up next. Don't try getting out of this, Leo.

MR. HARDACKER: Hi, I'm Leo and I go to PYCC. It's an awesome place. You can skate, bodyboard. Pete taught me how to do work, final cut, and all that stuff. I play pool all the time. You can go on the radio. And yeah, thank you for supporting Paia Youth and Cultural Center.

VICE-CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Leo. And Zoey will be followed by Sedona Estomo.

MS. FELICIANO: Hi, my name is Zoey. I go to Paia Youth and Cultural Center and the best thing there is the radio because you can learn how to sing and work on the radio, and in the kitchen you can learn how to cook, and there's a media lab, and a computer lab. Thank you for your support.

VICE-CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Zoey. You made it all the way through, Zoey. Okay, and Sedona Estomo, followed by Christine Estomo.

MS. S. ESTOMO: Good evening, County Council. My name is Sedona Estomo and I've just recently won the State level of the Youth of the Year contest for the Boys and Girls Club. First of all, I'd really like to share that the Boys and Girls Clubs, especially here in Hawaii, are not just a childcare support program. This is a program where kids who don't have the support system and the encouragement and a safe home to come back to after school, this is where they go and this is where they feel at home and they can be kids and have fun and be with other people who can explore the same passions that they have. And so, I encourage you guys to keep on supporting this awesome program because it helps build quality individuals that help bring back amazing things into the community. When you create positive atmospheres for kids to develop their passions and their personalities and characters, it gives them an amazing platform to do great things for the world. And so, as of now this Youth of the Year program that I've been a part of has helped me grow so much, I never thought I would be standing here today in the position that I am and I'm so excited to move on to

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regionals in July in Newport Beach, and I hope you guys will all be along with the journey. So thank you, again, for supporting the Boys and Girls Clubs of Hawaii. Have a great night.

VICE-CHAIR WHITE: Congratulations, Sedona. And Christine is next.

MS. C. ESTOMO: Aloha, Members of the County Council. Thank you for having us here tonight. And I just...as a mother of three children that attend the Boys and Girls Club, we started our journey back in Washington with the club and found our way here in Haiku when we moved back. Instantly when we came it felt like family. It felt like home and my kids...as soon as they see those blue doors, they are so happy. They just...you just see them blossom and they just open up with joy and happiness. And we know that all the programs the organization offers, but like my daughter touched on, some of the key things that I think are really important that the club helps the children is develop self-esteem, self-confidence, social skills, the basics of building the character of people that we want to be in our community. And with those skills they're able to get quality jobs and continue their education. And those are the things that I, as a parent, enjoy seeing develop in the children, not just in my own, but you can see that in all the children that are attending the clubs, whether it be here in Haiku or in Wailuku or in Lahaina. It's amazing. My other two children are also junior surf coaches in the Lahaina club and to see them be leaders and then see the children look at them, the same age, and want to emulate that is priceless. So I, from the bottom of my heart, ask you to continue to fund the organization, and if you can, increase the funding because they really do use it in positive ways. So thank you so much for your time.

VICE-CHAIR WHITE: Thank you very much, Christine. And I'm assuming that Jorge Barboza has decided not to testify because I think they've all gone. Okay, start with the next round. Welcome, Mr. Guzman. Good to see you. And our next testifier is Barry Rivers.

MR. RIVERS: I want to just tell Ty to keep on keeping on. You're going to be the mayor of Maui someday and don't lose the mohawk. It's perfect. I just want to thank a bunch of folks really quickly, especially the County Council for 16 years of support. We're 16 years old this year, the Maui Film Festival is. You've been there from the very first year so I want to really express our thank you...express our appreciation. I think the community's appreciation for something really special that we've been building here for...with a help of a lot of people, including obviously the Mayor's Office, in addition to County Council, but also the Wailea Resorts been there from the beginning, and the Maui Economic Development Board who serves as our fiscal sponsor. A special thanks and shout out to Jeanne Skog and Cari Taylor who are just the dynamic duo that really keep the wheels greased of all these reports we always seem to do every time I turn around and so forth, but we're happy to do them and we're proud of what we're doing. Happy for all that support and appreciative of all that support. I also want to sort of let you know, which you may not know, that the festival runs every

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year with the help of 30 paid employees, nearly 130 mostly Maui companies who provide services in one kind or another, 200 plus volunteers every year, and also many, many nonprofits over the years who get a chance to reach out to the community about what they're up to. You know, encourage people to get involved. Also get a chance to share in the revenues that we generate from, you know, water and soft drinks and popcorn sales, and they've included a really wide variety, including the Hawaiian Canoe Club, Maui OnStage, Leilani Farm Sanctuary, Women Helping Women, Habitat for Humanity, Punana Leo, I mean I could go on. There's probably 30 or 40 of them in total over the years that we've helped out as best we can. We also are proud of providing complimentary screenings for kids in the community. We've done that a long time. We have a free venue on the beach for kids of all ages called the Toes in the Sand Cinema below the Four Seasons, but we also make admission complimentary to all the films that we screen that we feel are appropriate for kids. We've been doing that for a long time. That's frankly my favorite thing about the whole damn deal. I just really love having kids see movies where they are meant to be seen in these big screens with great sound and so forth. We've also...I'll just mention unrelated to like the economic, well, let me just get to the economic development stuff because I know I have limited time. This year we attracted 3,300 people from the mainland either specifically to come to the festival or who participated in the festival by purchasing tickets to one thing or another. Fifteen thousand people in all which is down a bit because we were moved to an earlier timeframe than we had ever been for the previous 16 years. Long story, I don't want to tell and you don't want to hear, suffice to say we're in the same time slot this year but we're going back to our Father's Day weekend in 2016. So that's a good number for us. We've been closer to twenty often and seventeen five, eighteen five, nineteen whatever thousand people. So that was a bit of a challenge last year but we survived it and we're just moving on. We also generated and this has been pretty consistent for you is over a billion media impressions around the world which are valued by people who value these kind of things at \$9 million plus, you know, all of which speak well for Maui and I think it helped raised awareness in a certain way other than all the other things that people do to raise awareness about the islands about just how special this place is. I also think we've helped develop a film industry here in a small way. I know it's been a challenging thing. It's taken a long time to catch fire, but you know, we've consistently and. . .

MS. NAKATA: Three minutes.

MR. RIVERS: That's it? We're done? Thank you, thank you, thank you. I'll see you next year.

VICE-CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Barry. Miyo Kim...our next testifier is Miyo Kim, followed by Lehn Huff.

MS. KIM: Good evening, Council Chair White and County Council Members. My name is Miyo Kim. I'm the Director of Veterinary Services at the Maui Humane Society. And

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I'm here tonight to thank you for your support of our Animal Management Fund. I wanted to explain to you where that fund goes specifically for my department. We accept about 22 animals every single day, 365 days a year. All these animals are evaluated by my staff and if they come in sick or injured, they're assessed and given whatever necessary comfort care they may need. An example is if your pet is hit by a car and brought to the shelter by a good Samaritan, they would be evaluated and possibly given fluids, antibiotics, and pain meds until you can come and claim them to take them to your own veterinarian. Other...all animals are also given routine healthcare. So by the time an animal is adopted by the shelter they have had a general physical exam, vaccinations, worming, they've had flea and tick medication, they've had a spay/neuter tattooing, dental, if needed, and for dogs, a heartworm check and microchip, and free heartworm preventative. Minor issues are also addressed such as ear infections or skin problems. All of this cost would be between \$300 and over \$1000 at a private vet clinic so it's quite a value. Because County funding helps provide these basic services for these pets we're able to use our donated funds for special programs. An example of some special programs that my department has been involved in has been our Hana initiative. For about two years, I took my staff out to Hana and we provided spay/neuter, free microchips, free vaccines for over 500 animals in the Hana community. This was a very successful program. We saw a significant drop in our animal intake from the Hana area and we actually hope to continue a similar program in about two weeks where we are having an animal MASH campaign. We are hoping to actually spay and neuter about 100 dogs a day for four days for a total of about 400 dogs and we are going to be doing two clinics in Central Maui at the shelter. We're taking one clinic Upcountry and we're also taking one clinic over to Lahaina. And this will include spay/neuter, microchip, and vaccines...and licensing. So it is a great value. We really hope to make a difference in those communities. We had...if you remember last summer, we had a panleukopenia outbreak. Panleukopenia is a highly contagious, deadly disease of cats found for the first time in Maui and the Humane Society took the lead in educating the public and providing free vaccines in coordination with private vet clinics to the surrounding...cats in the surrounding area in hopes of containing this outbreak. We also held some vaccine clinics for the public and we provided vaccines for over 500 cats at the...500 public cats at our vaccine clinics. So these are just a few of the programs that we're able to do with our donated funds because the County provides basic funding --

MS. NAKATA: Three minutes.

