

CLIMATE ACTION AND RESILIENCE COMMITTEE

Council of the County of Maui

MINUTES

March 12, 2020

Council Chamber, 8th Floor

CONVENE: 9:10 a.m.

PRESENT: VOTING MEMBERS:
Councilmember Kelly Takaya King, Chair
Councilmember Shane M. Sinenci, Vice-Chair
Councilmember Tasha Kama
Councilmember Alice Lee (in at 9:17 a.m., out at 9:19 a.m.)
Councilmember Tamara Paltin

EXCUSED: Councilmember Riki Hokama
Councilmember Rawlins-Fernandez

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

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, Director, Maui Emergency Management Agency

PRESENTERS: Jeff Stark, Citizens' Climate Lobby
Mark White, Citizens' Climate Lobby
Barry Solomon, Citizens' Climate Lobby

OTHERS: Scott Shapiro
Rita Ryan, Climate Reality Project, HI and 350Hawaii.org
Sean Lester
Darla Palmer-Ellingson, CAR Citizens Advisory Group
Jasee Law

(6) additional attendees

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

CHAIR KING: . . .(*gavel*). . . Okay, good morning. Welcome to the Climate Action and Resilience Committee meeting of March 12, 2020. I'm Kelly King, Chair of the Committee. And we're a little short of our...we have a bare quorum right now so let me know if you have an emergency, raise your hand. But we have a couple other Members coming. I'm just going

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to ask everyone right now to silence your cell phones or any other noisemaking devices you may have. Today we have with us Committee Vice-Chair Shane Sinenci from East Maui.

VICE-CHAIR SINENCI: Aloha kakahiaka, Chair.

CHAIR KING: Aloha. And we're all very sorry for your recent loss, so...

VICE-CHAIR SINENCI: Thank you.

CHAIR KING: Sorry to hear. Council Chair Alice Lee is in a meeting, she'll be with us soon. Councilmember Keani Rawlins-Fernandez is on her way. Councilmember Riki Hokama is excused. Councilmember Tamara Paltin from West Maui is here.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Aloha kakahiaka, Chair.

CHAIR KING: Aloha kakahiaka. And Council Pro Tem Tasha Kama.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Aloha kakahiaka, Chair.

CHAIR KING: Aloha kakahiaka. We're all here for climate change issues. We had two items on the agenda and I'm going to go through introductions and then I'll, we're going to switch the agenda around because we've had a little bit of an emergency with our Emergency Management Organization. We have, and, you know, if our non-voting Members Mike Molina or Yuki Lei Sugimura are in the house and would like to join us, we welcome you. Today we have, we will have Herman Andaya, the Administrator from the Maui Emergency Management Agency. He's been called away on, you know, to a meeting about the Coronavirus. We have Richelle Thomson, who's our Deputy Corporate [sic] Counsel. Thank you for being here, Ms. Thomson. Our representatives from the Climate, Citizens' Climate Lobby today who will be presenting are Jeff Stark. He's on his way. He's with the Maui Chapter. Barry Solomon, who's a member of the Maui Chapter as well. And Mark White, who's the co-leader of the Citizens' Climate Lobby for our Maui Chapter. We also have our Committee Staff Kasie Apo Takayama our Legislative Analyst, and Stacey Vinoray, our Committee Secretary. Thank you, ladies. Great job in getting set up today. Our District Office Staff today, we have the Molokai Office closed. We heard yesterday that Ms. Lindo, who runs that office is...her husband is in surgery. And we have Denise Fernandez from the Lanai Office, Mavis Oliveira-Medeiros from the Hana Office. I think we checked with them and so far we have no testifiers at any of our District Offices. So, Members, the two items on today's agenda are CAR-10, Operational and Budgetary Review of the Maui County Emergency Management Agency, and CAR-1(2) which is the Climate Action Policies by Government Agencies. So, we're going to, if there's no objections, we're going to flip the agenda and --

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: No objections.

CHAIR KING: --start with the CAR-1(2), and then hopefully when the Director from MEMA gets here, we can get, also get an update on maybe what's happening with the Coronavirus. Okay, so no objections?

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COUNCILMEMBERS: No objections.

. . .BEGIN PUBLIC TESTIMONY. . .

CHAIR KING: Okay, we're going to begin with public testimony. And I think folks here understand that the testimony is 3 minutes, green light goes on, when the yellow light comes on there's 30 seconds left, and when the red light goes on, you need to finish up your testimony. And if you haven't signed up and wish to testify, please do so in the lobby. There's a table out there for sign-ups. We have a...we've already connected with our District Offices and there's no one waiting to testify there. So, let's check in with the testifiers in the Chamber. Ms. Apo Takayama?

MS. APO TAKAYAMA: Thank you, Chair, the first testifier is Scott Shapiro, testifying on CAR-1(2), to be followed by Rita Ryan. And, for the record, when testifying, please state your name and the name of any organization you may be representing in accordance with the Rules of the Council. If you're a paid lobbyist, please inform the Committee.

MR. SHAPIRO: Just going to wipe everything down.

CHAIR KING: Actually, just for your information, we did that before we started --

MR. SHAPIRO: Okay.

CHAIR KING: --the Committee meeting. But --

MR. SHAPIRO: Never can be too careful.

CHAIR KING: --never can be too careful.

MR. SHAPIRO: My name is Scott Shapiro. I'm here on behalf of myself this morning and I'd like to testify on the second item, Climate Action Policies by Government Agencies, which I would consider you a government agency. I want to thank you all for creating this important Committee, this very important Committee. Climate change, as we all know, is real. It's not a hoax, it's not a capital H-O-A-X. Sea-level rise is real. It's happening around the world. Almost 150 years ago on March 1, 1872, President Ulysses S. Grant signed the Yellowstone National Park Protection Act into law. The world's first national park was born. I'm proposing that you take similar yet smaller action in Maui County by creating sea-level rise buffer zones. These would be parcels of land that act as a land reserve for any type of sea-level rise or climate change consequence. I propose a panel made up of Mark White, citizens around the County, County department directors or Deputy Directors from Parks Department, Public Works, Planning Department, Department of Water, to take an inventory of vacant lands or threatened lands that are subject to climate change and sea-level rise and protect them until we need them. Unlike the Coronavirus, which is making us react in sometimes crazy ways possibly, and giving us no time really to think about things, scientific research has given us the time and the tools to plan and protect for Maui's

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future in a safe and smart way. You guys can be as bold as President Grant was in creating these new sea-level rise buffer zones for Maui's future and for our kids and grandkids. Thank you.

CHAIR KING: Thank you, Mr. Shapiro. Any questions? Member Paltin?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Mr. Shapiro, for being here and participating in all the stuff. I was wondering, you know all those people that you were saying are on the, this committee that would happen, it kind of sounds like a lot of the similar things as the conservation committee, the one we had couple extra guys from Hana on. And like maybe I know that's not their main focus to focus on, climate change, but since they're already together in one committee, maybe we could also bring it up at that place. I was wondering your thoughts on that.

MR. SHAPIRO: Yeah, I hadn't considered that. I...certainly that would be a great thing. I was considering, you know, any group of people plus the County officials who are, who can really make, who know the ins and outs of infrastructure, planning. So, those people would be very important. But a conservation committee would be a great start.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Yeah, because I think they're making a green action plan, so if you just make that be like one of the spokes in the wheel or something.

MR. SHAPIRO: Yeah. Yeah. As long as it was County, you know, ordained and had some power to recommend, you know, things. I think it would be very important, yeah. It would work.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you.

CHAIR KING: Yeah, and actually we're, you know, we have a citizens working group right now that we're considering whether to make into a sub-committee. We won't be able to do that, address that until after Budget. But all of those things that come out of any of these groups can come to this Committee and then they would be sanctioned by a government --

MR. SHAPIRO: Right --

CHAIR KING: --. . .(inaudible). . . agency.

MR. SHAPIRO: --and I think my point today is that like a sea-level rise buffer zone is a County, additional County land use zone that could be something that, you know, when we talk about carbon credits and, you know, changing usage in vehicles, going to all-electric vehicles, that's going to take some time, you know. Creating buffer zones is something that we can create immediately, but also can be taken back if we find out in the future that this piece of land, you know, isn't going to be affected. But it's a great policy to have to think about, I think, that's effective quickly.

