

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

Council of the County of Maui

MINUTES

April 15, 2015

Lahaina Civic Center, Social Hall

CONVENE: 6:02 p.m.

PRESENT: Councilmember Riki Hokama, Chair
Councilmember Mike White, Vice-Chair
Councilmember Gladys C. Baisa, Member
Councilmember Robert Carroll, Member
Councilmember Elle Cochran, Member
Councilmember Don Couch, Member
Councilmember Stacy Crivello, Member
Councilmember Don S. Guzman, Member
Councilmember Michael P. Victorino, Member

STAFF: Kimberley Willenbrink, Legislative Analyst
Tammy M. Frias, Committee Secretary

Troy Hashimoto, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Mike White
Arthur Suyama, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Stacy Crivello
Sarah D. Pajimola, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Elle Cochran

OTHERS: Breana Higgs
Keola Keanini
Alicia Frank
William Kealoha-Kaauwai
Danae Marin, Director, Boys and Girls Club of Maui - Lahaina
Kimberly Garcilazo, Secretary, Best Buddies
Lani Cabanilla
Ransom Watanabe, Student, Hui Malama Learning Center
Jared Gifford, Student, Hui Malama Learning Center
Jace Luna, Student, Hui Malama Learning Center
Tamara Paltin
Peggy O. Robertson
Michele Ma`alea, Site Director, Ka Hale A Ke Ola Homeless Resource Center
Ana Garcia
Hildie Schap-Gil (translator for Ana Garcia)
May Fujiwara, President, Lahaina-Honolua Senior Citizens Club
Anita Yamafuji
Don Gerbig
Jill Holley, Director, National Kidney Foundation of Hawaii
Gregg Nelson, General Manager, Napili Kai Beach Resort
James Fahnestock, Co-President, Rotary Club of Lahaina Sunset
Kim Ball
Kainoa Casco, Board Co-President, Malama Maui Nui/Community Work Day

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Nancy Young, Teacher, Lahainaluna High School
Bruce Forrester
Susan Forrester
Steve Horn
Hans Michel
Mark Alexander, Operations Manager, Ka Hale A Ke Ola Homeless Resource
Center
Brett McKay
Paul Laub
Kathy-Jo Sandoval
Kevin Lewis
Jim Johnson, General Manager, Royal Kahana Resort
Shelley Blackburn, Chief Operating Officer, Ka Hale A Ke Ola Homeless
Resource Center
Sara Foley
Norm Bezane
Flaviana Ancheta, Maui Regional Science Olympiad Director and Science
Teacher, Lahaina Intermediate School
Joshua Ancheta
Louise Rockett
Lou Ann Andrade
Bruce Henness
Raymond Sievers
Patrick Kelly, Vice President, Royal Kahana AOA
Paul Brown, Kapalua Resort Association; West Maui Taxpayers Association
Shaugn Guthrie, Managing Partner, BCC Tech Maui
Frank Emanuel
Gina Broadway
Linda Salmon
Saman Dias, Chair, Maui Bicycle League
Tom Oxley
Nell Woods
Steve Ashfield
Jeff Brockman, Manager, Pohailani Maui
Carmen Karady
Butch Soares, Chair, Fire and Public Safety Commission
Theo Morrison, Executive Director, Lahaina Restoration Foundation
Luz Myriam Tuttle
Mike McAfee
Beatriz Cruz
Luz Myriam Tuttle (translator for Beatriz Cruz)
Laurie S. Lowson, Realtor, President, AOA Pohailani Maui Condominiums
Lars Johnson
Joseph Pluta
Lee Chamberlain

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John Duey
James Buika, Planner, Department of Planning
Agnes Groff
Additional attendees (20+)

**ITEM BF-1: PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2016 BUDGET FOR THE COUNTY
OF MAUI (CC 15-41, CC 15-103)**

CHAIR HOKAMA: . . .*(gavel)*. . . The Council's Committee on Budget and Finance shall come to order. Good evening, Lahaina. We are your County Council Budget and Finance Committee. We are here to take your testimony this evening on the proposal for the 2016 Budget as presented by Mayor Arakawa.

We will take testimony this evening. You have three minutes to share your thoughts with us. We also accept written testimony if you have additional comments that you wish to share that is not within your three-minute limitation on oral testimony this evening. Our Staff will assist you with your time. They will allow, let you know when you have 30 seconds left and they will let you know when your time is up. I would ask that you please respect that. There's a lot of people that would like to share their thoughts with the Committee this evening.

Secondly, I would ask that you, as a courtesy, all of your handheld noisemaking devices shall be either off or on vibrate/silent mode because this Chair has no problem maintaining the decorum to receive your testimony. So if you're being disruptive, you will be escorted out of this room. Okay, that's the rules for this evening.

We will start with our youth since we are very cognizant of time, it's a school day. And so we are going to start with Breana Higgs--

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Chair, you want me to introduce the Members?

CHAIR HOKAMA: Oh, excuse me. . .I apologize. It's a long day for your Chair. At this time, I'd like to introduce your own district Member, Elle Cochran, and she'll introduce the Members of the Committee. Ms. Cochran.

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Thank you, Budget Chair Riki Hokama. Let's start at my far left, and we have Councilmember Bob Carroll from East Maui.

AUDIENCE: . . .*(applause)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: And next we have from Wailuku, Waihee, and the Kahakuloa area, Waikapu, Councilmember Michael Victorino.

AUDIENCE: . . .*(applause)*. . .

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COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: And from Upcountry area, we have Councilmember Gladys Baisa.

AUDIENCE: . . .*(applause)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: And from the Friendly Isle of Molokai, Councilmember Stacy Crivello.

AUDIENCE: . . .*(applause)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: From South Maui, Councilmember Don Couch.

AUDIENCE: . . .*(applause)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: And Budget Chair from Lanai, Riki Hokama.

AUDIENCE: . . .*(applause)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: And Chair of the Council from Makawao, Paia, Haiku area, Councilmember Mike White.

AUDIENCE: . . .*(applause)*. . .

VICE-CHAIR WHITE: Aloha.

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: And of course, myself, Elle Cochran. . . .*(chuckle)*. . .

AUDIENCE: . . .*(applause)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: And to my right we have from the Kahului area, Councilmember Don Guzman.

AUDIENCE: . . .*(applause)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER GUZMAN: Aloha.

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Aloha. And Staff members, we have Kim Willenbrink doing the timing and Tammy Frias; we have Troy Hashimoto from Councilmember White's office and Arthur Suyama from Councilmember Crivello's office.

AUDIENCE: . . .*(applause)*. . .

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COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: And last but not least, from my very own office, we have Sarah Pajimola, she's sitting against the glass wall with the black outfit, waving to you now. But anyways. . .alrighty, thank you, Chair, for that, allowing me that time.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay, thank you. We'll start. Our first person this evening is Breana Higgs.

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Chair, real. . .can I. . .sorry. . .

CHAIR HOKAMA: Sure.

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: . . .real quick before we go, before we carry on, I just want to thank the seniors, Agnes Groff, and everyone here, the MEO, the pink people for providing the food and, and the libations for us all. Thank you very much for your assistance.

AUDIENCE: . . .*(applause)*. . .

CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay, please come forward. And following Breana Higgs will be Keola Keanini. Okay, so please, yeah. . .yeah, adjust it, okay, and state your name and share your thoughts with us.

. . .BEGIN PUBLIC TESTIMONY. . .

MISS HIGGS: Aloha. Good morning, everybody.

COUNCILMEMBERS: Hold on, it's not on.

MISS HIGGS: Aloha. Good morning, everybody. My name is Breana Higgs and today I'll be giving you a very important speech about how much I care about this special place also known as Boys and Girls Club. When I was younger, I grew up with a larger amount of money, and one day my dad came home from work and gave us the news that we were moving to Maui in a short amount of time, I would say around that time three months. In my small, small town in California we had a babysitting business down the road that charged \$7 an hour, and I was only about 10 at that time. So, I didn't really know the cost of things like that and how much it could build up. After two months that felt like forever, my mom decided that I needed to start school. That week my dad also started work, working, which meant I needed a place to go after school. He took me to a place called Boys and Girls Club. That one day I walked through the doors I knew I had everything I needed right there: a pool table, a foosball table, a ping-pong table, a couch, a snack bar, a computer lab, and a nice homework place outside. Boys and Girls Club West Maui has a lot of activities that are educational and non-educational. Some of them are art contests, pool tournaments, and field trips to fun destinations, surf club and power hour. Just close your eyes and think of what it would be like to not have Boys and Girls Club in West Maui. Children

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will be not doing as well in school, students who would not be as creative, team players would not be doing as well in sports--all of this which helps us to do better in life and succeed in many things that you not only have to believe to accomplish, but you have to work for. Because we all know nothing worth having comes easy, life success is worth having. That is why we have Boys and Girls Club. I believe by now you know what I mean by this program means a whole lot to me. I am bummed that I will not be going to Boys and Club as often because I started my sport paddling again. I will be sticking around because after writing this speech I listened to my heart and remembered how much Boys and Girls Club means to me. It was hard writing this speech because I couldn't think of the best reasons why I love Boys and Girls Club West Maui. This speech took about two and a half days to write, edit, and write my final. This is just another example of how the club has helped me. I didn't expect to get the chance to do this, and I am grateful for every opportunity the club has given me. Thank you for supporting my club.

AUDIENCE: . . .*(applause)*. . .

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you. Keola Keanini, followed by Alicia Frank. . . .Keola.

MS. WILLENBRINK: Test.

MISS KEANINI: Good evening, Maui County Councilmembers. My name is Keola Keanini. I've only been at the club for a few months, but after these few months I've learned a lot. I learned that family is just not in the house you live in but wherever you make it, and my family is at the Boys and Girls Club. The staff really care for you and what you do. They want to lead you to the right path for your future. I, myself, feel very comfortable doing all my homework and projects at the Club without any distractions. To be more specific, they try to help me with my homework. Even though I'm new, I already got Youth of the Week. And by winning Youth of the Week, I now want to push myself to become Youth of the Year--not only to be a, not only to be a good role model, but to see how far I can go. Before I came to the club I did not believe I could push myself to become something great. But after winning Youth of the Week, I now believe I can do a lot more. As I grow up, I want to work with children. My main focus is second grade to preschool. . .I mean, excuse me, preschool to second grade. And by being in the club I strongly believe I have, I have a high opportunity to do so. As I participate in the Club activities, I connect with children and study their actions and then react back but in a positive way. At the Club I can be myself and not hide who I want to be. I'm accepted for who I am. And who am I? I am loud, funny, crazy, nice and sweet, maybe a dash of awesomeness. By being at the club I'm able to be all six of these things. I notice I'm not the only loud, crazy one there. There's about three others. And I'm not the only funny one there. Almost everyone is like that. So no matter what I am, I'm accepted for who I am. A few days ago someone asked me, what does the Boy, Boys and Girls Club mean to you? Well, this is what it means to me. A place where you can grow, expand, explore who you really are and what you want to

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be; a place where you learn about yourself and others; a place where love, care, and family is. This is my answer. What is yours? Thank you.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you.

AUDIENCE: . . .*(applause)*. . .

CHAIR HOKAMA: Alicia Frank, followed by William Kealoha-Kaauwai.

MISS FRANK: Good evening, fellow Councilmembers. I am Alicia Rose Frank. I've been at the Boys and Girls Club for three years now. The Boys and Girls Club has been a second home to me. Sometimes I go through hard things at home, but every time I go to the Boys and Girls Club all the stress goes away. The staff makes sure my home, makes sure my homework is done before I go to my cheerleading practice. They know I'm fully committed to my sport, so they understand when I need to go. I usually go to the Boys and Girls Club everyday so I know what is going on. The staff try to keep, keep the . . .everything in order and they do a pretty good job. The Boys and Club is a positive place for kids. I recommend my friends and family, and in the future I'm going to bring my children to the Boys and Girls Club. Thank you.

AUDIENCE: . . .*(applause)*. . .

CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay, William. Following him will be Danae Marin.

MR. KEALOHA-KAAUWAI: Hi. So good evening, Maui County Councilmembers and aloha.

ALL: Aloha.

MR. KEALOHA-KAAUWAI: It is a privilege to come and open up and share my true feelings about the West Maui Boys and Girls Club to you guys. So let's start everything off. Hello, my name is William Kealoha-Kaauwai. You may not know me, heard of me or seen me around, but after this presentation I hope to be remembered in the hearts of many. So before I start, I have a question for you guys. How many of you have been a member or been to a Boys and Girls Club at an age like me? Alright, good. Have you noticed that special bond and connection with yourself and the staff? Have you been stuck in a situation but had help from a club staff to get you out of it? If so, West Maui Boys and Girls Club provides these things, they provide that special connection, and it is an endless bond that cannot be broken throughout your years at the Boys and Girls Club. You see, the Club is a second home to most. I've been a member for six years. I've seen fellow members come and go. They leave a little bit of them, they leave but a little bit of them remains with us as a family and never forgotten. Trust, honesty, responsibility, and respect is the few things taught amongst us in the Club. These four factors have made a big difference in my life and changed it for the better. It was a bumpy road, but by practicing these four things daily and help from my staff members, it has led me to become keystone president. I've only been president for two

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months now, and this is the biggest thing I've done and contributed to my fellow club members so far. So thanks for listening to my story and God bless you all.

AUDIENCE: . . .(applause). . .

CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay. Danae Marin, followed by Kimberly Garcilazo.

MS. MARIN: Aloha and good evening.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Good evening.