MS. KIM: --for our basic needs. And I thank you for your support and I hope for continued support next year. Thank you.

VICE-CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Miyo. And Lehn Huff will be followed by Teya Penniman. Don't...don't run.

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MS. HUFF: Good evening, Maui County Council Members. You perhaps know me as Garden Mama, the Maui School Garden Network, and I want to thank you for your tremendous support this year, which I am just starting the second quarter, and we're doing very well. Thanks to all of you and thank you to Mr. Guzman for bringing this to the table. I have been working for four years with the Community Work Day, Malama Maui Nui. This past year they asked me to become President of the Board with one other member so I am a Co-President now of Malama Maui Nui. We have done projects with them in the past in both community and school gardens, hence the connection. Malama Maui Nui actually does several things with schools and they help to spread the word about the importance of recycling, reusing. They have initiated the program, The Art of Trash. And you can imagine how young people grasp that concept. So we have fashion designs with all sorts of interesting things. We take bottle caps and we make mosaics with them. But we also collect used motor oil, as you know, and used batteries, and so forth. We have initiated 88 events in the first three quarters of our fiscal year. That's one every three days in terms of cleanup, beach cleanup, illegal dumping sites, and so forth, hazardous waste. That is our motto - clean it, get rid of it. We are here for the aina. I think what Community Work Day has been doing, Malama Maui Nui now, since 1993 is to be valued and honored. We protect the land. We preserve the land for the future of our children and I think we know why we are doing that. Fiscal management is number one, now that I've become part of the board. We match your dollars one for one with our volunteer hours, over 1,700 volunteers this year—we're very proud of that fact—and with donations and fundraisers. So we take every dollar you give to us quite seriously. Please continue to support Malama Maui Nui. Mahalo.

VICE-CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Lehn. And Teya will be followed by Clayton Fuchigami.

MS. PENNIMAN: Aloha, Chair White, Council Members. I'm Teya Penniman with the Maui Invasive Species Committee and it's my pleasure to be here tonight, and first of all, of course, to thank each of you for your long-standing support. Maui County continues to be a leader in the fight against invasive species. I also am very appreciative of our work and our positive working relationship with the Mayor's Office and with the Department of Water Supply and the Office of Economic Development through which both of those agencies our funding comes. You know, I was thinking I was going to start out talking about watersheds and keeping our quiet nights and keeping our islands free from stinging ants, that that's what our work is about, but after hearing from all of those eloquent, articulate opio speaking about the wonderful youth programs that we have, I realize that the work that we do is really about them. It's about our future. It's about having an island that has all those wonderful qualities that we want to protect and preserve for future generations, not just for us, but for them. So thank you for all of your support for those wonderful programs and for your vision. So it's particularly interesting, of course, to be here in East Maui where we have some of the biggest challenges for coqui frogs and little fire ants. It's not to say we can't and don't have them elsewhere on the island, we do, but they are...we have some exceptional, I guess you would say, examples of coqui frogs in Maliko Gulch and

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also the little fire ant infestations in Nahiku and in Huelo and those are...some of those are proving to be particularly challenging. So your support is very, very important for that. I'm really pleased that we will have...by the end of the year we expect to have our first little fire ant detector dogs. We're hoping that's going to be a real tool to help us find them at places where our noses, eyes, well not the eyes, but our ability to find them is just not as good as the dogs. And so that's something that we really pushed for State funding and also secured some funding from private foundations; the Maui Quarantine Fund, which is run by the Hawaii Community Foundation; and then also the . . . *(inaudible)* . . . Foundation is supporting that work as well, as well as of course some support from the County. So thank you for that. We're really looking forward to that. Our...as I've said we're very grateful for your long-standing support. We're hoping for at least level funding. To be honest, however, our work in Maliko Gulch we're not...when we had a meeting here in October with concerned community members, we're just not getting there, partly because the frogs keep coming and the ants keep coming from other infested areas, in particular the Big Island, and so we're running around all over the island chasing those things down that limits our ability to really make enough headway on these big infestations. So if we had increased support for that, we could...over a number of years, then we wouldn't have to keep coming back. But at the rate that we are now, we will always be asking for --

MS. NAKATA: Three minutes.

MS. PENNIMAN: --the same amount of money for coqui frogs. So thank you very much for your support and look forward to continuing to work with you—unfortunately. Not that I'm unhappy to work with you, but unfortunately, this problem is gonna be here for a while. So thank you very much.

VICE-CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Teya.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Mr. Chair? Mr. Chair?

VICE-CHAIR WHITE: Hold on a second. Mr. Couch.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Thank you, Teya, for coming and speaking. Which fund do you get yours...are you a line item or are you underneath Watershed?

MS. PENNIMAN: Under Watershed where the miconia containment line item in the Budget and then we don't have a line item under OED. That's under the larger Environmental Protection line item, but not specifically --

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Not specifically for you?

MS. PENNIMAN: --designated for us. Yes.

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COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: And how much do you get from each of those?

MS. PENNIMAN: Right now we're in the Budget from Department of Water Supply for 263 and the past years we've gotten around 1.1, I think, 1.1 million from Office of Economic...no, that's total from the County. So 800...about 835.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: It went from 800 down to 200?

MS. PENNIMAN: No, no. Department of Water Supply is 263, okay, and Office of Economic Development was 835.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Gotcha. Alright. Thank you.

MS. PENNIMAN: Great. Thank you.

VICE-CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Teya. Any other questions, Members? Thank you. And Clayton will be followed by Francis Guitard [sic]...I may be slaughtering that last name, but I'm sure he'll be able to tell me what it sounds like. Please proceed.

MR. FUCHIGAMI: Good evening, Council Chair Mike White and Council Members. My name is Clayton Fuchigami. I'm the President/CEO of Maui Federal Credit Union. The purpose of my testimony is to express our support to the Mayor's Budget Proposal for Fiscal Year 2016 to purchase the Waiakoa, or as it is more commonly known, Kula Gym, and to answer any seller-related questions to the sale because we are the owners of the gym. In early 2013, we were approached by Kula Community FCU to merge. On January 2, 2014, the merger was completed resulting in Maui FCU acquiring all their assets and liabilities. We are the continuing credit union and Kula FCU no longer exists. One of the assets acquired was the gym. Kula had been operating the gym as a part-time branch and leasing the gym to the County of Maui. We have continued the operation of the part-time branch and lease arrangement. This gym is frequented almost daily by the County of Maui Parks and Recreation Programs benefitting youth and adult sports leagues, organizations, public and private schools in the Upcountry area, and individuals for pickup games. We are selling the gym because we have concluded that we cannot viably operate the gym as a credit union facility or a branch on a full-time basis. Recognizing the recreational historic and sentimental value of this structure, our volunteer board wisely concluded that we should first make the gym available to the County for purchase so that it could remain available to the Kula community and residents of Maui for perpetuity. We have personally reached out to Councilwoman Gladys Baisa; the former CEO of Kula Federal Credit Union, Mr. Elmer Carvalho; former board members; and some members of Kula Federal Credit Union; some residents of Kula; and most importantly, the Kula Community Association Board, who has written letters to the Council on August 11 and December 4, 2014. They have all expressed support in having the County of Maui purchase the gym. Thank you for your favorable consideration.

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VICE-CHAIR WHITE: Thank you very much. Any questions? Thank you very much. Oh, I'm sorry. Hold on just a second. Ms. Cochran.

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Thank you for being here. What's the selling price? Is there one?

MR. FUCHIGAMI: According to the Budget, we offered the gym for 1.2 million. The Budget reflects a line item of 1.22 million and I believe the difference of 20,000 is for the prorated closing expenses.

VICE-CHAIR WHITE: Okay.

MR. FUCHIGAMI: Thank you.

VICE-CHAIR WHITE: Any other questions? Thank you very much. And Francis Guitard [sic] will be followed by Michael Bascar. I'm sorry if I messed up your last name.

MR. QUITAZOL: You going hear 'em right now. Aloha, Chair. Aloha, Councilmen. Thank you for allowing me to present my testimony. My name is Francis Quitazol.

VICE-CHAIR WHITE: Oh, I really messed it up. . . .(laughter). . .

