

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE
Council of the County of Maui

MINUTES

April 11, 2016

Mitchell Pauole Center, Main Hall

CONVENE: 6:30 p.m.

PRESENT: Councilmember Riki Hokama, Chair
Councilmember Mike White, Vice-Chair
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

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

STAFF: Kit Zulueta, Legislative Analyst
Raynette Yap, Substituting Committee Secretary
Ella Alcon, Council Aide, Molokai Council Office
Morris Haole, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Robert Carroll

OTHERS: Kawika Gonzales
Kathleen Alvarez
Melissa Ocampo
Daniel Juario, Jr.
Dennis Meyer, Jr.
`Olelo Hamakua-Poepoe
Greg Jenkins, Department of Fire and Public Safety
Hoala Davis, Executive Director, Molokai Humane Society
Mathew Goodrich, Board President, Molokai Humane Society
Sharon Samonte, Program Director, Hale Ho`omalu
Tami Michaelson, Behavioral Health Case Manager, Hale Ho`omalu
Sam Makaiwi, Jr., Commander, Molokai Veterans Caring for Veterans
Karen Holt, Executive Director, Molokai Community Service Council
Carla Dudoit, Treasure, Ka Molokai Makahiki
Shirley Rawlins, President, Ka Molokai Makahiki
Phillip Kikukawa
Jacob Puaa-Spencer
David Kangas
Peter Pale
Corene Helm, Owner, Anahaki Farm
Ben Lothamer
Barbara Osha

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Lori-Lei Rawlins-Crivello, Event Coordinator, Aha Kukui O Molokai
Edmund Pedro, Board Member, Tri Isle Resource Conservation
Nainoa Seitz
Debbie Naeole
Kekama Helm, Board Member, Ka Molokai Makahiki
Andrea Dudoit, Director, Molokai Youth Center
Tehani Starkey
Yolanda Reyes, Branch Director, MEO Molokai Branch
Jennifer Hawkins, Small Business Specialist, MEO
Wilma Noelani Joy
Others (18)

CHAIR HOKAMA: . . .(gavel). . . Okay. We shall bring this Budget and Finance Committee meeting to order. This is the council's Committee on Budget and Finance, and we are here on Molokai to take your testimony on the Proposed Budget as presented by your Mayor, Alan Arakawa, for the Fiscal Year 2017. So, first, I ask the Members of this Committee as well as the community to please put your noise-making devices on the silent mode as a courtesy to one another as you share your testimony with the Committee. Everyone will have the same amount of time to speak with the Members and that is three minutes. State your name when you are called to come forward. If you represent an organization, we request that you share that information with us. And then you start sharing your thoughts with the Committee. Please address your Committee to the Chair, and we will assist you with your time. So keep speaking until you hear one of our lovely ladies at the end say, "two, forty-five." That means you basically have 15 seconds or two sentences' worth to conclude your testimony. We will be here after the meeting, so if you choose to speak to an individual Member or Members, that is also acceptable. We take written testimony; so if you have ideas or comments you wish to share with us even after this meeting, please submit it and we will be happy to receive your thoughts via written testimony. So, stating that, I'm going to allow your Member, Ms. Crivello, to introduce the Members of this Committee and to start the testimony for Molokai.

COUNCILMEMBER CRIVELLO: Aloha, Molokai.

AUDIENCE: Aloha.

COUNCILMEMBER CRIVELLO: Thank you for joining us and coming here to share your mana`o. And before we get started, I want to introduce our Members who have traveled afar on our Mokulele jets. So way on the end is our Councilmember from East Maui, from Hana, our Bob Carroll.

COUNCILMEMBER CARROLL: Aloha from Hana.

AUDIENCE: Aloha.

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COUNCILMEMBER CRIVELLO: From our Wailuku District, we have with us Mr. Mike Victorino.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Aloha, everyone.

AUDIENCE: Aloha.

COUNCILMEMBER CRIVELLO: And from the Makawao District, our Council Chair Mr. Mike White.

VICE-CHAIR WHITE: Aloha.

COUNCILMEMBER CRIVELLO: And of course, our Budget Chair—get to know him really well, gang—Mr. Riki Hokama from our sister island, Lanai. From our Kahului District, Mr. Don Guzman. And West Maui District, Elle Cochran. And from our South Maui, Kihei District, Mr. Don Couch. And assisting us, with all of their kokua, is our Office of Council Service staff, Ms. Rayna Yap; Kit Zulueta; and of course, Molokai's own, Ella Alcon. And helping Ella is from Mr. Carroll's Office, Morris Haole. And we have our traveling spouse, Auntie Ulu Geraldine Carroll, with us tonight. Thank you, people, for being here; and thank you, Members, for being here.

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

COUNCILMEMBER CRIVELLO: Our first testifier is Kawika Gonzales.

. . . BEGIN PUBLIC TESTIMONY. . .

MR. GONZALES: Aloha.

COUNCILMEMBERS: Aloha.

MR. GONZALES: My name is Kawika Gonzales. I am a fifth-grade teacher at Kaunakakai School Elementary, and I am speaking on behalf of the Maui Economic Development Board or MEDB. This past summer I was able to teach a computer-aided design SketchUp camp here on Molokai to elementary, middle, and high school students, fully funded by MEDB. MEDB even sent over computers for every student to use. Students learn to create three dimensional objects, buildings, and models. Students also learn to animate their designs. The Maui Economic Development Board also held the first Excite Camp here on Molokai this past summer. Over the course of three days, elementary and middle-school girls from Molokai were invited to participate in fun and challenging, hands-on STEM projects. The primary goal of Excite Camp is to excite, educate, as well as expose underrepresented students, such as, native Hawaiians, girls, and minorities to science, technology, engineering, and math careers. MEDB is also

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helping to fund a STEM field trip to Oahu for Kaunakakai's School entire fifth-grade class. In addition to helping with funding, the Maui Economic Development Board also helped to arrange STEM visits with various programs, organizations, and schools to further educate and support our students' learning of science, technology, engineering, and math. Some of these places include Hawaii's interactive marine center, the Hokulani Imaginarium, and the University of Hawaii Manoa College of Engineering. For many years, MEDB has supported our children here on Molokai, especially with furthering their education in the area of science, technology, engineering, and math. Please continue your funding for MEDB. Your support has made a world of difference to so many children. And I am excited about future collaborations with this wonderful organization. Aloha and mahalo.

COUNCILMEMBER CRIVELLO: Aloha. Thank you. Our next testifier is Kathleen Alvarez.

