

**BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE**  
Council of the County of Maui

**MINUTES**

**April 5, 2016**

**Kihei Community Center, Main Hall**

**CONVENE:** 6:02 p.m.

**PRESENT:** Councilmember Riki Hokama, Chair  
Councilmember Robert Carroll, Member  
Councilmember Elle Cochran, Member  
Councilmember Don Couch, Member  
Councilmember Stacy Crivello, Member  
Councilmember Don S. Guzman, Member (in 6:12 p.m.)  
Councilmember Michael P. Victorino, Member

**EXCUSED:** VOTING MEMBERS:  
Councilmember Mike White, Vice-Chair  
Councilmember Gladys C. Baisa, Member

**STAFF:** Carla Nakata, Legislative Attorney  
Steve Selee, Legislative Analyst  
Raynette Yap, Substituting Committee Secretary  
Adrienne Nalette, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Don Couch  
Troy Hashimoto, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Mike White  
Morris Haole, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Robert Carroll  
Sarah Pajimola, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Elle Cochran

**ADMIN.:** *In the audience:*  
John Buck, Executive Assistant I, Office of the Mayor  
Mary Kielty, Parks & Recreation District Supervisor III, Department of Parks  
and Recreation

**OTHERS:** Marik Fontanilla for Shelby Fontanilla  
Daniel Balalio  
Kealii Benjamin  
Kenneth Cuadro  
Kranz Dahilig  
Kaiyle Okada  
Brianna Bista  
Iokepa Meno  
Edwin Estabillo  
Megan Bisquera  
Jill Noelani Teneza  
Cilma Chan  
Mikaela Bisquera  
Mike Moran, President, Kihei Community Association

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Robert Tom Norton  
Paul Schumacher, Jr.  
Susan Wyche, Director of Grant Development, UH Maui College  
Amy Maeda, Program Director, Hale Kau Kau  
John Tomoso, Executive Council, Tri-Isle RC&D Council  
Rachael Ale  
Magaly Tapia  
Samuel Spurrier, Wailea Beach Marriott Resort and Spa  
Michael Reyes, Associate Director, Central Maui Soil and Water  
Conservation District  
John Laney  
Loz Tuttle for Nelly Campozano-Ortiz  
Loz Tuttle for Veronica Mendoza  
Doug McLeod  
Rita Cognion  
Adele Rugg, Kihei Community Association  
John Fitzpatrick  
Daniel Kanahale, President, Maui Meadows Neighborhood Association  
Tony Krieg, CEO, Hale Makua  
Larry Stevens  
Tom Donovan, Managing Director, Grand Wailea  
Sam Peralta  
Paul Hugel, Maui Scientific Analysis and Visualization of the Environment  
Program  
Others (24)

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CHAIR HOKAMA: . . .(*gavel*). . . Okay. This meeting shall come to order. This is the Council's Committee on Budget and Finance. This evening, we are going to ask the South Maui District for your thoughts and comments on the Mayor's Proposed Fiscal Year 2017 Budget Proposal as he has presented it to the Council. When we say the Fiscal Year 2017, the County starts its financial year or money year on July 1<sup>st</sup> and it ends on June 30<sup>th</sup>. It's the same as the State of Hawaii. Our Federal Government starts their fiscal year or financial year on October 1<sup>st</sup> and ends in end of September. This evening, we are going to ask for those of you that would like to testify...yeah, if you can take him out, while he gets settle down, we'd be happy to allow him to come back in. For those of you that would like to testify, the rules are very simple, just make yourself known, we will assist you. If you haven't filled out a colored form, we have staff to assist you. When you are called up, please identify yourself. If you represent an organization, we request that you share that with the Committee. And by rules of this Committee, you have three minutes to share your comments. The Committee also will receive and take written testimony if you feel to write additional comments or choose not to speak tonight, you are still able to send your thoughts to the Committee to express your views. Other than that, I would ask, as a courtesy to each other, you turn off your phone or put it on silent mode, please, so we can get through the...looks like a lot of youth and people that would like to share testimony this evening. Staff will indicate the two minute forty-five second

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mark; so when she says, “two minutes, forty-five,” it means you have fifteen seconds to conclude, which is about two sentences, okay? And we are going to hold everyone to the same amount of time so everyone has the same amount of opportunity, okay? No one will get more time than another person. So, with that, I’m going to ask Mr. Couch if he would please introduce the Committee present this evening.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Thank you, Mr. Chair. And aloha, everybody, and thank you for such a wonderful turnout. Gosh, we got a lot of folks. I want to introduce the Chair of the Committee, Riki Hokama. He is the representative from Lanai. And the Vice-Chair of the Committee is Council Chair Mike White. He is off doing Council business – little bit of lobbying at the State Legislature for some more money for the County as well as Councilmember Gladys Baisa. On Chair Hokama’s left is Stacy Crivello, she is the Councilmember from Molokai; and on her left is Councilmember Mike Victorino, he’s the Councilmember from Wailuku.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Aloha.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Then on my right is the Councilmember from West Maui, Elle Cochran.

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Aloha.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: And then the Councilmember from Hana, Bob Carroll. And excused tonight is Mr. Guzman from Kahului. So thank you and we look forward to hearing your remarks. Mahalo.

**ITEM 1: PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2017 BUDGET FOR THE COUNTY  
OF MAUI (CC 16-29)**

CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay. You know what I’m going to now do, Mr. Couch? This is your district so you can call them up.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Okay. The first person to testify is Shelby Fontanilla followed by Daniel Balalio.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay. Shelly [sic]...but her dad helping her.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: And helping Shelly [sic] is her dad Mark.

**. . .BEGIN PUBLIC TESTIMONY. . .**

MR. FONTANILLA: Marik, yeah. Hi, I’m going to speak in behalf of Shelby.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Sure.

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MR. FONTANILLA: I thank you for letting us speak this afternoon. I'm speaking in behalf of Best Buddies. I'm here to kindly ask you to keep supporting this program. It's a really awesome program. This program has helped my daughter in so many ways. In school, it makes the special needs students feel like they belong in school, know that they're included in a lot of school activities. Their peer buddies pick them up at lunch and make them eat lunch with them, makes them feel included. And it's so awesome, too, for the peer buddies because being they're like 15-16 years old, you know, they're mature enough to know what humility is. It's a good character builder for them as they become young adults. So and with this program, my daughter had the opportunity to be on Hawaii Stars and to compete, which she enjoyed very much. She loves to sing, she's a ham; but...so I thank you for hearing us today and kindly ask you to keep supporting this awesome program. Thank you.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay. Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Thank you, Mr. Fontanilla. And, yes, she sings very well, I've heard her several times. Next up is Daniel Balalio--hopefully I pronounced that correctly--followed by Kealii Benjamin.