MR. QUITAZOL: I am the Natural Resource Manager of the Nature Conservancy Maui Program. The Nature Conservancy of Hawaii strongly supports the County of Maui's Watershed Grant Program. The funding from the program protects our most important watershed areas which provide sustainable sources of water for Maui's residents. We respectfully ask for your continued support for this Department's grant program. This is just a summary of the...I handed out some written testimony, just a quick summary, but I know Councilmen wanted some manao so I'm gonna break away from the script and kinda just give like my feelings about the watershed and what they mean to me. I'm just a local boy born and raised here on Maui, just up the road, Camp Maui. I worked for the Nature Conservancy for over ten years now. Prior to that I worked with the National Parks, and then prior to that I worked with the U.S. Forest Service in the mainland. And I've seen basically every major mountain range in the country, from the Appalachians to the Tetons to Sierra Nevadas, whatever, you name it. I've been there and as majestic and beautiful as those places are, nothing is as special and as unique as what we have here in Hawaii. In fact, today we were just up there, and you know, we talk about water and everything and today we were up there doing our, you know, data collection. TNC is science-based. We collect data all the time. And it was cold, it was wet, but we were all happy, and you know, all of us are in the mindset that all this water provides for everyone here—for all these residents. I know...I think Teya mentioned about, you know, viability and sustainability for the future generations, and that's truly what it's all about. Yes, and thank you again for your continued support.

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VICE-CHAIR WHITE: Thank you very much, Francis. Appreciate you coming. Michael will be followed by Harriet Witt.

MR. BASCAR: Alright. Aloha. My name is Mike Bascar and I'm part of the MEO BEST Program. First of all, I'd like to thank Bishop Pahia for getting me into this program. I'm going to the Maui Community College and they gave me some assistance in buying my books, the bus passes, and some needed supplies that I needed for my going back to college. I'd just like to say thank you to MEO and the BEST Program and to please keep on supporting the BEST Program.

VICE-CHAIR WHITE: Thank you. Harriett will be followed by Erica Christiansen.

MS. WITT: Good evening.

VICE-CHAIR WHITE: Good evening.

MS. WITT: I'm a resident of Haiku and I'm here to ask your support for a simple, inexpensive, and very effective solution to a big problem that's getting bigger all the time. The problem is the hidden cost...the unintended cost of monocrop agriculture. Nature avoids monocropping because nature has found over billions of years that diversity is the secret to survival. Because of that nature avoids putting all her eggs in one basket. Because nature avoids monocrop agriculture she does not support the...or provide the natural pest control networks that are in place in a natural ecosystem. Without the natural pest control networks, monocrop agriculture has to use chemicals. And the chemicals have been tested for safety individually one chemical at a time in the short term, but now in the long-term, these chemicals are compounding and there's no research on the compounding effects...the long-term effects of these chemicals. This is the problem of the hidden costs. And there is a solution to this problem. The solution is already happening. The solution is nature-based agriculture that regenerates soil rendered poison by toxins. And you folks have an opportunity to support this solution. It's a simple solution. It's a very inexpensive solution to a very expensive problem and it's an effective solution. You have the opportunity to support it by approving a grant application from the Hawaii Farmers Union that you have received—the Hawaii Farmers Union Maui Chapter. And since this solution already works it's an incredible opportunity for you folks to solve a very expensive problem in a very inexpensive and simple way. I'm here encouraging this because I have been supporting the Maui Farmers Union...branch of the Farmers Union every month for the past four years because I'm really concerned about this problem and I can see that this volunteer organization has a solution. It works. It's just a matter of promoting it, informing people that it works, and training people in the ways that it works because it definitely works. I wouldn't keep going to the meetings every month, supporting them every month if it didn't work.

MS. NAKATA: Three minutes.

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MS. WITT: So I hope you can find a way to approve this grant. Thank you.

VICE-CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Harriet. Erica will be followed by Rose Potter.

MS. CHRISTIANSEN: Hello. Good evening. My name is Erica and I'm here to thank you for supporting MEO and their Enlace Hispano program. I'm originally from Argentina and I used to work for the program so I know firsthand that the Hispanic community has grown tremendously in the last year and I know the effort that this program puts to cater all the needs...for all the needs of the Hispanic community. So thank you very much for your support. Mahalo.

VICE-CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Erica. And Rose will be followed by Peter Niess.

MS. POTTER: Hi. My name is Rose Potter. I'm the Executive Director of the Paia Town Association. I'm here in support of the funds earmarked for the Haiku-Makawao-Paia Economic Development and Cultural Programs, otherwise the Small Town Grant Program. Last summer with Maui County's support we completed a five-year strategic plan that identified that the creation of the Paia Town Association would bring a coordinated voice for the community that can act as a partner for the County and prioritizing and adjusting the needs of Maui's North Shore. The Small Town Grant Program has financed the successful start to the Paia Town Association and is a clear investment in support of our town's prosperity. In the past year, we've used the funds to properly organize the town association as a 501(c)(6). We've continued special events like Small Business Saturday in Paia. We maintain paiamaui.com, which serves as a venue to promote Paia and serves as an information resource for our community members. We are establishing town programs that address security, safety, and cleanliness. We have researched and are implementing a long-term funding mechanism to administer services that enhance those provided by the County, and we just found out that with these funds we will be able to purchase trash cans and provide daily maintenance service. Without these funds I'm not sure the town association would exist. The support from the County through the Small Town Grant Program shows investment and the success of Makawao, Haiku, and Paia. As everyone in this room I think would agree, life is rapidly changing here. In recognizing our small towns with these funds because it's a greater capacity for managing our success. Administering the funds through OED allows us to clearly set up goals and timelines and provide accountability. Their office is supportive in identifying great projects and proper use of funds. The town association will be holding a meeting in May to announce our future plans and initiatives that focus on maintaining Paia's special character and developing ways to make life more enjoyable for our residents, visitors, merchants, and property owners. The Small Town Grant Program allows us the resources to plan for a better, more livable community, and I do hope that it remains in the Budget. Thank you.

VICE-CHAIR WHITE: Thank you very much, Rose. And Peter will be followed by Chelsea Freitas.

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MR. NIESS: Good evening, County Council, Chairman Mike White. I'm Peter Niess, born and raised here. I went to Haleakala Waldorf. Hearing a lot of really great things about gardening programs and a lot of nonprofits that we do...that we work with. They're all really great. I don't envy you guys having to decide how to delegate this money and how it should be spent. Tonight I'm here speaking on behalf of Hui Malama Learning Center where I'm a board member. Yeah, I think you heard Justin speak earlier about SketchUp. I have the students come to my office. I'm owner of Maui Architectural Group, a small business here on Maui. And they come and shadow me for a day and see what I do for a job and it's pretty fascinating and it's really cool. It's a lot like a video game except we can turn it into buildings in the end. It's great to see how excited they get about it and they decide right then and there that they want to be architects as well. But the benefit of Hui Malama Learning Center in general is that it takes these kids that are struggling in school otherwise and could become a burden on society if they aren't given the special attention that they need. That will cost us more in the end. So it's really important that Hui Malama receives the money that they have been getting and that they're requesting because it will benefit the whole community in the end financially, as well as socially. And it's a great program and I think that if none of you have been by there to eat a meal that these kids grow and cook, that you should check it out there. Always welcome people to come in and do that—breakfast or lunch—and you'll really see what a great program it is. Thank you.

VICE-CHAIR WHITE: Thank you very much, Peter. Chelsea will be followed by Sarah McLane.

MS. FREITAS: Hi. My name is Chelsea Freitas. My daughter attends Haiku Head Start. I'm a full-time working mother of four and while I'm working it's important to know that my daughter is in a safe environment all while making friends, having fun, and learning. She loves going to school so I came here today to thank you for supporting and to keep supporting Head Start and Summer Programs. Thank you very much.

VICE-CHAIR WHITE: Thank you very much, Chelsea. Sarah McLane is next. She'll be followed by Karen Harmer.

MS. MCLANE: Hello. Thanks for being here today. I don't know if you know, I'm a Paia resident so this is my neck of the woods. I'm here today for a lot of reasons. A lot of the programs that you guys fund I've either worked for or volunteer with—the Watershed Partnerships, the Invasive Species Committee, the Nature Conservancy, Maui Nui Marine Resource Council, Hawaii Wildlife Fund—I could go on for a little while but I'm actually here...today I was recently asked to join the board for Malama Maui Nui. And so if you know how involved I am in a lot of organizations, the fact that I decided to pick this one to join the board I think says a lot. They're one of the most impressive groups that I've worked with. They gets things done with very small amounts of money and I've been asked to join the fundraising committee for them, as

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well, and it's one of my goals to help us diversify our funding sources. Right now we're pretty much entirely reliant on the County for money besides donations and other partnerships. But for example, last week we got Whole Foods to work with us. They did a 5 percent day and we were able to raise almost \$5,000 in just one day which was incredible. So we're working on building these partnerships. We're also working on diversifying our grant funding and that will be matched with County funds so that's a really nice thing too. But also, I run the GIS Certificate program now at the University of Hawaii and Malama Maui Nui and all of the other organizations that have been testifying today have also been supporting my students. They take...we take them out on field trips where they learn how to do hands on GIS in the field with watersheds and invasive species. Tomorrow we're going over with Maui Cultural Lands and doing some cultural mapping which is really cool. So not only does Malama Maui Nui, you know, work with other organizations but they're working with the University. So funding groups like that actually trickles out to the rest of the community and so I'm really proud to be a part of them. So please continue funding all of those groups. Thank you.