MS. MARIN: I'm here and, you know, I've been fortunate enough to be able to speak with many of you and most of you in the past six years that I've been a part of the Boys and Girls Clubs of Maui organization. My name is Danae Marin and I am the Director of the Lahaina Boys and Girls Club. Honestly, what the youth have shared with you tonight is just a small sample of the return on your investment that you've made for us here in West Maui. When I look at the four that got to speak--we've also submitted papers for another six or so that weren't able to be here tonight due to extra-curricular activities--these youth do so much and they contribute a lot to their community. The words that they shared with you came straight from their heart and, and from their soul, and it's a very inspiring and wonderful thing to be a part of. So thank you all for being able to do that. Some of the things that we have accomplished. Our average daily attendance has gone up, and we are averaging about 85 to 90 youth a day all year round. During the break, this winter break, we've had more kids than what I've seen in the past six years come for those three weeks of winter than we've had, you know. Also we have partnerships. We work with Hui O Wa'a Kalaua--our youth do this. They partner with MEO, they partner with Hawaii Meth Project. All of the things that are in our club that are contributed have to do with the amount of work that my team and these kids put in, and it takes a lot. Some of the, the other numbers that I can just give you an example. . .we feed 85 to 95 kids that come every week, every day and we go through about 2,000 meals, and that's for about six months now and this is something that we track. And this is at no cost to them or their families. That's very important. When you hear about the programs that they love, they love cooking, they love to eat, it's important. . .health and nutrition is important. We have partnerships with local farmers and teaching them healthy habits and, and there's all these wonderful things, I can go on and on. Of course, we don't have time for all of that. But it's really important for me to stress that I cannot do this work without your support and the support of my wonderful team, and they would love to be here as well. And we extend an open invitation anytime to come in and speak with us. We have great leaders here, the keystone and the torch club leaders, these are community service project clubs. They're here representing their fellow youth that come--

MS. WILLENBRINK: Thirty seconds.

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MS. MARIN: --and that was what they had in their hearts to share with you folks. So, again, it's really important for us to come together as a community and continue to support this great cause because these are our future leaders as you know and they're willing and ready, and I would love to be able to introduce them to you guys even further. Some of the questions I have to ask of, on their behalf, they would like to know what you folks do in your positions, how do you get to your positions. They're starting now at the age of nine years old--

MS. WILLENBRINK: Three minutes.

MS. MARIN: --Kamalani here, wanting to have this position, and they know that there's a future for them out there and it's because of what you guys do and your support. So thank you.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you.

AUDIENCE: . . .*(applause)*. . .

CHAIR HOKAMA: Kimberly Garcilazo, followed by Lani Cabanilla.

MISS GARCILAZO: Hello, Budget Chair Hokama and Maui County Members. My name is Kimberly Garcilazo and I go to Lahainaluna High School, and I'm currently a junior. I am secretary of the Best Buddies Club and what it is, is it's a club for young adults to become and build a friendship with those who have disabilities. . .and what, those who have disabilities and have greatly impacted not only Hawaii but worldwide. And those who have disabilities is greatly impacted for families, friends, and other relationships that we have personally. And what Best Buddies mean to me is very important because along the way you truly learn to value the meaning of respect to others no matter what, and to be kind and to be treated as you would. Best Buddies is a nonprofit organization and that is why we still need your support, and I kindly ask for your full support for funding Best Buddies in this year's budget. Thank you for your time and God bless.

AUDIENCE: . . .*(applause)*. . .

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you. Okay, Lani Cabanilla. She will be followed by Ransom Watanabe.

MS. CABANILLA: Aloha, County Council. I'm here on behalf of the Boys and Girls Club West Maui, Lahaina. On top of being an active, active in the community, the primary caregiver of my mom who is elderly, I'm also a foster parent. And without the Boys and Girls Club being here to help support some of the parents or all of our parents that bring their kids there. . .I wouldn't know what to do with my child, having them out there and not being active or anything if they're not actually in school doing sports. So you've heard the children's testimonies. They spoke from their heart.

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They're advocating for themselves and their clubs. I'm just here on behalf of them and to support, but actually they are the ones who actually advocate for themselves. So we hope that you continue to support the Boys and Girls Club of all of the areas. It's just a privilege that we can have an organization like this and, and knowing that it's free, you know, to help the parents that cannot financially have what they need. So thank you, again, and please continue to support them. Thank you.

AUDIENCE: . . .(applause). . .

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you. Ransom Watanabe, followed by Jared Gifford.

MR. WATANABE: Hello.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Hello.

MR. WATANABE: My name is Ransom Watanabe, I'm a 17-year old and. . .I'm 17 years old and I've been attending Hui Malama Learning Center for a year and a half. The reason I originally came to Hui Malama was that I previously been homeschooled from middle school up to my sophomore year, so I didn't have enough credits to enter public school, public high school. I ended up returning to Hui Malama for a second year because of how much I enjoyed my time there last year. I had so much fun learning from the mentors, going to excursion sites, and being a part of Hui Malama. The biggest reason that I came back, though, is because I like the teachers. I like learning from the teachers and talking to them after school. And since I still have one more year before I can go to a college, I want to spend that year at Hui Malama. Another reason I enjoy being at Hui Malama is that we are also given opportunities to participate in activities outside of high, outside of school. For example, on Saturday, February 21st, our Japanese teacher, two of my fellow classmates and I traveled to Oahu to compete in the Japan wizards competition, a competition testing our knowledge of Japan. I started studying last summer and though we weren't able to win, I feel we represented Hui Malama well and was able to take part in a very memorable experience. I've also done a weeklong internship in which I job shadowed a magazine publisher as she conducted interviews and have attended award ceremonies, educational events, and dinners. In a few weeks some of my classmates and I will also be traveling to Kalaupapa to learn firsthand about its history. These are just some of the things I've had the privilege of experiencing while at Hui Malama. In addition to experiences, you get a real-life education at Hui Malama Learning Center. In career development we learn about how to write a resumé, behave in job interviews and in, and in the workplace, and have guest speakers who come to talk to us about their jobs which cover a variety of fields. We learn how to be prepared and practice this through coming dressed in our proper clothes and having our necessary supplies. We also do role playing and particip..., and participate in mock situations in which our teachers, in which our teachers give us problems that we need to solve as a group. Also because I'm interested in teaching, I love history, I was able to teach a lesson about World War II in language arts class and help to coordinate our schools

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visits to the Nissei Veterans Memorial Center. The most important lesson we learn at Hui Malama are the ones the teachers and staff show and tell us every day. Don't make things harder than they need to be--

Note: Ringing telephone.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Please turn off that phone. I'm sorry, please continue.

MR. WATANABE: --keep things like complaints, gossip, or anything negative to yourself; know when it's appropriate to speak; listen to the teachers and your elders because--

MS. WILLENBRINK: Thirty seconds.

MR. WATANABE: --they know better, they've experienced more; pay attention, you might miss something that could be important for you and you may not get a second chance to learn it; don't be mad when you're given feedback; take care of responsibilities; appreciate what you have. Thank you for your continued support of Hui Malama. Hui Malama has given me so many opportunities and experiences that I otherwise wouldn't have had. Please continue to support Hui Malama in the future and thank you for your time today.

AUDIENCE: . . .(applause) . . .

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you. Jared Gifford, and he will be followed by Jace Luna.

MR. GIFFORD: Hello. . .

COUNCILMEMBERS: Hello.

MR. GIFFORD: My name is Jared Gifford, I am from Wailuku. I am 14 years old and I go to school at Hui Malama Learning Center. I go to Hui Malama because I was struggling in public school. I didn't do my homework and I disrespected the teachers at my former school. This is my second year attending Hui Malama. At Hui Malama I have hands-on work instead of just sitting in a classroom feeling like I'm trapped in walls. We go all over the island and are taught by mentors out at their farms and businesses. One of my favorite places to go is Honokohau because I like how Uncle Willie and his family are living in the middle of the mountains with a beautiful river connecting to the ocean. When we go to Honokohau, we help to clean Uncle Willie's lo'i, as in taro patch. On our last visit we help to weed out a lo'i that is going to be planted. I feel that it's important for us to work in the lo'i because we are helping Uncle Willie to care for the land and support his family, but we are also helping to preserve the Hawaiian culture and keep history alive. I'd like to think that I have a Hawaiian spirit. My mom is from England and my dad is from Massachusetts, but my brothers and I were born here on Maui. I've grown up here my whole life and even though I don't have Hawaiian blood, I still love to participate in Hawaiian culture. I like to ku'i kalo

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(pound taro), work in the lo`i (taro patch), oli (chant), and sing Hawaiian mele (songs). I learned how to do many of these things at Hui Malama. Because at Hui Malama, he's gotten me to start thinking about my future and also realize that I really like to make food. At school our culinary teacher, Kumu Mike, knows a lot about food. He is like a wizard in the kitchen. He can make anything happen and he passes his knowledge on to me and the rest of my class. Learning from him has helped me to realize that cooking is a fun way for me to practice math. I have to use fractions, multiplication, addition, and subtractions when following recipes and cooking for large groups of people, and it doesn't seem like I'm studying. In the future I want to be a chef because I love making food. I like to cook because it feels right for me when I am in the kitchen making food for my friends and family. I like to watch my family eat the food that I make. From the expressions on their face, I can see they enjoy eating my food and it makes me feel happy. Thank you, Councilmembers, for letting us talk to you tonight and thank you for your continued support of Hui Malama Learning Center.

AUDIENCE: . . .(applause) . . .

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you. Jace Luna, followed by Tamara Paltin.

MR. LUNA: Hello, my name is Jace, Jace Luna; I'm 16 years old, I'm from Wailuku. I'm a high school student at Hui Malama Learning Center. I'm attending Hui Malama because I felt like I wasn't being taught the way I needed to at my former school, and I was getting into trouble because I was hanging around my friends at school who cause trouble. I needed more individual attention and I wasn't able to listen and concentrate with others around me. In class I would always play around and try to be cool. Hui Malama is important to me because the teachers and staff help me try, help me and try to fix my bad habits, like not being able to pay attention. They also teach me skills I would need in the life ahead of me, like how to prepare for a job interview and the proper way to greet somebody. Now I have the confidence to take on a job interview. Being at Hui Malama has given me the chance to experience something I never thought I would. In February, I went to Oahu for a Japanese contest. The Japanese contest is an academic team contest for high school students in Hawaii. It's supported by the Japan American Society of Hawaii and the top teams win a trip to Japan. We didn't win, but I was, I had a good experience for me because I never learned about Japanese culture before I studied for the contest. My school entered in a private school division and I felt like I was the smartest person there competing against top schools. The nicest thing I could say about Hui Malama is that I always, they're always there to support me, teach me right from wrong. I would always come to school and do wrong things, like talking back, using foul language, and not doing work. I look at myself now and I can see that I am improving with everything. For example, in the beginning of the school year I didn't like to read in class because I wasn't so good at it. But now even though I'm still a little shame to read aloud in class, I try and I feel like I'm getting better at it. Thank you for your time and listening and for supporting our school.

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AUDIENCE: . . .(applause) . . .

CHAIR HOKAMA: Great job, great job. Tamara Paltin, she will be followed by Peggy Robertson.

MS. PALTIN: Aloha, Councilmembers. My name's Tamara Paltin. Thank you for coming out to Lahaina and listening to us this evening. I'm testifying as a private citizen and I'll also be test..., submitting testimony via e-mail because I need more than three minutes. For tonight I would like to focus on the ocean safety budget. According to the Mayor's proposal there are two goals, the first one being to maintain and enhance safety in County beach parks which is achieved mainly through education and outreach; and the second goal, the one I'm most concerned with, is to provide high quality lifeguard services at our designated beach parks. These are the only two goals, and they measure that by ocean safety personnel going through pertinent training. This looks good on paper, but it's not what's going on in reality. And I know that the Fire Department had originally requested for eight expansion lifeguards and now they're requesting for seven. And based on this information in the Mayor's Budget proposal, I would agree that it's not really needed, but the reality is that ocean safety provides high quality lifeguard services along the heavily-populated entire north, south and west coastlines, not only the designated beach parks. And when we provide this service, it's at the expense of our designated beach parks. When we leave the beach parks, there's nobody coming in to fill that void. So we're dispatched to every possible ocean rescue scenario as well as DLNR issues, marine debris, shark sightings, all of that, and that's not included in these goals that they have written down. So the budget amount that is requested doesn't cover what we all do, and I'm not saying that I think that we shouldn't do that because for the safety of the community and the public, but it should. . .what's written on paper should match what we actually do so that you can fund it appropriately. This month alone we responded to eleven 911 tones and it's only the 15th of the month, and we're leaving our designated parks. So that's why I'm pleading for the need of those seven expansion positions because we don't only watch our designated beach parks. I also noticed that it says one of the criteria for goal no. 2 is to annually train 42 OSO to main jet ski operator status. Just to clarify, this has never been done, to my knowledge, and I am a jet ski operator. And I'd also like to resubmit my plea to pay jet ski operators in line what, with what other counties are paying them.

MS. WILLENBRINK: Thirty seconds.

MS. PALTIN: It's interesting to me that the eight OSO III positions that have been approved in the previous have not been approved in this one because in our current position description this, the OSO IIIs are the only ones who are authorized to operate the specialized equipment of a jet ski unit. So without the OSO III positions on paper as the position descriptions stand, there's nobody whose job it is to operate a jet ski. Thank you.

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AUDIENCE: . . .(applause) . . .

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you. Peggy Robertson, followed by Michele Ma`alea.

MS. ROBERTSON: Aloha, County Council. . .

COUNCILMEMBERS: Aloha.

MS. ROBERTSON: . . .and thank you for coming tonight. My name is Peggy Robertson and I live at 191 Wahikuli Road, where I've owned my home and paid taxes for the last 33 years. Before I start could I ask that anyone in the audience who lives in Wahikuli, the, the subdivision of Wahikuli or has relatives that live there, could you raise your hand? Anyone else? One, two, three, four, five. . .whoa. . .one, two, three. . . Okay. So thank you. I think they might feel the same way. But I mentioned before that Wahikuli is the second oldest road in Lahaina and it was damaged by the County about nine years ago when they drove huge tandem trucks up and down filled with rocks for a year. They also had a rock crusher in the lot across from our driveway that went all day long for the whole year. It, the road is totally cracked, you know, since that time and has not been fixed. It was, it was bothersome for our family because my husband was doing chemo that whole year and needed to rest, but that, that was nine years ago, that's why I remember. I'm concerned. . .they said that next year the road was going to be fixed, but they changed the date to two more years. So what I'd like is a date in writing when they plan on doing the asphaltting and considering the last 70 years that some of these people have been paying taxes it would be, I think, important to do them. I've seen other developments that are much younger--I could name a few--that I realize just got asphaltted and yet we have not had that done yet. Anyway, the other thing I'm concerned about is the fire hazard. . .I'm passing a picture around of. . .I brought this up for the past four years at the Budget meetings stuff so. . .and no one has lived there for many years and it's at 123 Wahikuli Road, and some of our people here live close by and since Wahikuli is mostly wooden houses, it would just be devastating if that caught fire. It looks a lot worse now; I think that picture is two years old. Now it's almost, the wood is just all piled up. I think it would take three truckloads to the--

MS. WILLENBRINK: Thirty seconds.