MR. BALALIO: Hi. My name is Daniel Balalio. I am 15 years old and I go to Hui Malama because I was placed in a boys home for being truant with the last school I was at. Hui Malama is important for me now because it helps me learn the things I didn't when I was in intermediate and high school like math, language arts, and science. Before, math was the subject I would always struggle with because I was never in class. Now that I attend Hui Malama and go to school on a daily basis, I figured out how to correctly solve problems such as fractions and algebra. I'm even learning skills I hardly knew anything about like culinary and Hawaiian studies. Culinary is a subject that I'm really interested in because my dad was once a chef and cooking things is really something that I enjoy. In the culinary class that we have at Hui Malama, we practice cutting vegetables correctly and safely and how to double recipes to feed more people and also learn how to...how some foods need to be at certain temperatures while being prepared or cooked so they don't get contaminated. I think Hui Malama is going to help me in my future by providing me with the skills and tools to face the real world. Going to culinary also helps for when I decide to go to college. I think maybe...I'm thinking maybe that I would go into the culinary arts. The nicest thing that I could say about Hui Malama is the way all the teachers are always kind. If you're in doubt of what to do, there will always be a staff there to help. And if you're having a bad time, they will be there to cheer you up. Thank you, Councilmembers, for supporting Hui Malama. Mahalo.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Mahalo, Daniel. Next up is Kealii Benjamin followed by Kenneth Cuadro.

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MR. BENJAMIN: Hi. My name is Kealii Benjamin and I'm 15 years old and I go to Hui Malama because I got into trouble at my other school. I had no option left, the court made me go to the Kanehoalani Safe Home for Boys. Hui Malama teaches all the boys from Kanehoalani. Hui Malama is important because they are educating me, teaches me about Hawaiian culture and history. I think those things are important to know because I am Hawaiian and should know about my culture and the history of my home. In math class right now, I'm learning math that I never knew how to do like fractions. Math will help me in the future because if I do construction or a job that handles money, I know what for do. I am also learning how to read better and write properly. Reading will help me to understand what is being asked when I fill out an application for a job. The social skills that I learn at Hui Malama will help me a lot because I'll be able to talk to the person who is interviewing me. I will be able to look them in the eye and feel comfortable. The nicest thing about Hui Malama is that the teachers and staff are very supportive. If you get something wrong, they won't judge or be mad at you if you take long. They will help you so you can understand it better and make sure you get it. They also encourage you to just try and do your best. I would like to thank you, Councilmembers, for supporting Hui Malama. If it wasn't for your support to Hui Malama, I wouldn't be getting an education. I would be on Oahu in a juvenile detention center. I really appreciate your support. Thank you.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Thank you, Kealii. Next up is Kenneth Cuadro, followed by Kranz Dahilig. And I want to introduce Councilmember Don Guzman from Kahului.

MR. CUADRO: Hello. My name is Kenneth Cuadro. I am 15 years old and I attend Hui Malama Center because I am in Kanehoalani which is a safe home for boys in Wailuku. Hui Malama is important to me because it gives me a chance to learn at my own pace and get my GED. At Hui Malama we learn how to garden, do algebra, read stories and write about them, and learn all kinds of cool science. We also learn how to cook, we go on field trips to different places and learn about the history and culture in the areas that we are visiting. A time I will never forget was when we went whale watching because it was the first time I ever went whale watching. It was nice to do something fun and learn at the same time. I was able to learn about false killer whales that are not really whales and how marine biologists identify whales by using their tails. During the second quarter at Hui Malama, we had a programming course that taught us how to make video games. The people we worked with were from Oahu. Their organization name is Purple Maia. The people who...we also used a site called Udemy, which taught us the basics of programming. During the course, there was only one teacher in the classroom and the other was in Oahu teaching through the Internet. We also used a game measurement called Unity. Thanks to Purple Maia, I created my first games and deployed them to the Internet on a tablet which they let us keep after the course. I'm so happy for applying for this program and academy that will take place in the...somewhere on the Big Island. During Hui Malama, it feels like I will get the stuffs I need and how to take care of myself and be able to malama myself, too. The nicest thing I could say about Hui Malama is that it's the perfect school to go to if you feel like

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public school isn't the right thing for you. I want to say, thank you for supporting Hui Malama because without you support I wouldn't be learning what I am now. Thank you for these opportunities.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Thank you, Kenneth. Next up is Kranz Dahilig, followed by Kaiyle Okada.

MR. DAHILIG: Hi. My name is Kranz Dahilig. I am 17 years old. I am at Hui Malama because my last school, an intermediate school, recommended that I go to Hui Malama because I didn't go to school. I had been there for five years, so I joined the Kanehoalani Boys Home program in Wailuku and started going to school at Hui Malama. Hui Malama is important to me because now I go to school every day. They are helping me to prepare for my GED. I also enjoy going on excursions. My favorite excursion site is Maka`aka Lo`i in Waihee. At Maka`aka Lo`i, Aunty Penny teaches us about kalo and how to plant and take care of it. We also learn about water and natural resources; and recently we have been learning how to photograph. We are going to have a photo contest at school, and the winning photos are going to be sold at Maui's first Indigenous Crop Biodiversity Festival. The money from the photos will go towards programs at Hui Malama. In math class, I'm studying algebra; and in language arts, I'm learning grammar and doing advanced sentence correction. We are also reading *The True Story of Kaluaikoolau*. These skills are important to me because later in life I will need them. I will need to be able to multiply and divide numbers, and it is important for me to be able to write well and be able to understand things that I read. Right now, my plan is to get my GED after I graduate from the Kanehoalani Boys Home. After I get my GED, I would like to work, get my own apartment, start a family, and also help my dad. I understand now that I need an education and skills to carry out my plan. Thank you for supporting Hui Malama, because if there wasn't Hui Malama, I wouldn't know what to do with my life. Now I enjoy going to school with other students and I have some hope for my future.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Thank you, Kranz. Next up is—hopefully I pronounce that correctly—Kaiyle Okada.

MS. OKADA: Kaiyle.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Kaiyle, followed by Brianna Bista.

MS. OKADA: Hi. My name is Kaiyle. I'm a freshman at Maui High School and I've been going to the MEO Youth Service Program for four years. In the youth service program, we do activities that build leadership and career and life skills, such as increasing tolerance, being determined, and having good communication. We also learn how to cook, cooperate with each other, become more resilient, and build social skills to become a well-rounded person. In this program, we do prevention and awareness activities on

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the topics of underaged drinking, substance and tobacco abuse, cyber bullying, and teen suicide by discussing the topic and doing things like sign waving and picking up tobacco butts to bring awareness to the community especially to people my age. Before coming to the MEO Youth Service Program, I was quiet and awkward and I didn't really talk to anyone because I was afraid that they wouldn't like me, but over the past four years, I've grown to be more confident than I was before. This program has helped me become a better person by teaching me to make good life choices and boosting my self-esteem. I enjoy coming to this program and I'm grateful to be a part of it.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Thank you, Kaiyle. Next up is Brianna Bista, followed by Iokepa Meno.

MS. BISTA: Hi. My name is Brianna Bista. I'm 13 years old. I'm in seventh grade at Maui Waena Intermediate School. I've been in MEO Youth Services for two years and I really enjoyed it. We do fun activities and learn a lot of things. MEO has changed me by helping me learn about bad cigarettes and vaping...MEO has changed me by helping me learn about bad cigarettes and vaping...MEO has changed me by helping me learn about bad cigarettes and vaping that can be bad for your health no matter how old you are, like that secondhand smoking can kill you or cause you to have cancer by inhaling all the smoke. Without MEO youth afterschool program, I would be at home watching TV or doing nothing. Thank you for your support at MEO Youth Services.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Thank you, Brianna. Next up is Iokepa Meno, followed by Edwin Estabillo.