VICE-CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Sarah. Karen Harmer will be followed by Karen Chun.

MS. HARMER: Good evening, County Council Members. Thank you for being here tonight. My name is Karen Harmer and I'm a resident here in the Haiku community. And tonight I want to ask you to support the nonprofit organization, Feed My Sheep. As a mobile food program, Feed My Sheep, bridges or brings food to the neighborhoods where the people are. And I have volunteered with Feed My Sheep and have been a part of giving food to people right here in this community. I would like to ask you to financially support them because I've witnessed the good help that they've provided. I have been able to see people receive not only food but respect and goodwill, and just you know, the aloha spirit from those who volunteer for Feed My Sheep. Feed My Sheep gives out healthy and organic food which is very important to me because I feel that if we are going to help somebody, we need to give them something of quality that shows them that we value who they are. We're not just giving them secondhand goods. We're giving them something that we think is important and it shows that they value...that we value who they are. So Feed My Sheep does that. From my experience the people that come to Feed My Sheep do so because they need help. They need to supplement to what they're able to provide for their family. Many times the children come along to carry home the fresh fruit and vegetables that they're given and the children always say thank you. When people are struggling to make ends meet, unfortunately, they often choose to pay their other bills and give up the necessity of food. That's a really hard choice to face, but I've seen it time and again. With Feed My Sheep, they're able to supplement what they don't have with some other sources of food which helps them to get ahead and eventually not need our services anymore. I've been in the community and I will say, oh, hey, I haven't seen you come by, and they're like we're doing great, thanks for the help that you gave us. So Feed My Sheep is an organization that's there to help people in their time of need given the quality products that will make a difference in their lives now which helps to make a

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difference in their lives in the future. The staff and the volunteers of Feed My Sheep serve our island community with love and respect. They're responsible with their resources providing help to those who are financially qualified and partner with local farmers to provide local, quality food. Feed My Sheep has been addressing the hunger in Maui County for many years, but this is the first time that they're asking for financial help from you. And I know as Council Members that this is a need --

MS. NAKATA: Three minutes.

MS. HARMER: --that you see and want to resolve and this is one of the ways that you can help do that. Thank you.

VICE-CHAIR WHITE: Thank you very much, Karen. And the next Karen will be followed by Maria Cara.

MS. CHUN: Aloha, Council Members. My name is Karen Chun. I'm here on behalf of the Sierra Club to urge you to fully fund the reusable...the recycling of water infrastructure on all parts of the island. I think everybody here is in favor of that. It offsets irrigation water so we have more water. It also cleans up our nearshore waters and keeps the sewer water out of it that is generated in the injection wells. Also, the Sierra Club wants to support the MISC program. What you folks may not know is that the House is currently trying to cut the budget for invasive species...combatting invasive species. So if possible, maybe you folks could find a little extra money for them. We're fighting it at the State level and hopefully will be successful, but just bear in mind they're not getting some of that funding. Now I want to take off my Sierra Club hat and speak as an individual. My son...one of my sons went to Hui Malama. It's a great program. Saved...I mean he's just done beautifully and so please continue supporting them. Thank you.

VICE-CHAIR WHITE: Thank you. Karen, do you know what the funding from the State is for the Invasive Species Council here in Maui?

MS. CHUN: No, I don't.

VICE-CHAIR WHITE: Do you know what the amount of the cut is?

MS. CHUN: Umm...shoots! I can get that...those figures to you and perhaps Teya would know.

MS. PENNIMAN: Last year the Statewide budget was 5.7 million Statewide for invasive species that funded a comprehensive approach. Maui County, which of course includes work on Molokai, received about 800,000. Right now we're looking at, you know, it's unknown, but it was for maybe up to 5 million. So it's at least a 17 to 20 percent cut at present, but yes, still in process.

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VICE-CHAIR WHITE: Keep us advised.

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Chair?

VICE-CHAIR WHITE: Ms. Cochran.

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: For either, if that's possible. Because there is...looking to possibly cut the MISC program, are they looking to add to maybe the inspecting...the ag inspector section in order to offset that they are cutting back on the, you know, invasive part?

MS. PENNIMAN: I'm not aware what the status is for that with the Department of Agriculture. Certainly, absolutely, regardless either way, we need more inspectors. We need better inter-island bio-security. We definitely need those...that support. Yeah. But no, I don't think it's a, well, don't worry we're going to make it up here. That's not what's happening. And the funding for Department of Land and Natural Resources is also in serious trouble.

VICE-CHAIR WHITE: Any further questions? Thank you, Karen.

MS. CHUN: Thank you. And Maria will be followed by Allison Borell. Good evening.

MS. CARA: Good evening. I'm Maria Cara and I speak for Head Start. I'm a mother of three. All my kids were in the program and it's an excellent program. I feel very confident that she's okay. She's having fun. She's learning a lot of things and I'm...um, I'm sorry --

VICE-CHAIR WHITE: Take your time.

MS. CARA: --a full-time working parent so I need the peace of mind that my daughter...my kids are safe. And I'm a student, too, so because of that it's for me so important that you guys please keep supporting this program. So thank you so much.

VICE-CHAIR WHITE: Thank you very much. Allison will be followed by Tyson Saucier.

MS. BORELL: Aloha, County Council Members. Nice to see you. This is my first Budget hearing so I'm excited to be here. I work with the East Maui Watershed Partnership and I do their community outreach and education. Before I ended this, I worked in the field with the West Maui Watershed Partnership and I just want to say that working in the field I know what it's like being camping off and on, working out there every other week. You're away from your family, usually inclement weather, doing hard labor. It's really difficult work, but what keeps you going is the rarity of the beauty of the places that we're in and wanting to share that and keep it for future generations and knowing that we're sustaining a water source for our future and for our County. That keeps you going there, keeps you loving it. I now take that and I try

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to spread that to everyone as much as I can. And part of that is involving the community so they learn about these places, they learn about how our water is collected by these forest, and how it is used by all of us and what the importance is there, and in order to do that we must involve them. And so what we do is we also do classroom presentations into the schools. We also do community events. We have a big native species art show every year that we involve different artists that are local and then it goes up in gallery and showcases native species up for about a month. We also take people into the native forest so that they can actually see what it looks like. A lot of places that people live are non-native or they're disturbed areas and so people need to see that, and so that's another thing that we do. We also have interns so our youth can learn that this is a career path for them and this can be a job. And so today I want to ask you guys for your continued support of the East Maui Watershed Partnership through the County of Maui Department of Water Supply and Water Source Protection Plan. Our future water depends on it and we don't want to be like California. We want to keep our water coming continuously and by protecting it at its source. I do want to end real quick. I didn't have kids come here with me, but I have a couple quotes that I'd like to read to you. One is a third grade student from Lihikai Elementary School. Says, thank you for teaching us about the watershed. Because it was interesting how the water was on the ground and how people got water from the ground, also how water comes from down the mountains. Another one, we have a sixth grader at Kihei Charter School. These are surveys that we do after our presentations and hikes. I also learned that taking care of invasive species before they spread is very important. What is happening is the invasive species are growing and spreading its branches across the canopy which makes it hard for light to reach similar native plants...or smaller native plants, sorry. Students when asked what part of the hike was most valuable, these are responses from Kamehameha High School students --

MS. NAKATA: Three minutes.

MS. BORELL: --actually seeing the difference between a native and non-native forest. Thank you guys for your time. Appreciate everything and for your support. Mahalo.

VICE-CHAIR WHITE: Thank you very much, Allison. And Tyson will be followed by Astrid Watanabe.

MR. SAUCIER: Good evening, Ladies and Gentlemen. My name is Tyson Saucier. I live right up here on this hill. First and foremost in the past year, these two gentlemen, Mike and Don, have been helpful in an endeavor that I've been on for a while fixing the Kalakupua Playground at Giggle Hill. Thanks again for that, and I'm hoping that we can continue on and hopefully this summer we're going to be able to reopen—I don't know. Anyway, my main concern around here...I'm the dad of a six year old and a seven month old right now, and I'm also the Vice-President of the PTA at the Haiku School right now. But we have a couple of crosswalks right here that are very dangerous and once, if not twice a week, there will be a near miss, and I'm just

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dreading the day when it comes that somebody gets hit by a speeding vehicle. Just seen one...I guess we have it in the pipeline right now because it's a State road...State-funded road, we're trying to get some flashing lights up or something to impede the people that are nearly hitting keiki and grandmothers and parents trying to cross the kids from the buses, from the school, from the Boys and Girls Club, and anybody else that gets off the bus and tries to walk there. Anyways, that's not really a County thing. Appreciate you looking into it from time to time. Your helpful assistant has been staying on top of it also. I just want to make sure that we have...we have a working relationship with the money that has been budgeted with the Parks and Recreation system to get this playground back online. I also...I don't know how much you guys have witnessed Lower Pauwela Road right here which fronts in between this parking lot and the satellite trash...I mean HI-5 and whatnot system. Pauwela Road goes up to where it abuts on...forks into Haiku Road just a...it's a small place right up past the school. The sidewalk is horrid. I've lost two tires on the corner down here. It's not really a curb. It's more like shark teeth. And then yesterday my truck is down so I want to go up to the store so, fortunately, I have a jogging stroller and everybody was like oh, you working out, you jogging now. I'm like no, but thank God I had that because there's no way I could push the regular stroller up that sidewalk. It's about a foot and a half wide and it's like crumplestilsky [sic] and this really needs attention and I don't know whether it needs a impact study done.