MS. ROBERTSON: Oh, okay. The last thing is I'm concerned about the bus stops for Wahikuli and Lahainaluna. We need the long bench for people, with shade. I think that would be sufficient for us, nothing fancy or expensive like I've seen in, in Wailuku. Maybe we could pass that on to transportation. We just want enough bench place where these people can sit and wait in the shade, and I think it's time for Ainakea to get that done instead of sitting on, you know, old chairs or mattresses or something like that and, you know, I would appreciate if you could pass that word on. Thank you.

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AUDIENCE: . . .(applause) . . .

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you. Michele Ma`alea, followed by Ana Garcia.

MS. MA`ALEA: Hi, good evening. Aloha and good evening, Budget Chair Hokama and Honorable Councilmembers. Aloha to all those attending this evening. My name is Michele Ma`alea. I'm the Site Director of Ka Hale A Ke Ola west side facility. I've been blessed for more than four years to be a part of an organization here on Maui providing relevant, fundamental, and much needed services to Maui's homeless population. Unfortunately, those citizens in need of emergency, transitional, and affordable housing continue to grow in numbers in conjunction with the significant population of those who experience a form of recidivism at is it applies to chronic and long-term homelessness. Ka Hale A Ke Ola prides itself on the humble beginnings of November 26, 1986 (*inaudible*) in an old church in a cane field. Provisions of food and shelter were offered to women and children with no other hopes or means. In 1988, that cane field shelter served more than 1,200 men, women, and children. The shelter was then run by volunteers and a few small grants. The late 1980s and early 1990s were the years of dramatic change for Ka Hale A Ke Ola. Charles Ridings, John Decker, and many other respected community members came forward to guide and grow the agency. Program changes became necessary, as did a larger property, to accommodate those changes and the concurring influx of homeless and struggling clients. The agency grew, flourished, and earned the respect of County, State, and Federal politicians as well as community leaders and funders. In 1992, several grants and endowments began to take shape geared at the construction of Ka Hale A Ke Ola in Wailuku. In May 1992, an official groundbreaking took place and the Resource Center opened its door in April 1993. 2016 will witness 30 years of impressive and relevant services provided by Ka Hale A Ke Ola, excuse me, Ka Hale A Ke Ola Resource Centers both in Wailuku and in the Lahaina facility opened in 2004. So the point of all this history is this. Ka Hale A Ke Ola continues to function, grow, thrive, change, and meet the needs of the many. With the new leadership of the CEO Erin Fleming Lowenthal and the continued years of driven dedication by COO Shelley, Michelle Blackburn, the agency barrels forward to meet the needs of many while strategically creating an acquiring the funds to run an agency of this magnitude. Our mission is dedicated to serving the needs to the homeless and hungry on Maui by providing emergency food and housing, voicing their concerns, and empowering them to take responsibility for their own lives, and to call on the community to assist in these actions. I stand before you here as a call to the community to support Ka Hale A Ke Ola Resource Centers in every way of which this community, I mean this Committee is capable. Thank you.

AUDIENCE: . . .(applause) . . .

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you. Ana Garcia, to be followed by May Fujiwara.

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MS. SCHAP-GIL (translator): Good afternoon, Council. My name is Hildie, I'm a Family Case Manager with MEO Head Start, and I am here not to speak for myself, but to interpret for a parent of a Head Start child. I will use the microphone so that you can hear me, but she'll be the one addressing you.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay, that's fine.

MS. GARCIA: . . .*(spoke in foreign language)*. . .

MS. SCHAP-GIL (translator): Hi, my name is Ana Garcia.

MS. GARCIA: . . .*(spoke in foreign language)*. . .

MS. SCHAP-GIL (translator): I come representing Head Start.

MS. GARCIA: . . .*(spoke in foreign language)*. . .

MS. SCHAP-GIL (translator): I wanna say thank you so much for helping to fund Head Start after 12 noon.

MS. GARCIA: . . .*(spoke in foreign language)*. . .

MS. SCHAP-GIL (translator): It helps me as well as other parents and because of it I've been able to study for my GED.

MS. GARCIA: . . .*(spoke in foreign language)*. . .

MS. SCHAP-GIL (translator): I have five years being involved with Head Start.

MS. GARCIA: . . .*(spoke in foreign language)*. . .

MS. SCHAP-GIL (translator): It's been a big change for my kids to be part of the preschool and it's helped my family as well as many other families.

MS. GARCIA: . . .*(spoke in foreign language)*. . .

MS. SCHAP-GIL (translator): And that's all, just wanna repeat thank you for myself and for other families that are on their way.

MS. GARCIA: Thank you.

AUDIENCE: . . .*(applause)*. . .

CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay, thank you. Next we have May Fujiwara, and she will be followed by Anita Yamafuji.

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MS. FUJIWARA: Good evening. . .

CHAIR HOKAMA: Good evening.

MS. FUJIWARA: . . .Budget Chair Hokama and Members of the Budget Committee. Welcome to Lahaina. My name is May Fujiwara and thank you for allowing me to testify. I'm here along with some of our Lahaina-Honolua Senior Citizen Club Members in their new, pink club shirts. I want them to raise their hands and be recognized.

AUDIENCE: . . .*(applause)*. . .

MS. FUJIWARA: Thank you for your past support of programs that affect our senior population and we look forward to your continued support. Our seniors are living longer and appreciate your support of programs that keep us active and independent for as long as possible. They are over 50 senior organizations represented in the Planning and Coordinating Council. The line item for the Senior Coordinator could use an increase of \$3,000 so she could also service the senior clubs on Molokai and Lanai. Our club celebrated their 45th anniversary this year, and we have many, many members who are over 90 years old and because of your support of these programs, they can still actively participate in the many, many activities that we do have. As in the past, transportation has been our biggest obstacle for being independent. Many of us no longer drive or own cars, so we depend mostly or entirely on MEO Transportation to take us places like shopping, banking, doctors' appointments, to club meetings, to nutrition programs. So please continue to support MEO Transportation. Also, please support the Mayor's 1.5 million line-item for MEO's Maintenance Shop. Currently, MEO pays \$12,000 a month in rent. If MEO is able to secure its own facility, it could pay for itself and monies saved could be spent or saved for other County needs. Our musicians and dancers who entertain at the Lahaina Harbor every time a cruise ship comes in also appreciate your support. Passengers are greeted by our seniors with fresh flowers and/or leis and with Hawaiian music and hula dancing, and many of the customers or many of these passengers come and join us in the dancing. And for the first time, I think about a month ago, we had a cruise ship come in from Japan. . .and even the men came up and danced with us and they took a lot of pictures, so that was nice. And also, we must remember to invest in our children, they are our future. Please support the Mayor's appropriation for MEO Head Start, Kahi Kamalii, and other youth programs. With a growing number of Hispanics coming to Maui, Enlace Hispano will make it easier for these newcomers to adjust and integrate into our society. So please continue to fund this program. The BEST Program helps prevent a revolving door. Many of the participants in this program. . .that were in this program are gainfully employed and are now contributing members of society. I had spoken to one of the managers of a big, big restaurant in Lahaina, and he was--

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MS. WILLENBRINK: Thirty seconds.

MS. FUJIWARA: --very, very pleased at the former BEST Program participants that he had hired. He was very, very pleased. So if you can also continue to support this program and if you have additional money, an increase of 3 percent would be nice also.

ALL: . . .*(chuckle)*. . .

MS. FUJIWARA: . . .*(chuckle)*. . . Thank you, again, for coming to Lahaina and letting me testify. Thank you.

AUDIENCE: . . .*(applause)*. . .

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you, May. Anita Yamafuji, followed by Don Gerbig.

MS. YAMAFUJI: Chair Hokama and Members of the Council, thank me, thank you for allowing me to testify.

Note: Short pause while staff adjusts the mic stand for Ms. Yamafuji.

MS. YAMAFUJI: My name is Anita Yamafuji. I'm an active member of the Lahaina-Honolua Senior Citizen Club. Thank you for the support of the senior program. I am handicapped, but I can still participate in many of the senior activities. As I, as I can no longer drive, I depend a great deal on MEO Transportation to take me places like this important Budget meeting tonight. Please continue to fund MEO Transportation. The drivers are very considerate. They help the seniors get, get on and off the buses and sometimes help carry our grocery to our door. The program at the West Maui Senior Center can help us be active and busy. There are programs that almost, almost for every senior -- exercise class, art classes, computer classes, and you name it. The three times a week nutrition program provide well-balanced lunches for a nominal donation of \$2. They have speakers that talk to us about health issue and other important things. And another thing I want to say is, you know where I live, the cars are parked on both sides of the street, and in case of emergency an ambulance or fire truck and other emergency vehicle will not be able to get to my house. I'm asking you to put a no, no parking sign on one side of the street. And also, cars are parked right up to the stop sign. So. . .thank you for listening.

AUDIENCE: . . .*(applause)*. . .

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Chair. Chair, can--

CHAIR HOKAMA: Yes, yes, Ms. Cochran.

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COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Oh, I wanted to get her street name.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay. Ms. Yamafuji, what street are you talking about regarding the parking issue?

MS. YAMAFUJI (from the audience): Kumukahi.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Kumukahi? Okay, thank you. Don, if you would please share your testimony, and following--

MR. GERBIG: Good evening.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Good evening.

MR. GERBIG: My name is Don Gerbig, I'm a member of the Lahaina-Honolua Senior Citizens Club. I'm testifying on behalf of the club members who all benefit greatly from the services provided by MEO. And if I do well here, I get to keep the shirt.

AUDIENCE: . . .*(chuckle)*. . .

MR. GERBIG: The bus trans..., the bus transportation provided by MEO is extremely beneficial to all Maui County, as you know, especially the seniors who do not have their own transportation to medical appointments or medical treatments, plus senior citizen functions to provide increased optimism for the many live-alone seniors in the community. The transportation provided to school children afterschool is a program that is extremely important since many working parents are not available for their children afterschool. This is a huge benefit to the community which is often overlooked or not seen by many residents. I ask for your support for this program and also for the beneficial programs to the community, such as Head Start and the BEST Program provide by MEO. And the kicker, in addition, I would like to recommend that you support the building of the \$1.5 million transportation workshop for the MEO bus service to reduce the current \$12,000 a month expenditures for outside facilities. And thank you very much for your support.

AUDIENCE: . . .*(applause)*. . .

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you, Don. Thank you, Don. Jill Holley. Following Jill will be Greg Nelson.

MS. HOLLEY: Good evening. My name is Jill Holley and I'm with the National Kidney Foundation of Hawaii. Aloha.

COUNCILMEMBERS: Aloha.

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MS. HOLLEY: I'm here to ask you to look at our line item in regards to increasing our staff. Presently, I'm the Director and we have one Programs Coordinator that is a part-time position. Kidney disease is very important for prevention. Kidney disease is known as the silent killer, and what is startling is that one in seven people in Hawaii has kidney disease. Now the national rate is one in nine. So we're at 30 percent higher and, unfortunately, the true facts is because of our ethnicities that live here, Hawaiians, Chinese, Japanese, and Afro-Americans have a higher rate of kidney disease. I just did, the last event that I just attended when we were testing our, our candidates there, immediately I had to take two people to the hospital because they didn't realize that they had their blood level at 500 and 575. We were even worried if we were going to get 'em to the hospital. But what's important is that kidney disease, although it can't be reversed, if you do detect that you have this disease in an early stage, you have an opportunity to reverse it from going into a dialysis. And once you get to the dialysis, you're going to be waiting for a kidney, and the kidney list somewhere, can go anywhere from 4 to 8 years. What's important is that we go out to the community and what we're trying to do is expand and go to other regions. I've not been to Molokai in my tenure, I have been to Lanai, and we need to do this frequently and often. We need to service outlying cities and we have to go to the people and let them find out. We're asking for your support. It is a very important cause that's extremely important in Hawaii, and I, for no other reason, want to change our statistics and reduce this 30 percent higher. Thank you.

AUDIENCE: . . .(applause) . . .

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you. Gregg Nelson, and he will be followed by James Fahnestock.

MR. NELSON: Aloha. . .

COUNCILMEMBERS: Aloha.

MR. NELSON: . . .Chair Hokama and Committee Members. It's good to have you with us here. Thank you very much for coming out all the way over to the west side. I hope none of you got caught in any traffic. My name is Greg Nelson, I'm General Manager of Napili Kai Beach Resort, and I've been a resident here on Maui since the late '70s. I've been around so long that I probably should look into getting one of those pink shirts.

AUDIENCE: . . .(chuckle) . . .

MR. NELSON: I have, I have read through a portion at least of the Budget, and I have to say you have a daunting task before you. There are tremendous amount of needs being expressed tonight, and we all have to be wondering how we're going to pay for this. Certainly property taxes are one of the main topics when it comes to the revenue side, but that's a topic for maybe another night. I wanted to . . .like I'm going to be submitting written testimony on a number of items, but one item I wanted to touch

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upon tonight is, is...and it's in the Mayor's Budget, is the Maui Visitors Bureau budget. I, I think it's absolutely critical when, when we talk about return on investment, that we continue to fund that budget at least at the level that the Mayor has indicated. That is a definite return on investment for which many of these needs can be funded as we go along. So that's really all I wanted to say, keep Maui Visitors Bureau budget in mind. It's, it's critical when we think about the funding for a lot of these other needs. Thank you very much.

AUDIENCE: ...*(applause)*...

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you. Next, James Fah..., you know what, I'm not going to even try your last name. My apologies.

MR. FAHNESTOCK: ...*(chuckle)*... That was a good effort.

CHAIR HOKAMA: And after James, Kim Ball will be speaking. If you would, please.