MR. MENO: Aloha, good evening, Councilmembers. Thank you for your time this evening. My name is Kumu Iokepa Meno. I am a eighth-grade teacher at Lokelani across the street. I would like to support...have you help support MEDB, Maui Economic Development Board. I've been at Lokelani seven years and they've been helping our programs for that long. They've helped me especially with robotics. We...I'll let my students tell you the rest. But it's a opportunity not just for them but for our teachers. They provide us with professional development for our entire school if we need it, and they've never said "no" to helping us help our students. They're always visible in all of our activities, they always are there for events and our community here in Kihei. Teaching over 15 years, I haven't seen any organization really support the DOE when they needed it, and it's always been a sense of ohana from helping kids just after school, helping us as teachers and really focusing on our needs. And not being afraid to ask us, what do we need and, you know, just...it's always been like, we'll help you, we'll get there, especially this season with robotics. I'll let my students kind of explain where we are at Lokelani. But just thank you for your time, and I know you have some really big tasks ahead of you with this budget, with many situations. But just to have this room full, I have chicken skin right now knowing that Hui Malama, I have many students that have gone that

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route and have ended up being successful. Shelby, she went to my school. And I mean this is...thank you for doing this tough budget every single year, and it's very important for us. Being a teacher, we hear budget as much as you do, or lack of. But the greater good is it's what it's about. And just hearing on the radio...on the way here, I live in Kahului, and just knowing that no matter where I end up, the County money gets to those who need it. From MEO, getting kids around, getting our kupuna around. It's just you guys got it right, so I know it's not ever perfect, but thank you for your time. Mahalo.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Mahalo.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Mahalo, Iokepa. Next up is Edwin Estabillo, followed by Megan Bisquera.

MR. ESTABILLO: Good evening, Councilmembers. My name is Edwin Estabillo, and I am in the seventh grade. I attend school at Lokelani Intermediate. The organization I am here is for MEDB, Maui Economic Develop [sic] Board. I would really appreciate if you keep...help them keep their fundings going. I will want that because, without them, schools and our community wouldn't be able to have the programs we have now. For example, we wouldn't have IGED, Introducing Girls into Engineers Day, Career Day, and even our robotics team and STEM Conference, which brings all Maui schools together. Without them and their fundings, none of this would have happened or it would have been different. Also, they really help schools by giving us donations. For example, our robotics team wouldn't be able to be going on trips for competitions off island. Without them, we wouldn't have the supplies we have, too. So I really hope and ask if you guys can keep the MEDB fundings going. Thank you.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Thank you, Edwin. Next up is Megan Bisquera. I think I got that right this time. Megan Bisquera, followed by Jill Noelani Tereza [sic].

MS. BISQUERA: Aloha. I'm Megan Bisquera. I am a student at Maui High. I used to be a student at Lokelani Intermediate School. I'm here to talk about MEDB. I believe that MEDB is a huge part in Lokelani and all our communities. Without them I could not go to the places I've been to like Career Day. Now I know more of what I want to do in the future. Without them, I wouldn't know what I would do. Lokelani...I mean MEDB helped support my years at Lokelani throughout everything. When I was in robotics, they would always come by and give us our grants and they would always show much aloha. And, yes...and thank you and have a great day.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Thank you, Megan. Next up is Jill Noelani Tereza [sic], followed by Cilma Chan.

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MS. TENEZA: Good evening, Maui County Councilmembers. I'm Jill Noelani \_\_\_\_\_ Teneza and I'm in seventh grade at Lokelani Intermediate. I'm here to talk about MEDB. Please continue funding MEDB, as they support us with various opportunities to learn STEM in Maui. MEDB has helped my school and given us enjoyable, yet informational, trips. They have helped us get into our worlds competition in robotics and they had given us a career day where many companies came to our school to talk about students like me about what occupation we want to be and how to get there. Also, they have a program called IGED which also means Introduce a Girl to Engineering Day, where we explored different types of engineers and also seen some construction sites in the Villas of Kehalani. I personally want you to keep funding MEDB because I want my brother who's in third grade to experience these opportunities when he enters into middle school. Thank you for supporting them in the past and please continue supporting them in the future. Thank you.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Thank you, Jill. Next up is Cilma Chan, followed by Mikaela Bisquera.

MS. CHAN: Good evening. I am Cilma, a seventh grader at Lokelani Intermediate School. I am a first-year member of our robotics team, 5777K. In two weeks, my team and I will travel to Kentucky for the first time for our worlds competition. It has been a successful robotics season this year and we wouldn't have gone this far without the help of MEDB. MEDB provides us with many great opportunities we might have never been granted. Please continue to support MEDB. Thank you.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Wow. Thank you, Cilma, and good luck in Kentucky, you guys. Mikaela Bisquera, followed by Mike Moran.

MS. BISQUERA: Good evening, Councilmembers. I'm Mikaela Bisquera. I'm a seventh grader at Lokelani Intermediate. I'm here to support MEDB. Please continue funding MEDB as they support us with grand opportunities so that we can continue to learn STEM on Maui, which is Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math here on...we participate in programs, such as robotics, STEM Conference, Career Day, and Introducing Girls Engineering Day...Engineering Day at our school. Thank you, Maui County Council for supporting MEDB. And I'm very thankful that MEDB was there to support us, and I hope that you guys will help them keep funding us. Thank you.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Thank you, Mikaela. Next up we have Mike Moran, followed by Robert Norton.

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MR. MORAN: Tough acts to follow. Good evening, Chair and Committee Members. Mike Moran for the KCA, and I am not stating my age. Thank you for this local, evening meeting. One challenge we face as an all-volunteer organization is examining all of this data in a few days to ensure our input is relevant. For agenda item 2-C concerning wastewater, we have submitted two documents for your consideration, and say for time I will not read them. Next, we will address some items from the CIP for our South Maui area. CBS 2742, South Maui Building Maintenance Repairer Baseyard. With help from Member Couch's Office, we believe this expenditure of \$1.45 million is to create a Parks and Recreation Department baseyard somewhere in the South Maui Community Park to reposition your equipment from this area in the parking lot. Since we do not recall any such facility being mentioned in all the Parks' plans we reviewed, we are concerned on a specific location within the park, if it would affect proposed actions for the park, in particular, the long overdue gym. Further, we ask if all departments' equipment baseyard in South Maui, perhaps located near the wastewater treatment facility for Parks, Department of Public Works, Water, et cetera, it might be more practical than individual ones. Therefore, at this time, until a closer examination, we would not support it. I'm moving on to CBS 1118, 2345. Again, initially, we support improving our very well used park system and continuing development to the aforementioned community park. Completing in Parks, Section in Parks CBS 2359, Waipuilani Park irrigation system. First, we are very disappointed that the long proposed and seemingly approved two years ago bike path across this park has now disappeared completely except in the STIP; and, there, it is pushed back even further. In addition, a citizen's attempt to donate park benches at this same park is ignored by the department, but we are not aware of any need for irrigation as the grass is perpetually green here. So, at this time, we withhold support for this expenditure until rational reason can be ascertained. Moving on to Department of Public Works. Our longtime favorite North-South Collector Road. We offer strong support for the expenditure of 800,000 for design work extending from Lokelani School where the one-block extension of the existing Liloa Greenway is under construction now.