CHAIR KING: Okay, that's great. We can...we'd love to have you on that committee to explore that further. And I also wanted to say thank you for mentioning Yellowstone because I think that's one of now becoming one of our now endangered National Parks with the

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proposals to, you know, reintroduce hunting. But a real good friend of mine was the environmental director for 30 years and when he retired they never replaced him. And so, that was a little bit of a concern.

MR. SHAPIRO: Yeah.

CHAIR KING: So, anyway. Mr. Sinenci?

VICE-CHAIR SINENCI: Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR KING: Vice-Chair.

VICE-CHAIR SINENCI: Thank you, Mr. Shapiro, for being here. You know the State has the, I guess, the computer app that shows sea-level rise up to three feet and beyond. For us in Maui County, we have the special management area. And so those, a lot of those boundaries follow the road and then down to the coast. Do you think those boundaries should also, you know, be adjusted with sea-level rise?

MR. SHAPIRO: Yeah, I think...so looking at that sea-level rise viewer, the 3.2 level sea-rise. That's a start of where things we should be looking at, you know, looking around. If this were possible to create this kind of a buffer zone, to look at that as the starting point. SMA goes much further back than--

VICE-CHAIR SINENCI: Right.

MR. SHAPIRO: --this 3.2. But we need to remember too that, you know, sea-level rise, as much as people say it's going to be at 3.2 level, 3.2 feet or whatever's happening, it's a giant world-size amount of water that won't just stop rising at, you know, at 2050, or 2100. It's going to continue because of momentum. So, it's not something that it just ends at 3.2 feet if that's the prediction, you know. And so, that's very important. So, the SMA zone may have to be part of that at some point, yeah. It's just kind of a moving target right now. But, you know, looking at all those, you know, factors and deciding and creating a list and kind of delineating is this piece of land important? Is this threatened in any way? And looking at those parameters and seeing if it is or it's not and taking action on it.

VICE-CHAIR SINENCI: Right.

MR. SHAPIRO: Yeah.

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

CHAIR KING: Okay, thank you, Mr. Sinenci.

MR. SHAPIRO: Thank you.

CHAIR KING: Thank you, Mr. Shapiro.

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COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Chair?

CHAIR KING: I'm sure that we'll be tapping your --

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Chair?

CHAIR KING: --expertise. Oh, I'm sorry. Pro Tem Kama has a question.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Sorry. Sorry, Mr. Shapiro.

MR. SHAPIRO: That's okay.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: I know it's hard for you to look from there all the way...it's like you actually going to East Maui --

MR. SHAPIRO: I can't see you.

CHAIR KING: I'm going to do this.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: --from Kahului. But, so my question is, you know, you mentioned putting together this group of maybe a working group or whatever you want to call it. And then I noticed you mentioned Mark's name. Were you considering sitting on that too? I mean...

MR. SHAPIRO: Absolutely.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Okay.

MR. SHAPIRO: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Okay.

MR. SHAPIRO: Mark's a friend of mine so I just kind of --

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Oh you can just --

MR. SHAPIRO: --put him on the spot.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: --go ahead and tell him.

MR. SHAPIRO: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Okay. Okay. So, Chair just said that we probably won't be able to get into something like this until probably after Budget. But in the meantime, do you consider, or would you consider having small meetings with groups of friends and you know how people do around the kitchen table and then you just talk about stuff and get ready and prep for things like that?

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MR. SHAPIRO: Yeah, I'm not going to be that involved during budget process so, you know, I could do that with some people who might not be so, you know, important to the budget process. For sure.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Okay, okay.

MR. SHAPIRO: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Good. Thank you.

MR. SHAPIRO: Let me know.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Yeah. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR KING: Okay, thank you. And then, and we do have that volunteer group that's continuing to meet, so we'll get him involved in that too. Okay, let's see. We're back to...thank you, Mr. Shapiro. Next testifier, Ms. Apo Takayama.

MS. APO TAKAYAMA: Thank you, Chair. The next testifier is Rita Ryan, testifying on behalf of the Climate Reality Project Hawaii and 350Hawaii.org.

MS. RYAN: Good morning and thank you for having me. Thank you, Chair King, for chairing this wonderful Committee, Climate Action and Resilience. And thank you for all of the Members who showed up to the party this morning. I'd like to see more, but I want to thank the ones that are here and are present and are taking our climate emergency seriously. So, I have a few points I wanted to go through this morning. One of them is, you know, we've got the Coronavirus on us. This is a pandemic, it's not climate-related, but we can expect climate-related pandemics to be hitting us. So, with the Coronavirus, we find that we're very ill prepared, even though we've known since December that it's coming. Our hospitals are at 99 percent capacity. They can take on 1 percent more before they break in their capacity, and that's a real problem for our community because just this virus alone is going to stress our systems and we're going to have to learn how to expand our healthcare in the face of the Coronavirus. We're also going to learn how...we're going to have to learn from those lessons, the pandemics that are going to be coming with flood and storm events that we know are happening. So, I just want to make that point, but I also wanted to look at all of the other threats that are coming along with the climate crisis: disruption in food supply, floods, storm events, sea-level rise certainly is getting quite a lot of attention. We're going to have to be proactive, moving infrastructure off of the beach and roads. We have a lot of infrastructure, our electrical generation facilities are all in storm inundation zone. That's a problem. We're going to have to find ways to generate our own electricity in the face of severe storms. There's a lot of things we can do. We can plant trees. We have a big project going on to re-tree Hawaii, that's wonderful. That is going to take a lot of carbon out of the atmosphere, but it's not going to give us the immediate hit that we need. There's a lot of other things we need to do of course, you know, reducing fossil fuels, helping people effect their own personal behavior and the choices they make in their carbon footprint. But what really concerns me the most and what I lose sleep about the most is food security here on

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Maui. So, I really see this as one of the loudest threats, because it's going to hit each and every one of us. If our harbor is inundated in a storm event, we're going to have problems getting food in and we don't, we simply don't have enough food to survive. We actually don't know how long, the last study I think was done 20 years ago that said that we have 85 to 90 percent of our food coming in off island. We really don't have a good number on that right now, but we know that it's not enough. And if it's two weeks or if it's four weeks, everybody on this island is going to go hungry. We need to secure our food sources. We need to grow more food here on Maui. And I know Budget Session is coming up so I want the Councilmembers to be really aware of the acute threat that this is to our food security. Oh, I've got --

CHAIR KING: Ms. Ryan --

MS. RYAN: --13 seconds.

CHAIR KING: --can you, yeah. Can you...

MS. RYAN: Yeah.

CHAIR KING: The red lights beeping so if you can wrap up?

MS. RYAN: Beep. Okay, so wrapping up, I'm urging everybody, we're trying to get the Governor Ige to declare a state of climate emergency just like we did here in Maui County. It's as much of an emergency across the State as it is here in Maui County. And I also urge your support for many of the House and Senate bills that are going on in the State Legislature related to climate change. Thanks.

CHAIR KING: Okay, thank you. And we actually have a list that we're going to, of the climate bills that are still alive that we'll be handing out to all the --

MS. RYAN: Great.

CHAIR KING: --Committee Members as well. Mr. Sinenci?

VICE-CHAIR SINENCI: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Ms. Ryan, for being here. I know we were supposed to be coming back from the trip in the states for the Climate Reality Training --

MS. RYAN: . . . *(inaudible)* . . . right.

VICE-CHAIR SINENCI: --but I'm glad that they postponed it. And I just wanted to make a comment. It's interesting that you include the Coronavirus pandemic because it seems like because of the virus, we need to make some changes quite quickly. And we're seeing it, you know, just decisions made right on the spot to change the way we're...our lifestyle and just, you know, our everyday routine.

MS. RYAN: Right.

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VICE-CHAIR SINENCI: So, it's interesting because, you know, and for our survival and climate action is exactly that. I mean, it's for our survival. So, I mean, although it's taken a little bit longer to get everybody to get on board, I think it's something that, you know, like the virus, we should be making some quick and stark changes. So, I appreciate that comment.