MS. ALVAREZ: Hi. My name is KC Alvarez and I'm a sixth-grade student from Kaunakakai School. And I'm speaking on behalf for the Maui Economic Development Board. I was born in the Philippines and arrived on Molokai five years ago. I did not know how to speak any English at all. Since then, I was involved in many programs, such as STEM, STEMworks, Excite Camp, and Robotics. These programs are related to STEM: science, technology, engineering, and math. I enjoy joining these things...these programs. STEMworks is one of the programs that I was involved in. In STEMworks, they taught us how to use SketchUp. In the Excite Camp, they taught us how use iMovie and how to make our own movies with special edits and effects. In robotics, we design, build, program, and control our robots; and we went to different competitions and made our way to states. All of these programs were available to me because of MEDB, Maui Economic Development Board. And I hope you continue to support them. Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER CRIVELLO: Thank you very much. Next testifier, Melissa Ocampo.

MS. OCAMPO: Aloha, Maui County Council. My name is Melissa, and I'm here to support MEO. And I wanted to thank you guys for funding MEO. This year, we were able to be policy council for MEO and to meet other parents and to see how your funding has helped. And over the time it helps parents like me and her to be able to work and know that our kids are in a safe school environment and they're learning from teachers that care, and they're teaching them not only things that you would learn in elementary class. My kid comes home and she tells me about math. Like she sees two trees and she'll tell me, mom, that's two and look at the other trees, there's three; mom, that's five, you know. And I'm like, wow. She's just learning plenty stuff. And, reading, and she'll tell me, mom, do you know what this book is going to be about? Look at the cover, what do you think it's going to be about? And I'll tell her, wow, _____; I was like, what do you think? She was like, oh, I think it's about candy or goodies. And so I just want to thank you guys so much for supporting MEO. It really does mean a lot to us and so many other parents. MEO also helps with kids with disabilities, and all the other parents are so grateful that you do that. Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER CRIVELLO: Thank you. Thank you very much. Daniel Juario, Jr.

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MR. JUARIO: Hi. My name is Daniel Juario, Jr. I'm a Molokai resident, born and raised here on the islands. Just recently, last year, June, I started my own business, a small business. And through the help of MEO with the Core Four Program, it's educated me on how to start a business plan, how to start up a business. And also, with the Kuha`o Business Center, Jennifer and my sister, Tessie, they've been very valuable assets as far as providing workshops and classes and what steps I need to do, what direction I need to go to help my business flourish. I'd like to ask that you continue to support these MEO and Kuha`o Business Center not just for my behalf, but for the future generations coming up. And I would like to thank you for your support, mahalo.

COUNCILMEMBER CRIVELLO: Thank you, Daniel. Dennis W. Meyer, Jr.

MR. MEYER: Hi. I one single parent that no mo' car, yeah, so I kinda rely on the MEO buses. And I thank you guys for helping them out, you know, keep on doing what you guys doing. It takes me go to work, takes my son to school and come back, 'cause he goes to the west side on school yeah. And I also go to school on the east. If wasn't for the bus I wouldn't be able for do all of this and for support my son. Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER CRIVELLO: Thank you, Dennis. Next testifier, Olelo Hamakua-Poepoe.

MS. HAMAKUA-POEPOE: Aloha mai kakou. My name is `Olelo Hamakua-Poepoe, and I am testifying for my mother, Iolani Kuoha, because she's not able to make it today. To the Members of our County Budget Committee, mahalo for being here on Molokai. My name is Iolani Kuoha, I am the Kumu with o Hina i ka Malama Hawaiian language immersion program at Molokai Middle School. I am here before you to speak on behalf and support for the Maui Economic Development Board, MEDB, Women in Technology program. As a teacher, I would like to share how MEDB has impacted my students' lives throughout the years. Their learning has strengthened their concept to work as a team, their critical thinking process, their concept of being a self-directed learner, their understanding of being a problem solver and how being a part of this community it has strengthened their community involvement and collaboration. Without their financial, technological, and supportive resources towards professional development, attendance to workshops resource library available to attend their yearly events, my students would not have the exposure to excel in this field. As an educator, having the opportunity to attend professional development courses provided by MEDB, WIT that focuses on STEM, I would not have the tools of knowledge to provide my students. The amount of support and resources available for my students and to participate in has exposed my students to reflect and plan for their future. I would like to also speak on how our community is being exposed to the resources provided by MEDB and how it will have a positive impact in our future because my students are being, again, exposed to these opportunities. Finally, I'm requesting that you continue to support Maui Economic Development Board financially so our students here on Molokai will be successful in STEM. Humbly requesting your request. Sincerely, Kumu Iolani Kuoha. Mahalo.

COUNCILMEMBER CRIVELLO: Mahalo, `Olelo. Next testifier, Greg Jenkins.

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CHAIR HOKAMA: Gee, you're testifying for yourself.

MR. JENKINS: Got some visitors. Aloha, Chair Hokama, Auntie Stacy, and Members of the Maui County Council. Thank you for coming to Molokai this evening. And I have behind me some of Molokai's finest and Maui County's finest are firefighters. I would just like, on behalf of the Fire Department and myself as an individual, I would like to thank all of you for your past and support for all the things that we need here on Molokai as far as fire equipment and the funding that's necessary for us to do our jobs to protect the public. Without your support, we would be...we wouldn't be effective. So thank you so much. And that, especially, fire apparatus; that's one of the most important tools that you guys have given us recently to make sure that we can get to emergencies safely and effectively and do our jobs. I also want to thank you for your consideration of this year's Budget request. I know Molokai's asking for a utility truck for Kaunakakai as well as a personal watercraft. So thank you for your consideration on that as well. I'd also like to thank you for your support of our community in general. Projects like...that you find, such as MEDB that set things in motion for our youth are very effective in raising our youth up to be able to have the jobs of the individuals you see behind me. So thank you for support for that. And, also, please give consideration to Auntie Stacy on her request for the new gym, which I know also is being considered as a civil-defense shelter for our community here in central Molokai. So, again, thank you for being here and for all your support.

COUNCILMEMBER CRIVELLO: Thank you. Next testifier is Hoala Davis.