MS. NAKATA: Two minutes, forty-five seconds.

MR. MORAN: Whoa, okay. So I'll just finish on this one. I gave everything in writing. Two sentences. The expenditure for the 2017 would set up for the Federal funding of 8.67 million over the next five years for construction. Kihei and all of South Maui –

MS. NAKATA: Three minutes.

MR. MORAN: --is in dire need of traffic relief going North-South, and while this completely 1.5 mile segment is a far cry for a third corridor across Kihei, with the continued explosion of residential and commercial projects, this would allow some residents to move locally by car and bicycle, we support this. Everything's in writing so...and I appreciate your indulgence, Chair, I went over...

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you, Mr. Moran.

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MR. MORAN: Aloha.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Thank you, Mr. Moran. And, Members, we have three pieces of written testimony from Mr. Moran. Okay. Next up is Robert Norton followed by Paul W. Schumacher, Jr.

MR. SCHUMACHER *(from gallery)*: Doctor.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Doctor.

MR. NORTON: Aloha, Councilmembers. My name's Robert Norton, and I'm a teacher and Technology Coordinator at Lahaina Intermediate School. I'm here today in support of continued funding for the work done by Maui Economic Development Board and its women's in technology project. I've been involved in a variety of robotics-related programs at my school over the last eight years. I've taken students to competitions with the First Lego League program, the Botball program, and most recently the VEX IQ Program. The program originally got off the ground at the beginning with a grant for twelve Lego Mindstorm Robotics kits acquired with an MEDB Ke Alahele grant. I was able to move my students to the VEX IQ Challenge this year with another Ke Alahele grant for the purchase of eight VEX IQ kits and additional accessories. MEDB helped send six students to the State VEX IQ Challenge on Oahu in February with additional funding to help cover the travel costs to the event. In the last year, the MEDB group secured a 21<sup>st</sup> Century Grant that allowed our school among others to offer a STEMworks afterschool program to students for three days a week, three hours a meeting. We've had over 40 students attend at least once, at least 25 students attended over 20 times, and we've had a handful of students attended over 60 meetings. As a result, these students have had an opportunity to explore computer-aided drawing, 3-D printing, computer coding, graphic design, digital media, and robot design and building. In addition to being a primary supporter of our robotics and after-school programs, other students have been able to participate in a variety of programs offered through MEDB and WIT. Sixteen students from my school are participating in the 2016 STEMworks Conference to be held at the Wailea Marriott in May. The conference will afford my students the opportunity to display what they have been doing in their STEMworks class this year as well as participate in a variety of competitions and attend several breakout session where they will be exposed to new ideas and new technology. They'll be able to network not only with students from other schools with similar interests but with industry professionals who could provide information about their careers and paths they took to get there. From my 17 years' experience at Lahaina Intermediate School, I can attest to the valuable role the MEDB and the Women in Technology program play in helping our students prepare for and become aware of the higher paying and interesting jobs available here on Maui and throughout the world.

MS. NAKATA: Two, forty-five.

MR. NORTON: If you want to invest in our keiki's future, I can think of no better place to do it than with MEDB and Women in Technology. Thank you for your time.

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CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Thank you, Mr. Norton. Next up is Dr. Paul W. Schumacher, Jr., followed by Susan Wyche.

MR. SCHUMACHER: Good evening, Councilmembers. I'm Paul Schumacher. I've been a ten-year resident of Maui, and ten years in counting. I have no plans to leave. What brought me here was the business of tracking satellites. I have thirty-one years' experience as a Federal civil servant. Currently, with Air Force Research Lab, I've tracked satellites my whole career. And the reason I'm here is because, as many of you might know, Maui is one of the premier places in the world to track satellites. Not only are we a tourist destination, among the people that I work with are across the country and around the world. Maui is a center for finding out what's going on in space. So I'm here to talk to you about a very small segment, but a very important segment of the Budget that is Maui Economic Development Board. And I would ask you after you've plus-ed up that line for all these student reasons and all these teacher reasons, which are very important reasons because they feed into our technical workforce, I would ask you to plus it up for another reason that I'd like to describe. About 15 years ago, our small Air Force Research Lab group began to sponsor a technical conference on Maui. You may have heard of it, the AMOS Technical Conference. This conference was very successful from the beginning. Now, it currently draws as many as five or six hundred people from around the world, across the country. These are among those people that I was telling you about that think Maui's the premier place in the world to track satellites. The influence of those people on our workforce is terrific. It may be invisible because we're talking about high-tech companies. If you're not involved directly in high tech you might not see it, but we have tentacles in high tech all over the world. This is something that we should invest in. A few years back, a change in the Federal Government regulations forced us to give up that conference. We were on the verge of cancelling the thing. Then it turned out that Maui Economic Development Board was able to take over the administration and the operation of the AMOS Conference with a little technical assistance on the side for the program. Without that step, we would not have the tech base on this island that we have now; that connection around the world's very important to us. So I would ask you to do what you can to help Maui Economic Development Board not only continue that conference but continue their excellent work with every high-tech company on this island. Be happy to talk with you further about it at any time of your convenience. Thanks very much.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Thank you, Dr. Schumacher. Next up is Susan Wyche, followed by Amy Maeda.

MS. WYCHE: Aloha, Members of the County Council. My name is Susan Wyche. I'm the Director of Grant Development at Maui College. And before I talk to you about what I'm going to talk you...I would like to say, I'm a big supporter of MEDB. They are a critical

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partner for us at the college. I'm here to support the Mayor's request of funding for the Maui Food Innovation Center. The Food Innovation Center, when fully built, will be a research, development, and manufacturing facility supporting the development of value-added, food products. Let me share a few examples of why this facility and its programs are critical to Maui's agricultural sector and economic growth at this time. Farmers struggle to find markets for their onions and strawberries when the local market is saturated, often from cheaper imports. They struggle to sell seconds and culls which can be as high as 50 percent of some of the crops. They struggle when a vendor breaks a contract for a field of ready-to-harvest taro. The challenges don't affect just small farmers, the challenges cross the spectrum of producers. And those are all examples from our feasibility study when we talk to farmers. Farmers need a place to process food, to add storage life and value. Food entrepreneurs need assistance with packaging, labeling, food safety requirements, and nutritional testing. Everyone in the food business on Maui needs food-safety training; this just changed. Our 4,000-square-foot facility is designed to meet these needs. It will be USDA, FDA certified and have state-of-the-art processing and packaging equipment. We will be the first such facility in the state to offer comprehensive food business services. New businesses that receive this kind of support increases survivability from 40 percent to 80 percent according to national studies. The project has strong traction and community support including MEDB who's helped us tremendously. We have raised nearly \$5 million in state funding and federal grants for the construction and the initial training programs. The facility is designed and equipment list is completed, and the Governor just released funding for us to hire the engineering firm that will complete blueprints and oversee construction. We just graduated our first food business cohort and partnership with Maui County's Office of Economic Development accelerating the growth of twelve new food businesses on Maui. Twelve additional businesses started their training last night at the college. But this is a complex, expensive undertaking. The current budget request bridges the critical time before the facility opens and begins generating self-supporting revenue. It allows us to move our programs forward, supporting Maui's agricultural sector and new, food-based businesses. Thank you for your consideration.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Thank you, Ms. Wyche. Next up is Amy Maeda, followed by John Tomoso.