MS. RYAN: Yeah, thank you.

CHAIR KING: Okay, thank you, Ms. Ryan.

MS. RYAN: Thanks.

CHAIR KING: Appreciate that. Yeah, we are going to be tracking the legislation. Members, I need to take a quick break because we've got, I've got someone who needs to give me an important message in the back. So, we're going to take a break at the call of the Chair. Just, nobody go anywhere, okay? We're in recess, 9:28. . . .(gavel). . .

RECESS: 9:28 a.m.

RECONVENE: 9:35 a.m.

CHAIR KING: . . .(gavel). . . Okay, back in session, 9:35 and just, we're just kind of going over some protocols for our Council. Looks like we'll be cancelling the district budget meetings, so that was one of the things that she was going to be letting everybody know. That was one of the things that I thought I could tell everybody right now. So, anyway, let's continue with testimony. Ms. Apo Takayama?

MS. APO TAKAYAMA: Thank you, Chair. The next testifier is Sean Lester, testifying on both CAR-1 and CAR-10.

MR. LESTER: Okay. Mahalo, Council Chair, I mean, excuse me, Committee Chair. Still Council Chair in my mind. I just wanted to say right now, this is fortunately we're in Maui, which is a wonderful thing. The ohana here comes together, we put all our politics aside, and we work together as a hui. And that's exactly what we need to do right now. As far as operational budgetary review of Maui County Emergency Management Agency, these guys need to get money because this is just the first of what's coming.

CHAIR KING: Sorry. That's not an emergency, that's just someone that didn't use their card when they went through the door.

MR. LESTER: Okay. I'll hold my testimony until it's pau. Oh. Good morning, you came in with a real...okay. So, the bottom line is is that they definitely do need more money. They need to look at more staff. This is just the beginning of what's going to happen. We're fortunate, we're unfortunate that this is occurring, but we're fortunate that this is not Ebola or one of the major viruses from that side. It's, from my understanding, the Chancellor of Germany just came out and said that up to 80 percent of her population of her entire country is going to catch it. We have extraordinary things that have happened. It will come. This is coming. So, we do have to make our own challenges into effect as far as home. The thing I'm going

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to ask, even though this is the Committee, I'm going to be ask for this to be brought back to the Chair please, is you need a continuance of government bill to come through immediately so that you can ensure that your government, that we have continuance of government. Even if it means to have an emergency meeting of the Council as soon as possible to get this to the Mayor's desk. This needs to happen immediately. So please, I am really asking you, get ahold of the Council Chair and get this done. Even if it means meeting on the weekend. I know you have a three day that you have to, three days you have to post. We're in an emergency status here, so whatever you need to do, please do. I...years ago I had a chance, I had the privilege when I was first introduced to Sam Kaai, and Sam's known to all of us pretty well. He actually married my former wife and I, so he's part of our family too. And Sam looked at me and he says, "hey haole boy, you know how much food there is on the island?" I said, "no." He said, "three days." Three days. So, when we're looking at that kind of stock and we've got 40,000 tourists with a piece of...a credit card, a car, and an attitude, we've got some real challenges here that are far beyond the standard way of doing things. We've got two weeks' worth of fuel for our cars maximum. And I know for a fact we have a maximum of 90 days for our generation systems. If this was an honest pandemic to a point where we were looking at Ebola or SARS, we may end up with our fuels being cut off on the way in. So if this occurs, we have to look at a whole other level strategically as far as what we're working with. What just happened as far as the, as what happened in China, there's a massive...it is indeed due to climate. Part of what's happening is that as the population increases and there's more invasion into areas that have been pristine that have their own biomes, which have bugs that work fine there, but are not in the general population. As we pop into those, we will have more and more of these things happen. So, that's the way Ebola occurred. So, we really have to take a look at the fact that even though we're in insular as far as being an island, we're not insular from what's happening in the world, especially as a tourist area. So, we need to take a look at some major...a major relook at our funding and the way we're working. Climate change is changing our world. We see it in the short-term here, we're going to see it in the long-term as it goes on. We will lose generation, we will lose roads, our valuation of properties will decrease, as areas simply become inundated over the next 25 to 30 years. So, I see four Councilmembers here. I need to see eight. This is a place that the Councilmembers need to show up. Not sit in their offices or whatever, which has been going on the entire time that this Committee's here. And that is an outrage and disgrace. I'm calling for --

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Chair?

MR. LESTER: --Alice Lee to come in and please sit. And the rest of the Councilmembers to come in here and please sit. Right now, we have an --

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: I don't think we need to be hearing this, Chair.

MR. LESTER: --emergency that's based on that. I have six.

CHAIR KING: Yeah.

MR. LESTER: Six minutes. So, I'm asking the Council Chair and the other Members to please ensure and asking the people that are missing to please show up. We need this. I'm not

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being strident just to be strident, I'm being strident because we need to have purpose and move on.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: I get that, but I don't think --

CHAIR KING: Okay, wait.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: --we're the people you want to say it to.

CHAIR KING: You're...yeah.

MR. LESTER: I'm sorry --

CHAIR KING: You're out of order.

MR. LESTER: --Chair. So, that's basically what I have to say about that and as far as the government agencies, the same thing. We really need to support the . . . *(inaudible)*. . . way through.

CHAIR KING: Okay.

MR. LESTER: That's all I have to say. Thank you very much.

CHAIR KING: All right, thank you. And just to let you know and folks out there that our Chair is in meetings right now about the pandemic. So, you know --

MR. LESTER: Okay.

CHAIR KING: --I just was in the back talking to her. So, she's very aware of what's going on, but she'll be out here --

MR. LESTER: Great.

CHAIR KING: --shortly. So...

MR. LESTER: Okay, I appreciate that.

CHAIR KING: Yeah.

MR. LESTER: It's just I've noticed over the period of time, though I'm just talking as a citizen, that other people need to show up at this. It's too important. It's more important than Budget or other things. Because this is going to affect everything.

CHAIR KING: I agree with you.

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MR. LESTER: So, sorry about that but it's at a point...I've got a 12-year-old, I'm dealing with stuff at home as everyone is, and it's time to stand up and speak for those who are not here and not being spoken. That's what I'm doing.

CHAIR KING: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Chair?

CHAIR KING: Thank you very much.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: I want to be able to stand up to and speak on --

CHAIR KING: Ms. Kama?

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: --behalf of people who are not here too if I may.

CHAIR KING: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: You don't know what's going on in people's personal lives, so for you to stand there and just speak like that --

CHAIR KING: Ms. Kama, we're not...

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: --it's not right.

CHAIR KING: I just want to call point of order because we're not here to debate. If you have a question. But, you know, we went through this training and testifiers that have concerns are here to give their concerns.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: I hear that.

CHAIR KING: If you have a question, but I don't want --

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: I do not have a question, Chair.

CHAIR KING: --entertain a debate.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you.

CHAIR KING: Okay. Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Lester.

MR. LESTER: Thank you all. And I appreciate your work.

CHAIR KING: Ms. Apo Takayama?

MS. APO TAKAYAMA: Thank you, Chair. The next testifier is Darla Palmer-Ellingson, testifying on behalf as a Member of the CAR Citizens Advisory Group.

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MS. PALMER-ELLINGSON: I am Darla Palmer-Ellingson. I have a business, 360 Social Business, and I am actually testifying on behalf of myself, not officially for the committee, but I am on the CAR Citizens Group as well. I do dedicate all of my volunteer time to the climate crisis. I have an Island Environment 360 radio program because this is our urgent need right now. I didn't plan on testifying today, I'm in between client meetings and the reason why I wanted to come up and say a few words is also relating what's going on right now with the Covid-19 pandemic and what could happen with a climate crisis. We've had a lot of time and warning, you know, decades of what's happening in the climate. And, you know, we've declared it a climate crisis, but still there's not a lot of urgent action, and I wanted to share with you some of what's going on in my business with my clients. I'm going from emergency meeting to emergency meeting right now because there's massive cancellations. People are cancelling their accommodations and everything else that they've got booked on Maui right now. And any type of climate crisis whether it be, you know, weather or another pandemic that's related to climate could happen at any time and my partner on the committee spoke very well about some of the, you know, the things that could happen, you know. Food shortage is definitely, you know, top of the list. But the economic fallout is going to be immediate. And I just really wanted to pass that along, you know, that there's a lot of businesses in crisis right now and we're going to be facing the same thing with a climate crisis. We talk in our committee that it's going to take, you know, just one thing, you know, a massive flood or West Maui being cut off, or Kihei having a string of over 100 degree days, for people to wake up and really start taking action. So, I appreciate this Committee, and the people that are here, and the work that you're doing. But there's got to be some urgency behind it, and that's all I wanted to share with you.