MS. NAKATA: Three minutes.

MR. SAUCIER: Okay. Or whatnot, but it does need attention while you are working the Kokomo and other Haiku Road, I don't know, when you get around to it, please I appreciate you guys looking into it. Thank you for your time.

VICE-CHAIR WHITE: Thank you very much, Tyson. Astrid Watanabe will be followed by Brendan Welch. Astrid? Oh, there you are. Come on up.

MS. WATANABE: Good evening, Chair and Council Members.

VICE-CHAIR WHITE: Maybe put it down a little bit (*referring to the mic*).

MS. WATANABE: How about like this?

VICE-CHAIR WHITE: That's great.

MS. WATANABE: Okay. My name is Astrid Watanabe and I've been on Maui for 45 years and after retiring from nursing, I have been like maintaining native plant wilderness of Hawaiian plants, a feral cat sanctuary, and sort of a subsistence farming combination. That's what I've been doing since I retired. I don't qualify to call myself a farmer because I don't make any money. I give my things away even though I raise quite a bit. I do like to talk for farmers and that is small farmers that are represented by the Farmers Union. I've met them. I'd like to read a small portion of that United Nations

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Special Report, okay. It says, small scale food producers free to plant and exchange seeds and strong local markets have been recognized as the best way to feed the people and protect the planet. I couldn't say it any better. You can say a lot about that. Small farmers, especially organic farmers even protect from and reduce global warming. So of course, I'm not talking about agribusiness, okay. Now, as far as markets, the farmers markets...I hope you have seen the farmers markets. They are spectacular. There is all kinds of strange vegetables I've never seen before. There's interesting people, there's music, slack key guitar, and somebody plays this little Mongolian harps thing. It's always interesting and you can find anything including like natto miso. People makes things and pickles. It's absolutely a wonderful thing. These local farmers, I mean it just opens things up for me. I just go every week. If I, you know, even if I have enough to eat for my own things, I go there just to get a piece of cheesecake or pickles or anyway this is what I...so don't tax them out of their farms. You know, please consider the benefit, yeah. Thank you.

VICE-CHAIR WHITE: Thank you so much, Astrid. Brendan will be followed by Paula Phillips.

MR. WELCH: Good evening, Council Members. Thank you. You did a great job on my name. . . .(laughter) . . .

VICE-CHAIR WHITE: I do a great job on easy names.

MR. WELCH: I'm here in support of funding for the nonprofit organization Feed My Sheep. I started volunteering with Feed My Sheep about two and a half years ago and I was very impressed with the hard work and dedication that all their employees put into what they had going which I think is a special, special group. Starting right from the top with Joyce Kawakami. She's the CEO and Founder, current board secretary for the group, and she works tirelessly. She tries to provide the highest quality food to the people who need it the most. She attends black tie networking dinners, speaking engagements. She's also out in the pineapple fields picking. She's amazing. She's an amazing person and she does an amazing job. I don't know how she's been able to do it up to this point without help from the County, and I know this is the first year that she's applied for it. I hope you seriously consider it. I know it's hard to work new things into the Budget but this is an important one. She makes sure that anybody in need of assistance is able to get it, not just the homeless, not just the elderly, but hardworking families who are just struggling to get by to put food on the table for their kids, which of course, is important for these kids to be growing up to be happy, healthy adults and for the sustenance of our community. I have the privilege of working side by side with Scott Hopkins on a weekly basis. He's Operations Director of the program. And when I first started there, I was amazed people come through and he knows everyone by name. Two weeks ago we fed 162 families down in Kahului on a Saturday morning. Scott personally greets every one of 'em, talks story with them, shows pictures of his kids, and I came to realize that it wasn't just nameless, faceless people coming through here. It was part of the community. It was friends of

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his. It was family members. And these personal touches that Feed My Sheep feeds these people with allows them to come there with dignity and not to be judged and not to worry about why they're there other than to get food that they need for their family. And I think that's a huge, huge part of what they have going, and I don't think it's measurable in a budget, but I think those are huge factors that should be considered when deciding to fund Feed My Sheep program. The long term effects of this...these people...I don't think a lot of these people would show up to get help if they weren't provided with the dignity and caring that these people show 'em and I think that long term benefits of that are huge savings to the community and the County. Thank you for your time.

VICE-CHAIR WHITE: Thank you very much for your testimony, Brendan. Paula will be followed by Margaret Sneed.

MS. PHILLIPS: Aloha, Council Members. I'm Paula Phillips and I just am here basically because of the sidewalk between here and Haiku Road. I've been e-mailing Mike White for a couple of years and he's like referred me to Ryan up in, you know, Engineering, but it's just getting just worse and worse. And people use this like all the time because there's, I mean, there's students that go on it, grandparents, teachers, people just coming down here tonight. I saw two people jogging on the road and one senior walking up on the road. So I mean it's a widely used sidewalk and some parts of the sidewalk is actually in pieces where you have to go onto the street. You can't even really walk on it at all. So you know, I just really like to see that repaired. I noticed in Paia last year's Budget they had a safe walk to school little thing in the Budget for that so hopefully we can get, you know, something going here. Because especially in Haiku a lot of people use, you know, walking as exercise as they do around the whole County, but in Kahului you have Keopuolani Park, in Makawao they have Eddie Tam. You know, here we don't really have anything and a lot of, you know, the park up in Giggle Hill or even this field out here is usually muddy. So you go walking and you come back with five pounds of weight on each foot because there's like mud on your feet. That way, you know, if it's a little bit rainy or something, you could walk, you know, at least down to the school and back, and you know, I mean, people walk from...I know a lady who's like in her eighties who walks every single day and she listens to her little headset, you know, with NPR, you know, but she comes from like West Kuiaha Road. You know, and even a teacher that comes all the way from there. So just a safe place to walk where, you know, the kids can even coming from the youth center and just for everybody. I think even one of the teachers said there's a grandparent that picks up their kid from school...walks down, picks up their grandchild from school, and he's almost totally blind. So it's hard enough for me who can see to walk on that sidewalk so I just want to see if you can put some money in the Budget to try and help everybody out here. Thank you. Aloha.

VICE-CHAIR WHITE: Thank you very much, Paula. And Margaret will be followed by Betty Lynn Moulton.

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MS. SNEED: Good evening, Council Members. I'm Margaret Sneed, Assistant Program Director at Parents and Children Together. I am asking that you continue supporting PACT in our efforts to stop domestic violence in Maui County. In 2014 there were 4,843 reported cases of abuse of a household member. The youngest victim was four months old and the oldest was ninety. We had two murders in 2014 and two this year. It is critical that we have the funding necessary to provide prevention and intervention for those who find themselves in need of help. Domestic violence can happen to anyone. Frequent exposure to violence in the home not only predisposes children to numerous social and physical problems but also teaches them that violence is a normal way of life, therefore, increasing their risk of becoming society's next generation of victims and abusers. PACT's Family Peace Center last year worked with 372 men and women who either came on their own or were referred to us for domestic violence intervention. We taught them how they could change their relationships both at home and in the community through improved communication skills, positive self-talk, knowledge of the power and control and equality wheel and becoming aware of the effects of their anger and violence on others and how to change their behaviors that are destroying the people in their lives. We support both the perpetrators in their journey to change and the survivors in their struggle to regain their safety, confidence, and belief in themselves. PACT assisted 336 men, women, and children to obtain temporary restraining orders. We advocated for them in court. We gave them counseling and education and help supported them through the tough times that they go through in going through that process. I ask that each of you take a moment and think about someone in your life or maybe someone you know who's going through a difficult relationship. Don't turn the other way because you feel it's none of your business. You can make a difference between someone getting help and someone possibly dying. It's not about placing blame, who's right or wrong, or justifying the abuse. Get involved. Call the police. If you are afraid, at least call Crime Stoppers. Encourage people to get help. We all need help and someone to believe in us and guide us through the difficult things that happen in our lives. We ask that you, the Council, continue to support our Domestic Violence Intervention Programs and together as a community we can stop the intergenerational violence that perpetuates here. Mahalo.