MS. MAEDA: Aloha, Councilmembers. I'm Any Maeda the Director of Hale Kau Kau at Saint Theresa Church in Kihei. Hale Kau Kau just celebrated its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of feeding the hungry. Every year, we hope for systemic poverty to end or the decrease and decline of hunger in some way. But every year Hale Kau Kau has met the hungry with 1.2 million meals served to the working poor, the homebound elderly, the medically fragile, young children, and unsheltered men and women. I want to share, too, stories of our recipients. One woman, she's in a wheelchair, she's in a third-floor apartment building with no elevator. A driver from Wailuku Heights comes to Kihei and drives a meal to her every day for four years. She says...so we say for her, thank you. Another recipient has received a nutritious, hot meal from us for nine years. Our driver has

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never seen his face. Our meal is put outside his door in a cooler, he has never come out of his apartment. So in his behalf, we say, thank you. The County continues to champion our efforts at the resolution table, and together we can accomplish much. Thank you.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Thank you, Ms. Maeda. John Tomoso, followed by Rachael Ale.

MR. TOMOSO: Aloha mai kakou. My name is John Anson Hauoli Tomoso. I'm 62 years old --

AUDIENCE: . . .*(Laughter)*. . .

MR. TOMOSO: --I don't know—and I'm speaking in favor of the line item for \$8,000 so that we, at the Tri-Isle RC&D Council, can purchase the AmpliFund Grant Management Software, or the AGMS system. I understand, along with my colleagues, that the County of Maui recently purchased an AGMS system package for its own grantsmanship purposes and this, at least for we in the Tri-Isle validates its capacity and usefulness. Tri-Isle in FY '15 and FY '16, now manages over 4.5 million dollars' worth of public and private-sector grants representing over 200 different non-profit and community programs throughout the County of Maui. We administer, expend, and audit these grants; and that's important for you to know that we have to pass a Federal single audit every year because of the amount of Federal funds in our purview. So we administer, expend, and audit all of these grant funds on a operating budget as of this year of \$372,000 of which \$161,568 are non-payroll related costs. Tri-Isle sees the AGMS software package as the cutting-edge grants management software that will allow us as a non-profit to become more cost effective, efficient, and most importantly, audit-ready for the annual audit. Tri-Isle is a 501(c)(3) designated grant-management and grant-making organization, is committed with the people of the County of Maui to becoming more supportive and capable of fostering the non-profit sector as a dynamic and vital economic engine for all of Maui County. We want to continue our partnership with our County government and all governments since our public sector grants span the spectrum of Federal, State, and local government, public funding. We want to continue our partnership intergovernmentally then for the provision of government services funded by these grant programs throughout our communities and these are services that we know that everybody in the County of Maui wants and expects to have. Mahalo nui for allowing me to testify tonight. I want to apologize that we have a board or staff member attending every one of these budget hearings; and so if you don't want them to go on—because we have a script—you can say, yeah, we heard it already. Thank you very much.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you, John.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Next up is Rachael Ale, followed by Magaly Tapia.

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MS. ALE: Hi. My name is Rachael Ale. I'm here for the budget for Head Start Program in Kihei. My daughter is four years old. And before this program, she was in childcare, which I was paying over \$600 a month for. This prevented me from going to college. And now, because of the Head Start Program, I'm able to complete my degree and go to school full time and also part-time...I have a part-time job. I'm just so very thankful and my daughter, she just applied for Kamehameha and made it through the first testing process. Just from the help of all the teachers and all the help from everybody in the Head Start Program. I just hope that you guys are able to finance it for other children that come on Maui. Thank you.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Thank you, Rachael. Next up—and I'm...hopefully I pronounce it right—Magaly Tapia.

MS. TAPIA: Hello, everybody. Yes, you got it right, Magaly Tapia. And I'm here to talk about Kihei Head Start Program and also for the Hispanic MEO program. My daughter, as well as Rachael's, is four-years old. And before this program, I had to hardly choose between my kid or go to work, which is a really, really hard situation. I'm very thankful for the Head Start Program. I'm a second-time, Head Start mom. My oldest one is already nine years old; and thanks to this program, you know, she made it through kindergarten without having problems at all. And the staff for the MEO in Head Start Program is very, very helpful; they are very supportive in every single thing that we need; we are always find friends in them as well. And I hope you guys continue supporting this program because it's very important for our keikis and our community. As well as the Hispanic family, I can tell you that we really need these programs to be continued because they help us a lot with everything. If it wasn't for the Hispanic MEO program, my daughter wouldn't be in the Head Start Program. So there it goes, it goes along hand in hand and I hope my kids in the future can enjoy the robotics programs as well. So there you go. Thank you so much Councilmembers and I hope we support this program. Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Thank you, Magaly. And I'm sorry, I left everybody in suspense. Next up is Samuel Spurrier, followed by Michael Reyes.

MR. SPURRIER: Aloha and good evening, Councilmembers. Thank you for this opportunity this evening. I'm from the Wailea Beach Marriott Resort and Spa and here to testify and thank you for your support of the Maui Economic Development Board. Working with the Maui Economic Development Board the last few years has allowed me and opened my eyes to the value that they have here in Maui County. They have people that are not only committed to the economy, but put the people first. I've seen it firsthand by the way they engage and involve the community and everything, the programs that they develop for the community members. They are here to develop local. You've heard it from many of the students tonight and their teachers regarding the STEM Conference. We are privileged to be the host of the STEM Conference; and I get the opportunity every year, as a sales contact there, to be the person at the front line to interact with the

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students and see them develop with their various talents and skills and the tremendous opportunities that they've been given. You've also heard about the AMOS Conference tonight. Definitely a huge support to the economy and the exposure. They also are heavily involved in the energy conference that was recently held in March. And they engage the community by getting conversations started in small groups. And I also like to say, it was a privilege to hear the Hui Malama students today as well because through our relationship and partnership with Maui Economic Development Board, we've been able to invite the Hui Malama students to participate with the Hawaii Tourism and Lodging Association. The opportunity for them to rub shoulders and network with the general managers throughout the state. So I really value my partnership on a personal as well as a business level with the Maui Economic Development Board and know that they are committed to the people here in Maui. Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Thank you. Mr. Spurrier, I'm sorry, I don't know if you identified yourself for the record for the recording, so...

MR. SPURRIER: Yes. Sam Spurrier from the Wailea Beach Marriott Resort and Spa.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Thank you.

MR. SPURRIER: Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Next up is Michael Reyes, followed by John Laney.

