

**CLIMATE ACTION AND RESILIENCE COMMITTEE**  
Council of the County of Maui

**MINUTES**

**February 3, 2020**

**Council Chamber, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor**

**CONVENE:** 9:05 a.m.

**PRESENT:** VOTING MEMBERS:

Councilmember Kelly Takaya King, Chair  
Councilmember Shane M. Sinenci, Vice-Chair  
Councilmember Tasha Kama  
Councilmember Tamara Paltin (out at 10:25 a.m., in at 10:28 a.m., out  
at 11:39 a.m., in at 11:44 a.m.)  
Councilmember Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez

**EXCUSED:** Councilmember Riki Hokama  
Councilmember Alice Lee

**STAFF:** Kasie Apo Takayama, Legislative Analyst  
Stacey Vinoray, Committee Secretary

Zhantell Lindo, Council Aide, Molokai Council Office (via  
telephone conference bridge)  
Denise Fernandez, Council Aide, Lanai Council Office (via  
telephone conference bridge)  
Mavis Oliveira-Medeiros, Council Aide, Hana Council Office (via  
telephone conference bridge)

**ADMIN.:** Richelle Thomson, Deputy Corporation Counsel, Department of  
the Corporation Counsel  
Herman Andaya, Emergency Management Administrator, Maui  
Emergency Management Agency  
Dr. Anthony Joyce, Civil Defense Staff Specialist I, Maui  
Emergency Management Agency  
Makalea Ane, Environmental Coordinator, Office of Economic  
Development

**OTHERS:** Jamie Caplan, Project Manager, Jamie Caplan Consulting LLC  
Sharon Mielbrecht, Community Outreach and Engagement Lead,  
Jamie Caplan Consulting LLC  
Caroline Cunningham, Risk & Vulnerability Assessment Lead,  
Jamie Caplan Consulting LLC

Jeff Stark  
Kevin Watkins, Founder, Maui Sustainable Solutions

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Chris Mentzel  
Michael Smith, President, REGENiTECH, LLC  
Sean Lester  
John Seebart  
Jasee Law

(10) additional attendees

**PRESS:** *Akaku: Maui Community Television, Inc.*

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CHAIR KING: . . . *(gavel)* . . . Good morning. Today is the second meeting, February 3, 2020. The second meeting of the Climate Action and Resilience Committee. Thank you, everyone, for being here and we have little over a bare quorum. So, we're good. I would like to introduce . . . first, I'm going to ask everyone to silence your cell phones or any other noisemaking devices you might have. And it's amazing how often we forget if we don't remind ourselves, and I would like to introduce the Members who are here today. Thank you, Members, for being here. My name is Kelly King, I'm the Chair of the Climate Action and Resilience Committee. My Vice-Chair is Shane Sinenci.

VICE-CHAIR SINENCI: Aloha kakahiaka, Chair.

CHAIR KING: Aloha kakahiaka.

VICE-CHAIR SINENCI: . . . *(spoke in Hawaiian)*. . .

CHAIR KING: Thank you. Also the Chair of the Environment, Agriculture and Cultural Preservation Committee. And we also have Keani Rawlins-Fernandez here who is the Chair of the Economic Development and Budget Committee and our Council Vice-Chair. Good morning.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aloha kakahiaka, Chair.

CHAIR KING: Aloha kakahiaka. And we have Councilmember Tamara Paltin who is from West Maui and got caught in traffic today. So, thank . . . and thank you for being . . . we're glad you drove carefully, and Chair of the Planning and Sustainable Land Use Committee.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Aloha kakahiaka, Chair.

CHAIR KING: Aloha kakahiaka. And we have our Pro Temp Tasha Kama, who is the Chair of the Affordable Housing Committee. Thank you for being here.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Aloha kakahiaka, Chair.

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CHAIR KING: Aloha kakahiaka. So . . . Member Hokama, Riki Hokama is going to be running a little bit late. He said he'd be here by about 9:30. Chair Lee is excused, she's on Oahu today, testifying at some of the bills . . . for some of the bills that we . . . the Maui County Council has put into our legislative package. So, Members, thank you for being here. We do have five, a quorum for this Committee is four, so we're good. And I'd like to go into our three . . . just a brief explanation of our three agenda items today. We have Climate Action and Resilience Committee-1, our acronym actually spells CAR, so think of a renewable energy car when you think about that. Item 1 is Mitigating Climate-Activated Disasters, and we have a presentation on that . . . on our climate action draft plan. CAR-2 is on the resiliency hubs and we have presentations on the, what's going with the resiliency hubs. And then CAR-3 is a discussion on the community working group structure that I'd like to formulate. I've gotten a lot of calls from people in the community who want to be part of the effort that we're making for climate action. And so I'd like to have a discussion on the best vehicle for that, whether it's a subcommittee, a working group or a TIG. And we'll get to that discussion third. So, Members, let's begin with public testimony and for those who are not signed up yet, please sign up out in the lobby for . . . to give public testimony. The testimony will be taken on any of the three items today, you have three minutes to speak, and for those who haven't testified, there's a little light at the podium and it . . . when your testimony starts it's green, when it turns yellow you have 30 seconds left and then when it turns red that's the end of the three minutes and then we ask you to wrap up. So, while testifying please state your name and any organization you're representing, and also per the Rules of the Counsel we ask that you state if you're a paid lobbyist with any particular agency or organization. We have, I believe, established . . . Ms. Takayama Apo, we have established connection with our three satellite offices, do we have any testifiers waiting to testify?

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

MS. APO TAKAYAMA: Chair, we have five testifiers currently signed up in the Chamber and no testifiers in our District offices.

CHAIR KING: Okay. So, let's go ahead and start with our . . . calling our testifiers in Chambers as they signed up.

MS. APO TAKAYAMA: Thank you, Chair. The first testifier is, Jeff Stark, testifying on CAR-1(3), to be followed by Kevin Watkins.

CHAIR KING: Okay. Mr. Stark, and then, Members, we have . . . Mr. Stark has his written testimony as well that's being passed out.

MR. STARK: Good morning, Madam Chair, Members of the --

CHAIR KING: Good morning.

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MR. STARK: --Council. My name is Jeff Stark. For the past 30 years or so I've been writing and working on environmental issues here and in other areas as well. Yesterday morning I was quite pleased when I woke up and took a look at the weekend *Maui News*. The reason I was pleased was that Page 1 featured two stories on Maui projects with excellent environmental implications. The first story concerned a project initiated by the Maui Ocean Center, their project, a valid scientific effort, will involve nature's filter feeders dropped in Maalaea Bay. This experiment is designed to test whether or not certain species of Pacific oysters can effectively remove a variety of pollutants from the waters of Maalaea Bay. This experiment has worked in other areas providing excellent results and holds great promise for Maui. The second project headlined "Mahi Pono farm gearing up to plant thousands of trees" is another groundbreaking effort. In this case literally groundbreaking, since it involves planting more than 700 trees in Maui's central plains by the end of this year. It too is designed in part to test whether environmentally appropriate natural resources . . . excuse me, natural processes can help us protect our natural environment. These two projects and many others are also alike in that they demonstrate a positive and growing trend in environmental protection. This trend involves the development of projects that involve many stakeholder groups, as well as academic experts, researchers, commercial operations, students from non-profit environmental organizations, and more. As an example, more than 25 organizations representing the disciplines and organizations I just mentioned are included in the two projects that I've mentioned earlier. With this in mind, I believe that the best avenue for growth and productivity in the Climate Action and Resiliency Committee is to begin with a community working group. This is a process that can be conducted relatively quickly and can have the ability to draw participants from nearly every constituency in Maui County and beyond. If this initial effort is successful . . . excuse me, then as the activities of the community working group mature, it may be appropriate to migrate the community working group to the more formal and perhaps more capable subcommittee mode. The environmental community is more vigorous and effective than ever. We believe that now is the time to make sure that the power of local government is utilized to its fullest. Thank you very much.

CHAIR KING: Perfect timing.

MR. STARK: Hey.

CHAIR KING: Mahalo, Mr. Stark.

MR. STARK: It was clearly a mistake.

CHAIR KING: Members, any questions? I think when you said 700 trees you meant 700,000.

MR. STARK: Yes, I believe that's true.

CHAIR KING: Okay. I just wanted to --

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MR. STARK: Just checking.

CHAIR KING: --clarify that. I was paying attention. Okay.

MR. STARK: Thank you.

CHAIR KING: Thank you so much for your testimony. Ms. Takayama Apo [sic]?

MS. APO TAKAYAMA: Thank you, Chair. The next testifier is, Kevin Watkins, testifying on behalf of Maui Sustainable Solutions. He'll be testifying on all three agenda items, to be followed by, Chris Mentzel.

MR. WATKINS: Good morning. So, I'm Kevin with Maui Sustainable Solutions and I got a little more time to talk today and I had a little less coffee so I'm a little less nervous than last time. When we talk about climate change, what that means to me is waste. What we've done to cause the climate to change that we're responsible for is putting carbon into our atmosphere, things that don't belong in our freshwater and our ocean and filling our lands with trash. So, I'm going to focus more on plastic with what I'm talking . . . with our community working group and mitigating that, the change that that causes in destroying our reefs in our oceans. One of our solutions . . .

CHAIR KING: Mr. Watkins, which item are you speaking on this morning?

MR. WATKINS: All three, they're kind of --

CHAIR KING: All three.

MR. WATKINS: --intermingled together.

CHAIR KING: Okay.

MR. WATKINS: So, an island-wide distributed network of refill stations combined with the sustainability platform that we're developing provides an infrastructure that can be rapidly developed and installed to cultivate the cultural and societal shift to eliminate the use of plastic bottles. Each of these locations can be utilized as an informational resource to better educate individuals on the plastic problem and provide real alternatives and solutions. I propose that our resiliency hubs be these locations. Compared to many million-dollar projects that have had negative environmental effects across the islands, this project is cost efficient and sets Maui up to be a national and global leader of sustainability. A comprehensive plastic ban can include small portion, single-use water bottles this way. In acknowledging the possibility and likelihood of emergency, such as the Coronavirus that is making headlines right now, we need to have containers for water. So, we shouldn't be banning all single-use plastics, per se, but just small ones. With these refill stations located at physical . . . at resiliency hubs and you know, being mapped out to the public to go to, we can be prepared in case of emergency. Such as a tsunami wave rolling through, if there's an earthquake from Big Island or the airport shut down because this virus

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turns into a crazy epidemic. We should have the information ready, available for our community for where they can be stocking up on water and food and other information that's pertinent for emergency situations, easily and proactively. I mentioned that we have our app in development, and we would like to see this become . . . it's a fully comprehensive sustainability map that in essence is an instruction manual for all of this. Whether it's emergency management preparedness or just day-to-day life of contributing back to the islands. This technological herb . . . excuse me, hub, serves as a resource that centralizes all of the community organizations that we're all bringing together. It's a platform that makes it really easy for everyone to get their information out there and contact each other and link. We're in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century and the capacity for connectivity has never been greater than now. I think I'll yield the rest of my time, that's a good start.

CHAIR KING: Okay. Thank you for your testimony. Any questions? We have a question from Councilmember Paltin. Ms. Paltin?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Mr. Watkins, for your testimony. I really like the refill stations, I got opportunity to use them at the schools and whatnot. I just was wondering do you know a lot about them? Like does it take electricity to make them run and the filters and the sanitary effect of it? Like what, what's involved in up-keeping of a refill station?

MR. WATKINS: So a refill station does require power, but with the technology available now you could make those all off-grid. So, in case of like an island-wide power outage we would still be filtering water. The power supply is needed for a pump to move the water through the system. The filtration for the systems that I particularly work with is a seven-stage filtration setup that gets . . . in like the top three in terms of water quality for mass available products on the market and then it's like also like in the top two for cost efficacy.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And about how much would it cost to install a filtration station, just in a location?

MR. WATKINS: We charge \$150 flat rate to install.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And the equipment?

MR. WATKINS: The equipment can be purchased or leased, and with the lease for the equipment it includes maintenance, parts, labor, so if there's a service call. What I have lined up in proposal is you guys would probably want to buy them and own them and those run about five grand each. And then we would set up a service contract for a yearly, two-year, three . . . up to wherever, ten year, and that would I think would be the most cost-effective model for you guys.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Are you the ones that install it at the schools, like Princess, King Kamehameha, UH?

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MR. WATKINS: I don't know if they have ours. There's many different things on the market, in terms of water filtration systems. The most common is like what you see in the airport right now, which is actually really minimal filtration, it's just a --

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: A drinking water fountain kind.

MR. WATKINS: --sediment and carbon. Yeah, it's just that push fountain with the little ticker on the back. The . . . I represent FloWater Hawaii which is a company that was founded over on Kauai, I'm the first representative on Maui. And it's seven-stage filtration and so there's multiple sizes available that . . . there's residential, office, and big towers that are better for airports, hotels, high volume. I can tell you that the first one that I installed . . .

CHAIR KING: . . . *(inaudible)* . . . Mr. Watkins, I didn't want to get too deep into the weeds on this, but I just wanted to say that if we want to have a deeper discussion on water filtration and the fill stations we can add that too, as an item for this Committee. I'll be happy to do that, and then we can have a more in-depth discussion --

MR. WATKINS: Yeah.

CHAIR KING: --on cost.

MR. WATKINS: I can give you content all day on that, so.

CHAIR KING: Yeah. Okay. Thank you. Mr. Sinenci, you had a question?

VICE-CHAIR SINENCI: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Mr. Watkins, for being here. I was just curious if . . . does it require any regulations, like with the Department of Health or anything like that?

MR. WATKINS: It is certified ADA, DOH, as long as it has electricity and County water. So, you can't use like . . . like I know, on the west side there was like the paintball course was considering it, but they have . . . *(inaudible)* . . . fecal matter in their water. And I don't think we're . . . our systems are cleared for pulling out pig feces, so there is . . . it's not like a super duper, fix everything but if it's, you know, County water then it'll go pretty much anywhere. And I think for a lot of wells, you know, if we're doing something that's not coming from the County well water, we can do tests on that and see if it's . . . if there's anything that would prevent us from being able to put those in.

VICE-CHAIR SINENCI: All right. Thank you. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR KING: Okay. Thank you. Thank you. Ms. Kama has a question for you. Oh, I'm sorry.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: I'm sorry, Chair. I don't have a question, but I do have a comment for you.