MR. FAHNESTOCK: Great. Good evening. My name is James Fahnestock and I'm the Co-President of the Rotary Club of Lahaina Sunset. I'm speaking to ask the Budget and Finance Committee to please consider allocating funds in the Fiscal Year 2016 County Budget to operate a West Maui recycling center. Members of our Rotary Club met recently with County Managing Director Keith Regan and County Environmental Management Director Kyle Ginoza. We learned the Department of Environmental Management plans to issue a request for proposal before June 30th, 2015 to operate a West Maui recycling center. What we were also informed, the County Administration has no funds in its proposed Fiscal Year 2016 Budget to operate the center. West Maui residents would very much like to have the opportunity to participate in recycling. Currently, the options are the limited facility in Lahaina, the more extensive facility in Olowalu, or hiring a private contractor to pick up recycling. These few options cause many West Maui residents to place recyclable materials in their trash to be disposed of in the landfill. News reports indicate landfill costs can be up to \$1 million per acre to open and up to \$500,000 per acre to close and cap. That's a potential cost of \$1.5 million per acre. At current usage rates the County estimates existing capacity for the Central Maui Landfill is estimated to run out in 2026, just 11 years from now. We've been told the economics of recycling currently require the County to subsidize collection and shipment of recycled materials. While this cost may be significant, recycling provides the key benefit of reducing demands on the landfill, resulting in possibly significant costs savings. On behalf of the members of the Rotary Club of Lahaina Sunset and the environmentally-concerned citizens of West Maui, I respectfully request that the Council's Budget and Finance Committee please consider allocating funds in the Fiscal Year 2016 County Budget to operate the proposed West Maui recycling center. Thank you for your attention and consideration of this request.

AUDIENCE: ...*(applause)*...

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CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you very much. Kim Ball. Following Kim will be Kainoa Casco.

MR. BALL: Good evening, ladies and gentlemen of the Council. You've got a tough job. Those kids were awesome. They, they touched me. But anyway, I'm going to put my Lahainaluna wrestling coaches hat on right now. Did you guys happen to hear Lahainaluna won the boys and girls state wrestling championship this year? First neighbor island school. . .

AUDIENCE: . . .(applause). . .

MR. BALL: . . .to ever win team titles. I don't know, you might have read about it, it was in the papers I heard. Anyway, the, the wrestling team has a wrestling room to practice in and competes in tournaments in Lahainaluna Gym and occasionally at the Lahaina Civic Center. Now I'm going to change hats right now, put on my MIL surf coordinator hat and talk about another team we have in Lahainaluna, the surf team, that uses the Lahainaluna Harbor surf break for practice and last week competed in the Maui Interscholastic surf meet at the same Lahaina Harbor venue. I'm here to give my support for adding the \$1.5 million to the budget for Phase II of the Lahaina Harbor Front Project. The lawn area makai of the library is a perfect venue for local surf meets, which includes not only the MIL, but the Hawaii Surfing Association and the Nationals Classic Surfing Association. It's a perfect setting for watching a surf meet. This past Saturday in the area fronting the library, we had student athletes from eight high schools, parents, local supporters, school officials, and many tourists that saw all or a portion of the surf meet. The Lahaina Restoration Foundation Phase II plan includes having a shower in close proximity as well as electrical outlets. Now contest organizers bring in a generator and the competitors walk down to the boat docks to shower off. The shower would also be a great addition for all surfers who frequent Lahaina Harbor. Improving the area with walkways, new lighting, and benches will make Lahaina Harbor a place where parents and family will actually come watch their children surf and the planned, planned signage describing the historic significance of the site will help to educate all of our Maui youth who just view the area as a surf spot. Thank you.

AUDIENCE: . . .(applause). . .

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you. Kainoa Casco, followed by Nancy Young.

MR. CASCO: Aloha, Councilmembers. Good to see you guys, good evening.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Good evening.

MS. CASCO: I'm here wearing the hat of Malama Maui Nui, formerly Community Work Day Maui, as their Board Co-President. I really just wanted to say mahalo for your continued support of the program and just give you guys a little bit of update on the

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progress we've been making, 'cause I know most of you are familiar with what we do. You know, we do litter pickups, all the beach cleanups, roadside pickups, focus on landfill diversion, environmental education, used motor oil pickup, battery cleanups, all that good stuff. So because of your support, just in the past three months, in the quarter three of this past fiscal year, we hosted the Art of Trash with 300 people at Maui Mall on opening day; did environmental education, we have 575 students; 1,300 gallons of paint was diverted from the landfill from our baseyard with over half of that being reused by local community members for free, so they could come and pick that up; diverted 500--oh, not 500,000--50,000 batteries from the landfill from 36 collection sites. In the past three months cleaned up over 100 illegal dumpsites from around Maui. So people can call in and we can go and pickup illegal dumpsites. Forty-two thous..., over 42,000 pounds of trash was picked up in the past three months from roads, beaches, illegal dumpsites, and homeless campsites. And we're helping support beautification on and cleanups on Kahoolawe, Lanai, and Molokai. And we also hopefully look to help kupuna clean up their yards and properties to keep it safe for them to walk around on their properties as well, hopefully in the future. So this is all 'cause of your continued support and just wanted to say thank you again for all you guys do for us and for the time that you guys dedicate to Maui. Mahalo.

AUDIENCE: . . .(applause) . . .

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you. Nancy Young, followed by Bruce Forrester.

MS. YOUNG: Good evening, Council. I'm a teacher up at Lahainaluna High School, I've been their seven years, and I'm here to support Maui Economic Development Board. I'm really happy to be able to bring their cause before you because they've done so much for me and for my fellow teachers. It's, it's pretty amazing to see all the good things that are happening in this County and the way that you guys get to support them, it's just. . .I'm sort of overwhelmed with everybody's work that everyone's doing here for good, you know, for the good of the community. Maui Economic Development Board began its first STEM project, which is Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math at Lahainaluna High School. We had their first EAST lab. And they have supported us over all of these years. This week they're having their statewide STEM conference at the Wailea Marriott and we're taking three, three teachers from Lahainaluna. . .are taking, taking a number of students. We will all get educated there, students and teachers alike. They have helped me do this job as a digital media teacher and a video teacher throughout the last seven years. I, I got the job as a. . .I'm an artist and, you know, graphic designer and all of a sudden I'm having to learn all this technology, I've got no computers to speak of that are working, I've got no software, I've got very little of anything. And in the seven years that I've been up at the school, because of organizations like Maui Economic Development Board giving me software, computers, I have printers, I have cameras, I have everything that I can need, and it's all paid off. We just went to the State project-based assessments and qualified a number of our students for honorary designations in CTE--that's a big deal, very few students get that designation, only 10 percent of the, the top of the class gets to. . .even gets to go

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and only 10 percent of them get the designation. We came back with a number of students going to have special diplomas. So, I'm really happy that, that Maui Economic Development Board, they've given me SketchUp and Adobe Illustrator--

MS. WILLENBRINK: Thirty seconds.

MS. YOUNG: --and Photoshop and computers, and, and just help all the way along the line. Whenever I needed it, I can call them up. If I get an emergency and I'm out of. . .I need something, they're there for me. So I just wanted to, you know, I was very glad to be able to come here and be, be there for them this evening, and whatever support that they're asking for they, they're supporting all the schools, not only on Maui, but they're helping to support schools statewide now and they're bringing schools from other, from Oahu over here to compete with us so that we're being able to be not so isolated, we're being able to see kids from all over the State. So thanks a lot and Maui Economic Development Board, remember it.

AUDIENCE: . . .(applause) . . .

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you. Bruce Forrester and followed by Susan Forrester.

MR. FORRESTER: Aloha, Chair Hokama and Committee Councilmembers. My name is Bruce Forrester and I live and own at the Royal Kahana Condominiums. I'm here to, to testify in support of the Department of Planning budget item for a study of erosion migration in Kahana Bay on west side Maui. This is an urgent study that is needed to preserve the shoreline and beaches and protect the nine condominium complexes that boarder Kahana Bay. Currently, the beach at Kahana Bay and these nine condo complexes are threatened with erosion and could ultimately be lost to erosion if proper efforts are not made to save them. The beach itself is an invaluable asset to everyone in the community to enjoy. It is also what tourist come to Maui for. Without beautiful beaches, there would be far fewer tourist dollars. The owners of the Royal Kahana pay over a million dollars in property tax annually, and we are just one of the nine buildings that is seriously threatened by erosion. To not fund this beach erosion study would save money in the short term, but in the long term it would be pennywise and pound foolish. Not funding this study risks losing Maui's beaches and the substantial property tax payments from the many owners over, there are over 1,200 units involved of the threatened properties surrounding Kahana Bay. Thank you very much for your consideration.

AUDIENCE: . . .(applause) . . .

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you. Susan Forrester.

MS. FORRESTER (from the audience): I would want to defer to my neighbor.
. . .(inaudible) . . .

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MR. HORN (from the audience): Steve Horn.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Steve, you're next. Thank you, Susan.

MR. HORN: Chair Hokama, Councilmembers, thank you for coming out to Lahaina. My name is Steve Horn, I'm an owner at the Royal Kahana. I live there with my wife Shirley. I'm here tonight to offer testimony in support of the Department of Planning budget item for a study of erosion mitigation in Kahana Bay in West Maui. We, I am concerned of the impacts proposed by shoreline armoring with Kahana Bay, including acceleration of erosion along the neighboring properties. As an alternative to armoring, I support the concept of regional beach restoration for all of Kahana Bay that will be the focus of this study. Climate changes become a phrase that we see almost every day now in the news. Whoops, I'm sorry, not hearing me?

Note: Short pause while Staff adjusts microphone.

MR. HORN: Too tall. Thank you. Can you hear me now? Okay. Climate change is becoming a word that we see every day in the news. It's having a major impact throughout the world, and we're seeing it on Kahana firsthand. Our concern is beach erosion, loss tourist dollars, loss of our beach, loss of just being able to have that. This is a great opportunity to fund this, what the Mayor has proposed as a first step in getting forward in looking at this. I hope you will consider it and thank you very much.

AUDIENCE: . . .(applause) . . .

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you. Let's see, we got our old friend Hans Michel. . .Hans. And following Hans will be Brett. . .oh, excuse me, or next following Hans will be Mark Alexander.

MR. MICHEL: I want the senior citizen, the pink shirt.

ALL: . . .(chuckle) . . .

MR. MICHEL: I'm still going, you know. Councilmembers and Chair, thank you for coming to the west side. First, I want to ask you, don't forget the flood channel from Lahainaluna Road to Puamana is incomplete. Because we're having, had a drought for the last couple years, you people seem to forget. And so if the Mayor has \$9 million, I don't know how far that can go, but definitely no, not for finish. But we have bigger concern is our domestic water intake, and I brought a picture which I will give to Baisa and to . . .well, they can make you a copy just so you know what we are talking about, it's all here. Mr. Victorino was there, Mike White has seen it, Elle came over there but she think she almost forgot about, you know, but. . .(chuckle). . .let's bring 'em to Baisa and she might, will crank up the County because they are always talking about we make improvements, but the budget which I when I look is overall for

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West Maui. They don't tell you what is specific for Kahana Valley intake which feeds part of Lahaina, and they have a \$15 million treatment plant and if the source doesn't feed the treatment plant, yeah, the water, like this morning when we had the *(inaudible)* burst and things got busted, there was no water for the treatment plant till we had that cleared. And I took care of that for the last 40 years. I pretty much know how it works, yeah. Besides that is another one you might can see that that is for Maui Electric, we each had power outage for the north side or for the hotels because the poles when kick over when we had the last storm. So do not forget when they're going to merge or whatever they plan to do, because we don't have one hurricane pole from the central on the west side. . .you know where we have the, the power station? Going north is all, all wooden posts. So whoever going to merge with them, let them know what they're going to get to. That's a good picture, it shows that how, how it was down. Anyway, I have another problem is my property tax. How come conservation land costs more than agriculture in property tax? What is the problem there? I couldn't have, nobody could give me the answer till now, and I know Bob Carroll tried hard, but they always seem to give him empty papers. And so. . .*(chuckle)*. . .I don't know who to see or who to contact, but please help out on that because I'm not the only guy is hurt on that part. And other than that, I thank you for what you done in the past and I want to thank you what you do in the future, and I hope we in good hands. I shall give this picture to. . .ah, to the boss, okay.

AUDIENCE: . . .*(chuckle)*.*(applause)*. . .

MR. MICHEL: . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay. Thanks, Hans.

MR. MICHEL: Okay, I appreciate it.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you.

MR. MICHEL: Thank you.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you, Hans.

MR. MICHEL: You're welcome.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Mark Alexander. Following Mark will be Brett McKay.

MR. ALEXANDER: Good evening, everyone. My name is Mark. I'm the Operations Manager for Ka Hale A Ke Ola in Lahaina. This is my first time ever in my life testifying anywhere, anyplace. . .a little nervous. You guys have a hard job because everybody testified I. . .either me or my kids have used all the services, Boys and Girls Club, I'm diabetic, my kids go to Lahaina. You guys have a hard job. But anyway, I'm just here to ask you guys to support our organization. We've been through some hard times.

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I've been there for four years. I wanna assure you guys that in the past year there's been a lot of changes for the good. I actually enjoy working there now. I, I enjoy. . .seriously I enjoy going to work. I, we can sleep good at night. I've worked construction my whole life. I, I've never. . .worked for this little amount of money, but I'm actually happy here now, you know. I've learned it's not about how much you make, it's, it's really about how happy you are, and I want to assure you guys that our organization is doing good things, we've, we've changed. We have. . .I, I do the wait list. We have about 150 to 200 people on the wait list. People are staying there longer. They're finding permanent housing. It's just a good feeling working there with our new management team that we have, we all work together. So I, I really ask you guys to continue to support us, and you guys welcome to stop by anytime, you know where we're at, come visit. If you guys have any questions. . . *(sigh)*. . . Other than that, thank you guys.

AUDIENCE: . . . *(chuckle)*. . . . *(applause)*. . .

CHAIR HOKAMA: Good job, good job. Brett McKay. One more time, Brett? Okay, we'll go to Paul Laub. Following Paul will be Kathy-Jo Sandoval.