CHAIR KING: Thank you, Ms. Palmer. Any questions? Ms. Paltin has a question for you, followed by Mr. Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. You're...you weren't saying Strategies 360, your company is something different?

MS. PALMER-ELLINGSON: I have a business that's 360 Social Business, LLC. I do marketing and business consulting.

CHAIR KING: That's not the same as the...

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Strategies 360.

CHAIR KING: You're talking about the consultant company on Oahu. Hers is a marketing company that's local on Maui and she has a radio show called 360, or, Island Environment 360.

MS. PALMER-ELLINGSON: Right.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And, but your company promotes tourism? Is that what you're saying?

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MS. PALMER-ELLINGSON: No, I have clients in accommodations and tourism, real estate, all different sectors of business here and on the mainland.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And I just was trying to clarify, you're seeing the climate crisis because of all of the carbon emissions, and your business involves people flying here, and investing in property. Is that...

MS. PALMER-ELLINGSON: Well, I think we can all agree that we're in a climate crisis, and there are going to be events related to the climate that are going to create an emergency. And when that happens, people will stop coming to the islands. Visitors will stop coming. And I'm comparing that to what we're going through right now with the pandemic because people are stopping coming. I mean, even the latest HVCB statistics, the numbers are going down. We have no international visitors, the mainland visitors are going down, and we're not even at the peak of this crisis. So, the same thing is going to happen with a climate crisis event. So, you know, economically we're going to be facing collapse and that's another thing that, you know, we're going to look to your wisdom, you know, as government leaders to help address. You know, beyond food and fuel and everything we need to conduct our everyday lives, businesses are not going to be able to function. So, it's, you know, it's very serious.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you. I just, you know, Hawaii thrived for many hundreds of years without outside, so maybe in looking to the future, we just need to look to the past.

MS. PALMER-ELLINGSON: I agree, but I think you're going to see things that you've never seen before. So, it's going to be on a much larger scale that we haven't dealt with before. And we are resilient and we can survive. But, you know, putting those plans in place now are urgent.

CHAIR KING: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you.

CHAIR KING: Thank you. Committee Vice-Chair Sinenci, you have a question?

VICE-CHAIR SINENCI: Thank you, Chair. Maybe my question is for Director Andaya, Ms. Ellington [sic] mentioned that she has a radio show and I guess...

CHAIR KING: Yeah, we're going to get to him next, so he's here for the second item.

VICE-CHAIR SINENCI: Oh, I was just --

CHAIR KING: Oh.

VICE-CHAIR SINENCI: --thinking, you know, kind of putting two and two together...

CHAIR KING: Right. This period right now is just to have questions to clarify testimony, but we can get to...we can certainly --

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VICE-CHAIR SINENCI: Okay.

CHAIR KING: --address your question later. So...

MS. PALMER-ELLINGSON: I would be happy...it's a public affairs show. I do it on a voluntary basis and anything environmental related, it's a great vehicle to get messages out to the community.

VICE-CHAIR SINENCI: Okay, great.

MS. PALMER-ELLINGSON: It's on four commercial radio stations. So, please, you know --

VICE-CHAIR SINENCI: Right.

MS. PALMER-ELLINGSON: --feel free to use that as a vehicle to get community messages out.

VICE-CHAIR SINENCI: Awesome. Okay. Thank you. Thank you for that.

MS. PALMER-ELLINGSON: Thank you.

CHAIR KING: Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Sinenci. Ms. Apo Takayama?

MS. APO TAKAYAMA: Thank you, Chair. There is no further testimony in the Council Chamber or at our District Offices.

CHAIR KING: Okay, anybody here...oh, we have one more testifier coming down.

MR. LAW: Thank you for the Councilmembers that are here today. So, I just wanted to ask for something simple. I just need some help with some recycling in my neighborhood. Thank you. And thank you for cleaning the mauna there, Kelly, I can see it a lot clearer now.

CHAIR KING: You're welcome. Okay, if there's no other testifiers in the Chambers, is there any objection to closing testimony?

COUNCILMEMBERS: No objections.

. . .END OF PUBLIC TESTIMONY. . .

CHAIR KING: Okay, testimony is now closed. Members, I...do we have any written testimony, Ms. Apo Takayama? Okay, we don't have any written testimony to read into the record.

CAR-1(2): CLIMATE ACTION POLICIES BY GOVERNMENT AGENCIES (RULE 7B)

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CHAIR KING: Okay, so, we're going to move onto our Climate Action Policies by Government Agencies, which is CAR-1(2). Ms. Paltin?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I just was wondering if we could switch the order back because Mr. Andaya probably has, like, choke stuff.

CHAIR KING: Well, we...Mr. Andaya, are you okay with us going ahead? We have set up our panel already?

MR. ANDAYA: . . . *(inaudible)* . . .

CHAIR KING: Are you okay to wait? Okay. Okay, thanks. And we have the presentations loaded. Originally we were going to have four presenters but we have three. So, we have Mr. Jeff Stark, Mr. Mark White, and Mr. Barry Solomon from the Climate, the Citizens' Climate Lobby. Okay, and then they're going to be presenting on some legislation that we're not going to take action on supporting today, but this will come up tomorrow in the full Council meeting and then we can hopefully take action with this background behind us. So, the resolutions are being handed out by Staff and they're posted on tomorrow's Council agenda. So, the first proposed resolution is Urging the 30th Legislature of the State of Hawaii to Support Senate Bill 3150 (2020) to Address Carbon Emissions. The second proposed resolution is Urging the 116th United States Congress to support HR-763 (2020), the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act. Members, I wanted to take this opportunity to discuss the resolutions and the intent. And so, this panel is, has been working on this legislation probably for over a year, and they're made up of members from the Local Maui Chapter of the Citizens' Climate Lobby. In addition, Jeff Stark has served as a board member, committee chair, member of the executive committee of the Maui Economic Development Board, and has been instrumental in creating and managing a variety of environmental groups including the Maui Recycling Group, Maui Open Space Trust, Hawaii Environmental Education Association, and Hawaii Ecotourism Association. Barry Solomon is a professor emeritus of geography and environment policy at Michigan Technological University. He's also the founder and past president of the U.S. Society for Ecological Economics, and has consulted for the American Association for the Advancement of Science. Also, the United States Department of Energy, United Nations Environment Program, Isle Royale National Park, the National Geographic Society, and the United States Academic Decathlon. Mark White has nearly 40 years of experience working as a manager, writer, and consultant in conservation science, including 28 years of experience as The Nature Conservancy's Maui Nui Forest Conservation program director, and as the director of partnership programs for the Hawaii Association of Watershed Partnerships. So, in each of their capacities, the panel members we have before us today have specialized knowledge and expertise within their organization's topic matter. If there are no objections, your Chair would like to designate the panel members as resource persons in accordance with Rule 18(A) of the Rules of the Council.

COUNCILMEMBERS: No objections.

CHAIR KING: Okay. All right, thank you. Okay, panelists, I guess we'll go ahead and start with Mr. Stark and...

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MR. STARK: . . . *(inaudible)* . . .

CHAIR KING: Okay.

. . .BEGIN PRESENTATION. . .