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CHAIR KING: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: The discussion that Mr. Watkins was having with, Member Paltin, I'd like to be able to . . . if you would, schedule it for another time and have a deeper dive into that conversation.

CHAIR KING: Okay. I just --

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: If I could request that.

CHAIR KING: --wrote that down to have a discussion on water filtration and refill stations --

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Yeah.

CHAIR KING: --so that's great, we have the community support that and we can get our Staff to write that up for an additional agenda item. And we'll definitely let you know.

MR. WATKINS: I . . . so I would say --

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you, Chair.

MR. WATKINS: --we should definitely get a modern refill station in our airport. And if we have a QR code that takes you to the sustainability app on it, you just made every person that lands on this island easily enabled to do the right thing.

CHAIR KING: Thank you. Okay. Thank you so much for your input.

MR. WATKINS: Thank you, Council.

CHAIR KING: Appreciate it. We'll be back in touch. Okay. Ms. Apo Takayama?

MS. APO TAKAYAMA: Thank you, Chair. The next testifier is Chris Mentzel testifying on CAR-1(3) to be followed by Michael Smith.

MR. MENTZEL: Good morning.

CHAIR KING: Good morning.

MR. MENTZEL: I must say I'm so excited that this kind of committee is now in existence, it's wonderful to have all these issues be talked about. My name is Chris Mentzel, I've been on Maui 30 years. I haven't lost my German accent; I don't know how that happens but very happy to be here. Always been involved in environmental politics. And I think that the way that we can solve the climate crisis at this stage, only has to be in a way that we're making money. For some reason there's only like, very few people in the world that want to reduce their standard of living. But if we can find a way to reduce carbon in the atmosphere and make money with that, I think we have a

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winning goal. So, a few months ago a movie made the rounds on the internet called "The Need to Grow." And the star of the movie was an inventor from Montana, who invented a way to create bio-charged soil additives, electricity and many more things in a way that made money and enormously helped the environment. And part of that is to really take the carbon out of the atmosphere and lock it into the ground. So, a group of us was really excited about this movie and we decided to get in touch with the inventor and somehow we we're able to get him to Maui. And he is right here, Michael Smith from Montana and I'll give him the rest of my time.

CHAIR KING: Actually, Mr. Mentzel, do you want to . . . is Mr. Smith signed up as well?

MR. MENTZEL: Yeah, yeah. He's signed up . . .

CHAIR KING: Okay. So when we call him then he'll have full three minutes. You don't have to give the rest of your time.

MR. MENTZEL: Okay. Thank you.

CHAIR KING: Okay. Thank you for being here, I appreciate it. And I appreciate all your longstanding environmental work as well.

MR. MENTZEL: Thank you.

CHAIR KING: Okay. Seeing no questions, next testifier?

MS. APO TAKAYAMA: Next testifier is Michael Smith testifying on CAR-1(3), to be followed by Sean Lester.

MR. SMITH: I did not come with a prepared statement, so I'm going to shoot from the hip, as they say in Montana. Michael Smith is my name. I've been . . . I was trained as a physicist, mathematician, I've been working in artificial intelligence, I work for game companies, a large company, Electronic Arts, to do behavioral modeling. When I first started my project in Montana I thought, gee, we could change the world if we just added more intelligence to our energy systems, so that they can actually learn where they're losing their efficiency, where they . . . how they can improve and how they can intercommunicate with each other. So, my project started out to model some of the Earth's base systems. You know, if we are producing waste, why isn't nature producing waste. That's because we short circuit natural cycles. So, the idea was to come up with a model to where we had the minimal number of components to reduce the amount of waste that's being produced. In fact we've come up with a system that will actually take waste and convert it into power and soil amendments. The project started out just sort of as a, you know, labor of love, but then eventually as more information came in, it grew, and grew. And then we started understanding that in order for these bioenergy systems to be economic, it would be better to integrate all of the different components. So, the one component that we're doing, where we're generating soil amendments is really where the most profitability is, and a lot of people are very much interested in restoring soil carbon. And if we do that, then we're also

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mitigating climate change. We can actually pull down a full one-third of the materials that we're pushing into the atmosphere, the greenhouse gases, if we fix our soils. The subject of the documentary "The Need to Grow" attacks that. We have a full, probably less than 60 years of farmable topsoil left on this planet, unless we do something about it. So, a lot of the agricultural chemicals that we're using, pesticides, herbicides, those type of things are killing our soil microbes which are a lot of what happens in the soil to pull down climate . . . you know, greenhouse gasses. So, when we saw this system . . . gee, three minutes pass pretty quickly. I don't want to dive too deep into the weeds on the technology. You guys can contact me if you want, but I do want to, you know, just offer a viewing of the film to the Committee. We can set you up with a link, so if you want to view it. It does not go into the technology so much, but it does discuss the problems and some of the solutions behind them, so.

CHAIR KING: Okay. Okay. Thank you so much for that. If you can leave our Staff the link to that film if you're . . . if it's something that we can access with --

MR. SMITH: Okay.

CHAIR KING: --ease. I don't know if it's--

MR. SMITH: Absolutely.

CHAIR KING: --password protected. But --

MR. SMITH: Okay.

CHAIR KING: --I appreciate you being here, and I understand you just flew in yesterday. So, I have to say, you look like you've recovered well from your flight.

MR. SMITH: Yeah.

CHAIR KING: I've been to Montana, so I know it's a long flight.

MR. SMITH: Yeah.

CHAIR KING: And I appreciate all your input. Members, any questions for Mr. Smith? Council Vice-Chair Rawlins-Fernandez?

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. Aloha, Mr. Smith, mahalo for your testimony today. I was just curious; did you fly over to Montana to share this information with us or --

MR. SMITH: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: --did you happen to be here--

MR. SMITH: Well --

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COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: --for something else?

MR. SMITH: --there were a number of things.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay.

MR. SMITH: I'm very much interested in the Mahi Pono project that's going on, and this is . . . my project could very much link into something on that scale or that . . . at that level. But I'm also . . . I may have a meeting with Larry Ellison on Lanai as well. There's some interest in what we're doing, particularly in terms of cleaning up water, which is also one of the side effects of what we're doing as well. So . . . but I was invited to this meeting like this morning, so what you see is what you get.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo for coming. Mahalo, Chair.

MR. SMITH: Thank you.

CHAIR KING: Mahalo. And thank you so much for being here because I had, I think three or four members of the community contact me about Mr. Smith being here. And I said, well the quickest way is to just come and testify, so I appreciate you getting that message the last minute. And, Members, this is one of the areas of soil amendment and carbon sequestration that kind of falls under regenerative agriculture that we will be exploring through this Committee as well.

MR. SMITH: Thank you.

CHAIR KING: Thank you. Oh, did you have a question?

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Chair?

CHAIR KING: Oh, sorry, just one more question.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: No, I've a . . . I'm sorry.

CHAIR KING: It's okay.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: I don't have a question for the testifier.

CHAIR KING: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: I have a question for you, Chair. So, would you bring back Mr. Smith at some later time to help us to understand even more so what the work that he's looking . . . at least forward to doing here in Maui? You know the Ahupuaa Summit we had this past weekend, I thought would really fall really nicely in hand with probably what he's doing in terms of from the native culture and that aspect of it all.

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CHAIR KING: Yes. Thank you for mentioning that too. And so, part of that . . . part of what I want to have in the last discussion is trying to come up with the vehicle for doing this. Whether we do a subcommittee or working group or series of working groups that can focus on different sectors. And agriculture I think is going to be a key component, so we will hope to have Mr. Smith back here at some point again. And maybe we can follow up on your work with the other entities in our County as well.

MR. SMITH: Absolutely.

CHAIR KING: Okay.

MR. SMITH: Thank you.

CHAIR KING: Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: So, Chair, I'm sorry, but did we ask him if he was willing to come back?

CHAIR KING: Yeah. He just said yes.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Okay.

CHAIR KING: But I don't know when and I don't know . . .

MR. SMITH: I'll give you an official yes. We just . . . I just need to make arrangements. Well at your --

CHAIR KING: We'll make it . . .

MR. SMITH: --at your convenience.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you.

CHAIR KING: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you very much. Thanks.

CHAIR KING: Okay. Ms. Apo Takayama?

MS. APO TAKAYAMA: Thank you, Chair. The next testifier is Sean Lester, testifying on both items CAR-2 and CAR-1(3). To be followed by our final testifier, John Seebart.

MR. LESTER: Aloha kakahiaka --

CHAIR KING: Aloha kakahiaka.

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MR. LESTER: --Chair and Members. First of all, there's such an extraordinary understanding for the naau out of everyone, there's a change. You have a child, you talk to a three-year-old, they know. You talk to your kupuna, they know. So, we have one place where we all basically understand something big is happening and there's a fear because there's not understanding of how to deal with it. And I was hoping that Councilmember Hokama would be here because about 20 years ago we help rock the State through a subcommittee system that we set up here in this Chamber with alternative energy and energy subcommittee. And within that place we had the capacity to call in Union of Concerned Scientists, we brought in Rocky Mountain Institute, we brought in people from all over the world, it was an extraordinary experience. And I think that the ability to have the backing of the committee is really important, it's where a subcommittee really has the ability to make a difference. It's great to have a TIG, but the TIG should be . . . as you can see there's this swimming group of ideas and information, we're almost overwhelmed with that. The subcommittee system if set up with people that have the ability to filter that, can utilize a TIG or other external resources, as a way to filter that out so what's coming to you is clear, disseminated information. Instead of water filters, carbon sequestration, all these other things, it can come in a way where it's actually utilized by the subcommittee in an efficient manner. Because that's the whole thing today, we're overwhelmed with information, how do we get it to a place where it's efficient. So, we were able to do that and Councilmember Hokama was the chair, and we had an extraordinary time with that. What we have coming up before us within the next 25 to 30 years is transformably [sic] important. We can take six months or a year, one election cycle, a ten-year cycle on the Council, to terms as mayor and slowly but surely end up with 25 years passed. By that time we start losing internal infrastructure and suddenly we're faced with a billion dollars' worth of infrastructural change that we have to do. We start losing roads, we start losing our ability to . . . and I have two points that I'm talking on. So, we have to start shifting the way we look at our resources. Resources we may be utilizing for one thing now, we have to start shifting those resources towards a point where they're looking 25 years out. How do we capture more of the tourists funds to be able to put towards mitigation. How do we start taking care when we build affordable housing, is it above the places where we'll end up losing land. Even . . . so, it's a very complex system and I think the subcommittee is the way to work with it. As far as speaking directly to what's here, resiliency hubs that's absolutely imperative. Little parts of that is already happening over on Big Island, if you take a look even with the refuse, they're quite, quite good with the way they work things. They have an area, let's see, I got extra clothes, I would hang them. I got a neighbor down the street I don't even know, he comes, he sees my shirt, next time I say "Oh, hey you got my shirt." The thing is we start utilizing internal resources, here we're so based on a tourist industry it's all disposable, get rid of it. So, we need to start allowing our infrastructure to start working together. And resiliency hubs, I believe are the first step of that. And we'll see what the process is on those as we start working with them, so those are very important. So I would . . . just to the Chair and the Members, I would highly recommend that we go with the subcommittee system set up with people that are very specific that have the ability to go through and utilize resources with perhaps a TIG as a secondary part of it as well. And let's have some fun with this, and actually work it.

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Okay. Thank you so much for your time, I really appreciate it. And whatever I can do to help, I'm here to help. Just let me know, I'm more than happy to do that. Okay.

CHAIR KING: Thank you, Mr. Lester. And just . . . one of my questions, I know you shared some of the . . . your experiences with, on the subcommittee. How many people from the private sector were on your subcommittee, if you can remember that far back?

MR. LESTER: Well we had Maui Electric because we were dealing with some generation challenges at the time. And then . . . I think, I think that was it. We had one person from the State, if I remember correctly that was giving us resources. And then the rest were community members, it was Dick Mayer, myself . . .

CHAIR KING: That's what I was asking, is how many people from the public --

MR. LESTER: Oh, from the public.

CHAIR KING: --. . . *(inaudible)* . . . the community were . . .

MR. LESTER: We had . . . I think we had five from the public and then we had one of the major resource, you know, the Maui Electric had to be part of the talk at that particular time. So, I believe we had five, I think it was a total of seven on . . . it was either seven or nine we had on the --

CHAIR KING: Okay.

MR. LESTER: --subcommittee. And then we brought in resources. But the ability to have the Council's resources available were really great. Because they could take care of, you know, if we needed things or we needed to set things up. Then using staff was just invaluable, because you have all these great people that are volunteering, but a lot of times they have other jobs and whatever. And the staff helped keep things really on track, and that's something that perhaps Councilmember Hokama can speak to as well.

CHAIR KING: Okay.

MR. LESTER: I mean, when he's here. Okay.

CHAIR KING: Thank you.

MR. LESTER: Thank you. All right.

CHAIR KING: No other questions. Okay, Ms. Apo Takayama?

MS. APO TAKAYAMA: Thank you, Chair. The last person signed up to testify in the Chamber is John Seaman, testifying on CAR-1(3).

CHAIR KING: I think it's John Seebart.

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MR. SEEBART: Yes.

CHAIR KING: Okay.

MR. SEEBART: Aloha, Chair and Councilmembers. My name's John Seebart, I live in Kahana. I've been involved with shoreline erosion for about five years now, I represent kuleana property as a volunteer, I'm not paid. With the Kahana Bay Steering Committee, which is addressing not only the condos but this one kuleana property. So I've learned a lot from that, and I'm just really gratified that this Committee has emerged, and I'd like to just be part of it too. And I don't know if I can actually serve because . . . I got a lot of things going on as it is, but I will certainly try to make as many meetings as I can, and if I can be of use. And that's really all I've got to say, unless anybody has questions about those things.

CHAIR KING: Okay. Any questions, Committee Members? Thank you for offering, it's good to have that expertise, I know you've been involved in the erosion issues for a long time. Okay. Do we have any other testifiers in the Chambers? Mr. Law?

MR. LAW: Hey all you guys. Thanks for coming and doing this. Ms. King, do you know if Punxsutawney Phil saw his shadow yesterday?

CHAIR KING: I do not. I just know that my sister had a good birthday.