MR. LAUB: Aloha mai kakou, I'm Paul Laub and, first, I really want to thank you very much for coming out tonight. The last few years Cheiko Cato and myself and a couple of volunteers have been taking care of Hanakao`o Cemetery, and we have found it to be pretty devastated and badly neglected and thought it was an insult to our ancestors. The kuleana of the cemetery belongs to the Public Works Department, which does not have the funds to properly take care of it. The old school methodology was to poison the plants, and that would leave dust and poison blowing on to the beach doors, including our keiki, and to the paddlers. So what we've done is we've been working on it to clean it up. If you look at the backside of your paper, you'll see some recent pictures. The problem is, is that the more successful we've been, the harder the work has become because now the grass is growing in and it's taking a tremendous amount of work. So what I'm asking you to do is please fund the Public Works Department so that they can actually do the work and keep it clean and nice. Tourist come there, they find it very interesting, they ask a lot of questions about it, and hopefully we're going to have a nice board there describing where everyone is. And it has, right now it has a Korean, Chinese, Filipino, and Japanese ancestors. All peoples revere their ancestors and are deserve, ours deserve the highest standard of care. The second item I want to bring up is please support the bike path for the West Maui, we need them. Thank you very, very kindly. Aloha.

AUDIENCE: . . . *(applause)*. . .

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you. Thank you, Paul. Kathy-Jo Sandoval. Okay. And following Kathy will be Kevin Lewis.

MS. SANDOVAL: Good evening. . .

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CHAIR HOKAMA: Good evening.

MS. SANDOVAL: . . .and thank you for letting me come and share a few words. Mark, I'm more nervous than you are, so don't feel bad. I just want to let you know that that man who was standing there that was very, very nervous is a pillar of strength for all of us at, at the Resource Center, along with Michele. Don't know what we'd do without either one of 'em. They keep things going, they wear many hats, and along with those hats they need the support behind them to keep the hats on straight, to keep walking in a straight line and to keep the projects that are many in a . . .and going in a, in a continued process. The gentleman I'm sitting with is my husband of 30 years. About ten years ago, we listened to a line item on the news that said 73 percent of all middle class Americans were one paycheck, one medical disaster, one something away from being homeless, and we just pooh-poohed that. . .we went no, that doesn't, that's not real, that's not real. And we found out six weeks later that that was absolutely real. My husband was in ICU--excuse me, it stills bring tears to my eyes--for five months and three days. We found out he was allergic to Ibuprophen. They gave him 800 milligrams of Ibuprophen for an injury and his kidneys went into failure. For a year after he was in the hospital learning how to speak, walk, and talk again. After all that, we lost our home, we lost our car, we lost everything we had in the bank because we were going through an insurance transition. So there wasn't much there. Medicaid only goes back three months; they don't go back a year. We are now \$1,563,000 in medical debt. There's not a whole lot of people that want to rent to us. The people at, the people Ka Hake, Ka Hale A Ke Ola--I can't even say the name without saying anything about the, the abbreviation--took us in three times because we have not been able, as yet, to break the cycle of homelessness. This time it's going to happen because this time there are people there that are willing to help. They are programs there that are willing to help. There are counselors there that are willing to walk with you hand in hand to give you and help you with what you need. They're not doing it for you and writing your name down on a line saying, okay, that's funding for us. They're actually walking you through the programs. They are helping you to understand your budgeting. They are helping you to understand the programs that are out there. They're saying this is what is available to you. Now it's up to you to follow through. Whatever questions you have, don't hesitate to come to us. If we had had that through that program seven years ago, we wouldn't be three time clients at the establishment we're at now. I want to thank everybody here that's listening to this. I want to thank the new management program that's with us, that's walking us through all these things. I thought I knew it, I thought I knew it, I thought I knew how to pull myself out of every bad situation we could possibly get into. Didn't know anything. . .you know, this was something I wasn't prepared for, and now I'm finding that I am prepared for it through the help of everybody where I live. We just moved into a beautiful, little studio. . .transitional housing. My husband and I--my husband's a pretty big guy, he's 6 foot, 235 pounds, you know, and it's a studio and we're comfortable, we're happy. There's a roof over our head, there's water to bathe in, there's people to support us, and I have never felt a greater feeling of security, ever.

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And I want to thank them and beg you to keep doing what you're doing for them and more if you can. Thank you.

AUDIENCE: . . .(applause) . . .

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you. Kevin Lewis, followed by Jim Johnson.

MR. LEWIS: Aloha, Councilmembers. Good evening. My name's Kevin Lewis, I'm an entrepreneur and business owner here on the west side. I own a few small, little chain of snorkel stores. . .you might have seen one, it's at the Fairway Shops, called the Snorkel Store. I'm here to talk about the Maui Economic Development Board. Obviously, you know, starting a business isn't super easy, there's lots of challenges and, you know, all throughout the year they just provide countless events with the Startup Weekend and access to lawyers, and just really crucial, you know, benefits just to help grow my business. It's pretty challenging on Maui just 'cause there's not a lot of events like Oahu might have or the mainland, we have like the B&I's or, you know, some meet-up groups. But what's great about the events they put on is just there's a lot of collaboration with other business owners and, you know, just countless resources that you have access to actually like, you know, be a prospering, thriving business. So we have actually have three locations now. We started off with one little one, and I just want to say they're really crucial to me being able to grow my business. So any support that you can give them is, would be super helpful. I appreciate it. That's it.

AUDIENCE: . . .(applause) . . .

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you. Jim Johnson. He will be followed by Shelley Blackburn.

MR. JOHNSON: Aloha, Mr. Chairman and Councilmembers. My name is Jim Johnson, I'm the General Manager of the Royal Kahana, and I'm here tonight to speak to that effect. The Royal Kahana is a 12-story condominium, it's got 236 units, all are individually owned, 90 percent of them are in a rental pool for vacation rentals. The building was built in 1975 and over the years the Royal Kahana's lost 40 feet in property due to beach erosion. Last year alone we lost 6 feet. At the present time our pool deck and our cabana are within 3 feet of the new shoreline survey. So if I have another winter like I had last winter, I'm going to lose the cabana and the pool deck. This is ongoing, it's every year we lose more and more property. I'm not here to talk about beach armorment, armorment. What we are proposing with our association is beach nourishment. We don't believe that beach armorment is the way to go, and we know that the Mayor has put money in his budget to do some research out in Kahana Bay for the buildings and the people over there now. And the Royal Kahana in the last two months has moved forward with trying to protect our beach. In fact, we have entered into a contract with the, the gentleman that's called. . .Rising Tide Engineering. He's the one that did the beach nourishment over on Stable Road, on the other side. We believe that that is the way to go, and the money that the Mayor has put in his budget

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to help with the research out in that bay, you know, to maybe find enough sand to do the whole Kahana Bay to bring it back would be very beneficial to all nine buildings that are in that bay. As Bruce said when he was up here, there's a lot of tax money that comes from those nine properties in Kahana Bay. But if we keep losing like we're losing now, we're going to also lose the tourists and there, again, the property values are going to go down and we're not going to have any more revenue coming in. You know, a good analogy is when we got potholes up on the road, you know, the County comes and they use our tax money to fill the potholes. Well, we're asking you to leave that money in the budget and help us fix the big pothole out in Kahana Bay. Thank you.

AUDIENCE: . . .*(applause)*. . .

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you. Shelley Blackburn, to be followed by Sara Foley.

MS. BLACKBURN: Aloha ahiahi kakou, Budget Chair Hokama and Councilmembers. First of all, mahalo nui for all that each and every one of you do for the people of Maui County, not an easy job; however, I truly know that together right decisions can be made that's in the best interest for Maui County. My name is Shelley Blackburn, Chief Operating Officer of Ka Hale A Ke Ola Homeless Resource Center in Wailuku and in Lahaina. I've been with KHAKO for 10 years and of all the years, this has truly been the best year since positive changes were made within our agency. I continue to do what I do because of my love and passion for serving others and the positive feeling it gives me of making a difference in someone's life. It's become a kuleana of mine to give back. Our mission is to break the cycle of homelessness, which we all know homelessness has grown throughout the year. With your continued support whether it be financially, mentally, spiritually, physically, together we can do what's right for Maui County and continue providing the proper services that are needed to help the homeless population on Maui build a solid foundation to truly live and not just exist. I know I stand here on behalf of KHAKO, but I'm a mother of five and two of my children out of my five attend Boys and Girls Club in Paukukalo, in central. So, I also support that as well. And I'd like to hopefully graciously grow old someday and utilize Maui, MEO's transportation in transporting me to my events when I grow old, and I'd like to have a pink shirt.

AUDIENCE: . . .*(chuckle)*. . .

MS. BLACKBURN: So please continue to support each and every one of us. God bless, God bless you all. Mahalo.

AUDIENCE: . . .*(applause)*. . .

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you. Sara Foley, and to be followed by Norm Bezane.

MS. FOLEY: Aloha.

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CHAIR HOKAMA: Hi.

MS. FOLEY: Thank you for coming to the west side. I'm Sara Foley and I'm speaking on behalf of the Maui Friends of the Library and in favor of the Lahaina Harbor Front Project. To move forward with this project, which started last year, and additional \$1.5 million is required. Phase II of the project will include the Maui Friends of the Library's landscape plan for the Front Street side of the Lahaina Public Library. This is County land enriched in historic significance. MFOL's landscape plan includes all native plants and trees and a focus on kalo because the area next to the library was the King's taro patch. The landscape plan also includes interpretative panels. It expands the educational reach of the library to what will be a glorious outside garden. Lahaina Restoration is coordinating this project. The Harbor Front Project will be truly transformational for our historic district and give our library an inviting setting for the community to enjoy for years to come. I ask for your continuing support. Thank you very much.

AUDIENCE: . . .*(applause)*. . .

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you. Norm, why don't you hold up. We, we're going to take a short break.

MR. BEZANE (from the audience): It's really short.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay. Come on, come on down, Norm. Come on down. Norm, Norm.

AUDIENCE: Norm, Norm, come. . .

CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay.

MR. BEZANE: Now, I could wear a pink shirt but. . .and I like pink, but I refuse to admit to it. Aloha, Councilmembers. It's nice to see you on the best side of the island, again. I'm going to offer some concise testimony as a 40, 40-year visitor and resident of Maui. I testify in support of the Harbor Project. It is almost the best thing for our historic town since water flowed and taro flourished in Lahaina. Taro, in fact, will be part of the celebration of Hawaiian culture and the library lawn portion of this project. The harbor will get the ambience and the people-friendly atmosphere it deserves. It is the best--I can't read my own writing--oh, it's, it's absolutely the best investment you could make this, this year is to invest in this area of our strong economic engine.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you, Norm. Okay, we'll take a five-minute recess. . . .*(gavel)*. . .

RECESS: 7:34 p.m.
RECONVENE: 7:48 p.m.

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CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay, ladies and gentlemen, we're going to. . .(*gavel*). . .get back to order, please. We appreciate you still remaining with us for the remainder of those wishing to share testimony with the Committee this evening. At this time, I'll call up Flaviana Ancheta. . .and following Flaviana there will be a Joshua Ancheta.

MS. ANCHETA: Thank you so much. Good evening, everyone. I'm here, again, to testify for the Maui Economic Development Board, particularly the Women in Technology. I'm here to testify as the Maui Regional Science Olympiad Director and as a Science Teacher of the Department of Education, Lahaina Intermediate School. So as Maui Regional Director for Science Olympiad, Maui Economic Development Board, Women in Technology has been my partner ever since the inception of the organization when I spearheaded the formation of this Maui Regional Science Olympiad here on Maui. My mission for that being a person who always loved to volunteer, who always loved to be in a workshop, especially science, engineering, technology, and mathematics. So Maui, the Maui Economic Development Board has been providing lots of support and in terms of manpower, in terms of materials, equipment because they have lending library for all the Maui schools to participate in the tournament. At the same time, they have been helpful in terms of funding, giving funds for these schools to be able to participate in the tournament through the different programs that, funding programs that they have. So, I'm here to ask continuously to support funding the Maui Economic Development Board, Women in Technology. And as a science teacher in the middle school for Hawaii Department of Education, I have been. . .Maui Economic Development Board has been very instrumental for all of these students, especially in the public schools, to be attending the workshops that they sponsor, so many. . .hands-on activities that they provide for the different schools on Maui. So. . .and on top of that, they also provide a stipend for teachers to be able to attend the workshops, at the same time sometimes most of the workshops are give. . .sending out incentives to the different schools.

MS. WILLENBRINK: Thirty seconds.

MS. ANCHETA: Okay. So please continue to support Maui Economic Development Board. I ask humbly for your continuous funding of their organization. Thank you very much.

AUDIENCE: . . .(*applause*). . .

CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay. Thank you. Joshua Ancheta, and he'll be followed by Louise Rockett.

MR. ANCHETA: Hi, I'm Josh Ancheta. Aloha to you all. I'm a senior at Maui Prep, and I am testifying on behalf of the construction, of the continuous funding for the construction of Kaanapali. . .expansion of Kaanapali water systems. So in my environmental science class we visited the water reclamation facility in Honokowai, and so I just thought that these, these types of expansions are important for water conservation. I believe in the past the EPA has sued Maui County for the way that we treat our water.

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So, I believe that we need to update the way that we treat our wastewater, and I believe that 350,000 gallons a day will be. . .there will be an increase, 350,000 gallons a day will be reused with this funding. So please support this construction for the expansion of the Kaanapali water systems. Thank you.

AUDIENCE: . . .*(applause)*. . .

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you. Louise. Following Ms. Rockett will be Lou Ann Andrade.

MS. ROCKETT: Good evening.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Good evening.

MS. ROCKETT: I want to thank you, Riki, for that mailer you sent everybody. It, it was very good of you. I appreciate that. Also, thank everybody for attending here tonight. So every year I have a New Year's pledge, to try and make it a better year, world. One year I quit using napkins and paper towels. Another year I quit eating meat and poultry raised in factories. This year I'm trying to be a nicer person; that's not going as well as I'd like.

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

MS. ROCKETT: But about ten years ago with the birth of my first grandchild, I pledged to start recycling. I was living in Puna on the Big Island at the time, and the recycling stations on the Big Island are absolutely citizen-friendly. Maui should model our stations after theirs. It's a big island, so the number of stations are strategically placed close to town centers. When I moved back to Maui, I was happy that there was a recycling station near my home in Napili. But about a year ago or more, the recycling drop-box station in Napili was taken away, likewise with the drop station on Lahainaluna Road. There is, however, a redemption center on Lahainaluna Road but not drop-box recycling. So to continue with my pledge to recycle in the name of my grandchildren, I drive 13 miles to Olowalu to recycle. . .oh, I'm sorry. . .I drive, oh, to recycle through one of the most heavily-trafficked areas on our island, adding to the traffic flow. Additionally, I have to travel on Highway 30, the only roadway in and out of West Maui and to get to Olowalu. Turning left out of that Olowalu station can be really scary. So, I only go right and get to Launiupoko and go all around. So by recycling I add to the traffic flow through Lahaina using non-used, non-energy, non-renewable energy oil and contribute to the greenhouse gases in our atmosphere. I asked the Mayor last year how much money is allocated to Kihei for, for recycling.