MR. STARK [*PowerPoint Presentation*]: Good morning, my name is Jeff Stark. I'm a writer by trade and have spent the better part of the past 30 years looking for a microphone. I've spent those 30 years writing about and advocating for progressive environmental actions initiated by government and non-profit community groups. I'm here today with two of my colleagues as a member of an ad hoc steering committee for the Maui Chapter of a national organization known as the Citizens' Climate Lobby. We have over 170,000 volunteer members, and chapters in all 50 states. Our Maui Chapter has somewhere around 300 members. We regularly stage lobbying days in Washington D.C., and are actively supporting, excuse me, a carbon pricing bill in the U.S. House of Representatives. The bill is entitled Energy Innovation and Carbon Refund, excuse me, Dividend Act. It is identified as HR-763, and is co-sponsored by over 80 members of the House. It is...we are also here to support a bill in the Hawaii State Senate, which is also a carbon pricing bill. It is known as HR [*sic*] 3150. In brief, both of these pieces of landmark legislation are designed to discourage use of carbon-based fuels in most large industries. These bills accomplish this by charging purchasers a fee on these fuels in addition to the sale price. This serves to discourage continued use and/or increases in this practice, which is directly responsible for a major portion of the global warming, which is now recognized as an existential threat to humans. The theory is simple, if we change...if we charge large users or carbon fuels more, they'll use them less. This will encourage the innovations and changes, which will enable us to replace these fuels with energy produced by renewables and thus reduce the damage caused by these pollutants. The carbon dividend portion of these bill, of the HR-763, refers to strategy which helps to make up for the inevitable increase in consumer costs, which will be caused by the fee. In the case of HR-763, the funds generated by the fee will go to a trust fund. These funds will then be distributed to every American citizen with a social security number. In the case of SB3150 in the Senate, the payments to citizens will be accomplished by a series of state tax credits. Passage of these two bills will help accelerate the movement towards replacement of energy created by burning carbon-based fuels to renewable energy resources. It will help shelter American citizens from the shock and economic effects of higher prices while allowing consumers to feel that they are participating in a positive and productive and important movement. Finally, we want to point out the scale of the benefits which will be generated by passage of these two bills. In the case of HR-763, several academic studies including the latest by Columbia University for Global Energy Policy, report extensive benefits. This study and many others reveal that if enacted, this bill will over the next 10 to 12 years reduce America's production of greenhouse gasses by 40 percent. That's 40 percent reduction in 10 to 12 years. That's a big chunk. It takes a very large chunk out of our most significant environmental threat. By the same token, 3150 will also most likely produce a similar reduction. There is much more to discover about this duo of positive and progressive legislation. In order to dig a little deeper, we have two members of the Citizens' Climate Lobby Maui Chapter with us today. Their environmental and academic scientific credentials are outstanding. They're

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here to provide background and detail to our discussions and to answer your questions. Couple quick notes before I finish, you all have a copy of this, we call it an infographic, which is a very handy way to get, learn a lot and get the basic facts about the HR-763. Second, I think it would be wise if we hold all questions until we're all three finished. Undoubtedly some of your questions will be answered by the next presenters.

CHAIR KING: Okay --

MR. STARK: I'd like to...

CHAIR KING: --thank you, yeah, that's what I was planning to have everyone present first and then I'll take questions --

MR. STARK: Okay. Thank you.

CHAIR KING: --after the panel's done.

MR. STARK: I'll now turn this over to my friend and colleague, Mark White.

CHAIR KING: Okay, Mr. White?

MR. STARK: Oh, please.

MR. WHITE: [*PowerPoint Presentation*] Yeah, I won't spend 30 years. Faster. Aloha kakou. It's a pleasure to be here. I thank the Councilmembers for coming today. And I thank the Climate Action and Resilience Committee. I'm super excited about the County, yeah. Super excited about the County developing this Committee and Kelly for chairing the Committee. I just can't say enough about the need to get our act together and move as quickly as possible on climate change. A few years ago, I left my job with The Nature Conservancy and I was looking to do more work in the area of climate change, and I ran across this group called Citizens' Climate Lobby. In The Nature Conservancy, we were taught to look for really high-leverage policies. In other words, policies and actions people could take that would actually move the needle on positive change toward solving a problem as quickly as possible. And I was frustrated that not enough was being done and I actually joined quite a few groups, 350.org [*sic*], many other groups addressing climate change. But I see anything that I really thought could move the needle quick enough that would sort of unify both sides of the bay, those people who believe climate change is a hoax, and those people who wanted to move a lot faster. And I saw what Citizens' Climate Lobby was doing as a very good sort of middle of the road step that if enacted, could really result in a lot of positive change. I also like the organization's background and roots and sort of their focus and they really try hard to be non-partisan. They're primarily all volunteers. There are very few paid staff in the organization and I see that in Hawaii we have no paid staff. We have almost 1,000 members and all of us are just doing this because we feel like it's really important and we need to make progress on climate change. And I really appreciated the values of respect, appreciation, and gratitude that the organization tries to employ in its tactics and its efforts to move the climate change needles. We spend as much time meeting with republicans as we do with democrats even though we haven't had the progress on the

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republican side of the issue that we want. I won't go into the reasons for taking immediate action on climate change. You all know them well, especially this Committee. But there's a lot of evidence, it's overwhelming evidence and the scientific community agrees that we need to take immediate aggressive action. I walk on Baldwin Beach two or three times a week. This is our restroom facility there getting ready to be washed away, and those are 60 to 80 year old ironwood stumps. If you walk on the beach, you don't need to go far on Maui to see the immediate impacts of climate change. So, about the beginning of last year in 2019, Ted Deutch, a democrat from Florida, and Francis Rooney, introduced the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act. After 10 years of effort by Citizens' Climate Lobby to get a carbon fee and dividend bill introduced into Congress, it finally happened in, actually, 2018 was rewritten and reintroduced in 2019. We now have over 80 cosponsors. We'd like to claim we're bipartisan, but in reality there's 79 democrats and 1 republican on this bill. It hasn't dampened our efforts to try to meet with republicans. Twice a year we go to Congress and about 1,000 volunteers descend and meet with almost every member in the House and Senate to urge urgent action on climate change. So, the bill as advertised has many, many benefits. Of course, the devil's always in the details but according to the studies that have been done, not just by Citizens' Climate Lobby but by a lot of different groups, advocate for putting a price on fossil fuels. And once that's accomplished in the economy, over time, carbon emissions are reduced pretty dramatically. The IPCC report recommends putting a price on carbon. Many European nations have put a price on carbon: Sweden, Norway, Finland, the UK, France, all have prices. The ones with the highest price on carbon have seen the most dramatic reductions in carbon emissions. The UK has reduced reliance on coal by nearly 90 percent over the last 15 years, mostly as a result of them putting a price on carbon, which is not even that high. So, economically, it appears to work. You make polluting the atmosphere more expensive and then overall greater efficiencies are achieved in the economy and innovation is promoted, accelerated, so that renewable energy can begin to fill the gap for fossil fuels. If we look at a chart of, you know, what we hope to achieve through the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act, you see that we're in line with the IPCC report and the Paris Agreement. We're looking in 12 years, reducing emissions by 40 percent, and then by 2050, 90 percent. We'd like to get 100. This is not the silver bullet that, you know, solves every climate problem. This is probably one of the more effective tools that can be employed. When employed with other tools, can achieve our emissions targets. But we certainly see this as a very, very important piece of the overall puzzle and it lines up with the Paris Agreement goals, and the IPCC report, and what we're trying to achieve by 2050. So, this puts us somewhere between 1.5 degrees C, and 2 degrees C by the IPCC report. So how it works, we put a price on fossil fuels and at the source. So, at the well, at the coal mine, at the port, if it's coming in from another country. And the way this bill is structured, it starts at \$15 a ton for CO2 emissions, and it's increased \$10 a ton, until we reach our 90 percent reduction target over time. So, the reason it doesn't start higher, which some scientists have recommended might be more effective, it's really to allow the economy time to adjust to the increasing price. You don't want to put a big price signal out on the market that instantly kind of shocks organizations and individuals into paying more for everything. You need to kind of gradually increase it. But even with that, within 4 or 5 years, we're at \$45 to \$50 a ton, which is where the pricing needs to be to actually make a difference to reduce carbon emissions. What makes this bill very different? There are, currently there are nine bills in Congress that are trying to price carbon. A couple of them were coming out of the Senate