MR. LAW: Well, happy birthday to her then. Any questions?

CHAIR KING: Okay. All right. Thank you. Any other testifiers, Ms. Apo Takayama?

MS. APO TAKAYAMA: Chair, there's no further testimony in the Council Chamber or from our District Offices.

CHAIR KING: Okay. All right, thank you. If there are no objections, I'll close public testimony.

COUNCILMEMBERS: No objections.

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

CHAIR KING: Okay. Public testimony is now closed

**CAR-1(1): MITIGATING CLIMATE-ACTIVATED DISASTERS (RULE 7B)**

CHAIR KING: And at this point I'm going to go back and do what I forgot to do earlier, which is introduce everyone in the Chambers who's serving us today. It's like I'm making that transition to Committee Chair again so bear with me folks. We have from our

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Administration, Mr. Herman Andaya, the Emergency Management Administrator and he's with the Maui Emergency Management Agency lovingly called MEMA. Thank you for being here, Mr. Andaya. We have Dr. Anthony Joyce, who is a Civil Defense Specialist 1, Maui Emergency Agency as well. We have in the audience, Makalea Ane, Environmental Coordinator, and I get . . . every other time they say Chana, so I'm just calling you what's down here on my paper, Makalea. We have Alex de Roode here, who's our Energy Commissioner, Office of Economic Development. Alex, are you in the audience? He was here earlier I thought.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: He's out on . . . *(inaudible)* . . .

CHAIR KING: Okay. And Richelle Thomson is representing Corp. Counsel. Thank you for being here, Ms. Thomson. We also have other members of the Steering Committee of County leaders for update of the Hazard Mitigation Plan and that is . . . those are three people from Jamie Caplan, LLC. We have Jamie Caplan, we have Caroline Cunningham, and we have Sharon Mielbrecht. Did I say that right? And they'll be giving a presentation on the Hazard Mitigation Draft Plan, a little bit later. We have our Committee Staff, Kasie Apo Takayama, who's our Legislative Analyst, thank you for being here. And Stacey Vinoray, who's our Committee Secretary. And the District Office Staff, apparently we had no testimony from there but . . . Hana Office is Mavis Oliveira-Medeiros, and Lanai Office Denise Fernandez, and Zhantell Lindo with the Molokai Office. So, that's our Staff today. And we'll go ahead and at this point are we set up for the first presentation? Okay. So, we're going to go right into the first presentation which is on Mitigating Climate Activated Disasters and I believe we're going to open with some words from Administrator Andaya. And then I know you have to leave, you have another appointment, so I appreciate you being here.

MR. ANDAYA: Thank you. Madam Chair, Members of the Committee, good morning.

COUNCILMEMBERS: Good morning.

MR. ANDAYA: Thank you for inviting us here today and to . . . and providing us an opportunity to brief this Committee on the update of our Hazard Mitigation Plan. This plan is updated every five years and an updated plan is required in order to receive Federal funding. I have with me our hazard mitigation specialist, Dr. Anthony Joyce, and the hazard mitigation team lead by Ms. Jamie Caplan. Our expectation with the update of the Hazard Mitigation Plan, is to engage our remote areas and to learn from them, their strategies in addressing various threats and hazards. It is our residents, especially those who may have lived in an area for many years who are most familiar with the potential hazards that they may encounter. They are truly the subject matter experts of their district and so we want to be able to capture and include their expertise in our Hazard Mitigation Plan. In the next few days Dr. Joyce and Ms. Caplan and her team will be at various areas within the County and interacting with our residents and learning about the potential hazards of their area. Madam Chair, at MEMA we are conducting a weeklong exercise with the civil support team of the National Guard. And so with your permission I'll be excusing myself to join them

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downstairs. Please do not be alarmed if you see a number of military personnel around the County Building and the community this week, we're just conducting an exercise. So, at this time I will turn over this presentation to Dr. Anthony Joyce who will introduce Ms. Caplan and her team.

CHAIR KING: Okay. Thank you so much for being here, and we really appreciate all the work you're doing. And, Dr. Joyce?

MR. JOYCE: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, all the Councilmembers, and thank you to the public for the testimony. I hope everyone's morning is going well. Jamie has assembled a team of experts and I'm very proud to have them here on Maui once again. Madam Chair, with your permission I'd like to turn it over to Jamie and her team to present some details about the upcoming Hazard Mitigation Plan for Maui County.

CHAIR KING: Okay. Thank you. Jamie? If you'd like to start by introducing your team and their titles, you can give more detail than I was able to give --

MS. CAPLAN: Okay.

CHAIR KING: --from my notes.

**. . .BEGIN PRESENTATION. . .**

MS. CAPLAN: Okay, I'm ready. Okay. Thank you, Chair, Councilmembers, members of the public. Thank you. Can you hear me? No?

CHAIR KING: You might need to get closer to the mic.

MS. CAPLAN: Okay. I was warned not to get too close.

CHAIR KING: This is our usual measurement marker --

MS. CAPLAN: Okay, yeah. Yes.

CHAIR KING: --when you put your hand here.

MS. CAPLAN: All right. So, again my name is Jamie Caplan. I'm based in Massachusetts, but we do hazard mitigation planning nationwide. So, I'm very proud to be here with my team. I'm leading this project here with Caroline Cunningham who works with Stantec. And Sharon Mielbrecht, from the Pacific Disaster Center, she's based here in Maui. So, a little bit later in the presentation we'll give you a little more information about each of us. So, what I wanted to do today is give you a good sense of what this project is about, and why you have a Hazard Mitigation Plan, and what's included in that plan and how it relates to climate change and climate adaptation. So, as Mr. Andaya mentioned, the Hazard Mitigation Plan is something that's required by

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FEMA that the County have the plan in place and updated every five years to be eligible for pre and post-disaster funding. So, your previous plan was written in 2015, it's now time to update that plan. It's considered a living document, it's something that you need to plan to keep current every five years. So, our team as I mentioned before I'm leading this effort as the project manager. Just to give you a sense of some of the projects that we've done and what we do, we specialize in hazard mitigation planning, and specifically in engaging different stakeholder groups as well as coming up with what we would call the mitigation strategy or those actions or plans that you want to put in place to mitigate natural hazard risks or climate change. We've worked on several projects that I think you would find interesting; we've written three updates to the territory of American Samoa's Hazard Mitigation Plan. So, we're not new to working with an island community. We also have worked with over a dozen American Indian tribes, so we have some sense of different types of populations and that . . . how the culture is so important, and I think that relates really closely to what's here in Maui. We've done some planning at the State level, including we had a lead role with the Massachusetts state plan, which was updated about a year ago and is unique in the Nation in the sense that it combines hazard mitigation planning with climate adaptation. And that's the first time a state-level plan has done that, and we led the stakeholder engagement piece of that, and the mitigation strategy. As well as written a number of local and county or multi-jurisdictions plans. So, with me today is Sharon Mielbrecht from the Pacific Disaster Center. I'll let her introduce herself a little bit.

MS. MIELBRECHT: Does it work?

CHAIR KING: The green light is on. Go ahead and push it again, when the green light is on, it's on.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Oh, it came on.

CHAIR KING: There it's on.

MS. MIELBRECHT: It's on? Okay. Aloha and good morning, Madam Chair --

CHAIR KING: Good morning.

MS. MIELBRECHT: --and Members of Council and the general public. It's my pleasure to be here this morning. My name is Sharon Mielbrecht, I'm the Hazard Mitigation Specialist with the Pacific Disaster Center. I've been with the center since its beginning in 1996 and my work at the center as focused on risk assessment, hazard mitigation and as well developing and implementing community awareness and preparedness programs. So, I do a fair amount of outreach as part of my job. And it's a pleasure to work with Jamie and I look forward to this project very much.

MS. CUNNINGHAM: Hi, I'm Caroline Cunningham, also working with Jamie. We worked on a number of the plans that she referenced together, including the American Samoa plan and many of the Native American tribal plans. My specialty is in risk and

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vulnerability assessment. So, I'll be leading that piece of the plan. We do a lot of innovative work with our risk assessments, including structure-level analysis as well as climate adaptation analysis. So, we look forward to working with the communities across Maui.

MS. CAPLAN: Thank you. So, we have several other members of the team as you can see but they weren't able to be here. But the thing to know is that we've really put together a team of national experts and bring that expertise to the County. So, let me dive into the process of updating your plan a little bit further. The planning has five distinct tasks, although they overlap quite a bit, which is the nature of mitigation planning. We began our process in November of 2019 and the plan is to have a draft plan for you towards the summer and then you'll have the opportunity to review and then adopt the plan in the fall of this year. It's a fairly quick planning process as far as mitigation planning goes, usually you'll see these plans . . . a plan of this scope would take over a year. So, I'll give you some detail about each of the tasks. The first thing that we've done is prioritize . . . obviously, we want you to have an updated plan that meets all FEMA requirements. We'd also like to make sure that you maintain your CRS level, that's the Community Rating System. For those of you who may be unfamiliar with the Community Rating System, it's a program with the National Flood Insurance Program and by having . . . by participating in it you reduce the flood insurance rate that homeowners and business owners pay in the County. So, the County maintains it and our planning process helps you stay eligible for that reduced rate, so it's important that we focus on that. We're also including a really extensive public engagement piece, and we've divided the County . . . the graphic doesn't do it justice, but we've divided the County into eight distinct areas. And our hope is to really reach out to each of these areas and have them included in the planning process because they are all different.

CHAIR KING: And then, Ms. Caplan, can I just . . . on the Class 7, can you just expand on . . . that's seven out of ten and then . . .

MS. CAPLAN: Yes.

CHAIR KING: And what does that mean? Is that on the . . .

MS. CAPLAN: So, what happens with that is each time you start at a level ten when you go in. And by having certain requirements in place that the program looks at, your percentage of insurance rate goes down. So, by having a public engagement piece for instance in our mitigation planning process, by engaging members of the public that helps you have that lower insurance rate.

CHAIR KING: Okay, so we're shooting for lower?

MS. CAPLAN: Yes.

CHAIR KING: We want to be below five.

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MS. CAPLAN: Yes. The chance of going way beyond seven is not very great. I mean there's not many areas in the country that go lower. Do you want to mention something?

MS. CUNNINGHAM: Yeah. I was just going to mention too, that Class 7 rating, certainly this plan and this planning process, that's a part of it but it's not the entire thing that drives that Class 7. So, there's many activities that you do through floodplain management to achieve that rating. However, through this process, it's called Section 510, a Floodplain Management CRS, we will, you know, work to keep your points as high as we can get them through the planning process.

CHAIR KING: Okay. Did you have a quick question, Ms. Paltin?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Yeah. I just was wondering the way that you spilt up the island, is that based on community plan districts or just an arbitrary type of thing?

MS. CAPLAN: No, it is based on the community plan districts. Do you want to say anything else about that? Yeah, it's based on the community plan districts, because the idea for us is to not come in and reinvent the wheel but to work with planning process that you already have in place. And several of these districts have currently updated their plans and a lot of that information fuels the process that we're doing.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you.

MS. CAPLAN: You're welcome.

CHAIR KING: Thank you, Ms. Paltin. Continue.

MS. CAPLAN: Okay. So, the first piece of developing a hazard mitigation plan is really this planning process, and it spans the length of putting the plan together. And the pieces that I'd like to really focus on with you are the Steering Committee, Steering Committee meetings and the public and stakeholder engagement. So, for the Steering Committee this is a list of the folks who are currently on our Steering Committee, that committee is growing. We are meeting four times through the planning process and as you can see the people on this list represent County government as well as some private industry, nonprofit organizations, utilities are on there. And the Steering Committee role is really to help guide this plan, these are the local experts. Okay. We bring a lot of . . . as a consulting team, bring a lot of expertise to hazard mitigation planning. And really see ourselves as asking the right questions and leading this process and see these folks as having a lot of the answers that we're looking for. So, they assist us with identifying different hazards, different mitigation opportunities, supporting data, they've been participating through the process with us. We've also developed a fact sheet which you have, we've handed that out today, it's just a two-page document. And the idea with the fact sheet is that it's something that you all can use when you're speaking about the project and the same for the Steering Committee members. That that's something that they can use when they're--thank you--reaching out to talk to people about this project. And it lists specifically how the public can get involved in the planning process. We've also updated the County's

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webpage; the County has a hazard mitigation webpage. That's been updated with current information, including a copy of this fact sheet. And we've recently created a survey which is web based. We have 200 people who have already taken the survey and we only made it live late last week, so we certainly had a lot of outreach. The survey is 21 questions, it's a mix of multiple-choice questions as well as some open-ended answers and asks the public what hazards they're specifically concerned about, how they would like to mitigate those risks or lessen the impact of those risks, how prepared they are individually as . . . in their homes, in their businesses. And a lot of that information I think that the County will find useful moving forward. When you seek to do some outreach to members of the community, you get a sense of what they've already done, what they're interested in doing. So, the survey will stay live through the majority of our planning process. And you may have . . . I don't know if you have a copy of it. Do they have a copy of the survey? Okay. So, you should have a copy of the survey in your packet. We are holding . . . hosting six public meetings, we're doing three this week and we intend to hold another three in April and considering the eight districts in the County as we've divided up the County, our effort is to make sure that we have meetings in at least six of those districts. So, this week we'll be in Central Maui, in Molokai and in Hana. We feel it's really important to make sure that other . . . that all members of the community have an opportunity to participate. So, we also did a . . . fliers for each of these meetings as well as press releases, which were picked up by *Maui Now* and KHON Channel 2, as well as there's posting on Facebook and other social media sites. So, in addition to the public meetings that we're having and the Steering Committee, we've done what we call some stakeholder meetings, we've had about 14 to date. And this is a chance for us as a consulting team and a planning team to sit down with members of the community and gather some more detailed information regarding what are their hazards of concern, what are their issues that they foresee in terms of mitigating those hazards. And as you can see, we've already had quite a few of these meetings. Okay. I'm going to turn this over to Caroline Cunningham to give you some information on our risk assessment process.