MS. DAVIS: Aloha, Councilmembers and welcome back to Molokai. My name is Hoala Davis and I am the Executive Director of the Molokai Humane Society. On behalf of our organization, I wanted to thank all of you for your ongoing support of Molokai's animals. Over the last decade, the County of Maui has made low-cost animal care a possibility on the island of Molokai. We continue to maintain our spay-and-neuter cost of \$20 per cat and \$30 per dog using the funding you provide. We have also kept three local residents employed with County funding as well as provide low-cost preventative care to our clientele. Over the last several years, we have adjusted the services offered at the Molokai Humane Society in order to better serve our community and fulfill our mission to end unwanted and homeless animals on the island of Molokai. For Fiscal Year 2017, we have requested an increase in funding in order to better supplement multiple programs, which will all reduce the amount of unwanted animals on island. We humbly ask that the County Councilmembers leave in the proposed total added to the Mayor's Budget. This will allow us to increase our educational component, expand on our feral trapping programs, provide incentive vaccinations, and support the abandoned animals that are recovered on island by providing much needed medical care. These are all components that we believe will increase the success of our spay-and-neuter and prevention programs while creating new areas of success. While we are a low-cost, spay-and-neuter clinic not a shelter, we recognize that we are the only venue for veterinary care that is available to Molokai's residents. This provides an additional challenge keeping all our costs low and affordable to ensure that every animal can

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receive the care they need regardless of their owner's ability to pay. We provide a much needed service and are constantly asked to do more. We have carefully determined areas that are of public concern and put forth a proposal addressing those needs. Our feral cat population has been an area of concern on island for many years. As the spay-and-neuter responsibility of owners increases, we will strive to decrease the population of unowned and unmanaged animals. Large scale trap, neuter, release programs have been the most successful for reducing feral cat populations and we are bringing this to Molokai as an official program. We will increase our educational outreach beyond the school systems utilizing existing child-welfare organizations, elder-care resources, and providing training courses to the general public. We will also be providing medical care to the adoptable animals whose owners have not benefitted from our programs. To ensure that they can find a place off our streets and into good homes. We see countless breeding failures with excess litters being abandoned on the streets. Without current outlet for owner irresponsibility, these animals are left at beaches, roadsides, and oftentimes residential properties. While we relish our success stories, there is still a need for rehabilitation of rescued animals. These three areas will be our additional goals in Fiscal Year 2017 as well as increasing impact of our spay-and-neuter program through building partnerships and providing incentive programs. This will happen alongside the current low-cost sterilization we already provide. Fiscal Year 2017 is an exciting change for us and we look forward to doing more for our community. All of us at the Molokai Humane Society have a passion for animals, and we hope that you will continue to support our efforts. Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER CRIVELLO: Mahalo.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: ...copy of that testimony, please?

COUNCILMEMBER CRIVELLO: Hoala, may we have a copy that you could...of your testimony? Thank you. Our next testifier, Mathew Goodrich.

MR. GOODRICH: Aloha. I'm the Board Chair of the Molokai Humane Society.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Your name?

MR. GOODRICH: Mathew Goodrich. And I'd just like to thank you guys for your past support and your continued support of the Humane Society. And I'd also just like to let you know for every dollar that you guys give us, we go ahead and raise another three through grants, fees, and donations. Thanks a lot.

COUNCILMEMBER CRIVELLO: Thank you, Mat. Sharon Samonte?

MS. SAMONTE: Good evening. Thank you, Budget Chair Riki Hokama, Chair Mike White, and County Council. Hi, Stacy. I'm here on behalf of Hale Ho`omalua, which is a shelter for domestic violence. And I'm merely here to thank you for your continued support and consideration for funding. This July will mark our 25th year that the County of Maui has appropriated funds. And I just wanted to let you know mine will be short. That...so

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25 years since the County has supported us, this has helped us to provide a safe refuge for families of domestic violence, fleeing, taking refuge at our shelter. So I know our numbers are not—what do you call that?—is not advertised. Our successes are not told in the public, because domestic violence is a shameful thing. So our testifiers is far and very small in between. We'd like to read one without the name of the past participant if we may. But I wanted to, again, thank you for coming to Molokai, for your time, for all your continued support and your consideration because I know you know this but you have helped...the County funding has helped us to keep a family safe for at least a night where they can eat in peace and not be hit, not be yelled at. The kids can go to school without terror. And it's like being terrorized, you know, when you're in domestic violence. And they can sleep at peace. If not for 90 days, at least one night. So thank you so much from the bottom of our hearts and for all that have utilized our shelter, from the bottom of the heart, we thank you. And this is Betty. She's an advocate at the shelter. And this is...

JENNIFER: Jennifer.

MS. SAMONTE: Jennifer, and she works at METD. They're all here to support. But we'd like to read—Tamara, she's going to speak next—we'd like to read a letter from a past, former resident.

MS. WEST: Good evening, Council, Riki, Stacy, welcome to Molokai. I'd like to share this letter with you from one of our past residents. Thank you. We received this after she left the shelter and was getting established in her new life, and this is what she wrote to us. To each and every one that has touched my life, there are not enough words or thanks to express how much appreciation I feel towards the entire staff at the Women's Shelter here on Molokai. Not only the staff at Hale Ho`omalulu but all other offices involved in helping me to reestablish my new life. This includes April Kealoha and the staff at the legal aid office, everyone at the welfare office, the medical staff at Molokai Community Health Center, Nicole Robello, and staff from Na Pu`uwai, Native Hawaiian Health Care System, and the women that guided me and prepared me for divorce court all contributed to my success as a survivor and to know I can live without the threat of violence from an abusive relationship. Never in my wildest dreams did I expect to have such a full and wonderful life again. These women not only...these women gave me not only the time to heal, but guidance, knowledge, and tools essential for my recovery. I can honestly and without doubt say, all these women were there for me. No one will or can never convince me otherwise. The structured environment with all the right subjects, pamphlets, the video documentaries, one-on-one time, all taught me where my thinking was incorrect. The consequence from this incorrect thinking had a lot to do with my choice in the past not to leave the abusive relationship. The old saying, knowledge is power, is so true. I would love to think that if I had been aware of the help and knowledge available, maybe I would have had the confidence and power to walk out long before I actually did. All the advocates affiliated with the Women's Shelter have exceptional insight to the how and whens that allowed me the time to digest the information before exposing me to the next session.

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MS. ZULUETA: Two, forty-five.