VICE-CHAIR WHITE: Thank you very much, Margaret. Betty Lynn will be followed by Susan Gebb.

MS. MOULTON: Good evening. I just...I want to say I'm a newer resident here. I live in Haiku down almost to Huelo and I've just been so impressed by the openness of the Council to be here and to allow everybody to come and tell you about their programs and the things that are close to their heart. So it's really quite impressive. I particularly wanted to say to MISC how grateful I am for your really good work because I'm on a property that's right next door to a little fire ant invasion and they've been fabulous. So anyway, when I moved here about three years ago, my neighbor, Susan, got me involved and interested in paving Ulalena Loop at the eastern portion of it which is really I'm sure like many roads, but it's got an impressive number of

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potholes and an impressive number of like overgrowth where you can't see what's going on. We are building a home and we just had a truck come down today and it was quite the show. Anyway, I was told that if I could get all the neighbors along this stretch of road to agree to indemnify the County and say that they wanted it, then the County would think about doing it. And we have gotten the majority of neighbors along the road, about 60 percent of the property, interested and wanting to have this paving project happen and it is...it was allocated funds from the six-year Capital program funds for 2016 and 2017. So we're hoping that we're going to be able to get this project on the road, so to speak, this year if possible, using the funds that the...were allocated from the highway fund and just thank you very much for listening.

VICE-CHAIR WHITE: Thank you. Do you know who owns the road?

MS. MOULTON: No. Do you?

VICE-CHAIR WHITE: Not sure. We'll check.

MS. MOULTON: Yeah, I mean, I think that that's potentially part of the problem. Maybe Susan has. . .

VICE-CHAIR WHITE: It's usually part of the problem.

MS. MOULTON: Yeah. Yeah, but I'm...this has apparently gone to the Corporation Counsel and we've not heard anything for like six months what's the situation. My understanding is it's in limbo.

VICE-CHAIR WHITE: It's what?

MS. MOULTON: In limbo.

VICE-CHAIR WHITE: Oh. Yes. The State doesn't want it and the County can't afford it.

MS. MOULTON: But there's money right here.

VICE-CHAIR WHITE: Yeah. We'll check with...on the status with Corp. Counsel.

MS. MOULTON: That's great.

VICE-CHAIR WHITE: Thank you very much.

MS. MOULTON: Thanks so much.

VICE-CHAIR WHITE: Thank you. And Susan will be followed by Maile Kawakami.

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MS. GEBB: My name is Susan Gebb and I'm President of the Community Association down in Hoolawa and I have been for the last 15 years. It is my job to make sure the potholes are filled. Particularly, I raise the funds. It's all private funds. There's miles of roads down there and I spearheaded this 20 years ago. So I've been appearing before the County Council that long making sure Ulalena stayed foremost in your minds because it is an abandoned government road and you have helped us before. So there's a precedent of...we've already over the last 15 years received funding on three different occasions which culminated in about one half of the road being paved, not up to County standards, but up to our standards. So there's another half a mile and that's all. So the allocation that's in the Budget is, you know, more than enough, way more than enough to do this little bit that we're asking for. There are 200 residents in this area now. There are school children, there are nurses, there's permitted bed and breakfast, we have visitors, we have traffic, and we need to bring the neighborhood up to standards so that that fire safety and all those vehicles can attend to the needs of our aging population. But thank you for the help in the past and we hope that we can still receive the remaining help that we need this year in 2016 Budget. Thank you.

VICE-CHAIR WHITE: Thank you very much, Susan. And Maile will be followed by Alfred Boteilho.

MS. KAWAKAMI: Aloha, Maui County Council Budget Chair and Council Members. My name is Maile Kawakami. I'm here in support of funding for the nonprofit organization Feed My Sheep. I'm Joyce Kawakami's daughter and she's the founder of Feed My Sheep. And I'll tell you this, I worked for that organization for a while, it's incredible. I don't say that with partiality because it's our family, like my family started it. I'm saying it because the heart of what they do is in everything that they do. We've had two people testify about it and it's just...food is a basic human need. You know, when someone goes without food, that's a human rights violation. And when I worked there, I've never worked harder in my life. I've...like don't let this fool you. This is...I have to wear this because where I currently work, but when I was working, we have to be rugged. We have to lift. We have absolutely no time to sit because the basic principle is that we have people who are without, people from our own lands, and we have to get that food to them. That is number one. We had...the volunteers they were discussing that our motto is, friends helping friends, and we stick to that. We consider them friends. We consider them equals. And when they come in line in the beginning, you can see they feel shame, you know, because it is shameful for people to feel like they can't provide for their own families. But when they come and they're treated with respect and they receive the things that they need, it's just you watch like a two-ton weight come off of their shoulders. It is absolutely incredible, I mean what we do, and I don't say that with pride, I say that humbly because in order to do that we need funding. I wish that we didn't need funding. I wish food was just something that dropped from heaven and we could just give it out to people, but in order to reach people we need to be able to have the resources to do that. You know, it's funny because over on Maui we have some of the world's finest resorts. We got Kim

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Kardashian walking around the Shops of Wailea, but five miles down the street we've got families who are going without. And I tell you, I've seen kids who are hungry. When you see hunger, you recognize it, and this isn't a foreign country. This is where we live. This is our community. And so I just wanted to say that and just thank you guys for listening. You know, thank you for your hearts in this and we would really, really appreciate any kind of amount involvement we could get, and we approach you with respect and we thank you very much.

VICE-CHAIR WHITE: Thank you very much, Maile. And Alfred will be followed by Kathy Kaohu.

MR. BOTEILHO: Good evening, Council Members, Chair White. My name is Alfred Flako Boteilho, Jr. and I represent Heritage Hall that some year will be finished in Paia. I was raised in Paia so I have some good ideas about it. You know, we gotta come to the County and we gotta go to the State and then we gotta come to the County, then we gotta go to the State, and then we gotta come back to the County again. And what we're trying to do is...these are many budgets and many reasons it has been cut is the engineers, the architects move the pole three feet, add an extra fire hydrant because one doesn't have enough water, et cetera, et cetera, et cetera. It multiplies and I've been in construction since 1971, you would think I'd know all these things, but I don't. And I need to tell you guys, you know, the Maui County Council is probably, no, absolutely the best in the State as far as taking care of its citizens. There's no question about it. You guys have tried so hard, you know, that sometimes you rub two pennies together and it doesn't become a dime. It gets harder. It gets harder. Roads needs repairs. You gotta feed people. But the Hall, what it does is, you build something that's not a monument to us. The Heritage Hall is a group, you know, Puerto Ricans and Portuguese, together so that we don't have to build two halls. . . .(laughter) . . .

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: That's smart.

MR. BOTEILHO: So that's saving money. And then what do we do—we bought the land. How's that? You guys don't have to pay for the land. So we've tried on our own to do the best we can. I realize we gotta send...if we were to raise the funds ourselves, we're about 836 million malasadas short. . . .(laughter) . . . So you understand, the building will be there for years, it's architecturally designed, it's beautiful. It will be solar powered. We'll have parking spaces. We'll have plants. We'll have hula children dancing. We'll maybe even have Feed My Sheep there feeding people. We can see the children come and learning of their heritage, and not only their heritage, but the heritage of living on Maui when they first came here. That's a whole story that has not been told and a lot of us are disappearing that can say that story. And I also appreciate all the monies you guys have given us because without you guys we wouldn't even be where we are. So we got pipes in the ground, we got dirt moved, and we're close to starting on the structures, and I'd hate like hell to build one and three quarters of a structure and have people go back and forth, and I really don't want to

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come back here again. But you know, we really need this money to do it, and to say we're close, I don't know. God hasn't been...well, God has been good to us, but. . .

MS. NAKATA: Three minutes.

MR. BOTEILHO: Oh, thank you. But thank you guys very much for all you gonna do and I thank you in advance because I know you guys know we need it in Paia. It only serves the community. The Heritage Hall members, both the Puerto Ricans and us Portuguese, are not getting rich on this...will not make any money. None of us will even get a Cadillac. We should have bought the Kula place up there the gym. It would have been a lot easier but I didn't know it was for sale. But anyway, thank you guys and we appreciate it all. Thank you.

VICE-CHAIR WHITE: Thank you. And Kathy will be followed by Alex Haller.