MS. CUNNINGHAM: Thank you, Jamie. So, as Jamie mentioned, this is a FEMA plan that is driven by FEMA requirements. So, what you see here are the key tasks that go into developing that risk assessment. Since you already have an existing plan, we start with a review of your hazards. So, what are those . . . the focus is on natural hazards, so what are those natural hazards that may impact the County, and do they need to be updated. And we've gone through that process, I'll show you that next. And then we get into profiling the hazards, so what that means in FEMA language is we look at things like what is that . . . what's the definition of that hazard, what is the geographic boundary of it, how severe may it be. And what is the probability both current as well as future considering those climate impacts. We then look to assess vulnerability and develop that summary of vulnerability, and part of that is providing results at that community level. So, for each of those community areas that you saw, those eight communities will be providing results with a lot of data we've collected along the way. Including your critical facilities and structures throughout the County. Next slide, please. So this is the hazard list that's been developed. You can see that we've added some for the latest update of this, they're at the bottom where you see "added for

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2020.” So in some of those, for example the health risks, that just helps with that CRS, the community rating that Jamie mentioned. It also makes sure that we’re in alignment with the State Hazard Mitigation Plan. So, those were just some minor changes that we made to bolster your hazard list for this time around.

CHAIR KING: Can you just briefly explain what hazardous materials incident would be?

MS. CUNNINGHAM: Sure. So, that’s . . . what we do is consider like a truck spill for example, a chemical spill on the highway.

CHAIR KING: Okay.

MS. CUNNINGHAM: Yeah.

CHAIR KING: Ms. Paltin?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Oops, sorry.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Just wondering if like the health risks one would include, like infectious diseases?

MS. CUNNINGHAM: Yes, Councilmember, it would. So, we do look at infectious diseases for it. Now this plan, just to clarify a little bit, it’s not going to go into a deep dive, it’s not going to be your response level plan to that sort of incident. There’s typically a separate plan for that, and I would defer for Anthony on whether or not that’s in place. But we certainly want to acknowledge it as a risk to the County.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you.

CHAIR KING: Thank you.

MS. CUNNINGHAM: So, a big part of the risk assessment is collecting data, and that process is well underway. We’ve gotten a lot of great information, but I just wanted to, you know, highlight some of these sources where we’re gathering climate-related information. There’s a lot of studies that have been done for sea level rise, for coastal erosion, the impacts that climate is having on the area whether it’s becoming hotter or the precipitation levels, et cetera. And we want to make sure all that gets compiled into the plan. You can see on that last bullet I said “Others?,” so if there’s a source of data that you want to really just point out to us, make sure we have it please do let us know about that. We want to make sure we’re including the latest and greatest in this plan. Okay. The last piece is just a touch on the vulnerability. So, what we try to do here is just make sure that we’re providing a clear picture of what is at risk and this is to each one of the hazards and each one of those community areas. Ultimately, you know the plan is a paper document, but there’ll ultimately be data behind it that you can drill into to see a structure’s specific language. We’ll also get into development trends and land use, basically we want to understand where is that development happening, so that hopefully as a County you guys can choose to develop better. So, if

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it's a very hazardous area and it hasn't been developed yet, we want to make sure that we're developing smartly in those areas moving forward. So, of course we've talked about climate change, we want to consider climate for every hazard that we include in this plan. We will address the, the hazard . . . excuse me, the climate considerations throughout. And then Sharon with the PDC will also be looking at the socioeconomic parts of the vulnerability. So, she's going to say a few words about that.

MS. MIELBRECHT: Thanks, Caroline. Yes. So, the Pacific Disaster Center will be developing what you might say as a supplemental vulnerability assessment to the one that Caroline will be leading. And you may wonder why is there a . . . maps of the Big Island on this slide. Well we . . . the Pacific Disaster Center did a socioeconomic vulnerability assessment for the Big Island after the Kilauea eruption at the request of the county to help them with their recovery planning. And we intend to use a similar methodology using Census data at the most granular data level available. Looking at indicators that would help describe economic constraints, access to information, access to healthcare, and household structure. And the intent . . . well, all of these indicators have bearing on people's abilities to effectively prepare for a disaster, respond to a disaster, and also to recover from a disaster. So, and this will be probably done at either Census tract or block group level depending on the data availability. And it will give us that added level of fidelity if you will, to support the vulnerability assessment for the community plan areas.

MS. CAPLAN: All right. Thank you, Sharon and Caroline. So, moving forward after we do the risk assessment, what we really want to do is develop this mitigation strategy which indicates, well what are you going to do about the levels of risks that you've identified for each of those hazards. So, let me back up and make sure that we're all clear about what is hazard mitigation. So, as you can see from this picture, this is obviously, some impact of sea level rise at that North Shore Baldwin Beach Pavilion, can imagine there's probably significant amount of erosion there. So, when you mitigate risks, you're thinking what can you do ahead of time, so that you would prevent this level of impact. Okay. So, we can't prevent sea level rise, right. We can't prevent high winds or hurricanes, you can't prevent ice storms on top of Haleakala, right. These things are going to happen. But you can build effectively, you can plan appropriately so that you're not a victim of these things. And that's what the Hazard Mitigation Plan tries to do, is identify what are those things . . . those actions or projects that you can take prior to a disaster happening to mitigate that risk. So, when we think about mitigation actions, we think about them usually in four different categories. Most of the projects that we would come up with would fit into one of these categories. So, Plans and Regulations, that could be things like our Hazard Mitigation Plan, it could be building codes, it could be land use planning. Structure and Infrastructure projects, these tend to be big-budget projects, and may be culvert retrofits or bridge . . . or retrofits or road designs. Any kind of investment in resilient infrastructure, that would fall into that category. Nature Based Solutions, these would be things like protecting the floodplain. Allowing water to go into wetland areas and maintaining that natural benefit that you get from floodplains. And Education and Outreach, this is always my favorite because I think it's the least expensive and moves you the furthest forward by having an educated community. So, anything that

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you can do to foster resilient or smart growth would fit into that, just having an updated webpage, community meetings, those type of projects. So, overall, we will develop a strategy that includes these structure and infrastructure projects. We will update the list of projects from your 2015 plan, there are currently, I believe 68 actions in the current plan. We will emphasize climate adaptation. We are looking at climate change in terms of its impact on all of the hazards that we previously mentioned. And we do a cost benefit review to see really what makes the most sense for the County to implement. And we'll look specifically to each of those community districts to make sure that they're represented appropriately. Finally, the plan will include a system for maintaining it. As I mentioned earlier it's a living document, it's something that you want to keep current. We recommend that after any large-scale disaster that you have in the County, that you look at the plan and make sure that the actions meet your current needs. It's necessary to keep the public involved in the planning process, so we certainly recommend that you keep having public meetings and document any changes that you have to the plan itself. And finally when the . . . when a draft plan is done the Steering Committee will review that plan, when they're comfortable with the content of the plan, it's made available to the public for their review. We allow two to four weeks for the public to review the plan. When the County feels like the plan is good to go, it goes to the State Emergency Management Agency for them to review the plan. The State reviews the plan and when they think it's ready to go, they send it on to the Federal Emergency Management Agency for their review. Upon FEMA's review and approval, they send the County a letter that says the plan's approved pending adoption. That's when the Council would need to take a final look at the plan and adopt that plan. So, overall, I want to emphasize the results of putting this plan together. We do consider the plan to be a blueprint for a resilient and sustainable County. The plan will be consistent with State and regional plans, so we are looking at all of the local plans and other documents that are currently in place. We will meet and exceed FEMA standards; we do guarantee that FEMA will approve your plan. We're definitely fostering relationships as we develop this plan, which I think you can imagine as we put the Steering Committee together just having those folks in a room together four times is beneficial beyond developing this plan. And we see the plan as being a useful and operational resource, and we've seen the Territory of American Samoa use the plan following the large tsunami that they had. And it was useful to them and to FEMA. So, I just want to thank you again, Chair and Councilmembers, and the community for having us. We're very happy to be here and if you want us back at any time to go into more detail we will be back on island in April and then again in June.

**. . . END PRESENTATION. . .**

CHAIR KING: Okay, great.

MS. CAPLAN: Thank you.

CHAIR KING: We'll keep in touch on that for sure but thank you so much for your presentation. And I'm just going to follow up with one question before I open up to the

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floor. And you know, when you're talking about things like building a blueprint for resiliency and a more sustainable County, and there are things in here about building codes and smart growth. So, will your plan be making any recommendations for policy changes or ordinances on our building codes, while we have our Chair of Planning Sustainable Land Use Committee here? We have our Chair of Affordable Housing Committee, we have our Budget Chair, we have our Environmental Chair.

MS. CAPLAN: Got the right people here.

CHAIR KING: So, you know, will there be some of that coming to the Committee that we can either, you know, recommend to another committee or follow through will ourselves?

MS. CAPLAN: Yeah. Yeah, that's a really good question. So, the plan will recommend that you adhere to the highest level of standards when you're building. And that's something that's come up at the Steering Committee, as well as in the individual stakeholder meetings that we've had is that I know that the building codes are a little bit behind if you will at the moment. It's something that the County is looking at. So, the plan will recommend that you use the best code available, but the plan doesn't write that. So, we don't indicate, you know, what it takes to have the best building, just that you adhere to those . . .

CHAIR KING: But you will look at what are codes are now --

MS. CAPLAN: Yes.

CHAIR KING: --and say, you know, maybe they fall short here or there?

MS. CAPLAN: Absolutely.

CHAIR KING: Okay.

MS. CAPLAN: Absolutely.

CHAIR KING: Okay. Dr. Joyce?

MR. JOYCE: If you don't mind, I'd just like to add to that. That for example, updating building codes would be a part of decreasing our CRS rating which would increase the amount of discount that . . . people that live in the flood areas of Maui County. So, that would increase the discount that they would get on their flood insurance. So, that's just one piece of the puzzle for example, since we did talk about it earlier. CHAIR KING: Okay. Thank you for that. Okay, Members, I'm going to open it up for questions and we have about 15 minutes before we take our morning break, and start with our Committee Vice-Chair Councilmember Sinenci.

VICE-CHAIR SINENCI: Thank you, Chair. I just had some general questions. So, for the Hazard Mitigation Plan the County needs to RFP out the bid to . . . for a consultant, like yourself?

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CHAIR KING: I think . . . Dr. Joyce, you want to answer that?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Do you want to answer that?

MR. JOYCE: Yeah. Yeah, that is correct. Yes. Yes, Councilman.

VICE-CHAIR SINENCI: And this is to receive some of the Federal aid that we . . . that the County receives? Just clarification.

MR. JOYCE: Yes. So, the bid was put out after we received Federal funding to update our Hazard Mitigation Plan. And that Federal . . . When I mean update, I mean it's, you know, all the management costs, labor, hiring a team to help MEMA, et cetera. Yes. And then the proposal went out for bid.

VICE-CHAIR SINENCI: Okay, great. And then just a question for the consulting firm, are you just doing the Maui County Hazard Mitigation Plan or some of the other counties?

MS. CAPLAN: Just Maui County at the moment.

VICE-CHAIR SINENCI: Okay. All right. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR KING: Thank you, Mr. Sinenci. Member Rawlins-Fernandez?

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. I was curious, where's the consulting company based out of?

MS. CAPLAN: Hi. I'm based in Massachusetts; I live in Massachusetts. Sharon who's on the team is based here in Maui. Caroline is based in North Carolina. And typically with the projects that we do we're all over the country. My firm is small, and it enables me to bring in the national experts as opposed to just people who are right where I am. So, I've really sought out the right people for the project, I think that's what matters the most. But we are comfortable working nationwide, that . . . it is what we do.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo. And mahalo for the . . . conducting the outreach session on Wednesday on Molokai.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Who will be working on that? Who will be conducting that community outreach meeting?

MS. CAPLAN: Well, we're all going . . . we're all going to be there. Yeah. We're here as a team all week. We'll be at all three community meetings; we also have the Steering Committee meeting. And what I didn't mention is that we are doing in Molokai and in Hana, they have their own smaller steering committees for preparedness on each of

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those regions. And we are going to meet with those committees first prior to the public meetings.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo for that information. So, that's . . . is that why you're having three meetings now and then three meetings at a future time?

MS. CAPLAN: Yes. As opposed to having six right now.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Right. You'll --

MS. CAPLAN: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: --come back?

MS. CAPLAN: Yes. So, we'll be back.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: All your team will come back?

MS. CAPLAN: Yeah. We'll be back. I was here in December; we'll back again in April and then again in June. And part of why we spread out the meetings is the planning process keeps going and FEMA requires that we engage the community through the planning process. So, this way what we . . . the information that we give will get greater, you know, we sort of give additional information because we'll be further along. When we're here in April much of the risk assessment that you heard about today in terms of concept will be finished, so we'll be able to give an update to that.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo. Sounds great. Last question, Chair. So, is the plan to visit each district one time throughout this process?

MS. CAPLAN: Yes. Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo. Mahalo, Chair.

CHAIR KING: Mahalo, Member Rawlins-Fernandez. Member Paltin, any additional questions?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. I was wondering when West Maui is scheduled for?

MS. CAPLAN: It's not scheduled yet.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Oh.

MS. CAPLAN: It's pending. So, at the moment we just have three scheduled for this week and then following this week we'll schedule the next three for April. And we'll do a press release and fliers and update the website and, you know, do all of that

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advertising so that it's clear and you'll know. So, in the next week or so we'll identify that.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: So, I would just ask, you know, in 2018 we had fires and floods in our district and that you reach out to the parties that where the biggest help because of them having lived through it. The Waiola Resource Hub folks, Na Aikane o Maui, and Pastor Jay out of Lahaina Baptist.

MS. CAPLAN: Terrific. Thank you for that. And we have met with the Fire Department already, which was useful in terms of understanding the fires, and the Fire Prevention Bureau as well we've met with.

CHAIR KING: Thank you, Member Paltin. I also would like to add that right now West Maui is completing their community plan review. So, the CPAC is meeting, so if there's any interaction that you can have during those meetings that, you know, you can inform them, and they can inform you. I think that would be helpful. Even if you don't have a separate community meeting, maybe attend one of their community meetings and you'll learn a lot about that community and where they're going.

MS. CAPLAN: Right. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR KING: Thank you. Pro Temp Kama?

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you, Chair. So, I just wanted to talk about your survey. So, who gets to do the survey and how will they get to be able to participate in it?