MS. WEST: Not only were they there for me during my time at the physical location but in the year that I've been gone from the shelter I have had the need for their knowledge and guidance in other situations. Again, they have been there for me. All I have to do is ask. How simple is that? Women such as I need to know that they are not alone and that there is help for us. I'm not sure that the proper avenues are to get the message out to domestic-violence victims, but there is hope for me and other women in our future to maybe be part of the solution. I took away another meaning to the phrase, I am not alone. I understand now that there are far too many women out there somewhere in need of this kind of help and support, but I also walked away with a feeling of comfort and peace of mind knowing that I belong. They are my new family. Within my heart and soul, I cannot say thank you enough times for kindness and unconditional love I received from this new family. I would do anything for any of them. It is because of all the help and support, I realize I have the power to make changes and make the right choices from here forward. Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER CRIVELLO: Thank you, Betty.

MS. SAMONTE: Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER CRIVELLO: Thank you.

MS. SAMONTE: Thank you, Chair.

COUNCILMEMBER CRIVELLO: Our next testifier is Tami Michaelson.

MS. MICHAELSON: Yes. Okay. Hi, thank you so much for coming. So as far as . . . *(inaudible)*. . . sorry.

COUNCILMEMBER CRIVELLO: Please state your name.

MS. MICHAELSON: Okay. My name is Tami Michaelson. I'm originally from California, but my father's from Molokai. And I actually was a resident at the shelter in 2010. Since then I've turned my life around, gotten my education, I have an associates, and I will graduate with my bachelors of social sciences in December. I also have worked at the shelter, so that was a really neat experience coming from the side of it as being a victim and then coming out as a strong survivor. The women there are still my friends till this day, and they are a very strong support system for my life, my kid's life. And the shelter is very important for families, children, and mothers to get the support that they need. Number one, they're not judged, they're loved, and they're just listened to; I think that's really something that victims aren't used to is just being listened to. So your continued support will help children, will help mothers, and we hope to change their lives and to empower them to take their lives back. So thank you so much and keep considering support. Thank you.

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COUNCILMEMBER CRIVELLO: Thank you. Sam Makaiwi, Jr.

MR. MAKAIWI: Gee, you know, when you in combat, you not supposed to go blank. But at this time I would like to acknowledge our Chairperson, our Vice-Chair, and all the Councilmembers of Maui. Aloha.

COUNCILMEMBERS: Aloha.

MR. MAKAIWI: Welcome to the island of Molokai. We're 38 miles long and 10 miles wide. Our population is 7,000. At one time we had pineapple fields, cattle, and our Kaunakakai town was booming. But, you know, that was many, many years ago. I grew up working in the pineapple field, you know, and my parents taught us how to work and how to survive. But I'm here to thank each and every one of you, because without you and without your support, the veterans center wouldn't have been complete. You know, they say, well, the board members. You know, my cousin Larry, everyone had a goal, they had a mission, and they were inspired. Cousin Larry inspired all of us. And we were able, you know, my Vice-Commander, Longi. I'm Samuel Kamuela Makaiwi, Jr., born and raised at Ho`olehua General Hospital in Ho`olehua, Hawaiian homestead land. I'm a kupuna, and I love the island of Molokai. I love the island of Molokai. You know, every time I wake up, my wife tell me what for do. She even tell me when to wake up. And my wife is pure Filipino, so we not related, so that's good...you know, but without my wife and without my family that tells me do this, do that, do this, do that, don't do this, don't do that, what would I do without my wife. So I'm a believer, and each one of you made a believer. You know, there's three types of believer, believe. Is one, you need to believe; and then the second one is a non-believer; and then the third one is a make believer. So all of you made me a believer because most all of you witnessed our veterans center, and it is complete. But we thank you for your support, we thank you for all that you do, and it's an ongoing thing. We do have projects, we do have the parking lot more to go, we have the solar system. Because that is our goal for this year, 2016 to 2017, we get two more years. Just like you, you get four [sic] years, then you get another four [sic] years, then boom, so just like us. At this time, on Molokai, we get four thousand veterans over, you know. My Vice-Commander, he's a Vietnam wounded Purple Heart recipient.

MS. ZULUETA: Two, forty-five.

MR. MAKAIWI: Everybody think we getting paid, but we not getting paid. Again, aloha. Thank you for all that you do, and that's what we came here to do. In behalf of the veterans and the 400 veterans on the island of Molokai, thank you and mahalo.

COUNCILMEMBER CRIVELLO: Mahalo, Sam. The next testifier, Karen Holt.

MS. HOLT: Aloha. Karen Holt, I'm the Executive Director of the Molokai Community Service Council. We're an umbrella organization that was created back in the 1970s, and we actually sponsor a lot of things in the community that need a 501(c)(3). And so, among other things, we actually are administering the shelter. You just heard from those folks.

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So we do all the back-office stuff for the shelter, and we have many other programs that we also run. Molokai Youth Center is also in the Budget this year, and we really, really appreciate funding for that over years. I think got a couple kids who will tell you a little bit about what goes on there. We also partner with the Department of Health with a project for chronically mentally ill adults, and they can give us a staff and we gave them a place. And the County, very kindly, has provided funding, small amount of funding, for many years for that program and it has been immensely valuable to the folks who have actually used its services. These are adults with very serious mental illnesses: usually schizophrenia, bipolar, or clinical depression. And what the drop-in center that we partner with the Department of Health to do does is it provides people with a safe, non-stigmatizing place where they can go and hang out. And we've seen tremendous progress over the years; so that's another of our programs. We also run a program that we call the Kapili Umbrella Program, and that is designed to help people who need a 501(c)(3) and to provide technical support for people in our community who might need help and don't have it in their back office. So I...sorry, I didn't do the math, but we usually raise quite a bit more money every year as a result of running our umbrella program, then the County is kind enough to give to us, and we're really happy about that. Lately, we have also been sponsoring folks who need to use County facilities, 'cause they have to have general liability insurance. And I guess that's always been the case, but on Molokai, it's become kind of a newly enforced rule; and so folks have come to us to ask whether or not they can actually use our non-profit status and our insurance in order to hold things. So they're...the Project Graduation where you take the kids out after graduation so they don't get killed in a drunk-driving accident, they needed a sponsor to use the County pool, and so we're sponsoring them. So it's an interesting program, it's not really exactly like anybody else's, but we think it works, and it's something that's homegrown, and the things that we sponsor are all Molokai things. I also want to put in a plug for some of the folks that have been up to talk to you already, and I really want to speak on behalf of those that are based here. So, of course, we love the firefighters, and we would love to see them get their new truck. But I also want to say that the Humane Society is really making do on very little. And we provided some technical support, board training, and that sort of thing to them over the years. We don't actually have an animal shelter here at all. If you want to save an animal's life, you either have to hide it or you have to take it to Maui. And, unfortunately with the change in the ferry schedule, that hasn't been possible for the last...I don't know how long. So we don't have an animal shelter, Hoala and her crew are doing their best to bring vets to the island. We haven't had one for long periods of time. And I'm so thankful, because we're kind of a rescue-dog station at my office as anybody who walks in will tell you. So if there's a lost dog wandering around, I'm pretty much usually the person who's saying, okay, whose dog is that. Sometimes we find their owners, sometimes we don't.