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and the rest are coming out of the House. Three years ago there were virtually no carbon bills of this nature. So, you're going to be hearing a lot more about this. You're going to be hearing about it in Hawaii. So, part of the reason for being here today is to get us all kind of used to talking about it, understanding it, and being able to make intelligent comments about how we could possibly improve policies that are going to be heading in this direction in the future. So, what's different about our bill? We return 100 percent of the revenue back to households. What this does, you might go, well, how does that do any good? Well, everybody's going to try to be more efficient as prices increase because transportation, energy, all your costs are going to go up. But also, by returning 100 percent of the revenue back to households, it's not a shock to individual households. And the way the bill's structured now, in probably 60 to 70 percent of the cases, the revenue that households received from the bill exceed the cost of living increases that are going to result in transportation, your electric bill, all, every aspect of the economy that depends on fossil fuel energy now for production. So, all that money comes back. It stays in the economy. The economy continues to operate fully functionally. Also, people like the idea of getting a check in the mail. It's probably...it keeps people from reacting in a negative way. You probably heard some of the results that were achieved in France, for example, who imposed their carbon tax, where that money was used for other reasons. And people struggling to make ends meet really resisted that. The third piece of this legislation is the border adjustment. So, countries that do not impose a fossil fuel tax are charged a levy once they import their product into the United States, thereby equalizing the playing field so that they can't undercut American producers. And then the final piece that I'll talk more about this, but there's a limited regulatory adjustment which puts a moratorium on any new laws and rules that would regulate CO2 emissions or fossil fuels emissions. But there's a mechanism that allows us to return to see how we're doing, and if we're not meeting our reduction goals then that limited regulatory authority would be removed. So, the benefits: it's effective, it's good for people, it's good for the economy, it's bipartisan, hopefully someday, and it's revenue neutral. And it reduces carbon emissions by 40 percent, that's the most important piece of this thing. It needs to work. So, based on about a \$45 a ton fee on carbon emissions, a household would get a dividend of about \$4,000. And the reason it's a little bit higher is every adult gets a full rebate because this money's divided equally by all the number of social security numbers in the country, but children would receive a rebate of half of an adult. So a family of four, we estimate would get about \$4,400 a year once the carbon fee is fully implemented in the system. It's going to improve our health because the air quality is substantially improved and so more people die as a result of poor air quality and pollutants in the atmosphere. And these are some estimates about the future lives that would be saved. Jobs are created not only in the renewable energy sector, but also health sectors and other sectors that support that aspect, those aspects of the economy. And then all the new innovation that would be spurred by unleashing a lot of tremendous technical power and creativity in the renewable energy sector. The beauty of this is it's revenue neutral. It does not increase the size of government. Part of the selling point of this is to appeal to people who do not want to see the size of government grow. So, that's, you could argue is a compromise, but some people would see it as a very good thing. Depends on where your position lies on that sort of part of the argument. Once again, I think the irony here is although we only have one republican cosponsor on the bill, republicans in the early 2000s strongly advocated for a carbon fee because they saw this as the most market-friendly approach to pricing carbon. However, when it came down to

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actually implementing laws that put a price on carbon, they came up short. And part of that obviously, you know, we have strong interest in trying to protect the fossil fuel industry, so probably their reluctance to move forward. But you have people like George Shultz who worked for Reagan advocating for a price on carbon. You had many republicans in Treasury advocating for putting a price on carbon. So, getting to questions and the status of the bill. Right now, the bill has been, is waiting to be heard in several committees in the U.S. Congress. It's not moving very quickly because the Senate currently is not advancing many bills that are interested in putting a price on carbon. However, you know, we're continuing to lobby aggressively. We're continuing to meet with republicans. Republicans have shown an interest in implementing more climate legislation. So, things are warming up, the writing's on the wall. Things are going to have to be done. We're teeing things up so that in the event there's a change of heart in Congress that this legislation can move through quickly.

CHAIR KING: Okay.

MR. WHITE: So...

CHAIR KING: Mr. White, can you wrap it up so we can go on to the next presentation?

MR. WHITE: Yeah, sure. Thank you. Jeff already talked about that. I talked about the regulatory adjustment. That's one thing that I think aggressive climate advocates have resisted, but there is a mechanism for going back and reviewing that. So, that's it.

CHAIR KING: Okay --

MR. WHITE: Mahalo.

CHAIR KING: --thank you so much. And then, Mr. Solomon, are you going to help us review the Senate bill that's currently in the State?

MR. SOLOMON: In the State Legislature --

CHAIR KING: Right --

MR. SOLOMON: --yes.

CHAIR KING: --okay. Thank you.

MR. SOLOMON [*PowerPoint Presentation*]: Okay, aloha, pleased to be here and to present on what's going on in the State Legislature. I first wanted though to mention a couple other things about my background. While I was a professor for over 20 years in Michigan Technological University in environmental and energy policy, before that I worked for 6½ years at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency on climate change as well as acid rain control. And in 1989 to '91, I helped to staff the initial operations of the intergovernmental panel on climate change, which was initially working out of the EPA in Washington before it moved over to Europe. So, some background as Mark and Jeff have

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already indicated, climate scientists widely agree that some sort of pricing of carbon emissions is essential to effectively reduce greenhouse gas emissions. And there are some different ways to do this, to accomplish this. One list indicates roughly 40 countries including Canada and about 20 municipalities have carbon taxes, but that number's a little misleading because there's different ways to price carbon. Some of these programs are indirect through the so-called cap and trade programs such as what we had in the U.S. for sulfur dioxide emissions control for acid rain, which I worked on and helped design at EPA. But in any event, we don't have national carbon pricing in the U.S., and the proposed bill in Hawaii, if passed, this would be the first state carbon tax in the United States. Basically, this would operate as something of a user fee on the emissions of fossil fuels when they're combusted, so this is oil, natural gas, and coal, as an effort to discourage emissions of carbon dioxide. Ideally, the fee or tax should be set based on the carbon content of the fuels. So if that's done, coal would be the highest, natural gas would be the lowest, and oil and oil products would be somewhat in between. The fee would be collected by some designated government agency. Again, there's different ways to do this depending on specific proposals. And it can be refunded to consumers or households, but that's not incorporated in all the proposals that are out there. So, in the State of Hawaii in the Legislature right now, we have Senate Bill 3150, which if passed, it would amend the environmental response, energy and food security tax, to specifically address carbon emissions. The tax rate is not yet set in this bill, various proposals have been made, it would initially kick in in 2021, and ramp up every three years through 2030. The plan is if this passes the House, or hopefully when this passes the House in Honolulu, that the fees would be determined then by joint decision. So, this particular bill has passed in the Senate. It was a 23 to 2 vote a week ago on March 3rd. There were some similar bills in 2019 which it died, so not to be confused as there's often a lot of different proposals floating around. Now, the Senate bill's been sent over to the House. It passed the first reading on March 5th, and it's been referred to two House committees. It would go first to the House Energy and Environmental Protection Committee, and then over to the Finance Committee. But as of this morning, hearings have not been set yet. Now, if this bill passes and becomes law in the State of Hawaii, how it would work is fairly straightforward. Oil fired power production would become more expensive on Maui, and there's a...coal used to be used here with the mill, but now it's only used on Oahu. MECO or now Hawaii Electric Company, as they're changing their name is, of course, moving towards 100 percent renewable portfolio standard and they should be using more solar, PV, and wind anyway, which are lower marginal cost power sources. The other sectors affected by this, there would only be small effects on heating, fuel, or fuel used for cooking from oil and oil products, and a very limited quantity of natural gas is used in Hawaii, primarily by hotels and restaurants and some homes. Gasoline and diesel fuel prices, of course, would rise for vehicles. I think biofuel prices would rise last because they have some input of oil in production, but it's a small amount. So, why support this bill then? While we have the 100 percent RPS moving along and as some of you may know, there's another meeting on this tonight at 5 o'clock over at the Hawaii Electric's office in Kahului that some of you may want to attend. The existing renewable portfolio standard doesn't give any incentive for early retirement of the oil and coal fired power plants in the State, so this would help. And it would also provide incentive for a faster shift to electric vehicles, which are too expensive for most people right now, but as more production happens and more people buy the vehicles, prices are coming down. Carbon tax is usually seen by economists as the most effective way to create