MS. CAPLAN: So, thank you for the question. The survey is online, so anybody can take the survey now. It's available online and then in addition at the community meetings we're going to hand out hard copies of the survey as well as bring iPad's so people can do it digitally there. So, we're trying to provide as much ability has possible for people to complete the survey, 'cause not everybody would have a computer.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Right. Oh, that's smart. But . . . so if I didn't come today and I didn't know about this, how would I even have known that this was happening? This whole plan, mitigation plan's going on and that there's a survey that I could actually participate in and I can go to a meeting at some point in the next couple of weeks?

MS. CAPLAN: Right.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: So, is there something that's going on out there that tells our community that these wonderful things are going on?

CHAIR KING: There was a press release that the Mayor's Office put out with those three meetings on it. And I asked them to add today's meeting because actually today is kind of the first of the public meetings on this. But as with I think any information, I think it's incumbent on us as well as Councilmembers to get this information out. That's why we're holding this meeting so that we can be informed and then we can

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help inform other people. And then if you have . . . do you have a simple . . . can you go back to that website that you have for the survey? Because that's one thing I think that we need to put . . . make sure it's accessible on our MauiCounty.us website so that people can go there and link onto this survey. And maybe, Ms. Apo Takayama, it might be worth us as a . . . as our Council committee putting out a press release, you know, on this actual survey with the link to let people know that they can participate. And then we can reiterate the dates of the public meetings as well.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Right. And is this on our County website?

CHAIR KING: Right now? I don't . . .

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Dr. Joyce, do we know?

MS. CAPLAN: Yes. It is. It's on this . . . the County's mitigation plan update page. That's the link to the County page and there is a link for the survey on that page.

CHAIR KING: So, just to reiterate for the public. There's the .gov . . . MauiCounty.gov is the Administration's information. And then the MauiCounty.us is the County Council's website. So, we want to make sure we get whatever information you have on there, on our MauiCounty.us website as well. So, thank you for that, Member Kama.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: So, thank you, Chair. Thank you very much.

CHAIR KING: Thank you. Vice-Chair Sinenci?

VICE-CHAIR SINENCI: Thank you, Chair. Just a follow-up for Sharon. You mentioned about the US Census and we're planning our US Census in East Maui. So, my question was what was the correlation with the US Census and the mitigation plan?

MS. MIELBRECHT: Okay. Thank you for your question. As part of this project we will not be conducting a census, but we will use existing Census data that's already been collected to conduct the vulnerability assessment.

VICE-CHAIR SINENCI: Oh, okay.

MS. MIELBRECHT: So, whatever is the latest available data, that's what we'll use.

VICE-CHAIR SINENCI: Okay. And just a follow-up, Chair. You know, we're in Hana and we have . . . we're on the remote part of the island. So, a lot of the residents have been concerned that when there is a, you know, some kind of crisis going on that everyone is able to get warning, the warning messages. And sometimes these areas don't get some of the Wi-Fi or the . . . it's not connected. So, is that part of this process, trying to get all those remote areas?

MS. CAPLAN: So, part of this process will identify those capabilities or challenges if you will. And what we do . . . and I didn't go into any detail with it here is --

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VICE-CHAIR SINENCI: Sure.

MS. CAPLAN: --we really look at what is the County's ability pre and post disaster. And combine that with the risks that are identified to come up with effective solutions. So, certainly the siren system or the Wi-Fi. Or for instance cell phone towers, do they have backup power, that kind of thing is all something that gets considered in this planning process. And then if necessary, we recommend those actions to, you know, increase those capabilities.

VICE-CHAIR SINENCI: Okay. Great. Thank you.

CHAIR KING: Thank you, Member Sinenci. I really appreciate the part in your presentation that talked about the different levels of ability too, whether it's income level or geographic area, because, you know, we made a commitment to a just transition when we are looking at climate issues. And so, we want to make sure that everybody's included in that and that we are compensating for areas or income levels or demographics that may not have as much advantage as some others. So, that's going to be key going forward I think is that the whole social vulnerability as well. So, thank you for working on that piece of it. And it's nice to have the person who's working on that be based in Maui. So, anyway this is, you know, we'll be getting further updates and also keeping an eye out for . . . maybe working with Dr. Joyce to directly keep an eye out for any recommendations that come to the Council in this issue as you go along and identify the risks and the vulnerabilities. And, if there are no other questions, I'd like to defer this matter and . . . any other questions? Council Vice-Chair Rawlins-Fernandez?

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. Quick question. So, in response to a previous question that I asked, you said that . . . Ms. Caplan, yeah. In the first three meetings, you know they'll . . . there's going to be, you know, whatever information you provide. And in the next set of three or so meetings there will be additional information. So, is that a correct understanding that not each of the meetings will have the same kind of information or . . .

MS. CAPLAN: So, each meeting will have identical information in the sense that we'll explain our process and what's included in the plan. As we move along in our planning process, we will know a little bit more about the exact specifics of what will be in the plan. So, for instance if somebody asked me today, will there be an action related to the tsunami sirens, I don't know yet, whereas a couple months from now we'll know whether that's in the plan. But as far as the public's involvement, what I think I hear you asking are people going to miss something by participating today as opposed to in a month or two from now, and I would say no. They're not going to miss anything. The content will be the same, it's just some of those very specific, you know, questions we wouldn't have the answers to that yet. But the public will have the chance to review the draft plan. It's not necessarily convenient for them to go meetings outside of their district, but certainly they could, you know, they're welcome to. We do as much as we can to include the public and get their input. We're bringing maps that

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they can write on, and we really want them engaged and involved. And that will happen at all of the meetings. So, thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo. Chair, a quick follow-up.

CHAIR KING: Sure.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: So, for questions that you don't have answers to in that meeting but would potentially have the answer to later, like the tsunami sirens. Do you plan to take note of those questions and, you know, take their contact information --

MS. CAPLAN: Absolutely.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: --so that you can respond to their question later? Okay great, thank you.

MS. CAPLAN: Yeah. Absolutely. We really feel strongly that this plan belongs to the County and the people of the County. We work for you, we want this plan to reflect your desires, your concerns, your culture and your way of life here needs to be incorporated. So, yeah, any kind of questions we're happy to follow up. Absolutely.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, great. Mahalo, Chair.

MR. JOYCE: The public . . . oh sorry.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Go ahead.

CHAIR KING: Dr. Joyce?

MR. JOYCE: The public, they're really the experts in this situation. They live in their community every day, they interact with all their neighbors, they perhaps drive the same street every day, walk their dog in that same area every day. So, they know when certain areas will flood, they know when certain areas may exhibit some sort of, some natural signal where they say to themselves, uh-oh, this is going to flood pretty soon, you know. Working at that County level it's . . . in MEMA for example, it's kind of hard to see these little micro-areas that the community can see, and that's why we're putting such an emphasize on community engagement.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Great to hear that response. Yeah, our community members are definitely the experts in observation of their area. Mahalo, Chair.

CHAIR KING: Mahalo. Okay. So, Members, if there's no objections I'll defer this matter.

COUNCILMEMBERS: No objections.

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**COUNCILMEMBERS VOICED NO OBJECTIONS.** (Excused: RH, AL)

**ACTION: DEFER PENDING FURTHER DISCUSSION.**

CHAIR KING: Okay. Matter's deferred. And we'll dismiss MEMA with our gratitude and appreciation for the presentation and answering some of our questions. And then we're going to take a ten-minute break and then when we come, we'll do our . . . we'll have our presentation on resilience hubs. And then after that I'm hoping to have a good discussion with the Committee about a structure moving forward to engage the community and what vehicle we'd like to use for that. So, right now we'll be in recess until 10:40. . . . *(gavel)* . . .

**RECESS: 10:28 a.m.**

**RECONVENE: 10:47 a.m.**

CHAIR KING: . . . *(gavel)* . . . ...the Climate Action and Resilience Committee of the Maui County Council for February 3, 2020.

**CAR-2: RESILIENCY HUBS (CC 20-9)**

CHAIR KING: Okay, back in session. We reconvene the Climate Action and Resilience Committee of the Maui County Council for February 3, 2020. It's now 10:47 and we have, we're on to Climate Action Resilience number 2. The issue of the resiliency hubs and we'll be receiving a presentation on resiliency hubs, which are geared towards supporting residents and coordinating resource distribution and services before, during and after natural disasters. And, Members, LA, DC, and Honolulu all have or are working on resilience hub plans. So, I'm really happy to see that Maui is following suit. And not just looking at emergency management but about, this is about people thriving in the face of disasters. So, I'm going to now turn it over . . . we have . . . we don't have our Energy Commissioner, who was originally scheduled. He's on a site visit. So, we have our Environmental Coordinator will do the whole presentation, Makalea Ane.

. . . **BEGIN PRESENTATION.** . . .

MS. ANE: Hi, aloha.

CHAIR KING: Aloha.

MS. ANE: So, you pretty much did my whole presentation. So, any questions? Just for the audience . . . *(spoke in Hawaiian)* . . . Chana Makalea Dudoit Ane . . . *(spoke in Hawaiian)* . . . Mililani, Oahu . . . *(spoke in Hawaiian)* . . . Kahului, Maui . . . *(spoke in Hawaiian)* . . . Environmental Coordinator for Maui County. So, my

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name is Chana Makalea Dudoit Ane. I'm the Environmental Coordinator for Maui County and I'll be doing a hopefully short presentation on resilience hubs. So, first as Chair said we . . . all the different counties are working together with the USDN, Urban Sustainability Directors Network, to kind of pilot this new concept of resiliency hubs. And I say new but there really is very old and historic examples of resiliency hubs. Pro Temp Kama and I were just talking . . . and with Richelle, we were just talking about what really is a resiliency hub. And it could have been our grandparent's house where everybody came and seeked [sic] guidance or toilet paper or food. And just a place where you're always accepted and could get resources to be able to adapt and thrive as Chair said through stressors and shocks during your daily life. So, throughout the presentation I'll be giving different examples of where all the different counties are with their resiliency hub process. But pretty much we're all together in the beginning stages, where we're doing our community outreach. And then also trying to find funding mechanisms outside of the County because it really is hard for the County to really be putting money towards all these different great efforts. And so, if we can leverage funds with our grant writers or ourselves looking for alternative sources of funding, then I think that's our job and kuleana as admin. So, you should've gotten some resources that were handed out to you. There's a spiral notebook that is produced by the USDN, and so then this is their resiliency hub guidance packet. And it really can take you through the whole process of creating a resiliency hub. And then I also had a single-page handout, this is from their [resiliencyhub.org](http://resiliencyhub.org) [sic]. USDN had created this resource that . . . this is their landing page and if on the top it says USDN Resilience Hubs and then it has Water Hubs, Hubs and Actions, Opportunities, Resources, Partners, and Contact. And so all of those are tabs that you can click on and it'll give you examples of different resiliency hubs that are happening right now, and different other resource guides.

CHAIR KING: Okay. And that's this one-pager?

MS. ANE: Yeah. The one-pager. And then the other handout I think was just my slides. So, you guys have seen this slide many times before but just to ground everybody, resilience is the capacity of individuals, communities, institutions, businesses, and systems to survive, adapt, and thrive to shocks and stressors that we may experience as a community. And so, these are definitions of shocks and stressors. So, shocks to our system are fires, hurricanes, earthquakes, and floods. And stressors are just stuff that we have to deal in our everyday life, homelessness, high unemployment, endemic drug use, poverty, king tides. You know, things that just happen every day that might impact our drive to work or even whales, where tourists are looking at whales while we're driving from Lahaina to town and cause more traffic. And so, all these little things that we're dealing with that maybe we can't take the time out to go to a Council meeting on climate action and resiliency. Because we're dealing with our own, like how do I pay my bills or how do I take my kids to practice and all that kind of stuff. And so, resiliency hubs really is this bridge between these two pictures. So, the bottom left is king tides on Olowalu Highway. And so, just . . . things that are happening right now that we're dealing with climate change, and then the picture on the right is a PacIOOS sea level rise viewer. And so, this models what is going to happen in . . . what it looks like 3.2 feet sea level rise, and so how are we going to do

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stuff now to adapt to these stressors and shocks. So, we have to react now but plan for the future. So, I just wanted to give the USDN definition of resilience hub, and so it's a well-trusted location utilized year-round. And so, this is the most important part of the resilience hub, it's not a place that you seek shelter during a hurricane, and you find resources after. It's really something that we use right now on our daily basis. And so, this is going to . . . throughout my presentation I'll show how community really is a center of resilience hubs. And so, you're going to use this year-round during normal disruption and recovery efforts, it's to build community and provide resources, support community cohesiveness, before, during and after an emergency. And then during the emergency of course, it provides shelter, backup battery and electricity, access to food, water, ice, charging stations. All these different things can be built into a resiliency hub so you can weather the storm pretty much. And then the resource guide that I gave you, the spiral notebook, this is just an outline of how do you build a resiliency hub. So, this is the process that we're going through with our communities and throughout the State. So, all the different . . . City and County of Honolulu, County of Kauai and County of Big Island as well as us. We're following the structure for getting community input and what do we really need to see in the resiliency hub, what are the community's needs and wants. And then how do we . . . what does that look like, what does an actual resiliency hub look like. And then, so these are the key components of a resiliency hub and for those in the audience who can't see the slides, the top left corner says, Community Desire and Support, so really, it's a trusted place. Like grandma's house, a community center, some place in the community that really . . . they're the focus already. They're the center, they're already a trusted organization that people go to seek help and support. The middle one is Buildings, and so usually you kind of want to start with a building that's a trusted building. Right now we're looking at community centers, and so they're just community or County-operated facilities. And so, we an easier chance to either look . . . evaluate the resources that we have there or energy needs. And it's just a . . . since we picked County facilities it's just easier for us to start there. And then another example would be the Wailuku Civic Center and so it's buildings that we're already planning on building and have funding going to it already. And then we just build in resiliency aspects into that plan. The top right is Energy Savings and Energy Systems, and so, you know, during a hurricane or tsunami or whatever, you want to make sure you have backup battery and solar on the facility. The bottom left is Community Uses, and right is Resources to Meet Community Needs During Extreme Events. And so, just making sure that there's access to freshwater, resources, food, and all the things that I named before. Refrigerator, charging stations, stuff like that. And then a couple . . . in a few slides I have some pictures of community meetings that we had already have done in August. And so, there were some people that identified different examples of what our resiliency hubs could look like. And these are like too extreme examples but in Hana is was . . . it could be even like a dialysis center and so something like this really, really important community need in Hana, like I mean that's lifesaving. But during a power outage or a hurricane that maybe facility wouldn't have access to power and so how are those people going to still get their services, and so we can even make this a resiliency hub. And so, we would put in solar, solar panels, PV panels, and backup batteries so that when there is a hurricane, when there is a power outage those people can still get those services. And so, then