MS. ZULUETA: Two, forty-five.

MS. HOLT: Sorry. And I also wanted to put in a word for...I'm forgetting who. Come on you guys. Alright, I have officially forgot. But your support for Molokai is really important. And most of the folks who were testifying in front of you today are people who have tried

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to leverage a lot of funding from other sources, but for whom the County's piece is really critical; and I would say that for my agency as well. So I really appreciate your support in the past and I certainly hope that you'll continue to support all of our programs in the future. Mahalo.

COUNCILMEMBER CRIVELLO: Thank you, Karen. Carla Dudoit and Shirley Rawlins?

MS. DUDOIT: Aloha. My name is Carla Dudoit, and I welcome you to our island. We'd like to thank you for coming and hearing of all our different programs and need. We know there's a lot to be done here on Molokai and we try do our best, and we're here to thank you for supporting our programs, especially our Molokai Makahiki. We're going into our thirty-fifth year. The last few years have been a struggle, and we thank you for helping us and supporting our programs. We've serviced more than 3,000 in a weekend. They come from all over the state. We even have some visitors that come from New Zealand, they come from everywhere just to come and participate and share in our activities. But we'd like to thank you, the Council, for thinking of us and supporting our programs, and continue to support is our plea. I thank you. And this is Shirley Rawlins.

MS. RAWLINS: Just want to say, thank you for all of your support throughout the years. And we're looking forward for the thirty-fifth anniversary, which is going to be a big one. Mahalo.

CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you.

MS. DUDOIT: Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER CRIVELLO: Thank you, ladies. Phillip Kikugawa [*sic*]?

MR. KIKUKAWA: Welcome to Molokai, Councilmembers. I had the pleasure of meeting some of you in Charlotte, North Carolina, I think, last summer. And thank you for all your effort and your support there. My name's Phillip Kikukawa, and I'm a educator, I'm a teacher for 25 years. I'm a...I also have a business, a bike shop, and I'm a bike enthusiast. I have three kids and a wife and we all cycle. And Molokai is the perfect island for cycling with wide shoulders; maybe, on the average, a car a minute might pass by; really safe, you know; some hills. But I'm here to ask your support for the West Maui Greenway, I believe it's CBS 3204. I'm asking you to allocate \$1.5 million in developing and researching and building the West Maui Greenway. I believe from Olowalu to Kapalua, eventually to Kapalua. But the first phase would be Olowalu to the smokestack, Lahainaluna Road. And there's a number of reasons why. First of all, we all know that a big issue in our world right now is energy. We've gone to war over energy. And Maui is...every time I fly into Maui I look at your windmills. I just get...I get chicken skin right now seeing the natural energy just flowing through your isthmus, free energy. There's solar energy which Maui, Maui County, is the forefront of. I'm happy to get net-metering. And another form of energy is natural energy, human energy; and Maui is the perfect place for that. Let's see. One reason is transportation. If you're an employee of...say in Kaanapali or Kapalua and you live anywhere in between Olowalu

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and Kapalua, you can get on your bike, go on the safe greenway all the way to your work spot, get your exercise in, get to your spot, save energy, save cost on fuel, and ride back; so that's one reason, just for transportation. Another reason is for our visitors from afar. Lot of 'em come to Molokai, they rent bikes from my shop. They ride along the highways, they might rent bikes from a day to, some of 'em, three months at a time; and they often ask me about Maui, what's, you know, what about Maui? I say, catch the ferry, take the bike to Maui. But I say, oh, wait a minute, you got kids. No way, you don't want to ride along the Honoapiilani Highway with your kids, it's really dangerous and people get hit quite often. But if you had the West Maui Greenway, it would be a perfect activity, 'cause people are into ecotourism, they like healthy, rigorous, physical activities that the whole family can enjoy.

MS. ZULUETA: Two, forty-five.

MR. KIKUKAWA: And Maui is the perfect place for that. Rent bikes, you can go from Kaanapali, Olowalu, Kapalua, take the whole family for a day. So please seriously consider funding the West Maui Greenway and help Maui County. Thank you very much.

COUNCILMEMBER CRIVELLO: Thank you. Thank you, Phillip. Jacob Puaa?

MR. PUAA-SPENCER: Aloha. My name is Jake Puaa-Spencer. I work for Molokai Occupational Center for the yard department, and I would like to thank the Parks and Recreation Department and County Council Budget Department for supporting Molokai Occupational Center. And anything else? How about MOC? Now moving to the gym. I would like to know when is the gym going to be renovated. And anything else about the gym? When we going have locker rooms for the athletes? Anything else? That's it.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER CRIVELLO: Mahalo, Jacob.

MR. PUAA-SPENCER: Thanks for the support of MOC, for the yard department and the shop that...anything else? That's it.

COUNCILMEMBER CRIVELLO: Thank you, Jacob. David Kangas? Did I say that right? Kangas.

MR. KANGAS: I'm David Kangas, thank you very much. I'm...and my friends I...I'm sorry there's not so many people came here tonight, but thank you all from the bottom of my heart. Yes, we need more financial support for the buses. Everyone I know takes them including myself and more pool hours. And I reiterate, from what the fellow said here twenty minutes ago of the Police and Fire. We need more financial support for them and the fire engine and for those in public safety, especially the Police and Fire Departments. I've had to call 911 more than once who have taken me to the hospital and save me since I've been here, and they did a great, great job. And we also need

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money for the fire engine and the gymnasium. And I want to thank you all for your transparency and clarity in helping our government of, you know, of Maui County and the State and Molokai. You guys do a great job and, again, I'm sorry not more people came here tonight, but I thank you very, very much. And I might say, also, the last thing we need in the State of Hawaii is NextEra taking over Maui Electric or Hawaii Electric or those others. They're going to ruin Hawaii. They should just leave. It's, you know, they ruining it as it is. They're wasting everybody's time. And their energy is just like a hurricane of terrible things. They should just leave. We've been through this before. I just want to say, the electricity would not go down. It won't even stable, it'd skyrocket with a hurricane of problems that they would bring on to Hawaii. Thank you very much.