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sufficiency and lower greenhouse gas emissions. However, it's not the only possible way. There are alternatives as I indicated earlier, and the main alternative is some sort of cap and trade program. And this is the approach that's been taken in California and nine north-eastern states so far, and others are considering this. The phase-in provisions of the State bill, similar to the Federal bill, would soften any negative economic or financial impacts, and there are tax refund provisions in this bill that would ensure that it doesn't adversely affect lower income groups. The refunds would be made to people based on household income level and so this would not be across the board, so it's a little different from the Federal bill in that regard. But focusing on lower income households would ensure that the effects of this bill would not be regressive. If Hawaii passes this, it would show leadership to other states as well. A similar bill was defeated in Washington State in 2016 and 2018, and carbon pricing is currently under consideration in Oregon as well. There's a need for testimony on this and the way to do this if the Council or anyone else is interested, is to monitor this legislation in the State Legislature, and I listed up there the contacts of the two main committees that are next up to consider this bill, the Energy and Environmental Protection Committee as well as the Finance Committee. And we have two representatives from Maui on those committees, Tina Wildberger and Troy Hashimoto, my own representative. It's hard to say what their timing's going to be. There is a backlog in the Energy and Environmental Protection Committee with other bills, so my guess would be we're looking at the end of this month. And that's it for me and my contact information is there if there's any follow-up questions. So, with that, I'll turn it back --

CHAIR KING: Okay --

MR. SOLOMON: --over to you.

. . .END PRESENTATION. . .

CHAIR KING: --thank you, Mr. Solomon. That was a very great overview of that legislation. Members, we also have, there's a sheet that's been passed out that's got all the legislation that's still alive that's being followed by the Climate Change Commission, our State Climate Change Commission. So, those are some bills that, you know, I personally am in support of many of these bills. But the two that we're here today to talk about and get better informed so we can possibly make a decision on the floor tomorrow are the HR-763, which is at the, at Congress. And then the Senate Bill 3150, which has crossed over to the House. So, are there any questions at this time? We'll start with our Vice-Chair Sinenci, and then you have any questions for the panel?

VICE-CHAIR SINENCI: Sure, thank you, Chair. So, a question for you, Chair, so we're just, these two bills would be, the Council would be voting on urging both Congress and the State Legislature?

CHAIR KING: Right. The intention is, these are both on the agenda for tomorrow's Council meeting, so the intention would be to try to address these on the floor tomorrow, to defer the action on it today. We're not going to take action on these resolutions --

VICE-CHAIR SINENCI: Okay.

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CHAIR KING: --but I wanted to get the information out to Committee Members so that if there are any questions on these bills that, you know, the...I thought that was a really good explanation of the one at the national level, because that was a harder one to understand as to how the money comes back to the economy and how the...how it reduces greenhouse gas emissions. So, if you have any questions about either of these bills, now is the time to ask.

VICE-CHAIR SINENCI: And then, I was just curious, are other counties also supporting something similar like this? Or to your knowledge, we're the only county that's doing it?

CHAIR KING: We...there are other counties that have done similar resolutions to us. There's the climate emergency, and the Paris climate agreement. This particular one, Mr. Stark, can you answer that? Is there any other counties that are as far along as us in supporting either of these bills?

MR. STARK: Actually, I can't. But I bet Mark can.

CHAIR KING: Okay. Mr. White?

MR. WHITE: I only know it's being discussed on Oahu and I don't know what the latest position is on it. But I know they're talking about it.

CHAIR KING: Okay. It is on the list of bills --

MR. WHITE: Yeah.

CHAIR KING: --that the Climate Change Commission is supporting.

VICE-CHAIR SINENCI: Okay, thanks. And then I just had one question, it was, you know, the rebates that the residents get from on the Congressional bill, would the, would there be rebates also in the State bill?

CHAIR KING: Mr. Solomon?

MR. SOLOMON: Yeah. In the State bill, again, the refunds would only go to lower income households and the mechanism would be through income tax returns. So, it would be something like a credit on income tax, State income tax returns.

VICE-CHAIR SINENCI: Okay, so, I'm just thinking about our constituents. These are, will be added fees that people would be paying, you know, we may be charging the fossil fuel companies, but then they'll just kind of incur those costs onto the consumers, yeah? So, like the concerns that you listed in that slide.

CHAIR KING: So, the difference is that the one at the Congressional level would refund all those increases back to everybody in the Country, the State Senate Bill 31...sorry, my glasses --

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MR. SOLOMON: Three one five oh.

CHAIR KING: --3150 would refund the money back to the...there'd be a refundable tax credit to the lower income individuals. That's where it stands right now, and that's after two Senate drafts, so there've been two changes to this bill.

MR. SOLOMON: Right.

CHAIR KING: And now it's crossed over into the House. And the refundable tax credit means that you actually get a check. So, it's not just you have to have income against it, it is a refundable tax credited as an actual check.

VICE-CHAIR SINENCI: Okay, I guess maybe, Mr. Solomon, have there been a lot of, I guess, you would, we would anticipate some pushback from some of the fossil fuel companies or...have there been some pushback from some certain representatives at the legislature?

CHAIR KING: Steven [sic]?

MR. SOLOMON: Well that, yeah, that's what happened last year in the 2019 Legislative Session, you know, anti-tax and business groups pushed back and the bill died. I'm not sure where things stand currently. I put in a call to Troy Hashimoto but I haven't heard back.

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

CHAIR KING: Okay, thank you, Mr. Sinenci. Ms. Paltin?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. Thank you to the panel for all your hard work. On a personal level I agree. It's difficult with the emergency status to be wordsmithing and going through this political process where every single thing needs to fall in line for it to even have a shot of getting through. On a level where I'm representing the whole County of Maui, the issue that stands out to me on a big picture is that our entire economy is a tourist economy right now and probably the airplanes are the biggest source of carbon emissions. And like I said on a personal level, I'm fully supportive of that because I believe our future is in our past and in the past way back, tourism wasn't our industry. So, with tourism as our number one industry, have you thought to the overall effect to Maui County with these things being passed? I mean, on top of real-time issues that we're dealing with right now with the Coronavirus and tourism already plummeting, I just was wondering your thoughts? Like, I mean, having spent \$3 million last year for just the Maui Visitors Bureau and not \$3 million on climate change, your direction is the direction I like my canoe to be going, but my steersman is taking me in a different direction. So, I just was wondering if you had any thoughts on that situation that we're in where, you know, in my heart I'm all on board on stopping carbon emissions, but in my head I don't know what then for the Maui economy, the folks with the 360, or not strategies, but 360 radios. And, you know, just trying to manage tourism and then have it collapse and then put up hurdles in front of it. Personal level, not against it, but there's more to think about. And then in the more to think about, there's more to think about that. So, I just was wondering if these political

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avenues have anything to address economies and counties like ours that are solely reliant on these types of industries.

CHAIR KING: Okay, Mr. Solomon or Mr. White? Who wants to handle? Okay, Mr. White?

MR. WHITE: Yeah, we've done a fair amount of thinking about it and there're some actions that are upcoming that will help improve that thinking. We contracted a study with this company called Regional Economic Models Incorporated in 2014 and that study has since been redone by Columbia University last year, and they looked at the economic impact on households. As part of that 2014 study, we also looked at Hawaii and the impact on households. But also the good news is the Hawaii State Legislature just approved \$200,000 last year to study the impact of carbon fee on Hawaii and its residents. Also, the economy. So, there's a study in progress, the results should be out by the end of this year or early next year, which will fine tune sort of the studies that have already been done. But I can tell you that like, for example, airfare to LA and back or the mainland is, it's going to add \$25 a ticket by the time the fee is upped to 45 or 50 bucks a ton. And we don't think that would adversely affect the economy. It, obviously there could be some minor impacts. People who commute interisland are going to be paying a little bit more for their interisland airfare. It should not be prohibitive. In the national bill, that money gets rebated, and that's why we do that. The tax rebate in the Hawaii bill may not be enough to cover the additional expenses that are going to result. So, all the studies we've done show that it won't harm the economy. In fact, there are ways that would...it would enhance the economy over the longer term by promoting other industries that are more climate friendly. So, there are things that are going to...there're also...one of the biggest pushback's I get when I meet with people is, well, what about the law of unintended consequences and the things you haven't thought about. Well, certainly there are things that we can't predict or have thought. We've tried to think of most of things, but we haven't thought of everything. But I think the biggest unintended consequences, what we're doing with the climate change, there are so many things that can happen by not taking action. So, you know, there are some risks but seems like the benefits outweigh the risk and I'm just try to share that with business owners and people concerned about the economy and then they have to decide, but we do have to get out and talk to more people about it.