MS. WILLENBRINK: Thirty seconds.

MS. ROCKETT: I asked how much money was in Lahaina, and I didn't get an answer. In any case, I urge the County Council to set aside funding so that recycling is

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conveniently available and fairly allocated no matter what district on the island you live in. Thank you.

AUDIENCE: . . .(applause) . . .

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you. Okay. Lou Ann Andrade.

MS. ANDRADE: Aloha. Good evening, everybody.

CHAIR HOKAMA: And following her shall be Bruce Henness.

MS. ANDRADE: So good evening, everybody. I'm here on behalf of the National Kidney Foundation. In December, I made a choice to become an altruistic kidney donor. I donated my left kidney, as you're going to see a picture of. And 600 people in Hawaii right now, in, in Maui--I'm sorry, not Hawaii--are waiting for kidneys, and most of those people are probably not going to get one. Oh, my name is Lou Ann Andrade. I live in Honokowai. I'm a 25-year Maui resident. You've never seen me testifying before you guys before 'cause I think you do a good job, you don't need me. . .

ALL: . . .(chuckle) . . .

MS. ANDRADE: . . .over, over here butting in. But the kidney foundation, really, people need to be screened because as Jill explained earlier, and I won't go over the numbers with you guys, but there's a lot of people with the ethnicity that, that need. . .from the shoyu and the poke and all the good stuff, that need to be screened. And the kidney foundation is screening the low income people, the seniors, the homeless, and I'm also a part of helping that, and I just would like you guys to try to continue your support with the National Kidney Foundation so more people can become living donors and help other people live. Thanks, guys.

AUDIENCE: . . .(applause) . . .

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you. Bruce Henness, and to be followed by Raymond Sievers.

MR. HENNESS: Good evening. . .

CHAIR HOKAMA: Good evening.

MR. HENNESS: . . .Chairman Hokama. . .Finance, or Finance and Committee Councilmembers. I'm here tonight in testimony to support the plan, the budget item for a study of erosion mitigation in Kahana Bay. I have stayed at the Royal Kahana for probably 35 years, now off and on, and just in the last few years the. . .beach erosion has been very difficult, very damaging. And, excuse me, I didn't add, I am an owner at the Royal Kahana. The armored walls just don't play well with others. It's very difficult on properties, on the either side of them usually, and what we're looking to do

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is take off from this. . .the study that will be done by the Corps of Engineers and maybe go the (*inaudible*) project or whatever is suggested. We're also looking into possibilities and doing mapping at the, the reef out in front and looking for a solution that will last in the long haul and that will renourish the beach, will build up the beach, and will provide a, a larger tax base because of additional people visiting the site and vacationing there and make it a win for everybody. And if you'd please give your consideration to the item, and thank you very much for your time.

AUDIENCE: . . .(*applause*). . .

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you. Raymond Sievers, and he would. . .to be followed by Patrick Kelly.

MR. SIEVERS: Thank you, Councilmembers, for hearing us this evening. My name is Raymond Sievers, and I ask that you support the Mayor's proposal for the \$320,000 study for the beach erosion at the Kahana Bay. The problem is continually getting worse. I own and live at the Hololani and we also have a condo at Valley Isle that we've had for 25 years and this, in the last. . .I moved, retired in '01 and moved here, and since then we've had drastic beach erosion and it's always been difficult to get a temporary solving. . .the problem from the Board of Planning to fortify our beach. Now we're at the point on the Hololani that we're less than 20 feet to the north corner of our one building, which according to some of the records we should be able to harden it. It's not our desire to harden it because we're somewhat familiar what the fact that hardening causes problems down the line. So if. . .the, the Mayor has said, put this together so that they can split this money so that the Army Engineer of Corps could go out there and check to see how much sand is out there, the quality of it, how the water is so that maybe the hardening isn't the answer and maybe beach nourishment like they did in Paia is, is important. And this is a very major factor that this test should be made for the benefit of the whole area because as you're already hearing, there's many of us there that are suffering great property losses. In our case it is at the present time, it also have. . .it's affecting the habitable building. Thank you.

AUDIENCE: . . .(*applause*). . .

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you. Patrick Kelly, to be followed by Paul Brown.

MR. KELLY: Good evening, Chair Hokama. . .

CHAIR HOKAMA: Good evening.

MR. KELLY: . . .and Budget and Finance Committee. My name is Patrick Kelly, I'm a 14-year full-time resident at the Royal Kahana Condo in Kahana Bay. I'm here to support the Planning Department budget item for funding a study of erosion mitigation in Kahana Bay, with a view toward restoration of the beach and protection of our property. Until 2004, we were permitted to sandbag the areas of subject severe

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erosion from winter storms. Once winter passed we removed the bags and the natural return of the sand gave us back our beach. Once we could no longer sandbag, a series of storms severely eroded our property to the extent that in 2007, 8 feet, 8 inches of our south boundary fence was no longer on our property but on the beach. We were required to remove it, and by the way, it took us 14 months to get a permit to remove it and \$1,300 to have an archaeologist sit there and watch us take out concrete block and chain link. We've tried to be as responsible as possible. We've gone to all authorities, DLNR, the County looking to do the right thing. I, I fully believe that this study that's proposed is the solution because individually the nine condos on that bay can't possibly afford to go out and do the studies and then you have to get support from all of them to do the work. If the Army Corps of Engineers can determine a real solution, long lasting and permanent for everyone, it'll preserve the beach, prevent temporary hardening. And in our case we are now 34 feet and when I first started working on this project for. . .oh, 2002, I think, we were 56 feet. That's the amount of erosion that's taken place in that amount of time. I feel strongly this budget request will help find an acceptable solution to avoid a worsening problem. Thank you for your consideration.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you.

MR. KELLY: Good night.

AUDIENCE: . . .*(applause)*. . .

MR. BROWN: Good evening and thank you for the opportunity to speak. My name is Paul Brown, I'm a resident of Kahana here in West Maui, and I'm currently the Executive Director of Kapalua Resort Association or KRA and a Board Member of the West Maui Taxpayers Association. I have two funding requests that I would like to see added to the upcoming budget, both of which are supported by WMTA. One is funding for repaving of Lower Honoapiilani Road, from Kahana to Kapalua, and funding assistance for the northward extension of the Kapalua Coastal Trail. I won't expand too much on the lower road repaving issue because I believe that all of the Councilmembers and the Mayor are familiar with the deplorable and unsafe condition of the road. At this point any long-term redesign of the road is many years in the future, but the immediate repaving of the road is critical. Please repave the road and add at least gravel paths on each side of the roadway easement for the safety of the many locals and visitors that walk and drive this scenic road. My primary request is for funding assistance for extension of the Kapalua Coastal Trail. The coastal trail begins at Kapalua Bay and ends at D.T. Fleming Beach Park. The amazing trail provides public access for literally hundreds of people a day along some of the most beautiful coastline on Maui. The trail was built by Maui Land & Pineapple and is maintained by Kapalua Resort Association. KRA would like to extend the trail northward, from Fleming's Beach to Honolua Bay. The trail design was completed and paid for by MLP and all of the necessary permits were issued, although they have now since expired. KRA would like to proceed with construction of the next section, from

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Fleming's to Slaughterhouse Bay, but doesn't have funding available to cover the estimated cost of \$250,000. We recently received a pledge from a State Trails agency to contribute 30,000 towards the project and would like to ask the Mayor and the Council to earmark 150,000 from the County Budget. KRA will work on finding other funding sources to cover the remainder and KRA will maintain the trail after it's built. MLP has granted permanent easements for the trail, which is on MLP land. The coastal trail as well as the other trails in Kapalua--I believe we have about 20 miles of trails--are open to the public, and in fact over 90 percent of the trail users are not Kapalua residents or resort guests, but residents and visitors from other parts of the island. Please help us add another section to this beautiful trail. Thank you.

AUDIENCE: . . .(applause) . . .

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you. Next we ask for Shaugn Guthrie, to be followed by Frank Emanuel.

MR. GUTHRIE: Aloha. Thank you for your time. My name is Shaugn Guthrie. I am a Managing Partner of a small IT management services company in the west side of Maui. I'm here to support the Maui Economic Development Board and to share some of my experiences with them. A recent econ..., economic article, there was said that 80 percent of the world's population will have a supercomputer in their pocket by 2020. At a recent event put on by the Maui Economic Development Board, Senator Brian Schatz had said that 68 percent of all Maui, of all Hawaii businesses don't have an on-line presence. That's a little bit scary and alarming, but it is an opportunity. Through the programs, through the Maui Economic Development Board, they have hosted FaceBook which has allowed entrepreneurs and IT people to use the new social media to reach out to tourism on the mainland, as a lot of visitors are making decisions about activities and what they want to do before they actually come to the island. In the last year, the type of events that I have gone to as when, when you're in school, a university for computer science or learning to (*inaudible*) on your own, you're not really taught about business law, tax law, or how to fund. . .startup the companies. They've made a lot of resources available to us with bringing pro bono lawyers over from Honolulu to assist our startup companies at no charge. And recently, they brought in the U.S. Census Department to let us use tools that are free by the U.S. Government to get better demographics and statistics so that we don't, we can use that for our own business plans. So, I'm here to support Maui Economic Development Board and thank you for your time.

AUDIENCE: . . .(applause) . . .

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you. Frank Emanuel, to be followed by Gina Broadway.

MR. EMANUEL: Good evening, Chair Hokama and Budget and Finance Committee Members. My name is Frank Emanuel and I'm a resident at the Royal Kahana. I'm also here to speak in support of the Kahana Bay shoreline erosion mitigation study. For years the

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method of controlling erosion was armoring with seawalls and similar structures, but those can actually accelerate erosion, particularly at neighboring properties. The study that the Army Corps will do I think will identify alternative methods that will help us preserve our beaches. Sea level is rising and it will continue to rise, and that will cause our beaches to continue to erode. Mitigation and restoration are measures we can take to preserve our County and State's economic life which is tourism. Private owners of the properties may benefit, but the greater benefit by far is to the community as a whole, as tourists when they, when they do come, will spend millions and millions of dollars, and that's just straight income. It's money that is transported directly to our island. If we don't have beautiful, usable, accessible beaches, those tourist won't come or they won't come back, and for that reason I would ask you to support that study. I would also like to speak in support of continued funding for the University of Hawaii coastal processes extension program. It's an invaluable resource for the Planning Department as we seek to understand, plan for, and act upon shoreline changes and the economic impacts. Thank you very much.

AUDIENCE: . . .(applause). . .

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you. Mr. Emanuel, I have a question for you, please.

VICE-CHAIR WHITE: Earlier testifiers said there were nine properties along Kahana Bay. How many of them are armored?

MR. EMANUEL: At least two that I know of.

VICE-CHAIR WHITE: And are they adjacent to your building?

MR. EMANUEL: No, one is one property up and they are adjacent to Hololani, who has suffered a great deal of erosion, as Ray has said, and they are seeking emergency permission for mitigation because their, their buildings are dangerously close to the shore.

VICE-CHAIR WHITE: And it sounds like both organizations have been denied the ability to even put temporary protection there and by sandbagging?

MR. EMANUEL: I think it's been difficult to achieve or difficult to obtain short-term solutions, and short-term solutions are not ideal, but in the current situation where Hololani finds itself and we will probably find ourselves soon, short-term solutions will be necessary while long-term solutions are found. Armoring is not a long-term solution that is going to help us in the long term. But short-term solutions like _____ mattresses and sandbagging can preserve what we have now while the study is undertaken to look at beach nourishment, perhaps groins, or a number of different measures.

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VICE-CHAIR WHITE: Yeah. I guess I, I have a little bit of a problem with the Department allowing. . .I mean they've obviously in the past allowed neighbors to armor and now they're not allowing you to do much at all to protect the, protect what you've got when the waves are high. So, I appreciate all of you coming tonight. Mahalo.

MR. EMANUEL: Thank you very much.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Gina Broadway, please, to be followed by. . .Saman Dias.

MS. BROADWAY: Aloha, my name is Gina Broadway and I am here on behalf of Ka Hale A Ke Ola Resource Center. Last year, I found myself in a situation where I had lost my job and I was homeless, and what was said earlier about one paycheck, one illness, one surgery, it's pretty accurate. Many people on this island are that close to being homeless and I never, for the life of me, thought at the age of 55 that I would have nowhere to live. I slept, attempted to sleep in my car for two weeks, but wasn't able to do that because I was alone and had one eye open all night. And it took me literally two weeks to put aside my pride and seek help at the resource center, and I'm extremely thankful that I did. I'm getting back on my feet, I have a full-time job. What I expected when I went to the resource center as far as homelessness goes and what I have seen is completely two different worlds. I am surrounded by loving, beautiful, hard-working families. I'm on the west side where are three transitional buildings. In the three buildings there were approximately 40-plus children between the age of infancy to teenage years. They are well-adjusted, they are going to school, they're fed, they're happy. They do not call it the resource center or the shelter, they call it home, and that's exactly what it is for them and that's all they have. And it is imperative that whatever assistance that they can get, please, I implore you, help out because the situation's only going to get worse and we, we need to be there for each other. Mahalo.

AUDIENCE: . . .*(applause)*. . .

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you. Saman Dias to be followed by Tom Oxley.

MS. DIAS: Good evening, aloha again. Honorable Chair and Councilmembers, thank you for your service, thank you for coming to visit us here on the west side. As a Maui resident I stand here. . .today. . .and, and my name is Saman Dias, I'm the Chair of Maui Bicycling League. Last year during this time, Mr. Karl Hagen was hit and killed by a truck that drove into the bike lane and it was very said, and I was saddened and encouraged and inspired by this story and decided to start and found Maui Bicycling League, and Maui Bicycling League was born from that incident. And I'm here today to ask you and, and Councilmembers to support the. . .the budget items that's proposed by the Mayor, Northshore Greenway face. . .full project, Kihei Greenway, Paia School, Central Maui Bike and Pedestrian Study, Countywide Bikeway for \$300,000, Countywide Safety Improvement, Countywide Sidewalk Improvement, Countywide Traffic Calming. And I also ask, as a West Maui resident, that allocating

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some of the funds--there's 300,000 allocated--to consider a bike path for West Maui as well. And I thank you for your time.