COUNCILMEMBER CRIVELLO: Thank you, David. Our next testifier is Peter Pale.

MR. PALE: Oh yeah, yeah, thank you. First of all, I'd like to thank Councilmembers for all being here on Molokai. I'd like to thank all the Molokai people here, sharing about their programs, because no program is more important than the other, we are all needed on this island. I would just like to say, thank you for everything that we have on Molokai we do appreciate: our parks, all our facilities that we do have, anything that the County's involved with we do appreciate it. And here on Molokai we always used to to making do with what we have regardless if it's old or new, we're going to make the best of it; and I'm pretty sure a lot of us on this island all feel that way. And we do also feel that sometimes we get shortchanged a lot here on Molokai. Sometimes we see a lot of things happening great on other county islands but instead of Molokai. So I come to you guys to ask that you support Councilwoman Stacy Crivello in her dream to build our new athletic complex. And I believe there are a lot of people on this island—we can get the...so much signatures if you guys need that—but as we move forward to the future, we would like to see something like that for our island not just for a facility for athletic activities but for like emergency situations where something might happen in the future as we move forward. But thank you for listening and thank you, everybody, for coming out. Aloha.

COUNCILMEMBER CRIVELLO: Thank you, Peter Pale. Next is Corene Helm.

MS. HELM: Aloha. Aloha, Council Chair White, Budget Chairman Hokama, Molokai Councilwoman Crivello, and fellow Committee Members. My name is Corene Helm. I'm a former teacher and, now, a native Hawaiian business owner on Molokai. Along with my husband and son, we own and operate Anahaki LLC and Tea Company. Located in the homestead lands of Hoolehua, Anahaki Farms is considered our primary business and production site. We grow and produce a variety of crops for the local Saturday market and identify the special tea, my sister's tea, mamaki and lemongrass tea blend as our primary source of revenue sales. Special thanks to Jennifer Hawkins and the Kuha`o Business Center. What started off as a modest business venture two years ago, our local market sales for our specialty tea product have increased substantially allowing us to seek and build potential market opportunities elsewhere. The Kuha`o Business Center has done an excellent job in providing opportunities for small business

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such as Anahaki LLC to learn and grow their business. Having the necessary business skills and tools to compete in the local, as well as the global market is vital to being a successful small business. Jennifer Hawkins and the Kuha`o Business Center has been very helpful in their outreach efforts to ensure Molokai businesses have the appropriate information and education to be successful. We humbly ask the County of Maui for their continued support for the Kuha`o Business Center. Mahalo.

COUNCILMEMBER CRIVELLO: Mahalo, Corene. Now, Ben Lothamer.

MR. LOTHAMER: That's me, Lothamer.

COUNCILMEMBER CRIVELLO: Okay.

MR. LOTHAMER: Ben Lothamer.

COUNCILMEMBER CRIVELLO: Alright then.

MR. LOTHAMER: Retired three years ago...came here about three years ago. I just got one thing to say, that's --

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Can you go on the mic please, Ben.

MR. LOTHAMER: --that's with mass transit public transportation.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Cannot hear, please.

MR. LOTHAMER: Public transportation, MEO buses. It's a good thing you got going on. Lot of people depend on that transportation, lot of people less fortunate than me and you. So my point is that. Keep the bus schedules up, it's a good thing. Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER CRIVELLO: Mahalo, Ben. Next testifier, Barbara Osha.

MS. OSHA: Hi. Barbara Osha. I want to give my thanks and to all the people who ride the buses with me daily who couldn't be here tonight. I'm disabled, don't drive anymore, so it saved my life, and it's been wonderful. I love it and thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER CRIVELLO: Thank you. Next testifier, Lori-Lei Rawlins-Crivello.

MS. RAWLINS-CRIVELLO: Aloha, Councilmembers, and welcome to Molokai. I'm Lori-Lei Rawlins-Crivello. Mahalo for coming to Molokai and for all of your support of the projects which benefit our community. I wear many hats in our community. As I help run our family business, sit on boards in different organizations, and help create events that benefit our community. Just got off one last night, went to Oahu to do a fundraiser to benefit Molokai High and Molokai Middle School, which was a great

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success. As an active community member, I'd like to express our appreciation for your support of Aha Kukui O Molokai and the Molokai Canoe Festivals' Kulaia event. This year will be our third annual event, and mahalo for your support of the funding we received via the Office of Economic Development grants. Last year we were able to generate \$40,000 in vendor sales helping our budding entrepreneurs and organizations directly from our event and leveraged at least 16,000 in sponsors and grants that we were able to put back into our community. Our event, being on a Friday evening, brings Na Wahine O Ke Kai paddlers in earlier for this women's world championship channel race, increasing hotel room nights, car rentals, and more moneys poured into our markets, stores, and gas stations. Our event encourages positive relationships with aloha while educating visitors from neighbor islands, other states, and different countries about our treasured resources. So mahalo for your support and we kindly ask your continued support for our event with Kulaia. Also, mahalo for supporting Ka Molokai Makahiki each year who also receives OED grant funding. And that's one event that benefits our entire community and brings in not only neighbor-island competitors but it brings all of our schools together. I would also like to ask your support of our Councilwoman in getting a new athletic complex for our island, a much-needed facility here. As a high-school athlete, it's taken me a while, like 30 years, to get back on track. And I'm finding the difficulties it is to remain motivated. When we don't have a multi-complex facility to stay fit. Our existent Na Puuwai Gym doesn't benefit our working families when they close at 7:00 p.m. and on holidays and weekends.

MS. ZULUETA: Two, forty-five.

MS. RAWLINS-CRIVELLO: Adult community sports are difficult to have multiple leagues or sports running at once; and, most importantly, having a safe evacuation center located in Kaunakakai. So mahalo for being here and mahalo for all of your support.

COUNCILMEMBER CRIVELLO: Mahalo, Lori-Lei. Edmund Pedro? Aloha.

