

COUNCIL OF THE COUNTY OF MAUI

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, ENERGY,
AGRICULTURE, AND RECREATION
COMMITTEE**

October 16, 2015

**Committee
Report No. _____**

Honorable Chair and Members
of the County Council
County of Maui
Wailuku, Maui, Hawaii

Chair and Members:

Your Economic Development, Energy, Agriculture, and Recreation Committee, having met on September 29, 2015, makes reference to the following:

1. County Communication 13-325, from Councilmember Don S. Guzman, on the matter relating to the Maui County landscape planting plan.
2. County Communication 15-214, from the Director of Parks and Recreation, transmitting a draft landscape planting plan entitled "MAUI COUNTY PLANTING PLAN, THIRD EDITION".

Your Committee notes the Council's Economic Development, Energy, Agriculture, and Recreation Committee (2013-2015 Council term) met on County Communication 13-325 on November 14, 2014, and December 2, 2014.

Your Committee further notes the Council referred County Communication 13-325 to your Committee (County Communication 15-2) at its meeting of January 2, 2015.

By correspondence dated September 23, 2015, the Chair of your Committee transmitted a proposed resolution entitled "PROVIDING COMMENTS ON DRAFT MAUI COUNTY PLANTING PLAN, THIRD EDITION." The purpose of the proposed resolution is to provide comments on the plan.

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Your Committee notes Section 12.24A.030(C)(1), Maui County Code ("MCC"), requires the Maui County Arborist Committee to prepare, for review by the Mayor and Council, a landscape planting plan that is to serve as a guide for the care, preservation, pruning, planting, replanting, removal, and disposition of planted material in public areas. Section 12.24A.040(B), MCC, requires the Council to review and comment on the plan. Thereafter, the Arborist Committee must hold one public hearing, and then submit the plan, with any amendments, as approved by the Arborist Committee, to the Mayor, for approval. The plan takes effect upon the Mayor's approval.

Your Committee further notes the Maui County Landscape Planting Plan was originally adopted in 1991 and has been revised only once, in 1993.

A representative of the Arborist Committee informed your Committee an update of the plan was needed to eliminate invasive species from the landscape planting plan, increase tree canopies and parking lot shade, expand the list of native-Hawaiian plants, and include an alphabetical list of plants by common and scientific names.

The Arborist Chair further advised your Committee the plan updates the prior edition and includes the following elements:

1. New chapters on the history of the Arborist Committee, County planting zones, highway-median trees, and parking-lot shade trees.
2. Expanded guidelines and information on sound, wind, and visual barriers; the exceptional tree program; planting, care, and maintenance; ground covers and drought-tolerant plants; native Hawaiian and Polynesian-introduced species; and alien and invasive species.

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The Arborist Chair emphasized the need to implement the following plan recommendations:

1. Utilize a mixture of varieties of street trees to prevent devastation by pests.
2. Increase tree-canopy and parking-lot shade by requiring a large-crown shade tree for every five parking spaces.
3. Expand use of native-Hawaiian plants.
4. Follow best management practices for pruning and planting.

The Arborist Chair also stated the Arborist Committee incorporated suggestions from many reviewers, including organizations such as the Maui Association of Landscape Professionals and Maui Green & Beautiful; State and County officials; and volunteers, including former members of the Arborist Committee.

The County Arborist expressed concern about the plan's reductions in the expected mature height, width, and spread of some trees. But the Arborist Committee representative stated the revised sizes are justified in accordance with expert opinion.

Your Committee voted to revise the proposed resolution to express its support for the plan.

Your Committee extended its appreciation to the Arborist Committee and all those who worked on the updated plan.

Your Committee voted 4-0 to recommend adoption of the proposed resolution and filing of the communication. Committee Chair Guzman and members Crivello, Victorino, and White voted "aye." Committee Vice-Chair Cochran, and members Couch and Hokama were excused.

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Your Committee is in receipt of a revised proposed resolution, incorporating your Committee's recommended revisions.

Your Economic Development, Energy, Agriculture, and Recreation Committee RECOMMENDS the following:

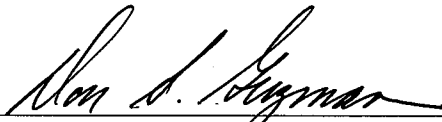
1. That Resolution _____, attached hereto, entitled "PROVIDING COMMENTS ON DRAFT MAUI COUNTY PLANTING PLAN, THIRD EDITION," be ADOPTED;
2. That County Communication 13-325 be FILED; and
3. That County Communication 15-214 be FILED.

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This report is submitted in accordance with Rule 8 of the Rules of the Council.



DON S. GUZMAN, Chair

ear:cr:15010aa:scb

Resolution

No. _____

PROVIDING COMMENTS ON DRAFT MAUI COUNTY PLANTING PLAN, THIRD EDITION

WHEREAS, Section 12.24A.030(C)(1), Maui County Code (“MCC”), requires the Maui County Arborist Committee (“Arborist Committee”) to have a landscape planting plan (“Plan”) prepared, which shall serve as a guide for the care, preservation, pruning, planting, replanting, removal, and disposition of planted material in public areas throughout the County; and

WHEREAS, Section 12.24A.030(C)(1), MCC, requires the Arborist Committee to submit the Plan for review to the Council and the Mayor; and

WHEREAS, Section 12.24A.040(B)(2), MCC, requires the Arborist Committee to hold at least one public hearing on the Plan prior to its submission to the Mayor, and to submit the Plan to the Council for its review and comment prior to the holding of the public hearing; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 12.24A.040(B)(3), MCC, after holding a public hearing, the Plan may be amended or approved by the Arborist Committee and shall take effect upon approval by the Mayor; and

WHEREAS, upon its approval by the Mayor, the Plan shall serve as an advisory document to all County departments; and

WHEREAS, the Arborist Committee completed a revision of the Maui County Planting Plan and, by County Communication 15-214, the Director of Parks and Recreation transmitted to the Council the draft Maui County Planting Plan, Third Edition, for the Council’s review and comment; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the County of Maui:

1. That it hereby provides its comments on the draft Maui County Planting Plan, Third Edition, in Exhibit “1”, attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference; and

Resolution No. _____

2. That certified copies of this resolution be transmitted to Kimberly Thayer, Chairperson, Maui County Arborist Committee; the Director of Parks and Recreation; and the Honorable Alan M. Arakawa, Mayor, County of Maui.

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EXHIBIT "1"

1. The Council supports approval of the draft "MAUI COUNTY PLANTING PLAN, THIRD EDITION" without revision.
2. The Council supports the following suggestions of the Plan:
 - a) Increased shade trees for parking lots and lining streets and highways;
 - b) Policies implementing appropriate deep watering for trees to prevent pavement damage by roots; and
 - c) Increased use of native Hawaiian plants, drought-tolerant species, and wind-resistant species.