MR. REYES: Hello. My name is Michael Reyes. I wanted to thank all the Councilmembers for hearing me tonight. I'm here on behalf of the Central Maui Soil and Water Conservation District. We're requesting an amendment to the 2017 Fiscal Budget to include additional funding for the creation of a watershed coordinator position. At the Central Maui Soil and Water Conservation District, the purpose of the watershed coordinator is to ensure that the Southwest Maui Watershed Plan, developed in 2013, is elevated to priority status by the EPA and by the Department of Health Clean Water Branch. A little about the watershed. The Southwest Maui Watershed Plan was developed by the Conservation District in 2013 to provide sediment reduction measures to 50,000 acre planning area and extending from Haleakala to the coastal waters of Kihei, Wailea, and Makena. The plan is not currently recognized as a priority watershed by the EPA or the Department of Health Clean Water Branch; and, because of this, we are not eligible for 319 Federal grant money next year. So we're trying to elevate the watershed to priority status so that we will be eligible for that funding next year. We've been given four specific issues to address in the watershed as it exists today. And they're all doable, but we need to submit load-reduction estimates for each of our implementation product or all of our implementation plans, excuse me. We need to develop monitoring and assessment plan to capture the effects of watershed implementation projects. We need to create a project timeline with milestones for determining the project progression. And we need to create maps showing the specific locations of our implementation projects and our water quality monitoring locations. Once we do all this and the watershed is elevated to priority status, we'll be able to get Federal funding, this 319 grant funding,

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to start doing some of this work within the watershed, which we feel is important for Kihei, Wailea, and Makena. I'm more than happy to speak to each of you individually about the watershed in more detail and about the watershed coordinator that we would like to create at the Central Maui Soil and Water Conservation District. Thank you very much for your time, I appreciate it.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Thank you, Mr. Reyes. Members, we have written testimony from Mr. Reyes as well, I believe. Thank you.

MR. REYES: Thank you so much.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Next up is John Laney, followed by Nelly Campozano-Ortiz.

MR. LANEY: Hello. My name is John Laney. And I'm here to ask you to not increase the fees and the taxes associated with this proposed budget. Maui is already one of the most costly places to live in the country. We have, already, one of the highest state taxes and we have the highest tourism tax in the country. So it's already expensive enough to live here. And to increase the cost of living by adding a couple bucks here and a couple bucks there to raise the cost of trash and water and sewer and then to add five cents to the gasoline tax. Gasoline here is, you know, I guess next to California, it's one of the most expensive things. So, you know, it is already expensive enough. And if we keep letting it creep up and creep up, it becomes more difficult for all of who live here to stay here and enjoy Maui. Thank you.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Thank you, Mr. Laney. Next up is Nelly Campozano-Ortiz with an interpreter who is Loz Tuttle followed by Loz tuttle.

MS. CAMPOZANO-ORTIZ: My name's Nelly Campozano-Ortiz...

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Can you come closer?

MS. CAMPOZANO-ORTIZ: I'm sorry. My name's Nelly Campozano-Ortiz. I little bit speak English.

MS. TUTTLE (*interpreter*): My name is Nelly Campozano-Ortiz and I speak a little English.

MS. CAMPOZANO-ORTIZ: (*Speaking Spanish*)

MS. TUTTLE (*interpreter*): Go ahead.

MS. CAMPOZANO-ORTIZ: Okay. (*Speaking Spanish*)

MS. TUTTLE (*interpreter*): I'm very thankful because MEO is always helping me with all my problems.

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MS. CAMPOZANO-ORTIZ: *(Speaking Spanish)*

MS. TUTTLE *(interpreter)*: It is very important to give continuance to this program as it always helps me at things like Head Start and immigration documents.

MS. CAMPOZANO-ORTIZ: And...*(speaking Spanish)*.

MS. TUTTLE: If we didn't have MEO Enlace, we would have a lot of problems trying to communicate and then we would have to pay for people to translate which fees are always out of our range.

MS. CAMPOZANO-ORTIZ: *(Speaking Spanish)*

MS. TUTTLE: One more thing.

MS. CAMPOZANO-ORTIZ: *(Speaking Spanish)*

MS. TUTTLE: All the people that are with us, they don't speak English, but they are all here to support this.

MS. CAMPOZANO-ORTIZ: *(Speaking Spanish)*

MS. TUTTLE: Thank you very much for helping us.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Thank you. Loz, are you going to speak or are you just going to translate?

MS. TUTTLE *(from gallery)*: No, I'm just...

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Alright. So next up is Veronica Mendoza with Loz. And Veronica will be followed by Doug McLeod.

MS. MENDOZA: *(Speaking Spanish)*

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Can you come closer?

MS. MENDOZA: *(Speaking Spanish)*

MS. TUTTLE *(interpreter)*: Good evening. My name is Veronica Mendoza.

MS. MENDOZA: *(Speaking Spanish)*

MS. TUTTLE *(interpreter)*: First of all, I want to thank, express my deep appreciation to all the people that work with MEO Enlace Hispano.

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MS. MENDOZA: *(Speaking Spanish)*

MS. TUTTLE *(interpreter)*: Thanks to their interpreting services and their translations, my daughter was . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

MS. MENDOZA: *(Speaking Spanish)*

MS. TUTTLE *(interpreter)*: Currently we're being assisted . . .*(inaudible)*. . . with immigration proceedings.

MS. MENDOZA: *(Speaking Spanish)*

MS. TUTTLE *(interpreter)*: Also interceding so that you get...could apply to Quest.

MS. MENDOZA: *(Speaking Spanish)*

MS. TUTTLE *(interpreter)*: Unemployment applications.

MS. MENDOZA: *(Speaking Spanish)*

MS. TUTTLE *(interpreter)*: And court proceedings.

MS. MENDOZA: *(Speaking Spanish)*

MS. TUTTLE *(interpreter)*: And we're very thankful for the staff's...

MS. MENDOZA: *(Speaking Spanish)*

MS. TUTTLE *(interpreter)*: Professional and competent treatment, and everything has been alright.

MS. MENDOZA: *(Speaking Spanish)*

MS. TUTTLE *(interpreter)*: Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Thank you, Veronica; and thank you, Loz. Next up is Doug McLeod followed by Rita Cognion.

MR. McLEOD: Chair Hokama, Councilmembers, thank you for coming out to South Maui this evening. My name is Doug McLeod and I'm here tonight as one of a number of people that have been speaking about the Maui Economic Development Board, MEDB. And I'm here tonight to talk about a subject that's near and dear to my heart and that's renewable energy. MEDB, as you've heard, has been very involved in STEM education and all sorts of other causes, but they have been absolutely critical in the success of the Maui Energy Conference. We just had the event last month, and we once again we set a new record for attendance and we've established Maui as a place to have a dialogue.

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You know, we are in an exciting time where we agree across the State on this ultimate goal of 100 percent renewable. And this conference has been a way for Maui to become again a focus of that discussion. And without MEDB, with their support from the very beginning, that conference simply wouldn't exist; that's simply one example of things they are doing in renewable energy. But I know that a lot of people need to speak and I want to be brief. So thank you very much. And again I'm testifying in strong support of MEDB's continued allocation. Thank you.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you, Mr. McLeod.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Thank you, Mr. McLeod, good to see you again. Next up is Rita Cognion. Hopefully I'm pronouncing that correctly. And then after her is Adele Rugg.