MR. PEDRO: Aloha. Aloha kakou. My name is Edmund Pedro, and I am speaking in favor of line item for \$8,000 so that Tri-Isle Conservation and Development Council, Inc. can purchase the AmpliFund grant management software, or a AGMS. I understand the County of Maui recently purchased an AGMS package for its own grant management purposes; and this, at least for Tri-Isle, validates its capacity and usefulness trial. In Fiscal Year '15 and '16 brought in and managed \$4 million in public and private sector grants for over 200 different programs in Maui County. We administer, expend, and audit these grant funds when Fiscal Year '16 Operating Budget of 372,000 of which 161,000 are non-payroll costs. Tri-Isle sees AGMS as cutting-edge grant management software that will allow us to become more cost effective, efficient, and audit ready. Tri-Isle is a Federal 501(c)(3) designated grant-management and grant-making organization is committed to becoming more supportive and capable of fostering the non-profit sector as the dynamic and economic engine for Maui County. We want to continue our partnership with the County of Maui in provision of government services, our communities throughout Maui, Molokai, Lanai expectedly. Thank you.

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COUNCILMEMBER CRIVELLO: Thank you. Next testifier, Nainoa Seitz.

MR. SEITZ: Aloha.

COUNCILMEMBER CRIVELLO: Aloha.

MR. SEITZ: My name is Nainoa Seitz. And I just came to testify on behalf of MEO Headstart and the bus, MEO, the bus. I've been living here for like about two years now. And we've been catching the bus almost every day. I just want to say, thank you very much for that service. And I hope...continued funding. Also, maybe a little bit extra for some maintenance on the buses. And also for MEO Headstart, my two year old...I mean my five-year-old daughter has been going there for the past two years, and I've seen such great improvement with her going there. Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER CRIVELLO: Thank you. Debbie Naeole?

MS. NAEOLE: Good evening, Councilmembers. Welcome to Molokai. My name is Debbie Naeole, and I am a Member Hula Halau O Molokai, and I am here on behalf of Molokai Ka Hula Piko. And these are my hula sisters supporting me...us. First of all, we want to thank you, Council, for our...your past support for our Ka Hula Piko...Molokai Ka Hula Piko. And we...like to thank you for the grants because they do help the Molokai businesses to grow and encourage new businesses. And growth in our business also represents the opportunity for more jobs to the local residents which is good for our island community, and these grants help us with groups interested in preserving the arts and culture and giving the community exposure to these important values. This June, we will be celebrating 25 years of Molokai Ka Hula Piko. And we work closely and collaboratively with a Honolulu halau: Hula Halau O Kukuna O Ka La. And their Kumu, the late John Kaimikawa had a vision for Molokai to strengthen our community and our families culturally, spiritually, and economically through hula, chant, traditions of Molokai. Ka Hula Piko is a three-day event free and open to all so that we can carry out the traditions of our kupuna and Kumu John's vision. The event begins with on-site visits of cultural and historical significance and lectures of the annual theme. We provide local entertainment, local food, and crafters. And the crafters have to be made on Molokai. And concluding with the Hoolaulea full of hula. This year we hope to celebrate Ka Hula Piko at a Maui County facility. We would like to mahalo you, the County Council, for your support the past couple years; and we look forward to more support. And you are the reason for our success. And look forward to our application for the next fiscal year. Mahalo.

COUNCILMEMBER CRIVELLO: Mahalo, Debbie. Our next testifier is Kekamaikaikamaikalani Helm.

MR. HELM: Aloha, Council. Kekamaikaikamaikalani Helm. I'm here to talk on—well, I came to talk on one thing, but now I like talk on a few things—but mainly Ka Molokai Makahiki. I'd just like to say, mahalo nui loa for your support in the last few years.

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Supporting Ka Molokai Makahiki, we hit over...directly over probably a thousand kids on Molokai and then inclusive of probably a few other maybe a hundred kids from Maui and maybe another hundred from the neighboring islands. I appreciate the support because it not only boosts our economy here for that long weekend, but also it's probably one of only a few events in our county that perpetuates truly a Hawaiian sport. And these are sports that belong to us, to our native people, to our native land. And it allows our children of Molokai to step into that cultural practice even if it's at least for a weekend or for two or three months when they practicing for it. So mahalo nui loa again for your continued support and funding for Ka Molokai Makahiki, it's really, really appreciated. Also, on another note, I, too, own and operate a farm called Mapulehu Farms, Inc. and have benefitted from the Kuha`o Business Center. And all the information that has been shared by the Kuha`o Business Center to people who are trying to start businesses or own farms or are looking for funding. And I tell you, I get e-mails maybe almost every day from them, you know, trying to hook us up to what's out there, yeah. So mahalo for your support for them, too. And, again, mahalo for being here and for taking the time out to hearing us. Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER CRIVELLO: Mahalo. We have, now, Andrea Dudoit along with Tehani Starkey and Kalei DeCosta.

MS. DUDOIT: Aloha. My name is Andrea Dudoit, Director at the Molokai Youth Center. Mahalo for your continued support with our program. Daily, we have a variety of activities that changes every hour. After school, we hold a one-hour homework help, kids café, Hawaiian language, hula, outdoor and night sports and more. Once a month, we have a ohana night. We invite the families and the kids and we do family activities, games, have the kids do arts and crafts with their families and just so they can have that interaction. And then we can have that interaction with the families as well. We enjoy what we do, my staff and I. We've grown to love the kids that we work with. And thank you for allowing us to be of service to them. There's not a time that goes by even when we're not on shift that we don't have some kind of communication or run into the kids at, you know, we can be at the store, we can be anywhere. And right off the bat, the kids will come running to us. It's that bond and that commitment that we have to them that makes it even more special. And I mahalo you once again for your continued support in our program. I had Kalei DeCosta here, but she had to go home, curfew. So I have her...if you don't mind, she wrote something if that's okay? I can read it?

COUNCILMEMBER CRIVELLO: Yes.

MS. DUDOIT: It says, hi, my name is Kalei. I am 11 years old and I am in Kaunakakai Elementary School. Things I like about the Youth Center is that we do fun activities and the staff helps us with our homework and they are the best. That's from Kalei DeCosta. Thank you and mahalo once again.

COUNCILMEMBER CRIVELLO: Mahalo.

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MS. STARKEY: Hi, my name is Tehani, and I am 12 years old and I go to Kualapuu Elementary School. Things I like about the Youth Center is that they have fun activities, they cook good food, they take us to fun-filled trips and we do our homework there and they help us.

MS. DUDOIT: I'd like to add, Monday through Friday we do offer, we do do dinner for the kids, 6:00 p.m. So any kids that are out there, they are welcome to come to us. We feed them. Saturdays we also feed them lunch because we have our open hours and we take them excursions, take them to Hawaiian culture, let them be able to reconnect the values, morals, principles, and knowledge of our culture on our excursions. So, yeah, we do offer dinner also for the kids and snacks. So they're doing pretty good over there, you know, they love it. So thank you, mahalo.