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that's a . . . one tiny small example of a resiliency hub. Another one is Puu Kukui Watershed Preserve, during the Lahaina fires people were cut off. You know they had to evacuate, and they didn't have anywhere to go, so they called Pomaikai, and they're like, oh my God can we use your base yard just to like sleep for the night and see if we could, just like survive during the night. And so, he opened up the base yard and had water and food and everything for people. So, something that's not really like a community center but really could be used during extreme events. And so, this is just different aspects of resiliency that could be put into a resiliency hub. So, Resilient Programming and Services, so really the base of a resiliency hub is what does a community need. We really have to find out what are the services that the community wants, and it could look different across the County between different islands even. Resilient Structure, so can it survive a Category 3 hurricane or a tsunami. And ideally you don't want to build it in a floodplain but sometimes those places . . . like on Kauai, sometimes those places are actually . . . they're the hub and they are the ways you can get resources from one place to the other, and so I'll talk a little bit about that later. Resilient Power, Resilient Communications, so making sure we have radios and people that are staffing the resiliency hubs actually know how to use those radios, and then Resilient Operations. And I can't say this enough, but it is all about being community led and community driven. So, prioritizing neighborhoods with the highest low and historically the lowest opportunities. We have to really actively listen to what the community wants, not just, oh I think that we should have it here and here so let's move forward because I know what is better. Building trust and relationships, having the community identify the partners to be in the resiliency hub, interactive meetings like, you know, sometimes it's boring to go to a meeting at a community center for three hours after work. So, a lot of people on the mainland have been doing, maybe different restaurants that . . . restaurants and other trusted places that the community wants to gather at anyway, and then they would go and have a meeting there. So, like at fishpond maybe and so have a workday at the fishpond and do an imu or something. So, that's interactive meetings and then provide other services. So, if people had to come in from farther distances you would either give them a bus pass or a gas card or something for them taking their time to participate in the meetings. So, this is our meeting we had in August I believe and there was about 20 people that had attended including Representative Wildberger. Some of your staff, your EA's participated, and we went through this whole process with USDN, Kristin Baja. And really looked at this whole process, like the spiral notebook I gave you. Really in-depth . . . what does a resiliency hub look like and what are the partners and people we need to have there. And this is . . . there's two slides. So, this is everything we talked about and we like, went in-depth into the whole resiliency hub, what does it look like at a basic, mid-level, and best practices. Like what are the minimal things we need, but if we had like as much money as we wanted what do we really want to have there. So, minimum would be like a first aid kit and then best practices was like solar PV with a refilling water station with hydro flasks for everybody, stuff like that. And then, so this is our board with all of that information. And it was really hard because we didn't want to say what is our basic needs, we were like, no I want all the best, we want LID, bioswales all over the place, backup battery, everything. So it was really hard to like say, okay the least amount of money what do we really want. So, it had the basic, mid-level, and best practices, and then we also looked at during the

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normal everyday just function of it, of the place during disruption and then recovery. So, you know, are you going to have tents and cots for people to stay for a while or are you going to have . . . the most extreme would be having actual contracts set up with like Maui Disposals, so just in case a hurricane or something happened that contract would already be established so the County wouldn't have to do that during a disaster. It's already pre-done and they could just come in and have those trash pickups regularly. And then so these will be quick slides. So, just different aspects of the building. So, you want cooling roofs, weatherization, energy education, renewable energy, these are like the best-case scenario what should we put in there. Trees, stormwater infrastructure, heat sensors, growing food, like it could be like the Puu Kukui Watershed Preserve would be you have food grown on site near the base yard kind of thing. And then some other ideas of things that your resiliency hub could include, so green infrastructure. And then on the mainland they have the use of vacant lots, and so they're converting vacant lots to community gardens and then also like . . . this doesn't have to be a modern-day kind of what is this building look like, but it can also be . . . we were talking about a puuhonua and so a place of refuge, a place that you could come and like back in the day it was like the centered place where you would, you know, be absolved of your . . . the sins you committed or different . . . it could be like the actual kind of like a community garden. Or people were thinking of in Waihee, they have the sand dunes and Scott was here earlier but . . . maybe having that as a puuhonua again. Where, you know, they had a heiau, but they had a loko ia, kalo. So, you had taro patches and fish and community would come to gather and you had camping and like activities for your kids. So, something more like communal and cultural. And then so, if you guys were interested these are all the different places on the islands that we had identified that could be resiliency hubs. And they were just . . . are just first general out of the first 20 people that we participated with, but we have ones on every single island. And we identified three that we wanted to get, to do vulnerability assessments for, and so Hana Community Center, Wailuku, and Lahaina. So, we wanted to pick a rural community, a central community where it was, I think Wailuku, and then one that it could probably service tourists as well. And so, we got funding the Clean Energy Group, and they're a national nonprofit that's been working in the resiliency space for several years now. And their project is called the Resilient Power Project, and their foundation funded efforts to bring the benefits of solar and energy storage technologies to disadvantaged communities. And so, they gave us a grant through the American Microgrid Solutions, engaging technical support specialists to take a deeper look at our assets and technologies that we have. And it was kind of like a feasibility assessment of these three structures to see what energy needs we have right now, just basic like what are we using now. And then, so that would be the first assessment and then we'll look at what kind of upgrades that we want to do, so if we want to do AC in Wailuku Community Center or all the centers and then they'll look at how much solar and backup battery that we'll need. And then we're also . . . grant writing is super important, so OED has a grant writer right now. And if we do have the office of climate change and sustainability, we're going to be looking at getting a grants manager as well. And so our Claudine Perry, she's tasked with finding alternative funding sources for these resilience hubs and so right now we're looking at NFWF, Hawaii Community Foundation, grants in aid, The US Economic Development

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Administration. And then we all went to the ESG summit, so different funding mechanisms like that as well. And that's it.

**. . .END PRESENTATION. . .**

CHAIR KING: Okay. Thank you very much. That was really informative. I was . . . it was interested to see Tina Wildberger because I know she's been working on something for South Maui, but that wasn't included in the funding sources. But . . . so she was . . . so what she's been working on is being called HHARP, Hawaii Hazards Awareness Resilience and Preparedness. But I'm just assuming it's the same thing, so is that basically a resilience hub or is it . . . ?

MS. ANE: We haven't spoken to her about that so I'm not quite sure.

CHAIR KING: Okay.

MS. ANE: I'll follow up.

CHAIR KING: That's where I think that we need to kind of come together and make sure that we're all talking about the same thing. Because we have all these different things happening in different communities. But it sounds like a resilience hub when I talked to her about it and, you know, went to the meeting . . . a couple meetings where MEMA has been at those meetings as well in South Maui. So, maybe you can check into that and make sure that we're talking about the same thing and that that's part of the bigger effort. So that we don't, you know, we don't, like, keep reinventing this wheel of resilience.

MS. ANE: And I . . . as far as the . . . like that's kind of the whole point about the resiliency hubs, it's like it's not government driven even though Wildberger is our representative. But it really is like a community driven thing, so if . . . there's a lot of communities out there that are already looking at this. Kauai, in Haena they had FEMA money to make their resiliency hub. And all across it's really just what are the community needs and then we'll just figure how to support them and maybe --

CHAIR KING: Okay.

MS. ANE: --bring in other clean energy group to look at their energy needs.

CHAIR KING: Okay. That's great yeah. And that's what I . . . that's kind of the point I was making is that we have a lot of communities trying to do different things but if we can identify it has this type of effort then the funding can go into that as well. And it doesn't have to necessarily have to be called the same thing in every community, but we recognize it has these components in your definition of a resilience hub. Thank you. Okay, Members, open the floor for questions starting with Committee Vice-Chair Shane Sinenci.

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VICE-CHAIR SINENCI: Thank you, Chair. And thank you, Makalea, for your presentation. Just some general questions as far as the funding. So you mentioned, would the County be contributing some funding towards the resiliency hubs?

MS. ANE: We haven't, to my knowledge, put it into our FY '21 Budget. We were hoping to, I mean everybody's asking for funding for this budget season. So, we were . . . really want to . . . I think it's going to be millions of dollars to upgrade systems and it's kind of probably going to be a one to two-year process. So, this year we haven't put in any funding specifically, and we're just looking for outside sources like the ones mentioned.

VICE-CHAIR SINENCI: Okay. Great. And is there a . . .

MS. ANE: But if you want to.

VICE-CHAIR SINENCI: We'll see. Yeah, coming up.

CHAIR KING: That's what we're here for.

VICE-CHAIR SINENCI: And then is there a timeline for you to establish these resiliency hubs?

MS. ANE: We think it's going to take about one to two years to really do the community outreach part of it to see and identify what services would go in these community centers. And then also . . . we've already started the energy analysis. So, the American Microgrid Solutions has started their technical support and looking at the feasibility of these. So, probably one to two years. So, next year we'll identify the actual locations and what's going to be needed in each location.

VICE-CHAIR SINENCI: Right. Because if it's going to be in my community, we might be able to fund some of the energy parts or the water, those types of things.

MS. ANE: And the . . . so the two different mechanisms that we were looking at was . . . the bigger ones was grants in aid and the US Economic Development Administration. So, the USED A, wanted to select rural communities that were in enterprise zones. And so, I think we had put in a request to extend the economic or enterprise zones in Hana, so that it could be . . . it could qualify for the USED A. And so, for that one we actually selected, I didn't mention it earlier, but Hana and Molokai community centers. And so, they wanted to fund specific rural communities. And so, those are still in the works and . . . but the three locations that have the energy assessments are Hana, Wailuku, and Lahaina.

VICE-CHAIR SINENCI: All right.

MS. ANE: And then we can talk about Kihei as well, but we want to put them all over the place so --

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VICE-CHAIR SINENCI: Yeah.

MS. ANE: --slowly, slowly.

VICE-CHAIR SINENCI: Great. Thank you. And, Chair, one last question. For the resilient communications, those radios that you request . . . you explained about, were those long-range types of radios?

MS. ANE: I think it would depend on what site we were looking at, but probably like the more higher . . . high end ones that could be utilized during . . .

VICE-CHAIR SINENCI: Like satellite types of . . .

MS. ANE: Yeah.

VICE-CHAIR SINENCI: Okay. Thank you.

MS. ANE: And the training to work them.

VICE-CHAIR SINENCI: Right. So, the right . . . the people who are trained to--

MS. ANE: Yeah.

VICE-CHAIR SINENCI: --operate those.

MS. ANE: Yeah.

VICE-CHAIR SINENCI: Okay. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR KING: Thank you, Member Sinenci. Also, there's a lot of people in the community that have, you know, pretty high level, what I call walkie-talkies, that's what they were called back in our day. That, you know, I mean there are people on the communities that have generators or people, communities that have a lot of this kind of equipment. That if we could identify in each community who has what that's willing to bring that to bear if we do have an emergency and don't have to go looking after something happens. I think that would be really beneficial. Council Vice-Chair Rawlins-Fernandez, you have any . . .

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. Aloha, Ms. Ane, mahalo for your presentation. So, the . . . this first meeting that you had were the photos of the whiteboard, are you planning of having more of these meetings --

MS. ANE: Yes, definitely.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: --this year?

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MS. ANE: Yes. We haven't scheduled them out yet, we wanted to get the assessments of those three facilities first. And then, yeah, definitely follow up with all of the community groups and organizations that participated, and we're not going to only focus on those three. Like if they wanted to select other ones like Kihei or Molokai that weren't in the assessment, we want to still facilitate the process part of that and development and make it a community-driven process.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Are you planning on having all the meetings on Maui?

MS. ANE: No. It would be all of these different communities. So, of course Molokai, and Lanai as well.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. So, having a meeting on Molokai and Lanai sometime this year?

MS. ANE: Yes. Definitely. And I . . . we want to make it as many meetings as possible. So, not just one meeting and "okay, good, checkmark" but really a reiterative process.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. And then you said Molokai community center, we don't have a . . . which one? Because none of them are called Molokai Community Center. There's a . . .

MS. ANE: Is there a County facility there that's . . .

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yeah. There's four in each district.

MS. ANE: Okay. So, I'm not sure.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: So, I wasn't sure . . . I mean the two of them are in flood inundation zones --

MS. ANE: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: --and near the shoreline. And two of them are mauka.

MS. ANE: So, it'd be really where the community identifies that it would be the most helpful. So, on Kauai actually the resilience hub there is in the floodplain, like during the rain bomb when Waimea got flooded out and Haena got flooded out. This area was totally flooded and underwater but this one area that FEMA funded actually put in . . . has money for a boat for transportation. And it was just really a community identified place that they . . . that community knew like who needed diapers and who needed water and who was fine and whose grandma needed whatever. So, like the cool part is, like maybe it shouldn't be in a floodplain but maybe those are the central locations that could be able to transport goods and services to the community. So,

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probably . . . like resiliency wise should be outside of it but there are examples that they are in the floodplains.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: . . . *(inaudible)* . . .

MS. ANE: Yeah. That's all they got in North Shore and they're all in the floodplains.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yes.

MS. ANE: Than that's where it has to be.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Okay. Mahalo. Mahalo, Chair.

CHAIR KING: Mahalo. So, did they go out to sea when there's no flood and then they come in when there's a flood, with their boat?

MS. ANE: The boat . . . they just dock the boat at the . . . they would dock the boat at --

CHAIR KING: It's interesting.

MS. ANE: --the resiliency hub.

CHAIR KING: But I like that the idea that's it's coming from the community, then basically the community, if the community wants to have multiple meetings that's where you could intersect, because I know that Councilmember Rawlins-Fernandez, has, you know, regular town hall meetings. So, you could intersect with that vehicle. Okay. Member Paltin?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. Our community went through the HHARP process with Charnan Carroll, and General Major *[sic]* Douglas *[sic]* Oliveira, I believe. But, you know, after we came up with the plan that's pretty much all that happened. And during the actual disasters during Olivia and Lane, none of that took place, it was organic community members that made things happen. And for West Maui it's so difficult to find any space, there's a lot of space available but they're not reasonably priced locations. So, you know, we just pop up when it happens and I think, you know, churches and . . . churches are our best options right now because of their overall missions usually align with helping people. And, you know, the resorts can help the tourists and maybe their workers too but that has been my experience in the disasters that affected West Maui. Is it might be hard to find a place that's year-round because of the rents that they can get, they rather just leave places vacant. So, that's how it is.