MS. COGNION: Cognion, like cognac. Yeah, I'm honored and really grateful for the opportunity to speak with you folks and to see you in person.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Can you please identify yourself?

MS. COGNION: Rita Cognion.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Thank you.

MS. COGNION: Yeah, yeah, like cognac. I'm here to testify in favor of funding the Maui Economic Development Board. And I have to tell you, I've learned really a lot tonight about the Maui Economic Development Board. You know, my experience has been with the AMOS Conference. I mean, like Dr. Schumacher, what I like to do is track satellites. But in addition to track satellites I like to analyze the data that I get and try to figure out what they're doing. I think he actually likes to do that, too. So I know this thing. You know, I've worked up in the Tech Park. I work at Oceanit, which is a Honolulu-based company, for ten years now and find the AMOS Conference to be invaluable and vital part of our scientific research. You know, it brings in people from everywhere, you do know that, and it's top people. I have done research with people from Lawrence Livermore National Lab, I've done research with people from AFRL, I've done research with people from Boeing on the Mainland, and from Naval Research Lab. And they're all very glad to come here, as you might imagine, to have face-to-face meetings to talk about our research. But that's just that part of it, you know, it also furthers the scientific knowledge, it builds our tech workforce here. And because I have these jobs and I have things that might be informative to younger people, I personally have had several interns, you know, Hawaiian interns who come and work for a few weeks in the summer on some project that I've got. And so even though it's not an educational thing, this AMOS Conference, you know, it's a tech program, you never know when you fund something how far the tentacles go. So I'm clearly in favor of moving forward with support. And really appreciate being here. Thank you very much.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you.

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COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Thank you, Ms. Cognion. Next up is Adele Rugg, followed by John Fitzpatrick.

MS. RUGG: Good evening and aloha, Councilmembers. You've had a long day. I've been watching you on TV. You look good. Welcome to South Maui. It's always an honor and a pleasure to have you in our hood. I'm wearing two hats tonight. First is a board member of the Kihei Community Association. Please know that we are grateful to our South Maui Councilmember, Don Couch, and the rest of the Council for their efforts in helping to make South Maui a better place to live. We are still in need of a gym, more parks and the completion of the South-North Collector Road. Some people call it the North-South Collector Road. The second hat, as a board member of MEO. We are continually grateful to the entire County Council for their support of MEO. The entire population of Maui depends on MEO. We ask that you continue to support the Mayor's budget in its entirety. Mahalo.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Thank you, Ms. Rugg. Next up is John Fitzpatrick followed by Daniel Kanahele.

MR. FITZPATRICK: Aloha kakou. My name's John Fitzpatrick. Thank you all for being here tonight and listening to us. And thank you all and everyone before me that testified and championed for such great causes. I teach at Kihei Charter School, and I teach sciences. And MEDB has been really helpful in giving us microscopes, PV panels, et cetera. So without their help, teaching would have been a challenge this year. Also, I don't know if there's funding for South Maui Learning Ohana; so they also provide help to Kihei Charter School as well. And I support Best Buddies, so...oh, she's not here anymore, but things like Best Buddies. Hui Malama's wonderful for a bunch of kids, I know them...et cetera, et cetera. I would like to see us purchase land for parks in Kihei, and see more parks, especially parks for camping. 'Cause as our population expands, there's nowhere for us to go. We've been pushed off the beaches in Wailea. So when I was a kid we could camp down there. We no longer can camp there. I also know there's a property for sale across from Paradise Gardens. So it would be really nice to make another park kind of like Kalepolepo Park where families can go and enjoy there instead of seeing another condo. In order to...oh, and I also would like to see the gym; so it's really important for our community to have a gym. I'm not sure where it happened since a year ago...or what happened to it since a year ago, but please like find a money for a gym to pay for all this, because that's really important. I would propose that since the Federal Government keeps cutting taxes on very wealthy individuals, we as a County find ways to tax very wealthy individuals, especially those that do not live on island. So if you guys might have heard that 52 percent of the people last year buying houses aren't from Maui, so maybe find a way to tax the 52 percent of the people off island that leave their houses either vacant or they rent their houses out for a lot of money; so that's one way. So I'm just asking you guys to think outside the box and figure out how to raise money to fund all these programs that don't affect middle-class families or even

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poor families. So think outside the box. Thank you for your time this evening. And, Don, I hope your hand heals one day. So thank you very much.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Thank you, Mr. Fitzpatrick. Next up is Daniel Kanahale, followed by Tony Krieg.

MR. KANAHELE: Aloha ahiahi. Or as we say en mi casa, buenas noches, Chair Hokama and Budget and Finance Committee Members. My name is Daniel Kanahale and I'm speaking on behalf of the Maui Meadows Neighborhood Association. I'm the recently elected president of that association. And the last time I was president of anything was in high school, which was a long, long time ago. So, anyway, our association is in strong support of the three-can curbside recycling program. I noticed there was \$300,000 in the Solid Waste Division under recycling, and I hope part of that money is for the 3-Can Plan. Last year, earlier last year, that plan died. But thanks to the efforts of citizen activism and advocacy and the efforts of some of our Councilmembers like Don Couch; Elle Cochran; Don Guzman; and this Committee, Budget and Finance Committee, it was resurrected. Which seems appropriate this time of year it was brought back to life again. So we are very happy to see thousands of tons of green waste going into those green cans and not going into the landfill, but being diverted to the green-waste section of the, you know, solid waste. And thousands of tons of recycling material going into the blue cans and going to the recycling center to be reused and repurposed whether here in Hawaii or California or in the east. But anyway it's being reused it's not filling our landfill. So, you know, in scouting we teach, leave no trace. We teach our young boys to leave no trace. I hope as adults we can set that example for our community not to leave any trace: reuse, reduce, recycle; that's, you know, one form of not leaving any trace. And I hope you will support the three-can recycling program. Thank you for coming out and meeting with our extended ohana in Kihei. Mahalo nui loa. Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Thank you, Daniel. Next up is Tony Krieg, followed by Larry Stevens.