AUDIENCE: . . .(applause) . . .

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you.

MS. DIAS: Thank you. Aloha.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Tom Oxley, and he will be followed by Nell Woods.

MR. OXLEY: Aloha, my name's Tom Oxley and I thank you for your time coming out here to the West Maui. I'm in support also of the study on the greenways. . .all over the island, particularly the Mayor has looked into the Northshore, Kihei, better safety routes to a school in Paia, Central Maui Bike and Pedestrian Studies, as well as Countrywide [sic] Bikeways and all the other options on that list. I believe it'll be an infrastructure to lead on into West Maui as well. I, I personally commute to work eight miles along the shoulder of the highway on a bicycle, and I know how beautiful the scenery is around here as well as the enjoyment and safety it will bring. It's, it's going to be years down the road before this could ever be completed, but we have to start somewhere and it's a plea that I make personally as a resident here. I'm just been a short, a resident two years and been coming for years, but this will affect and not only the residents and the network of the communities, but enjoyment for the visitors as well. Mahalo.

AUDIENCE: . . .(applause) . . .

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you. Nell Woods, to be followed by Steve Ashfield.

MS. WOODS: Good evening, Chairman Hokama and Members of the Budget and Finance Committee. Thank you for coming to the west side. I was appalled to hear earlier this evening from another testifier that the Mayor's Budget does not include funding for a satellite recycling center somewhere in Maui. As you--in West Maui--as you well know, the satellite facility has bounced around the last several years and was most recently at Napili until it was blatantly discovered that the zoning for that property did not allow for recycling. I appreciate the efforts that the two of you have made to have collection efforts done at Cannery Mall and unfortunately, it's been four or five months since the last one was held, and I would really appreciate it if you could find it in your hearts to do another one. I also encourage you to hold the feet of the Department of Environmental, Waste, and Management to the fire regarding finding a legal site for a satellite recycling center in West Maui. Olowalu is just not convenient. I mean I'm saving, I've got stuff up, built up now for five months. . .(chuckle). . .flattened cardboard, cans, bottles, newspaper. I mean it, it's getting to be a bundle of stuff. It. . .please in your deliberations reinsert funding for a West Maui satellite recycling facility and hold the feet of the Mayor and his Administration to the fire to identify a

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site. I mean, I applaud the efforts of the Lahaina Sunset Rotary Group to raise awareness and raise funding for recycling in West Maui, but without a site awareness and money have no use because you gotta have a place. There's a commitment that is made to the community, and I think that we are just as deserving of the services that are elsewhere available on Maui here on the west side. I also have one potential solution for what I would call the adversarial relationship that has developed between the Mayor's Administration and the Council over the last couple of years. Maui has grown to the point where it is appropriate to have a professional County manager, and we still need a Mayor, you know, there's always ribbon cutting and those kinds of ceremonial events, but we need a professional running Maui County and working with you to do what's best for everyone. It's time for you all to consider that form of County government. Council is, is needed, but a professional individual whose career has been spent learning and doing what is necessary to properly run a County that within ten years will be exponentially larger than it is now. And I thank you all for your time and please have a good evening. Thanks.

AUDIENCE: . . .*(applause)*. . .

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you. Steve Asher, Ashfield--I'm sorry--to be followed by Jeff Brockman.

MR. ASHFIELD: Hi, Steve Ashfield. Just before you ask me, what happened to you, I will use the regular answer. . .you should see what the other guy looks like.

COUNCILMEMBERS: . . .*(chuckle)*. . .

MR. ASHFIELD: I think I hurt his hand when I hit him with my face.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: . . .*(chuckle)*. . .

MR. ASHFIELD: No, what happened, I had a couple of surgeries before I came here. I told my wife, I'm going to go and talk to the Council on budget day, on tax day, and she said you're crazy, but it's gonna happen. It's about three things. One, my usual thing, the cost of this place, \$5 an hour for rent. It should be at least double that. Okay? That's what people pay for a part here, \$5 an hour. Okay. What also happens is the County, us, we have to support that because it costs more than \$5 an hour for this. What you can do is lower the custodial, lower the key, key deposit, raise the rent, and you'll look better because it costs them less. The other thing is, people who take Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, take all three days, take a lot of money out of the County because we're supporting them three times. That leaves 50 people could use this place instead of 150, and my feeling is the County is for service. The second thing is fields, we need a soccer field, and we need a rugby and a football field. When somebody's going to give us land, those two things should be the utmost of what's gotta be built in West Maui. We have one regulation soccer field and one regulation football field. We got all sorts of ball fields and that stuff--we have enough of

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those--and they don't need lights because the problem with lights is people complain about 'em and you had given 'em the lights, nobody ever says who's going to pay for the electricity for the lights, which comes a real problem later 'cause then we gotta steal something else. The last thing is about recycling, everybody says we need a place. I have a place, the same place where it was. The man who does the redemption there, which is Lahaina International Marketplace, will give you the area for free, free, \$0. He just wants to put the containers back there. So now we have a place that everybody was talking about. Can we use it? I'm tired of driving to Olowalu. The problem with Olowalu was two-fold. One, 8 miles back and forth. Two, it closes at 2:30. So all the people that live up Lahainaluna Road can't get there, only on Saturday. So please try to make it happen, and free sounds pretty good to me. Thank you.

AUDIENCE: . . .(applause) . . .

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you. Jeff Brockman, followed by Carmen Karady.

MR. BROCKMAN: Aloha. I'm the Manager at Pohailani Maui in Kahana Bay, and I'm here to speak about the erosion mitigation as well. Our property is one of the properties that has an armored wall, and you were asking before about the armored wall. The problem is the armored wall doesn't work either. We've had a wall out there. . .I think historically since the mid-'90s. It's been re-braced, rebuilt a number of times from the backside, but it's failing as well. Unless you have an armored wall that would go down to hit bedrock, which is way, way, way low, the water still goes under, still gets sinkholes, still have problems. So our property is armored, but it's still a problem. So in the seven years I've been living there, it's gotten progressively worse. I don't see it getting any better. It gets very expensive trying to, to keep. . .about fixing a wall that's really. . .it's just throwing good money after bad as far as I can tell, and very much in favor of a, of an erosion, mitigation type of solution and I hope you guys consider that. Thank you very much.

AUDIENCE: . . .(applause) . . .

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you. Carmen Karady, to be followed by Butch Soares.

MS. KARADY: Aloha, Honorable Chair and County Councilmembers. My name is Carmen Karady and I'm a member of the Maui Bicycling League. First of all, I'd like to commend you on the strides you have made making Maui a safer place to walk or ride a bicycle. . .specifically referring to the Northshore Greenway, the Kihei Greenway, the Paia Safe Routes for School, and the Countywide Sidewalk Improvements. But I would like to specifically address the budget, the \$300,000 allotted for Countywide Bikeways, and we ask that the \$300,000 budgeted for Countywide Bikeways be for the West Maui Gateway or the Greenway, excuse me. And we have Lee Chamberlain, one of our leaders here in our group, who has been working side by side with the. . .owners of the property along the, along the train tracks and that he would, we would like to work

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with the West Maui Greenway and the Public Works Department in moving this project forward for 200 and . . .for 2016. So if you would consider that, that \$300,000 and applying that to West Maui so that we can have leisurely bike rides and safe pedestrian walkways, we'd appreciate it very much. Mahalo.

AUDIENCE: . . .*(applause)*. . .

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you. Butch Soares, and he'll be followed by Theo Morrison.

MR. SOARES: Chairman and fellow Councilmembers, I am almost speechless because for a Portuguese to speak less than three minutes is very difficult.

ALL: . . .*(chuckle)*. . .

MR. SOARES: Just giving you a heads-up.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Good try, Butch. Good try. . . .*(chuckle)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: You can do it, Butch. . . .*(chuckle)*. . .

MR. SOARES: Forget the right. I'm here on behalf of the Maui County Fire and Safety Commission. I happen to be the current Chairman of the Commission and I've been on the Commission, this is my second, second experience at it and total of nine years. I'm going to ask you to do something that you probably think I'm a little strange, but I'm going to ask you to consider supporting the Budget of the Fire Department the way it's been submitted. Every year the budget gets submitted and every year the powers that be makes alterations. Every year the Fire Chief has to go back and get amendments to cover the shortages of his payroll. My understanding is if you give him all the money that he wants and he doesn't spend it, you get it back. I may be wrong, but that's my understanding. The other thing that we look at is the submission of equipment needs. We submit for equipment and it get, it gets cut and then we resubmit it, then it gets cut. In the meantime all the equipment that we do have is now 25 or 30 years old. When we look at the Fire and, especially for me, and naturally the Police, they're the first responders. If I call 911, chances are I'm going to get a policeman or a fireman, chances are I'm not going to see too many other people from the County. These two departments are very, very important for the safety and welfare of the residents of Maui County. The other thing that I know you're looking at is with regard to the budget is the ocean safety merger. The Department has asked--

MS. WILLENBRINK: Thirty seconds.

MR. SOARES: The, the three minutes doesn't count. It starts now. Anyway, the, the ocean safety merger has been a challenge because the Fire Chief has been trying to get the necessary information from either the Administration or the Parks Department in the last month or two. All of a sudden the light came on and he's getting a better

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response, so hopefully that will happen. But our vision is it's not going to happen much before the 1st of July. And having said that, I just want you to be aware that I've gone to four different conferences over the nine years with the fire chiefs of all the State. The only thing I can walk away from all of the different conferences and listening to all these speakers is I came to the realization that Maui County is very lucky, not necessarily lucky, but somewhere along the line a decision was made and we have the best Fire Chief in the State of Hawaii. We just did an evaluation of him and it just was amazing the way he scored so high. So to me we've got, we've got the people in place, they need the funding, they need the equipment, and they're all very highly motivated to do the job right. And in answer to the three minutes, I just want 30 seconds because I have a question for you nine people. Your nine Solomons, okay, so you guys make all these ultimate decisions. I guess the question is what percent of Maui County taxes are generated from West Maui and what part of those taxes get returned to West Maui? You guys gotta figure it out and answer the question and if you want to call me, you can call me--don't call collect, but call me. Okay.

AUDIENCE: . . .*(chuckle)*. . .

MR. SOARES: And having said that, I've listened to Peggy Robertson--she's gone--I was born and raised 74 years ago on Wahikuli Road. It hasn't improved very much, okay, but I can also tell you that one of the main streets in Lahaina town is a disgrace to Maui County. I am embarrassed and I rarely drive on it because you feel every bump. Pave Wainee Street. Drive on it and then tell me you guys had a good ride. If you did, you got a Lexus.

AUDIENCE: . . .*(chuckle)*. . .

MR. SOARES: Thank you.

AUDIENCE: . . .*(applause)*. . .

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you, Butch. Theo Morrison, to be followed by Luz Tuttle.

MS. MORRISON: Okay. Thank you. Aloha, Council Chair Mike White, Budget Chair Riki Hokama, and Councilmembers. Thank you for coming to Lahaina tonight. My name is Theo Morrison, I'm Executive Director of Lahaina Restoration Foundation. So I'm here today to support, to voice my support for Phase II of Lahaina Harbor Front Project and Boat Day Fun for the Lahaina-Honolua Seniors. The seniors began performing for the cruise ships when I used to run the Boat Day program. In those days, prior to 911, we were allowed on the ships and the captains usually invited us for lunch. So during those times I'd ask the captains what was the, how much, what else could we do to welcome your, the passengers to Lahaina, and they always said you're doing the best thing you possibly could do with having the seniors out there dancing and singing, and the passengers would pass that information on to the captains. So, I heard that from multiple captains of the cruise ships. So it's a really

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important program and I hope you continue it, and the seniors really enjoy doing that, too. I'm also voicing my support for funding for Phase II of the Lahaina Harbor Front Project. The Harbor Front Project came about in 2012 when LRF went to the community and said, we think the Lahaina Harbor Front area is highly significant, culturally and historically, as well as one of the most beautiful areas on Maui, but it is tired, worn out, and unsafe. What do you guys think? The community agreed with our assessment and we said, okay, let's work together to make this area a place that the community wants to come to, not a place that the community wants to avoid. We held public meetings for nine months and we came up with a well thought-out plan. We received 750,000 in County funding this Fiscal Year and we are currently in the permit process, with construction to start next March. If we receive Phase II funding of 1.5 million, we can begin the design process for that phase this October, with the whole project expected to be complete by Summer of 2017. West Maui, Lahaina is the economic engine for this County, generating over \$1 million in property taxes annually. The last major County improvement project in Lahaina was the Front Street Project in 1997. That was 18 years ago. So what are the expected outcomes of the Harbor Front Project? Instead of the worn out, congested, tired looking harbor front we have today, we can expect a vibrant waterfront where there's ample shade and seating, where our important Hawaiian history and culture is in the forefront. The area will attract the visitor and resident alike with new walking paths, interpretive signs, new lighting, and native plantings. We will have community harvest in the taro patch followed by a community dinner in the park. The 60-foot wooden flag pole at the Old Lahaina Courthouse which fell down in March of 2013--

MS. WILLENBRINK: Thirty seconds.

MS. MORRISON: --will be replaced. LRF will fund cultural experts to provide daily programs in the park, and the business community will fund an aloha ambassador to direct traffic and prevent congestion. We ask that you add the \$1.5 million to the Budget so the dreams and plans of the Lahaina community can come to fruition, and West Maui, which provides the lion's share of the property taxes that fund the County, can reap some of the benefits. Mahalo.

AUDIENCE: . . .(applause). . .

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you. Theo, hold on, please.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Thank you, Theo.

MS. MORRISON: Sure.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: I, I see your plans here and I think they're great plans. One of the questions is how much of it. . .I, I see that some of this is on State property, it appears. Is that right or is that all County property?

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MS. MORRISON: No, it's all. . .the County is funding County property. If you look at that one section, it has the black dotted line. . .

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Uh-huh.

MS. MORRISON: . . .that is DLNR. . .