MS. ANE: Yeah. So, there could be some . . . if we were only talking about disaster and post disaster, yeah there would . . . we could identify like warehouses and facilities like the Red Cross does. And have all of the, you know, cots and blankets and all that kind of stuff too. But the idea of the resiliency hub really is to find a location that the community is comfortable with. So, it could be churches like you said are great, that's

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always been integrated into the resiliency hubs. But then also like Waiola, you know, just community places. I mean I don't . . . I won't speak for West Maui, but if that is a place that community goes to and that has been a hub before during the fires, then we can see what kind of facilities they need. So, if it has to be . . . so like I know we donated from our farm kalo, people came with deer and fish and all kinds of stuff, uala and maybe there wasn't the facilities to hold all the food that was donated all at once that just came pouring in from the community. And so maybe we need to do some dry storage or refrigerated spaces so when there really is this huge disaster and we need to flood this one area with goods then we have those things identified. So, I mean the refrigerated thing is only thing I could think of, but other . . . if people can identify other things that we would need to prepare those facilities with, we can look for funding for that.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Yeah. That's good. Waiola and Naekane are kind of in the flood areas as well and, you know, the church manager of Waiola that we worked directly with is leaving. So, we have to see in the future how that will work out.

MS. ANE: Yeah. And the one on Kauai, that one is built on stilts. So, the first . . . and it was on my first picture but so then you just build the resiliency into those buildings as well. So, we can think of those other resiliency options.

CHAIR KING: Okay. Anything else, Member Paltin? Okay, thank you. Member Kama?

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you, Chair. So, have you anticipated how many hubs we would need for all of Maui County?

MS. ANE: No. We were thinking of doing this network of hubs and going to that ESG summit, we really proposed "yeah, let's do 15 or 20." I mean you can have . . . it's like our community center it's just the different locations and it would probably be more like how communities are separated from each other and if during a disaster those would be communities that needed help. So, Kahakuloa, Hana, you know all the . . . we can look at a map and see what communities out there would be isolated during a disaster and then provide those services.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: So, if communities wanted to, could they themselves create their own resiliency hub without the County's assistance?

MS. ANE: Absolutely.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: And how would they go about doing that?

MS. ANE: We could help them go through the process, but people are doing it already I think, and they just are not calling it a resiliency hub. And so, if there are people doing it and we can identify what kind of help that they need maybe we can provide . . . like if the Office of Climate Change had a grant writer, maybe being able to access Federal funds with our grant writer and then help to disseminate specific funding for resiliency hubs. So, I love that idea.

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COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: So, when you talk about resilienizing [sic] community centers or . . . would you also include State facilities too or are you just looking at County facilities?

MS. ANE: So, the City and County actually is having a hard time with this question because a lot of their facilities that people . . . like the shelters that they have identified are Department of Education facilities. And so, to get funding to give to the State to update their facilities and go through all of their permitting process, they have been having a hard time. So I've been told. So, that's kind of why we tried to focus on County facilities.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: So, if individuals . . . like we think about our grandparents' homes or parents' homes, in terms of resilience . . . I mean, any kid who's born in Hawaii who never went home, just their parents that needed help at some point in time. And so, in my head, you know, could individual families actually create their own resiliency hubs, and would the County be open to helping them to resilienize [sic] their property or whatever it is that they needed if they decided that, yeah, in their own community they could. And I'm looking at Hawaiian Home Lands, is doing something like that on, you know, because we don't have community centers, we have one. Oh, we have two actually, one in Paukukalo and Upcountry, but other than that the other homesteads don't. But if you could support the community in those areas to do that.

MS. ANE: Yeah. And I think if the County is really open to partnering with DHHL, and not maybe butting heads and saying, oh no, DHHL should be doing it themselves and getting the funding themselves. But we're saying, no these are our residents and that we want to make sure that we've identified what they need and that we're going to provide funding to the residents and not like us butting heads against, oh no this is somebody else's jurisdiction they should be doing it, and really working together. Yeah. Definitely.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Okay. Okay, thank you. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR KING: Thank you, Member Kama. Great questions and I'm totally in support of us working with the State or the Feds or whoever, you know, I think working across the different levels of government is going to be the most productive. But I like that idea of . . . so I think that's what we're doing in South Maui, is there's a group of people that've gotten, together putting together this thing. We're not, I guess we're not calling it a resiliency hub, we've got this other acronym for it. But it's coming from the community and it's not part of the original County funding but, you know, people want to do it, they'll find a place to do it. So, when you were going through those slides and you were showing like the community garden and, you know, growing food. So, that's basically co-located with a facility or some . . . that we're calling the hub, and when you were showing that I was trying to think of how would we do that like at the Kihei Aquatic Center and trying to put in, you know, a garden or something over there. I guess it could be done, but then you'd be . . . you'd have to chop down trees

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to do it and then we'd deal with other issues with that. But we're not . . . I just wanted to be clear, that we're not talking about like different geographical locations for different components, we're trying to get all of this into sort of a similar geographical area where everything, everybody . . . all the resources are there. Okay.

MS. ANE: Yeah. And you . . . and each hub would be different. You can . . . like the one slide that said Basic, Mid-level and Best, versus normal during a disaster and post-disaster. You can identify different hubs that focus on different aspects of it and it doesn't have to be like this huge, awesome place like big puuhonua that service everything. It could be this small and specific, like the example for Hana and the dialysis clinic.

CHAIR KING: Okay. And what came to mind for me was . . . and especially when Member Kama was talking about, you know, going to your grandparents or something, is having different people in the community who agree to be part of the hub and growing certain parts . . . some food and then that's where . . . what will happen, we'll bring it there if something happens. And so, it doesn't have to necessarily be located in a central area, but we can have these different satellite . . . yeah. Right, ahupuaa, that's right. Okay. Any other questions --

VICE-CHAIR SINENCI: . . . *(inaudible)* . . .

CHAIR KING: --for . . . Member Sinenci, Vice-Chair Sinenci?

VICE-CHAIR SINENCI: Thank you, Chair. And thank you for the discussion. I was just . . . what came to mind to me was, we would have these student camps. And so, we had an uncle, Uncle Jerome Smith, so he would always propose to the students, well if there was a disaster or something happened, what were some of the things that you would quickly grab for survival. And some of the responses from the kids were like some fishing gear, maybe a machete for shelter, a flint, some kind of water filtration system or maybe a hunting bow or firearm or something like that. But those were some of the responses that the kids actually gave, so --

MS. ANE: Yeah, awesome.

VICE-CHAIR SINENCI: --very survival instincts. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR KING: Thank you for that. And then we would also . . . and so these resilience hubs we should have some kitchen facilities, because we've got . . . we've been talking about the deer and the wild boar and all the stuff that's out there that's . . . that we know we can eat. And we would just . . . we would need a place to process that, but definitely part of subsistence. Okay. If there are no other questions, then I'd think to defer this matter and then we can go onto the third. Any other questions or any objections to deferring?

COUNCILMEMBERS: No objections.

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**COUNCILMEMBERS VOICED NO OBJECTIONS.** (Excused: RH, AL)

**ACTION: DEFER PENDING FURTHER DISCUSSION.**

CHAIR KING: I'll bring . . . we'll bring it back when, maybe we'll get a report when we get further along and we can actually see the resilience hubs, you know, forming. Okay --

MS. ANE: Thank you.

CHAIR KING: --thank you very much for the presentation, Chana. I go back and forth between the two different ways she introduces herself. But I really appreciate it, and I think the community really appreciates the discussion. I would . . . I really am looking forward to seeing how Molokai goes into their first plan and how this can be a big part of your plan for resiliency.

MS. ANE: And I can work with all of you guys in your districts to plan those meetings --

CHAIR KING: Yeah.

MS. ANE: --as well.

CHAIR KING: But also, you know, when you were talking about funding, I was thinking about Molokai because I know when you go for Federal funding, they like to see matching. And we already have matching into Molokai. So, that hopefully would be on your radar as well. Okay. Thank you very much and we'll go ahead and move onto our third item, CAR-3 [sic].

**CAR-1(3): COMMUNITY WORKING GROUP ON CLIMATE EMERGENCY AND A JUST TRANSITION TO RESTORE A SAFE CLIMATE (RULE 7B)**

CHAIR KING: We have . . . did everyone get this handout? We have a handout that kind of goes over . . . this is on the . . . it's . . . what I wanted to do with this item was to discuss a vehicle for getting the public more involved and utilizing the . . . there's so much expertise in energy and resource outside of this Chambers in the community, and how could we have broader and possibly more frequent discussions in the community that would lead to quicker actions. Reach the expertise that's out there, not just even in the County or State but also globally because a lot of people in this County are connected globally and have interactions with different sectors. There's been a lot of talk about the agriculture sector these days being . . . kind of rising to the top of effective and significant climate action. And getting that sector involved as well. So, in this packet is kind of a comparison of the different . . . a temporary investigative group only allows Councilmembers to be members. The subcommittee would allow the public to be involved as members and would also allow, as we heard testimony earlier, the resources of the Council to assist with that. The subcommittees have to comply with all the Sunshine Law and so, we know we have to understand everything

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has to be noticed. You have to take testimony and you have to kind of hold the same . . . hold yourselves to the same rules and laws that the Council follows. Meaning that, you know, you can't be discussing among three or more Councilmembers of things that you're going to be voting on. And . . . but you can take action . . . you can send your . . . the subcommittee would be able to send recommendations directly to the Committee, the standing Committee and then make reports. So, there's other models, like the special committee, which was what was used for a specific idea back when the first iterations of the County manager were coming forward and they . . . the Council back then appointed a special committee which had a start and end date and just a particular item it was reviewing and researching and making recommendations on. And then the last one on this is . . . besides the boards and commissions, our standing boards and commissions, is potential independent working group, which would be a voluntary working group, kind of like the Upcountry ag working group which is not really connected directly to the Council but does a lot of work on its own and can make recommendations to . . . mostly I think to their Councilmember. That was created by Member Don Guzman back in a couple of Council terms ago, before my term, my first term. And it still meets today, it has . . . that one is a little more specialized because it's Upcountry agriculture concerns. If we made a volunteer working group it would be a lot broader, it would be looking at climate action and resilience recommendations. And it would have the ability to meet as often as they want outside of Sunshine Law, which has its advantages and disadvantages. So, I kind a wanted to get thoughts of this Committee on how to move forward. Another option is to create a subcommittee, which would still have the resources of the Council but could create individual working groups for certain sectors. Like they could have an ag working group and bring the ag community together to talk about regenerative agriculture and how we could fast track that for climate mitigation. And they could have a, you know, separate working group that's working on things like shoreline retreat and those kinds of recommendations. And they can have, you know, a sea-level rise working group and then . . . we can access the . . . the smarter people in the community that know a lot more than we do as Councilmembers because that's what they've been studying and bring that expertise to bear. So, anyway those are kind of my thoughts on having a vehicle to do what we've committed to on December 20<sup>th</sup>, which was to recognize this as an emergency and to commit ourselves to a just transition. So, I'm going to open it up for any thoughts or questions on that . . . those ideas. Any . . . Vice-Chair Sinenci?

VICE-CHAIR SINENCI: Thank you, Chair. Yeah I think listening to some of the testimonies this morning, I would support maybe some subcommittees or some of the special committees. I think you're absolutely correct, a lot of the authority . . . if we did want to talk about agriculture actually inviting those farmers that have been doing it for years and who knows what works for their farming communities and where they need the assistance. So, I would support having those subcommittees. I would . . . my question would be just the . . . would it still be under the County jurisdiction? You know, just the legalities if there were any.

CHAIR KING: Well, if we create a subcommittee it would be subcommittee of this Committee. And, you know, we don't have to go to the full Council to approve it, but we would

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approve it in Committee. If that's what this Committee wants to do, I would ask you to . . . Members, to forward names of people who would be available to work . . . I mean we need people who are available who will show up to the meetings and also people who know the expertise out in the community that they can access and bring that information forward. So, my vision would be, you know, after listening to testimony would be to have a subcommittee that could then create individual working groups underneath them. The . . . if you look at the handout, the . . . and this was put together by OCS a while ago. But the special committee in this handout, it basically says that the special committee is obsolete because they removed the rule of the Council that allowed for special committees back in 2011. But it doesn't mean that we couldn't put it back in if we wanted to do that. But the special committee, to me the way that it was used was on a single, really specific item. So, climate change is so broad and it's going to encompass a lot of different types of actions. So, we're going to be looking at infrastructure and invasive species and sea level rise and agriculture and that we, you know, and the things that came up today, you know, like the resilience hubs and, you know, single plastics use and things like that. So, we have expertise in the community that can work with . . . work in their area that could actually interface with the subcommittee. And that wouldn't be, you know, the subcommittee would have the resources of the Council, so they would be under this Committee. The working groups would be groups of volunteer people who would be working in their area of expertise, hopefully being supported by their Councilmembers or some of us, you know, as our Council Offices. Kind of like the . . . there is a volunteer working group right now that's getting together, that to my knowledge doesn't have . . . we don't really have funding. It's the Food Alliance group, and they're going to be meeting in February, so I'm on that Steering Committee but to my knowledge we don't . . . we're just a group of volunteers that is getting together. We don't really have the resources of the full Council for that organization, although the organization, the Food Alliance could still make recommendations to the Council through individual Councilmembers.

VICE-CHAIR SINENCI: Yeah. I think the working groups . . . the important thing is we've got people in the community that actually want to volunteer, step up and be part of the process. So, I would support the, you know, those working groups under the subcommittee.

CHAIR KING: Okay.

VICE-CHAIR SINENCI: Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR KING: Thank you. Any other thoughts? Council Vice-Chair Rawlins-Fernandez?