MS. KAOHU: Hi. Aloha, my name is Kathy Kaohu and I decided about an hour ago to come and testify. I speak tonight as a resident and a voter of Maui County and I am a supporter and advocate for the preservation of Maui's open spaces. At this point in time, I had hoped somebody else would be talking about this, but nothing but chatter here and there has occurred so that's why I'm stepping out of my comfort zone and testifying tonight. The property owner...the property owner of 1,200 acres from Maliko all the way to Oili Road has been working for several years to prep the makai lands, approximately 1,200 acres, from Maliko to Oili Road for the open market. Pineapple closed shop about the same time. The County process of consolidation and resubdivision allows for very little public attention until most times the houses are going up. By then it's too late to do anything. There is opportunity today to get in on the ground level...sort of because the subdivision entitlements have already increased the value as a result of it going through completion. There are three sections...three areas that are sectioned out by different land features consisting of approximately 300 acres each. There's the Maliko to Kuiaha section and that ends to the right of the lighthouse right across the street here; and the Kuiaha Bay to the Jaws Park, also known as the Konanui Gulch; and from Konanui Gulch east to Oili Road. As recent as January of this year, 309 acres was granted the SMA approval for the Maliko to the Kuiaha area for utility, drainage, and roadway improvements. This 309 acres consist of 14 lots ranging from 6 to 57 acres. The public will receive a conservation shoreline easement comprising 29 acres along the coast with 3 pedestrian shoreline access points throughout. Maliko is the point where the Hamakuapoko District ends and Hamakualoa begins. Kuiaha Bay is the first and last accessible bay and publicly used bay from Maliko to Honamanu in the District of Koolau which is that a way—east. The next section comprises of approximately three acres from Kuiaha Bay to the Jaws Park and that is the area I'd like you to guide your attention to. About seven years ago I was recruited by the late Representative Mele Carroll who was in the process of forming an informal organization for the purpose of working towards the preservation of these 300 acres. Mele frequented this area before she got sick to ride horse and spend a lot of time out here.

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MS. NAKATA: Three minutes.

MS. KAOHU: Okay. This area was also a part of the original vision of the late Patsy Mink for the North Shore Heritage Corridor. This is a great opportunity for a legacy land project undeveloped in perpetuity. It's an iconic landmark throughout the world with the Peahi, also known as Jaws surf break, fronting this area. There are cultural sites, one in particular, Walker Site 60, a three-terraced heiau mentioned in Sites of Maui...gonna go fast here, and this whole stretch is the inbound/outbound flight path for our mainland visitors. It has breathtaking views and serves as habitat to endangered nene and monk seal. Over the past seven years that I've spent time working out here with Mele on this project I've observed an interesting co-existence with folks that frequent the area from walkers, bicyclists, joggers, motor bikers, dog walkers, horseback riding, passive spectators --

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Give her more time.

MS. NAKATA: Four minutes.

MS. KAOHU: What?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Keep going.

MS. KAOHU: Can I have your time?

VICE-CHAIR WHITE: You have a lot of access to us and so --

MS. KAOHU: I know.

VICE-CHAIR WHITE: --but we've kept everyone else to three. You've had four minutes.

MS. KAOHU: Okay. I can give you my --

VICE-CHAIR WHITE: And I appreciate --

MS. KAOHU: --the rest of it.

VICE-CHAIR WHITE: --the sentiment but I'm gonna try to be fair to everybody.

MS. KAOHU: Okay. No, I understand. Okay, and I'll submit --

VICE-CHAIR WHITE: I do have --

MS. KAOHU: --this in writing.

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VICE-CHAIR WHITE: I do have a question for you. If you would please submit to us a map of the areas that you're talking about and --

MS. KAOHU: I will.

VICE-CHAIR WHITE: --how they relate to the other 1,200.

MS. KAOHU: Okay. I will do that and it's in the magazines.

VICE-CHAIR WHITE: Okay. Thank you very much, Kathy.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Mr. Chair?

VICE-CHAIR WHITE: Mr. Couch.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Yeah, thank you. What...do you know how much they're asking for that?

MS. KAOHU: For this section out here, it's broken down into five lots, and it's a little bit under...I think it's around nine million. But there's...they're individually subdivided already.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: So all this was ag subdivision then? It wasn't. . .

MS. KAOHU: It was a consolidation resubdivision and it's all ag land...ag zoned land.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: And they still have to go through SMA though, right?

MS. KAOHU: Yeah, this...that section was fully..was planned for all the improvements to be put in for the subdivision. This section will be just roads and then you're responsible for everything else. And then the Oili Road section is going to be the least developed with...as far as infrastructure goes.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Okay. Thank you.

MS. KAOHU: Okay.

VICE-CHAIR WHITE: Any other questions, Members? Thank you very much. And Alex will be followed by Deborah Coleman.

MR. HALLER: Good evening, Chair, County Council, members of the public. My name is Alex Haller.

VICE-CHAIR WHITE: Alex, if it's more comfortable for you, go ahead and pull the microphone out so you don't have to...there you go.

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MR. HALLER: My name is Alex Haller and I'm born and raised in Haiku on East Kuiaha. I'm here tonight to express my support for the County Council to work in their best capacity to restore full service to Molokai on the Molokai Princess. I know in the newspaper there was talk of a \$500,000 budget amendment, but I don't know if adding that money to the Molokai Princess will solve the problem in the long term. They're at...I think the paper stated that average...the average trip was 25 people yet they have capacity for 149 so their capacity is at 16 percent. So we need a solid long term solution rather than just keep dumping money into a ride that is just not efficient right now. I'm also in support of the County appropriating \$20,000 to hire Professor Larry Gorman. He has a Ph.D. in Finance. I believe it would be one of the best investments for the County. So he could help teach our representatives theories of Finance such as "Time Value of Money", discount rates, discounted cash flow analysis, and idiosyncratic risk. As our elected representatives decide the path for Maui Electric Company, it's gonna be absolutely critical that they understand theories of finance because the transition from a private utility to a public utility will have a ton of discounted cash flow analysis calculations. And it's absolutely essential that everyone has access to those documents, understand what they're saying, and that would help them make the best possible solution for our residents. And also for future meetings if you could have a microphone that's a little easier for me to access. I know that the Council Chair has an outstanding microphone, and you know, something that's a little friendly for the user would, you know, would make me feel comfortable in front of you guys. I don't like holding a microphone to my face when everyone else can just speak into it.

VICE-CHAIR WHITE: I'm holding mine to my face.

MR. HALLER: . . .*(chuckles)*. . . But you're the Council Chair and I'm a resident of Haiku. So that's it. Thank you for coming here and I hope you have a good night.

VICE-CHAIR WHITE: Thank you very much, Alex. And Deborah will be followed by the last person to sign up, Nikhilananda.

MS. COLEMAN: Okay, I think I can do this. . . .*(adjusting microphone)*. . . I don't know how sure, but anyway I came to speak about MEO. I mean its 50 years old so its longevity kind of speaks to the fact that it's valuable to the community. Specifically, transportation and I like working Upcountry, I like living Upcountry. I don't have a vehicle so without MEO I wouldn't be working. Okay, that's one. But the reason I am specifically here is that when I handed in my information which is when you need to go to work and when you need to come home, it went in, and then it came back. And it said, Deborah, we take you to work and eight hours later we come back and pick you up. You're going to Haliimaile, you're going to Haiku, you're going to Makawao. We can't do this. And so I go back and we go back and forth like four or five times and we actually ended up with Debbie. Okay, so scheduler, dispatchers, drivers, supervisors, and Debbie—we're going back and forth. Now what was so impressive to

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me was that there were a couple of people—I don't know who they are—in the office who kept going back and forth. They had the patience, they had the resiliency, and they had the endurance to keep trying to figure out how they could keep me in this in-home job. In-home care, most of my clients are Department of Aging. I go in one to three hours—one client. Go to the next client—usually three or four a day. Okay. So there were people who said we can't do this. This is not how the program is written but there was a couple of people who kept going back and forth and that's real important. I think I'd like to emphasize that those people have what we call expanded compassion and by that I mean science has proven that when we give without expecting anything in return—authentically give without expecting anything in return—we expand our compassion, and with that comes more patience, more resiliency, more tolerance. Okay, so we have the ability to do creative problem solving. So there was a couple of people in there who had that ability and I'm not sure that everybody understands what's happening when those people are going back and forth in creative problem solving. And so what I would like you to understand is that is your positive PR in the community because I'm happy.

VICE-CHAIR WHITE: Could you stand in front of the microphone?

MS. COLEMAN: I'm sorry.

VICE-CHAIR WHITE: I'm sorry.

MS. COLEMAN: I'm happy.

VICE-CHAIR WHITE: This is all being recorded so. . .

MS. COLEMAN: Okay. I'm happy. If I'm happy, I'm gonna tell other people I'm happy. Okay. So those people are the people who attract your funding. Okay, because when I say God they did all of this to try to keep me at work—and I mean I've been talking to 'em for three years so they know who I am—okay, but there still were people there who were saying it couldn't be done. So what they did was --

MS. NAKATA: Three minutes.

MS. COLEMAN: --they combined three programs...they combined three programs, okay, so they didn't go outside of policy boundaries, right. They didn't do something that wasn't policy appropriate but they came up with a solution and I would like those people to be—I don't know who they are—I would like those people to be recognized in agencies and I also would like them to be supported in agencies. Okay. Thank you.