MR. KRIEG: Good evening, Chair Hokama, Members of the Budget and Finance Committee. My name is Tony Krieg. I'm the CEO of Hale Makua Health Services, which is a vital resource for people who need skilled nursing, rehabilitation, and long-term care in our community. And as you know, since 2010, nearly all but a handful of physicians stopped admitting patients to Maui Memorial Hospital and to Hale Makua. If you are a Maui citizen in need of skilled nursing, rehabilitation or long-term nursing care and you have no attending physician, you cannot be admitted to a nursing home...skilled nursing...for skilled nursing, rehab, or long-term care; that's not true, if you are a Kaiser patient. To assure admissions continue for Maui Memorial and the community, we've been flying in a temporary physician every four to six months to assure that non-Kaiser patients who need long-term care can continue to be admitted to our nursing homes. The cost to Hale Makua is over \$400,000 a year, which is not recognized by the Medicaid

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reimbursement system. Seventy-five percent of our reimbursement comes from the Medicaid program, which has been frozen since 2009, and does not cover the cost of care. But we thank you for appropriating a matching grant to partially support a physician for Hale Makua's nursing home in last year's budget. At the end of this fiscal year, we will have served over 600 Maui citizens who, because of your support, were able to be admitted to our nursing homes for skilled nursing and long-term care. I'm here to ask for your continued support for our request for \$200,000 on a matching budget in the basis in this year's County budget. We have been in contact with Kaiser, which as you know is gradually taking over the management of Maui Memorial, while they are interested in partnering with us, they have indicated that they will not be able to do so for at least another year. We have submitted a grant and aid to the Hawaii State Legislature. We have met with Speaker Souki and Ways and Means Chair, Senator Tokuda along with other members of the Maui Legislative Delegation to explain this request. We will not know whether it will be included in the Legislature's budget until it's finalized in April. At this point, the chances of being included in the budget are not known. Thanks for your support. Aloha.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Thanks, Mr. Krieg.

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Oh, sorry, can I ask a question?

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Tony?

CHAIR HOKAMA: Only for clarification of testimony...

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Okay then.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Next up is Larry Stevens, followed by Tom Donovan.

MR. STEVENS: Good evening, Chair and Councilmembers. Thanks for listening to us tonight. I'm here to say, thank you for putting the sewer extension to Maui Meadows into the Budget for I guess the 2018 to 2022 period. It's even more important to think about this and to see if we can accelerate this in any way. Given the new study that's been released documenting that the quality of the water in the ocean near Kalama Park is extremely polluted and needs to be addressed quickly. The pollution levels there are...the bacteria levels there are 100 times greater than we found in West Maui when we did research there. So if there's anything we can do to support additional infrastructure to help us protect the reefs and fisheries in Kihei, that would be both environmentally and economically recommended. So thank you.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Mr. Stevens, can you come and identify yourself for the recording? Thank you.

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MR. STEVENS: Yes. My name is Larry Stevens. I'm representing myself.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Thank you. Tom Donovan followed by Sam Peralta. Hopefully I got that right.

MR. DONOVAN: Good evening. Tom Donovan, Managing Director of the Grand Wailea. And ladies and gentlemen of the Council, thank you so much for your time and the dedication to go around the island to meet with all the citizens and talk about the Budget. I don't have a really long message for you tonight. All I'm going to talk to you about was the Maui Visitors Bureau. And, you know, obviously you have a very difficult job. Just sitting here for the last hour and a half and going through all the projects and concerns of the citizens and what needs to happen for this County. One of the things is I think our driver of all the...a lot of the funds that happens here on the island is through the visitor industry. We do think this is a great way to continue to pay for more and more of these services that are so vital to us. And I hope that as we go through the Budget process, which I know is going to be a very difficult one with all the different movements of the TAT dollars and all that stuff that we do hopefully hold on to that which I think can continue to drive the economic engine of this beautiful county and this beautiful destination. So thank you very much for your time. Aloha.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Aloha. Thank you, Mr. Donovan. Next up is Sam Peralta, followed by Paul Hugel.

MR. PERALTA: Hey, good evening. My name is Sam Peralta and I'm just representing a community member here. And I'm really involved in the public school, and I was just considering an opportunity or some kind of role within our public schools where we can have maybe some of the County Members promote these kind of activities that are going on. So, for example, like a skate-park activity with the County here and then there's the Maui Basketball League. Maybe creating some kind of role where someone is going into these public schools and advertising, maybe doing a concert, maybe being really hands on with the kids. And I'm a youth worker as well, so even with non-profit events that are going on like summer camps. And I work for a Christian church, so like missions trips or any kind of feeding programs. Like I would love for these kids to know about these things and there seems to be a lack in the schools where someone's just dedicated let's just put out fires, making announcements, be the hands-on persons for these schools, to be there. So I think that would be a neat role to have, is somebody representing like of you guys or within the County to go into these schools and to really like provide an event, maybe like a free breakfast, or a lunch pancake thing. And that's what would really build community. So I'm really excited. Hopefully...I don't know where this will fit into anything and I'm just excited to be here; but I would love for you guys to start thinking about even having us community members be a part of going into these schools and advertising what you guys have. So thanks.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you.

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COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Thank you, Mr. Peralta. The last person to sign up to testify is Paul Hugel. If anybody else wants to testify, please sign up.

MR. HUGEL: Thank you for allowing me to speak. I guess my one shot a year to talk about how to spend some money, so I'll try to make it worth everyone's while. In 1991...

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Can we get your name please?

MR. HUGEL: Paul Hugel. I was asked by some of the founding members of, I think it was, Maui Economic Development Board. And they said, Paul, what was your vision for Maui's future. And I said, establish Maui as the environmental sciences center of the world. And after meeting some people at NASA Ames Research Center, I learned about a program called LightForce, which used lasers, conceptually, to push debris out of the way of potential collision with satellites and other debris. And there's a physicist named Kessler, and he developed something called the Kessler Syndrome. And there's some real concern in the space community that there's going to be so much debris hitting debris that it cascades so where we'll not be able to launch anything safely into orbit unless some comprehensive mitigation strategies are enabled. So there is a possibility. There's a consortium that has been established in Mount Stromlo in Australia; and I would like to see a similar consortium of scientific organizations get established at Haleakala, because we happen to have a very unique position on Haleakala where we can see Northern and Southern Hemisphere. So NASA's told me that it's a perfect place. If we could have access to standard, industrial, five-ten kilowatt lasers and utilize some of the technologies that are beginning to be studied at Mount Stromlo, we could potentially change this date to where we can no longer launch anything into orbit to possibly start managing the debris intelligently so that we don't have debris hitting debris and creating a cascade of events which some people may have seen the movie, Gravity; that may be an oversimplification, but so that's what I'm looking forward to establish is planting a seed to develop a consortium here on Maui at Haleakala. Thank you.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Thank you, Mr. Hugel. Anybody else want to testify? If not, back to you Mr. Chair.

**. . .END OF PUBLIC TESTIMONY. . .**

**ACTION: DEFER pending further discussion.**

CHAIR HOKAMA: We thank you for your presence this evening, sharing your thoughts regarding the Mayor's Proposed 2017 Budget. This is the first district meeting that the Council is doing. And once we wrap up all the districts including East Maui, Molokai, and Lanai, we shall move into our deliberative stages where we'll be making the

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adjustments and propose to the full Council a final Committee budget proposal. That will always be in an open meeting, it will be televised, so you can observe how the Council is moving forward on adjustments on the Mayor's Proposed Budget. And, again, we can...we'll welcome continued input if you choose to continue to share your testimony either verbally or in written form; the Committee is happy to receive those thoughts. So with no further request for testimony this evening, thank you once again for showing up at this meeting. This hearing is adjourned. . . .(gavel). . .

**ADJOURN:** 7:22 p.m.

APPROVED:



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RIKI HOKAMA, Chair  
Budget and Finance Committee

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Transcribed by: Raynette Yap