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: And they're gonna--

MS. MORRISON: . . .that is funding that whole thing, that section and although, although I believe some of that is actually on County property.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Okay. All of it is County--

MS. MORRISON: But no, County money for County property. Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Great. Thank you.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you, Theo.

MS. MORRISON: Yes. I learned that from Mike Victorino. . . *(chuckle)*. . .

CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay. Luz Tuttle, okay, and following her shall be Mike McAfee.

MS. TUTTLE: Good evening. Thank you very much for listening. My name is Myriam Tuttle and I am here to testify on behalf of Ka Hale A Ke Ola Homeless Resource Center. I'm a legal alien and I have lived in Maui since July 2008. On March 13th, my husband hit me, threatened to kill me and abandoned me, depriving me of all economic support and my children. As an alien with no friends and family in the country, it was very painful and scary not to know where to go. In the most critical point of my trial, somebody pointed to the shelter, first in Kahului and now here in Lahaina, as a place where I would seek refuge. A lot has happened since then. Today I'm standing before you a naturalized citizen of the United States. I have two part-time jobs, a car, and in the shelter I found not only a clean and safe place to live which rent I can actually afford, but I also have always been supported and guided through the many classes they give and meetings with counselors fully equipped to teach, to listen, to guide, to encourage. Most recently, they have heart, have had the heart to assign me a rental unit where I can have overnight visits with my kids. On behalf of all the legal immigrants and survivors of domestic violence, I kindly ask you support, to support all the low income housing facilities in the County, but most especially Ka Hale A Ke Ola because they are struggling and they shouldn't, as they are not only doing their job, but they are also very aware of the importance of their role in the recovery of people in need, but also heartfelt committed to help to stand, to help people to stand on their feet with hard work, dignity, and respect. Thank you.

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AUDIENCE: . . .(applause) . . .

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you. Mike McAfee.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER (from the audience): He left. He's going to. . .excuse me, Chair, he's going to go ahead and submit written testimony.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay. Thank you very much for letting us know. Beatriz Cruz. Beatriz, are you here? Beatriz Cruz? Laurie Lawson, and following her shall be Lars Johnson.

MS. LOWSON: Good evening, Chairman Hokama and Councilmembers. My name is Laurie Lawson, I am a realtor, and I am an owner and the President of the Board of Pohailani Maui. Pohailani Maui consists of 114 condos on 8 acres mauka and makai along Kahana Bay shoreline. I'm here tonight to offer testimony in support of the Department of Planning's budget item for the, a study of erosion mitigation in Kahana Bay on West Maui. We are concerned about the impacts the proposed shoreline armoring within Kahana Bay, including acceleration of erosion along neighboring properties. As an alternative to armoring, we support the concept of regional beach restoration for all of Kahana Bay that will be the focus of this study. The Japanese tsunami created a large open sink hole on the north end of our property behind our seawall. It took 18 months to get approval for repairing the damage and left a very dangerous situation for all guests of the property. The seawall was repaired and the sink hole was filled following County and State approvals. This was a considerable expense to the AOA of Pohailani Maui. We are not a rich oceanfront property. Sales of the oceanfront studio run between 250,000 and \$365,000. Gross real property tax revenues for the year probably run around \$200,000. This past February there was a westerly swell, which again impacted the ground behind the Pohailani seawall. There is currently one smaller sinkhole and two very squishy areas behind the seawall in new and different areas. We are asking that the County of Maui fund the study to explore options to armoring Kahana Bay. In addition, Pohailani Maui would to ask that the construction of sidewalks from Hoohui Road to Napilihau Road be started and completed at this time. Several years ago, Pohailani Maui sold land to the County of Maui for the widening--

MS. WILLENBRINK: Thirty seconds.

MS. LOWSON: --of the lower road and the installation of sidewalks. I have brought this up to the Mayor and County Council several times. Every time I am told that this project is on the books to start this year. To date, the road improvement and the sidewalk installation have not been started. The time is now. Lower Honoapiilani Road is a disaster waiting to happen and the new bus loading zones are further complicating the situation. Thank you very much.

AUDIENCE: . . .(applause) . . .

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CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you. Lars Johnson, and he will be followed by Joseph Pluta.

MR. JOHNSON: Hello, Honorable Councilmembers, Mr. Chairman. My name is Lars Johnson, and I'm here to testify for MEO and the amazing things that they've done for me, and there is a tie-in with a bunch of other things in here. I'm a lifelong diabetic. I'm actually suffering right now from some kidney problems. . .I, I. . .it's part of heart disease and I was born with a bad ticker and all those wonderful things that happen when you're supposed to be much older than I am, but it happened at a much earlier and faster pace. I found myself in New Jersey about 10 months ago wanting to come home, this is my home as it is for you. This is not my lifelong home, this is my generational home. It goes back, I think it's 12 generations that have lived on this island. I, I care about this place very much. And I'm glad to know that there's a Council of people who care about it like I do. So, I would never be this bold as to tell you how to do your jobs because I know you're doing it from the heart. No one takes this job for any other reason. I, I was doing pretty well in New Jersey and, and I came upon some money and I decided I was going to come home, and I had a heart attack in October and I found myself living at Ka Hale A Ke Ola--don't know how the hell it happened. It wasn't supposed to happen, it wasn't in my plan. But that resource center offered things to me that I didn't even know existed. I thought MEO was just the buses. I thought it was just little programs here and there, and then I found out about something called Core Four and this gentleman Craig Swift who teaches it, and my life changed. I have been up at the resource center since October. I came up with a business idea and, and Craig pushed me along. And it's April 15th and you guys are making jokes about money, and I was just thinking about the projected cash flow plans from the company that I'm starting, that has started, Aumakua Special, Special Adventures. The projection is \$6 million of revenue shot back into the community in the next three years. It sounds crazy.

MS. WILLENBRINK: Thirty seconds.

MR. JOHNSON: It sounds crazy, but. . .I went to Cornell, I've got a Master's Degree from Cornell. I went to Pepperdine, I've got a Bachelor's from there. My whole background is business, and I knew that I couldn't do anything where I was at, and somehow the resources that were available. . .at that resource center that I used to drive by and hate. I'd look at it and I'd say, how do people end up in there? I never thought I would end up in there. And because I ended up in there, I'm going to be a more resourceful person than I ever was before. I've been able to create something that I never dreamed possible. Disabled people are forgotten on this island and the ones that are just forgotten the most are the tourists, 250,000 people show up on this island every year, 8 percent of 'em are disabled. I've watched people roll up and down Front Street trying to get through the crowds. So, I decided to start a business to help them, and because of the help of Hale, Ka Hale A Ke Ola and MEO, it's real, and I just wanted you to think about that one when it comes around. Thank you.

AUDIENCE: . . .(applause) . . .

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CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you.

MR. PLUTA: Awesome. Hard to follow that emotional testimony. That was awesome. Thank you. Thank you, Council Chairman Hokama, Mike White, and Councilmembers--all of you I feel like a family. . .35, 37 years I've been coming to this thing and it's awesome, but it's gotten better and better and better, and so was the Council, may I say. I, I'm really impressed with our. . .I think we're in good shape with this group. Thank you very much for your service and as well as membership. I know that for 37 years ago when we started the West Maui Taxpayers Association and we're trying to bring attention to the west side, we went from hardly anybody, the big crowd was 12 people, till the last time we've had 350-plus people. So it's. . .I love this community, I love all of you and what you're doing, and you got a big job ahead of you, I know you're up for the task. I want to make sure I thanked you for coming here and for what you've been doing. You've been doing a phenomenal job. You, you'll know how to handle all these inputs in this budget; I know that, you've got the expertise. The challenges that you have are incredible, but they're all doable, I know they're all doable. One of the things that you. . .I know that you know is that the State right now seems to be not recognizing that we're important. There's no coordinator right now between the State of Hawaii and Maui County. What's up with that? I don't know what you can do about that, if there's anything. But I, I want to ask Roz Baker and Angus McKelvey what, what's up with that? I mean, you know, how come we don't have a Governor coordinator? As far as the budget's concerned, I've had the opportunity to serve on different commissions and so forth. I think it's another time you've got the creative ideas to think out of the box. You're going to have look at ways to be more efficient. There's backlogs that gotta be caught up. You can't, you know, money doesn't solve all problems all the time, sometimes you've gotta cut expenses, be more efficient. And my time on the Water Resources Commission, I saw that we had \$80 million of water projects that were all completely never done because there was not enough County engineers so they couldn't get done, so it didn't get done. Money went back to the General Fund, the project's never got done, period, done. Those were hard-fought for projects, \$80 million worth that didn't get done. You want to know why are we behind and why are all these things there? Well, they don't get done because of the, there's not enough County engineers and, and that's the reason why they don't get it. So think about temporary hiring outside people holding them to County standards, professionals temporary basis, catchup, let 'em go, then you don't have retirement benefits, pensions and all that stuff, but you caught up. Then you don't lose the money that was fought for to do those big important CIP projects. We can't fall back anymore in water. I mean, that's so crucial. So, I'm glad to give more information to Gladys and her Committee later on about that, that study. But thank you all for what you do.

AUDIENCE: . . .(applause). . .

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CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you, Joe. I'd like to call up Lee Chamberlain. Lee is the last gentleman that has requested to testify. If there's anyone else that would like to share comment with the Committee this evening, please make yourself known after Mr. Chamberlain.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN: Well, good evening.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Good evening.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN: Nice to see you all again. We had an opportunity to, to meet each other early this morning and, again, my name is Lee Chamberlain. And I provided testimony this morning relative to the west side and the Maui Bicycle League, and tonight I want to go ahead and speak as a private, new business owner in support of the Maui Economic Development Board. Just about a year ago I decided to go ahead and start a little business dealing with electric bicycles, and I started that because I thought that the electric bicycle really was an alternate means of transportation that could be viable for the community because I thought it being eco-friendly, functional, affordable, it would be perfect and reduce the congestion that we seem to be constantly faced with here on the island. The first thing that happened to me was, is on my first rides after I got my first bicycles, I was coming down Honoapiilani Highway here coming up the Safeway intersection and a car came right past me and then a right-hand turn in front of me and I ran right into the side of them just like that, bang. And then I realized that I have a problem here with infrastructure. And so consequently, I realized that not only do I have a new business I have to start thinking how to support, but now I have to come up with what is going to make it more viable. We have a problem with infrastructure. So, I started figuring out what am I going to do with that? And one of the great resources that I found was the Maui Economic Development Board. They have been indispensable for me in regards to navigating this whole process and being able to reach you and actually being able to understand how the whole process works and, and ask you for the needs that we have over here and try to make you understand the purpose of what I have and what I'm trying to do here. But they have just been, gone overboard all the time, and whatever request I had they, he's coming, Frank is coming with me to the Mayor's Office and many of your offices to sit there and guide and help me and, and assist me in navigating and going through this whole process of trying to overcome some of the obstacles that I see here in front of me. So, I just want to thank you, Councilmembers, of course, and think that I want to go ahead and request that the grant for the Maui Economic Development Board be, of course, approved. It's a very, very valuable resource for me and I'm sure of many others. I'm sure it's just not me that's received the same services. So it's absolutely fantastic. Thank you very much. Good evening.

AUDIENCE: . . .(applause). . .

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you. Anyone wishing to testify? Mr. Duey?

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MR. DUEY: My name is John Duey, Iao Valley. Two quick things. I know my wife thanked you, but I wanted to thank you again personally for pushing the resolution through to restore the, the name to Wailuku River. And I want to publicly thank Kim Willenbrink for her help in that process. A little cold water. A couple of months ago or so I'd seen in the paper the Mayor's Budget and I think it was the 16 percent increase in the budget, so I immediately sat down and wrote a letter to the Social Security Administration asking for a 16 percent increase in my social security, and I have not got a letter back from Social Security yet. I'm waiting. I don't think there's anybody in this room or has been in this room tonight that is going to expect a 16 percent increase in their pay this coming year. So, I guess if you ask for a 16 percent, you might get 8; you ask 8, you might get 4. I'm saying cut the bloody budget down and keep it, keep it at a cost of living allowance increase. We can't afford the Mayor's Budget; it's a little bit ridiculous. Thanks for listening. Aloha.

AUDIENCE: . . .(applause) . . .

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you, Mr. Duey. And, John, if you could later on take care the paperwork, please, with our Staff. . .you know who Kim is.

MR. DUEY: Will do.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you. Anyone else would like to give testimony, please? Okay, please come forward.

MR. BUIKA: Thank you, Chair Hokama and Council, for allowing me to join in here. My name is Jim Buika, I'm a citizen of Wailuku. I'm also a County Planner. It. . .my comments are, since it's at the end, I just wanted to let you know that my experience last year with the budget, it's more of a structural issue, that I just thought I would as a group let you know what happened. We received a NOAA grant for \$178,000 January, January of 2014. We were about ready, right about now, the middle of April to come to the Council to accept the money. For, for the County to accept money, grants from the outside, we have to go. . .you, you know how it works, you have to come to the Council. But because you guys were beginning the budget. . .series of months here, you. . .your, your meetings were so stacked up, we could not get to you until August. So we were ready to take the money in April. If we could've, if we could've gotten it in April, we could've started probably May or June getting the money. But it took us an entire year for us from, from University of Hawaii to the County to receive the funds, and part of the gap was this structural issue of not being able to get on the Council because of the packed budget and accept the money. So my, my thought as a solution would be, just like public testimony, maybe once a week at the beginning with public testimony be able to have a slot where you could accept funds into the Budget to, to make it efficient, something like that, or some, some structural way of adding money on a continual basis. So, you know, we just ran up against that, the budget crunch and we weren't able to get on the budget until August.

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So that was my one comment that I wanted to offer you to consider sometime this year. Thank you.

AUDIENCE: . . .(applause). . .

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you. Mr. Buika, if you could take care the paperwork with our Staff, please, for recordkeeping. Is there anyone else would like to share testimony? If not, thank you very much for your attendance this evening, drive safely, and God bless all of you.

ACTION: DEFER pending further discussion.

CHAIR HOKAMA: This meeting is adjourned. . . .(gavel). . .

ADJOURN: 8:59 p.m.

APPROVED:



RIKI HOKAMA, Chair
Budget and Finance Committee

bf:min:150415-West Maui

Transcribed by: Tammy M. Frias