VICE-CHAIR WHITE: Thank you very much.

MS. COLEMAN: You're welcome.

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VICE-CHAIR WHITE: So if there's anyone here who would like to testify this evening that has not signed up, please do so now, and our last testifier for the evening is Nikhilananda.

MR. NIKHILANANDA: Following up on what Alex said, don't start the time until I get this set up. It's not fair. Thank you. . . .*(adjusting microphone)*. . . Good evening, Members of the Budget and Finance Committee. My name is Nikhilananda. I'm a 17-year property owner in Huelo and a 29-year resident of Maui County. It was nice to hear about Ulalena Loop mentioned. That's the road that I lived on, too, and both of those ladies do live in Huelo. This is not an exhaustive list but I'm going to start going and we'll see how far we can get. First I want to see you guys revisit the property tax rates based on value of the property. Establish a tier system, more expensive, a higher rate; less expensive, a lower rate. Additional funding and expansion for the currently one person Maui County Department of Agriculture. Funding in support for the Hawaii Farmers Union United, a regenerative farming and sustainability nonprofit organization which meets right here every fourth Tuesday of the month—hearing other people mention it. Funding a a houseless/affordable housing czar or assistant in the Mayor's Office. Continued support and funding for the Fourth Marine Park Kalakupua Playground here in Haiku. Continued funding to allow remote testimony from outlying...outlying areas of the County. Funding to research and establish separate Maui County Council Electoral Districts. It's way overdue. Funding to research change in the current Maui County political system to a commission manager form of government. The Maui Bus continued and expanded funding. Open County park restrooms at night. This is unacceptable that they are locked up and it happened to me last night when I came here and the bathroom was locked. I won't tell you where I went. Open the gates keeping people out of County parks after dark. Funding for making all County road signs in both English and Hawaiian. Review beach access and provide where it has been blocked by development and open it up. At this point, I want to thank Kathy for her testimony. We've been talking for years how this is going to get developed and it's sad when you think of what's going to happen there in a few years. Additional and expanded County parking lot facilities in Paia, Wailea, and other locations lacking adequate parking. Institute curbside recycling. We don't need a pilot project. The drop boxes don't work. Do not fund the Mayor's ill-advised planned Anaergia waste to energy program. That's nineteenth century technology—just a joke. Develop and funding for material reclamation facilities and sites. We throw so much usable stuff into the landfill. Reallocate \$3 million that's wasted on the Maui Visitors Bureau and put that money where it's needed—in the Parks Department for equestrian, bicycle, and pedestrian trails. Acquiring via eminent domain all County water sources in both East and West Maui. Allow citizens to obtain water meters and have catchment systems—and I know Gladys knows about this. Adequate funding for road and highway maintenance using non-toxic organic weed spraying, rather than utilizing poisonous herbicides and pesticides. While we're at it --

MS. NAKATA: Three minutes.

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MR. NIKHILANANDA: --support an adequate funding for defending the successful citizens initiative in the legal challenge by a multi-national chemical company. Demand that the State Department of Transportation move up its current fiscal year 2022 for the start of Paia bypass. Congratulations on finally funding the improvements on Hansen Road and I'd be remiss if I didn't thank...continued funding for MISC, Humane Society, the farmers markets grow some good, and of course, I'd be remiss if I didn't say for the 23rd year, please fund and build a couple of tennis courts up at the Fourth Marine Park. The Mayor and two of you that are sitting there told me in private, he says he won't build it 'cause it rains and it's hardly rained since January 1st. Please at least one, if not two. There was a wonderful article in the paper about youth playing tennis and the kids here have lost that opportunity.

MS. NAKATA: Four minutes.

MR. NIKHILANANDA: By the time they're built I'll be use...I'll be playing wheelchair tennis. Thank you very much.

VICE-CHAIR WHITE: Thank you. If you'd like to turn that list in to. . .

MR. NIKHILANANDA: Look, I was gonna go to the microphone to listen to you.

VICE-CHAIR WHITE: If you'd like to give your list to the Staff, we'd be happy to make copies for the rest of the Members.

MR. NIKHILANANDA: I have one copy I made just for you guys.

VICE-CHAIR WHITE: Okay. Thank you. And our last testifier is Rosemary Duey.

MS. DUEY: Good evening, Mr. Chairman and Council Members.

VICE-CHAIR WHITE: Aloha.

MS. DUEY: John and I just returned last night, and as you know, we weren't there Wednesday when you passed the resolution. Thank you so much. John isn't well. He is ill this evening. So I decided I would come up here, not only to hear about MEO and our youths testifying, but also to thank you for...on behalf of him for passing the resolution on Wailuku River. Thank you very much. Throw away that hat as the wife of John Duey. The second thing would be about our MEO Youth Services Program. As you know, I am the Director and I thank you again for all the funding you have provided MEO's Youth Services. It is not just an afterschool program, nor is it just an in-between school activity program. Our staff go into the classrooms and work with the teachers and the youth on prevention—underage drinking, suicide prevention, and cyber bullying. So the funds that you give us is for instruction within the classroom. Thank you for that and we look for your continued support. Throw away that hat. MISC—I love MISC. They're the warriors. They're the nakoa of this island. The Nakoa

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O Ka Aina is what I call Teya and her group. That group when they arrive at your place—you got coqui frogs, you got ants, you got whatever, you got invasive trees—they arrive as an army. When they get out of their vehicles, they strap on their belts. They have their chainsaws, they have their small little pruners, they have their spray cans. They're fully equipped. I've never seen any other organization like that. I am so thankful we have them. Our little granddaughter...great-granddaughter got bitten and the doctor thought it was a fire ant. She had to have a shot and I'm thankful...her foot swelled. We understand the Waihee side does have some fire ants and you wouldn't want your two-month old granddaughter laying there in her crib get bitten by an ant that you didn't know was there. So help us get rid of it using MISC. Thank you very much and thank you again for John and the help you gave him. Good night.

VICE-CHAIR WHITE: Thank you very much, Rose. Is there anyone else here this evening that would like to provide testimony? If so, please come on up.

MS. UWEKOOLANI: I didn't sign in though.

VICE-CHAIR WHITE: That's alright. You can provide your testimony then fill out the paper afterwards.

MS. UWEKOOLANI: Good evening. My name is Betty Jane Uwekoolani, known by a lot as BJ. I would like to on behalf of the Maui Puerto Rican Association, along with the Portuguese Association about Heritage Hall, I would like to say thank you to all of you for helping get us to where we are today and what we're asking for is to help us finish what we've started. Through no fault of Heritage Hall, there has been come changes that had come to the forefront—unforeseen changes—that the Fire Department and the permits and rebidding and so that had set back us, you know, about another \$900,000. And so we're here to ask that you would continue, you know, with your support and help. You know, with your support you're giving us the strength to pull through this and I know we can. We can do this and with the help of, you know, all of you—greatly appreciated. We appreciate all what you've already done and we pray and hope that you will continue to see the final finish that has been in the thinking stages for over 13 years. And when you have things, the planning, and you know, those developers, the construction workers, and all of that, you know, the developers, when you put in your bid, they're not going to hold you over. You know, it's like for what? Ninety days? And then it's open 13 months. You know, material prices go up, cost, everything, labor, everything goes up, and these are all costs that we did not anticipate that was gonna come to us that quickly. So with your help we can get this project finished. We've already started and I am so happy when I go there and I'm even more happy because the founders of the association, when we did the groundbreaking, they were there to witness the groundbreaking after 13 years of fighting to get to where we are. So on behalf of the Maui Puerto Rican Association and the Portuguese Association, I would like to say thank you, all of you. And thank you for giving me this time. So I guess I gotta go over there now?

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VICE-CHAIR WHITE: Just put your name on the paper.

MS. UWEKOOLANI: I guess I went out with a bang.

VICE-CHAIR WHITE: Yes.

MS. UWEKOOLANI: Okay.

VICE-CHAIR WHITE: Thank you for picking that up. Is there anyone else who would like to testify this evening?

MR. SAUCIER: Can we give Kathy another three minutes so she can finish her speech?

VICE-CHAIR WHITE: No, unfortunately. She sees us every day. She can bend our ear anytime she likes.

. . . END OF PUBLIC TESTIMONY. . .

VICE-CHAIR WHITE: So thank you all very much for being here this evening and with that we will adjourn. Aloha. . . *(gavel)*. . .

ACTION: DEFER pending further discussion. (Exc. RH, SC, MPV)

ADJOURN: 8:04 p.m.

APPROVED:



RIKI HOKAMA, Chair
Budget and Finance Committee

bf:min:150409-Makawa-Haiku-Paia:cb

Transcribed by: Clarita Balala