COUNCILMEMBER CRIVELLO: Thank you, Andrea. Our next testifier, and final testifier unless there's anyone that would like to sign up to testify, Yolanda Reyes.

MS. REYES: Aloha, Councilmembers. Thank you for being here this evening. My name is Yolanda Reyes. I am the Branch Director for MEO here on Molokai. And I mainly wanted to come up here to thank each and every one of you for your support for many, many years at MEO, we really appreciate it. I did want to mention, somebody mentioned about maintenance, but we do need new buses. And the roads are really bad here on Molokai. It's not just the State but I'm sure we have to go into subdivisions to pick up the disabled and some of the roads in there are, you know, pretty bad. But we love...I love what I do. I love my job. And I have a really good group of staff, a really good staff. And we really appreciate each and every one of you for what you've supported us with. Thank you very much.

COUNCILMEMBER CRIVELLO: Thank you, Yolanda. We do have, now, our final testifier perhaps, maybe. Jennifer Hawkins?

MS. HAWKINS: Good evening, and thank you for coming to Molokai. My name is Jennifer Hawkins and I'm the Small Business Specialist at the Kuha`o Business Center. On behalf of the entrepreneurs that could not be here this evening, because they're home with their families, I just want to say, thank you all for the support that you provide our Molokai participants in the Made in Maui County Festival. Because of the support that is provided, we are able to bring a minimum of 12 entrepreneurs over to Maui County [sic] for a two-day festival. In this last...the first year of the festival, our participants, our 12 participants brought home over \$36,000 for the two-day event. New moneys into circulation, into our community. This last year, it was over 45,000 with the same number of vendors going. And the stipend that is provided and the moneys that are provided to help get them over there with the transportation and shipping means so much. This year, we have 12 booths again, but we already have about 16 that have committed to put in applications, and I've talked to about 20 that are really interested. But what you all are providing to our entrepreneurs here on Molokai is a start. It's a start for their new business. It helps get their business to the next level. But what it's done for us here on Molokai is it has actually open doors. We've been able

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to work with our entrepreneurs here on Molokai to implement e-commerce and work on social media. And so now we have a steady flow of new moneys coming into the community. And a lot of these businesses, most of these businesses, you'll never see in a storefront; however, they're selling all over the world now. And so I just want to thank you for opening those doors for our businesses because it is making a big impact here in our community. We'll also be working with the high school this year, and so this is moneys that we would like to see coming in, but we're going to start a pilot program with the Made in Maui County Festival, and it's actually going to be a high school entrepreneurship program. And we're hoping to model it such that any high school around could participate which would bring volunteers over to the community, but it's also going to teach our kids at a young age, at a high school age, the values of business and doing business and that there are opportunities and if they don't want to go to college, they can create their own destiny there. I also want to speak on behalf of MEO Business Development Center and Kuulei Arce. She's a great partner of ours and here at the Kuha`o Business Center when we have new clients that are starting a business come to our center, we always recommend that they attend the Core Four class. We also partner on other entrepreneurship grants here in the community, but they do an excellent job of really getting down to the nitty gritty with our entrepreneurs. So I just want to thank you for supporting them as well. Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER CRIVELLO: Thank you, Jennifer. Wilma Noelani Joy?

MS. JOY: Aloha, Council. Mahalo for coming to Molokai and listening to our concerns. I'm Wilma Noelani Joy, Molokai resident, Maui County taxpayer, and a user of County services. First, I support no increases in property tax, minimum property tax. I pay enough. I pay \$250 per piece on lands that has been in my family. These are lo'i lands. Five pieces, \$250, no one lives on it, cannot build a house on it, cannot do anything with it; but I can't give it up because it's been in my family for five generations. So I continue to pay taxes on it, I don't use it for anything, except now we having taro growing on it again and I'm so pleased, okay. Second, I'm a user of County services. I strongly support the continued services of the refuse department, they're really good. They come once a week. I think that's minimum for us, once a week. And they're really good, on time. I also support the recycle program down there. I'm teaching my grandchildren how to recycle. I need that center there so that they will continue to recycle and do their little part in saving this Earth. I think safety is important so I support the Police Department and the Fire Department, they ensure our safety in our community. And most of all, I support Parks and Recreation, especially Kualapuu Recreation Center because I go to Tutu and Me with my granddaughter there and that place is always clean, I always get good service. Whoever's...Tony really does a good job in supporting us there, and I would like to see it continue. Thank you very much.

COUNCILMEMBER CRIVELLO: Mahalo, Noelani. Any other testifiers? If not, I'm turning the microphone over to the Budget Chair, Mr. Hokama.

. . .END OF PUBLIC TESTIMONY. . .

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES
Council of the County of Maui

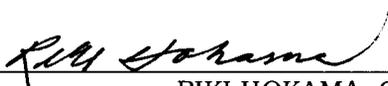
April 11, 2016
Molokai District

ACTION: DEFER pending further discussion.

CHAIR HOKAMA: We thank you, Molokai, for coming out and sharing your thoughts with the Committee this evening. You can continue to watch us if you're bored at night, we're on TV, so you can watch us. As we go through the Mayor's proposal...and to the last testifier, thank you for sharing your mana'o about taxes. You know that the Mayor has proposed a...almost 16 percent increase in taxation for the projects and programs he would like to...in his proposal. We have heard from many in the community about their difficulties in not getting a 16 percent increase in their paychecks. So we are going to make some hard decisions, make the Budget what we believe is representative and affordable to the people of Maui County. So I can tell you real straight and honest to you, we have more requests than there is money. It's an eternal battle between the chicken and the egg. So I want you to know, your Members here have a very hard job. But I can tell you, every single Member that is before you has their heart in the right place and which is to do the best job for all of Maui County. So we thank you very much for being here. Again, we are happy to take additional testimony from you. If you think of something else you want to share with us, do not hesitate to get that information to us. Either send it to our offices on Maui, if Ms. Alcon can assist you through the Molokai Office, we ask that you please ask Ms. Alcon for some assistance or the numbers that you can call regarding toll-free numbers to talk to us on Maui island. So, saying that, thank you so much for your hospitality and your aloha and we...gives you God's blessing and have a very good night. This meeting is adjourned. . . .(gavel) . . .

ADJOURN: 7:44 p.m.

APPROVED:



RIKI HOKAMA, Chair
Budget and Finance Committee

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Transcribed by: Raynette Yap