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. Mahalo for bringing all this information to our attention. So, in reviewing some of the options that we have before us, I think I would probably need a little bit more information. So, for example the TIG, you know, if we were to create a TIG it would require, like a start and an end date. Subcommittees looks like it would just be a standing committee, so I didn't see information on whether there would need to be a start and end. And if . . . I'm

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assuming that OCS would then staff it and not like boards and commissions, which is staffed by the Administration. So, I'm wondering if we were to do something like that if we would need like additional funds. And then for this group that we create, what do we envision it . . . the goal being and the deliverables. So, I think with that additional information I would be better able to make a decision on what would be the most appropriate entity --

CHAIR KING: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: --for us to create.

CHAIR KING: Okay. So, the subcommittee . . . I'll read to you. This is from David Raatz in OCS who's our Supervising Legislative Attorney, "Subcommittee, a subcommittee within any standing committee maybe created for the purpose of providing well considered recommendations to the standing committee, particularly on matters that require in-depth research or technical expertise. The standing committee shall appoint the, chair, vice-chair, and members of the subcommittee, shall specify the objectives of the subcommittee and shall set a date on which the subcommittee shall be deemed dissolved." So, it does have . . . it would have an end date, which I would assume would be the end of this year . . . the term. "Subcommittees shall comply with the procedural requirements applicable to standing committees to the extent practicable. All Councilmembers who are not voting members of a subcommittee shall serve as non-voting members of the subcommittee and may participate in the proceedings but shall not be counted toward quorum for the subcommittee." So, that's the wording in Rule 7D of the Rules of the Council. And then just from, David, "In contrast to an official subcommittee or working group presumably wouldn't have status as a County entity." So, we probably wouldn't reference appointment of members on the meeting agenda. "We are looking at the history of the ag working group for some guidance, though we understand it wouldn't be a perfect analog. One issue we would have to keep in mind is the need to ensure compliance with the code of ethics requirement that public resources be used for public purposes." So, when I spoke with Mr. Raatz, the ag working group is a little more focused on a particular group of farmers, and that's called the Upcountry ag working group because it deals with just the Upcountry farmers concerns. So, this would be . . . that's why he's saying it's not a perfect analog because we would . . . if we could create a working group it would be a much broader working group about, you know, we'd be looking at Countywide issues related to climate change and climate action that's needed. It wouldn't be focusing . . . we wouldn't want people on their . . . who are focused on trying to promote a particular type of business or technologies or anything. We want to . . . we want it to be broad enough that they could go out and they can talk to the people that have those kinds of expertise in the community and bring them into those . . . the subcommittee meetings. But it wouldn't be . . . it would try to be a broader group of stakeholders and maybe . . . Ms. Thomson, do you want to add to that? You look like you want to say something.

MS. THOMSON: I think one of the things, you know, in trying to figure out which vehicle is best for this; you'd want to keep in mind the Sunshine law requirements too. So,

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forming working groups that are under a standing committee those working groups might be subject to the Sunshine Law in ways that, you know, private groups would not. The way that . . . the way I'm understanding it is that these standing subcommittees because they can involve basically the entire membership, whether voting or non-voting, that those would be subject to the Sunshine Law. So, you know, posting agendas, keeping minutes, having the public, you know, able to be involved. Whereas TIGs could . . . and for this Committee because it's a seven-member committee, the way that you set up a TIG is it's two or more members but less than quorum. So, it would mean it'd have to be three members is what that math boils down to. But the TIG would probably have more flexibility in terms of meeting than a subcommittee would.

CHAIR KING: Okay. But the TIG, my understanding is that the TIG couldn't have members who are . . . the only voting members are the Councilmembers. So, that's the issue, is that it wouldn't really involve the community in the way that the community is asking to be involved.

MS. THOMSON: Well, I think that a TIG, you know, part of their duties, you know, it would be set out by, you know, whatever this group decided its, you know, scope is going to be. But they can go out and seek community guidance, you know, and invite presentations by any number of outside groups. But those outside people would not be voting members of the TIG and the TIG itself would be responsible to come back to this body and report its findings.

CHAIR KING: Okay. And then the . . . on the volunteer . . . I mean the ag working group is outside of the Council so if we had a subcommittee and they just wanted to talk to groups in different sectors . . . I mean we don't have to call them volunteer working groups but, you know, in order to have a meeting with . . . or ask a group of people in agriculture to meet and to talk about these issues, is that still somehow connected to the Sunshine Law issues?

MS. THOMSON: Well, it could be. So, OIP has an opinion on . . . they were calling them vision teams, and this was . . . just kind of the vehicle that another . . . that this opinion is based on at any rate. So, what we want to just be very clear about is, you know, what is a Council, or a committee group made up of and what is, you know, strictly private. But when you start to blur the lines then you'd want to be compliant with the Sunshine Law.

CHAIR KING: Okay. So, I had a couple of basically . . . I created a volunteer working group for the homeless resource issue in South Maui because we have very little homeless resources there. And then what came out of that was this idea of the mobile hygiene unit and we were able to get that created for South Maui. But I didn't see that as under Sunshine Law, because it wasn't directed by a committee or anything. Is that kind of in that realm in trying to decide where the lines are?

MS. THOMSON: So, I think, you know, with individual Councilmembers' efforts, you know, those wouldn't be governed by the Sunshine Law because it would just be a single

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member working on a specific issue and then going out to community resources. But if a group is created under this Committee, so a subcommittee of the Climate Committee then that would be, I believe, subject to the Sunshine Law. And it, you know, in terms of the community involvement though, when you have public meetings, you know, that's one way to ensure that you're compliant with the Sunshine Law. You know, minutes, posting notice, and those kinds of formalities as well. So, I don't think that it would inhibit community involvement whichever vehicle you chose.

CHAIR KING: Okay. You just have to be careful about the . . . yeah. I just want to make it where we can get the information without bogging people down with, you know, too much. Because I know sometimes we've had meetings where the entire meeting is public testimony and then you don't get to the actual issue. And so, I'm trying to come up with, you know, some way to have it be recognized by the Council but also be something that we could harness the most expertise possible out there where, you know, because I'm getting a lot of people calling me saying I want to be involved, I want to help, how do I get involved. And some of them are like, well I don't, you know, if it has to be a regular meeting, I don't know if I, you know, if I can meet at the Chambers. You know, because I'm assuming the subcommittee would meet here, the Chambers. Or does it matter?

MS. THOMSON: It would just need to be a publicly accessible place. So, somewhere the public could easily get to and . . .

CHAIR KING: Okay. But if we had to have staff then it would become more expensive to kind of do it out in the community. So, those are I guess all considerations. I think you still have the floor, Ms. Rawlins-Fernandez.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. So, the title of this item is Community Working Group on Climate Emergency and Just Transition to Restore a Safe Climate, which is super broad, so I wasn't . . . it's still not clear to me if there's a particular goal that this Committee or you as Chair would like to achieve by creating one of these groups. Or if the goal is to create this group and . . . well I guess we would have to specify the objectives of the subcommittee. So, we wouldn't really be able to say, okay we're going to create this group and the group will tell us what they're going to focus on. We actually have to tell them, do --

CHAIR KING: Right.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: --you have those . . . like an idea of what the objectives and the deliverables --

CHAIR KING: I do but I --

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: --would be?

CHAIR KING: --kind of wanted to get from the Committee where we're going. But, you know, in my mind it's, you know, I think the important thing is to bring in the expertise, you

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know, from outside of these Chambers, from outside the Council. Because we're not the experts, and to be able to get people to be able to talk to each other and deliberate among the experts in these different sectors on climate action, so that can be considered. And I think, you know, the development is going to be a big piece it because there's going to be . . . I'm hoping there's going to be . . . we're going to be looking at things like, maybe we need an ordinance that says that we can't build within the sea level rise inundation zone, you know. And what does that mean to the public and how could we get, you know, how could we get that discussion happening with the people who it affects most versus just, you know, the Chamber people. I mean we get it from testimony, but we don't really deliberate, we're not supposed to all the times we do. But so that was my general goal is like, you know, how can we honor the public's desire to be involved and help us make these decisions and bring their expertise to the Council within our accessible means, so.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. So, at what point . . . so the goal isn't to create one today --

CHAIR KING: No.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: --obviously.

CHAIR KING: No. It's just to have a discussion.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: It's just to start the --

CHAIR KING: Right.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: --discussion on it. So, at a subsequent meeting we would have panels of experts advising us on what exactly the objectives of this group should be?

CHAIR KING: Well, I was hoping to hear from, you know, the Committee Members, on what they would see as, you know, what . . . if you agree that we need this, if you agree . . . because I can go ahead and work with, you know, I've met with some of the stakeholders in the community already and I can continue doing that, like I did with the, you know, the homeless issue in South Maui. But I just wanted to see how involved the Committee would like to be in that particular venue because if we created . . . if I create a working group, I can't have more than one Councilmember show up at a time. And I would like it to be something that would be inclusive of the Committee Members. But I think there's an urgency out there where people feel like, you know, how . . . like they want to be in the discussion. You know, they're kind of been waiting for this to happen. And then, you know, I, you know, I'm not sure how many times we're going to be at a, in a position where we have bear quorum and we don't even have the full Committee here. So, if we could bring more people into that discussion to help us develop the ideas and the actions that we need to do, then . . . and I think that . . . and one of them, you know, one of the groups that we're . . . that we access will hopefully be whoever gets hired on the Molokai plan, you

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know. So, those are experts, you know, that are going to be devising a plan. So, I'm just trying to think of the . . . a way that we could engage the community, access the expertise that's out there and get these ideas fleshed out sooner rather than later and get them to the Council. And so, you know, what we can do within a three-hour meeting is sometimes limited.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: I agree. So, okay, so at a next meeting when this item comes up, you would like for the Committee Members to either indicate whether they would like to be involved and to the extent of, you know, how much they would like to be involved --

CHAIR KING: Right.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: --and what objectives or goals they would like to see . . . we would like to see happen with this group?

CHAIR KING: Right.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo, Chair.

CHAIR KING: Okay. Thank you so much. And, Member Kama?

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you, Chair. So . . . okay, so I support your process to be able to have a subcommittee, I also support the idea of coming back again. So, I guess maybe our homework would be just to . . . after today is to consider our participation in this subcommittee area. And figure out what are some of the objectives that we'd like the subcommittee to cover and then bring it back and let's just go over it and yea or nay it and just move it out. Because I think timing is everything and we are . . . it's urgent. I mean I just talked to Sol Kahoolalahala yesterday at Foodland and he was telling me about the whole urgency when he was, you know, on the Council. And how he was looking at the climate change and now how he works in conservation because of that. And it's like, we are borrowing our grandchildren's futures if we don't take care of this today. So, it's urgent so I would like to see us move this along as fast as possible. So, I guess going into Budget is probably going to put a crunch on this but hopefully not, Chair.

CHAIR KING: Well, thank you. Thanks for bringing that up because that's another thing, is that this Committee could continue meeting while we're in Budget. And so, you know, the subcommittee meetings don't have to necessarily involve all the Committee Members and can continue working on issues while . . . because we put, kind of put everything on hold during Budget as far as our committees. So, that's another advantage of getting . . .

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: But the subcommittee wouldn't be able to meet until you had some objectives that have been put forth by the Council, correct?

CHAIR KING: Right. But once we do that --

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COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: So, let's do that.

CHAIR KING: --then we name them, they can be during . . .

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Okay.

CHAIR KING: They don't even --

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Okay.

CHAIR KING: --have to use our schedule. They can meet at night.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Okay.

CHAIR KING: They can, you know . . .so . . .

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you.

CHAIR KING: So, if we can . . . if I can give folks a little bit of homework and I'll also talk with Member Hokama, because he was the one that appointed the subcommittee that Mr. Lester was talking about. And some of the . . . some of what came out of that is still being used as a model across the country as far as utilities, the issues that they were working on. So . . .

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: And is this the . . . Chair, I'm sorry.

CHAIR KING: Yes. Sure.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Is this the title that we're going to be using, The Community Working Group on Climate Emergency and a Just Transition to Restore a Safe Climate?

CHAIR KING: No. We probably won't use that whole title --

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Yeah.

CHAIR KING: --but, you know, and especially if we go with the subcommittee it would be different. But this is just for discussion --

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Okay.

CHAIR KING: --so we could figure out what it is that we want to . . . and if we . . . and it doesn't preclude the, any Member or any members of the community for that matter creating working groups and working on their own either. Because I kind of see there being one on Molokai with our Molokai Rep. that's already happening through the town hall meetings. So, you have--

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COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Okay.

CHAIR KING: --another comment, Ms. Rawlins-Fernandez?

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: If Pro Temp is pau.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Yes. I am. Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo. Mahalo, Chair. I just wanted to point out that at the Subcommittee on Communications Infrastructure, which was a subcommittee of the standing committee Human Services and Economic Development was chaired by Member Mike Molina.

CHAIR KING: Oh, okay.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: So, we could also use him as --

CHAIR KING: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: --a resource person to . . .

CHAIR KING: Yeah. I'll talk to him even though he's not on this Committee, we could still utilize his expertise on subcommittees. That's great, I didn't realize he was . . . he had one either or as well as Mr. Hokama. But there's . . . if we've kind of narrowed it down with this discussion a little bit, that was fruitful, I think. And if we . . . and thank you for your support for, you know, moving forward as quickly as possible. Any other thoughts before we adjourn? Okay. Good work. We're right at the noon hour and thank you, Members. So, we will . . . there's no other . . .

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

CHAIR KING: We'll go ahead and defer this item. Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: No objections.

CHAIR KING: All right. No objections.

**COUNCILMEMBERS VOICED NO OBJECTIONS.** (Excused: RH, AL)

**ACTION: DEFER PENDING FURTHER DISCUSSION.**

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CHAIR KING: And . . . was that what you were going to talk about? Okay. So, thanks for pointing. And we're adjourned at 11:55. . . . *(gavel)* . . .

**ADJOURN:** 11:55 a.m.

APPROVED:

  
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KELLY TAKAYA KING, Chair  
Climate Action and Resilience  
Committee

car:min:200203min

Transcribed by: Ashley Joan

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CERTIFICATE

I, Ashley Joan, hereby certify that the foregoing represents to the best of my ability, a true and correct transcript of the proceedings. I further certify that I am not in any way concerned with the cause.

DATED the 24<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2020, in Pukalani, Hawaii



Ashley Joan