CHAIR KING: Okay, thank you. Does that answer your question?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Well, you know, if we look at airfares right now, you can go to San Diego for 100 bucks and you can go to Hilo for 100 bucks, and to put the extra burden on the local people over here versus the 100 bucks from San Diego, and the wages that we're currently being paid, the price of goods, which most likely will also go up, it just...I feel like there's got to be a much better, faster way. It's like the emergency alarm is going off at the door and we're in quicksand talking about, like, you know --

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Who's going to get the door.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: --the, you know, it's the paperwork's and the small little adjustments that are going out to, like, even it out and make it not be such a big burden but sometimes you die from 1,000 cuts and you don't reach your destination. And I just, I really think

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that there's got to be something better. And that's not to say I'm not appreciative of that works that you've been doing and I don't support it on a personal level because I do, but I don't...if we're talking about an emergency, I don't feel that this is going to be the one. And so then, I'm thankful for you for doing it because I wouldn't even have the fortitude to attempt to do it. And like you said something needs to be done. But if this is the best we got, I'm just a little bit disappointed in all of, not you guys, but all of us as humans.

CHAIR KING: Okay, thank you, Ms. Paltin. I think this is one of other, many other actions we'll be considering in this Committee. But, Mr. Solomon, what is...did they put a level on the rebates to the lowest income? Do you know what they're calling the lowest income levels?

MR. SOLOMON: It was in one of the drafts, and then it was taken out so I'm reluctant to really comment about that. But I did want to add one thing about the idea of these rebates and refunds, because it might seem a little bit like black magic. It's...the idea is you want to tax something that's considered a bad that you want to discourage, right? Pollution, carbon emissions, so that gives incentive to consumers to do less of that, you know, as opposed to outright banning something. So, when you refund or rebate some of those revenues, you're essentially making people richer and they're going to turn around and spend some of that money, maybe save some of that money. So, as a result they may increase emissions a little bit by spending from that refund, but the idea would be that it would be a lot less than if the price was lower for carbon emissions or a tax wasn't accounted for. But, yeah, they're not settled on the levels of those refunds, so I'd rather not --

CHAIR KING: Okay --

MR. SOLOMON: --get into that.

CHAIR KING: --all right. Thank you. We'll move on to Pro Tem Kama --

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR KING: --questions.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: This is pretty exciting what I'm hearing from you three guys because it shows me that you've thought long and hard about this and you've worked long and hard on it. So, that's exciting to me. The thing is, do you know what the upfront cost is going to be? Because the...I think I like the idea of the refunds and tax rebates or whatever, but do you know what that upfront cost would be just to get out of the gate?

MR. SOLOMON: You mean the upfront cost of just implementing --

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Yes.

MR. SOLOMON: --these laws? There'd be some cost, but it would be minimal. I mean, part of the reason economists like tax approach for government policy is, you know, you already have a taxing authority, so you're just sort of adding to the responsibility. So, there would be some cost in terms of government administration maybe adding some minimal staff. But

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it would be pretty minimal because this sort of thing could be easily accommodated. So in the State law, for example, it's an amendment of an existing tax so they already know, have it set up to do that. They're just broadening it instead of a fuel tax on gasoline, you know, now a carbon tax. So, yes, there would be some cost, but pretty minimal. And when I worked at the EPA, for example, on the sulfur dioxide admissions training program, well, we had costs in terms of paying the staff, but, you know, again it was fairly minimal compared to some other ways that it could be done.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: So, I just have one other question --

CHAIR KING: Yeah, sure, go ahead.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: --Chair, if I may. So, I think in one of the presentations it said that the funds would be distributed to every American citizen that has a social security number. Why is that?

CHAIR KING: Mr. White? Oh, Mr. Stark, you want to answer that?

MR. STARK: That's the mechanism that has been selected by the people who are currently promoting the...

CHAIR KING: Can you use the microphone --

MR. STARK: Oh, I'm sorry.

CHAIR KING: --for our recording.

MR. STARK: That's the mechanism that people, the people who are promoting this legislation have chosen. The...it's interesting to note that what happens for the national bill, the 763, is that the money goes into a trust fund and then is distributed, and that's --

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Right.

MR. STARK: --where the money which will be distributed to the families comes from. So, you have a higher degree of protection from the government stealing some of that money than if it went through a more, let's say, well used channel. Mark made the point that in France, the people arose and revolted for, in part, when the government there raided a fund such as we're talking about here. I think that we might want to think a little bit harder about a trust rather than a trust fund, but the idea is that you don't actually pay a fee, you get money from the government. Is that okay?

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Fine, thank you.

CHAIR KING: Okay, thank you for the question. So, because we're going to be trying to pass these on the floor, is it possible for any of you to be present tomorrow at the Council meeting to be a possible resource?

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UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: When is it or how long?

CHAIR KING: Well, it's anybody's guess how long our Council meetings are. It's tomorrow. Tomorrow's a full Council meeting so it starts at 9:00.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Do you want us to prepare material?

CHAIR KING: I can talk to you about it later, but just because we only have four Councilmembers here, so there may be some additional questions. I think we can answer most of them from what we've heard today. But, you know, just coming from the authority is sometimes good.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: So, the answer is probably.

CHAIR KING: Okay.

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

CHAIR KING: We'll talk to you after this --

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yeah.

CHAIR KING: --and see. Okay, Committee Members, if there are no other questions we'll go ahead and defer this item if there's no objections.

COUNCILMEMBERS: No objections.

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

ACTION: DEFER PENDING FURTHER DISCUSSION.

CHAIR KING: Thank you very much to our presenters. Appreciate it. And I was going to go over the list of the legislation, but in the interest of time because we have Mr. Andaya here, should we launch into the report or would you folks like a break?

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Break.

CHAIR KING: Okay, 10-minute break. Be back at 10:55. Okay, recess, 10:45. . . .*(gavel)*. . .

RECESS: 10:45 a.m.

RECONVENE: 11:03 p.m.

CHAIR KING: . . .*(gavel)*. . . We're convening the March 12th meeting of the Climate Action Resilience Committee and still have our bare quorum here. So, Mr. Sinenci, Ms. Paltin and Ms. Kama, thank you for remaining with us. We have other Councilmembers like our Chair,

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who, she's in an emergency meeting right now on the Coronavirus. So, our next item that we're going to is the...oh, my notes are all...okay.

**CAR-10: OPERATIONAL AND BUDGETARY REVIEW OF THE MAUI COUNTY
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY (CC 20-76)**

CHAIR KING: Okay, so, the Operational Budget for Maui Emergency Management Agency. And first we got word that Mr. Andaya couldn't make it, and then he showed up, so I apologize that you, we flipped everything around and you had to wait, but hopefully you got some energy out of the earlier discussion. And I really appreciate you being here and I appreciate all that you must be going through with not just the climate disasters but with what's happening with the virus in the State. And so, I'm going to hand it over to you for a review of your operational budget, and then we'll get to questions. Mr. Andaya?

. . .BEGIN PRESENTATION. . .

MR. ANDAYA [*PowerPoint Presentation*]: Thank you. Madame Chair, good morning. God morning, Members of the Committee. Thank you very much for inviting me here today to discuss our operations and our fiscal year's budget. And I hope everybody had a chance to wash their hands during the break. Thank you very much. Currently, the Emergency Operation Center is activated and we are at a Level 3 activation, enhanced . . . (*inaudible*). . . And so for that reason, I'm sorry for not being here earlier this morning, I was in a VTC with our counterparts from the neighbor islands and Honolulu. I'll go over our operations very quickly. This is...and I've presented this to some of you before, but as you know, our roots comes from Civil Defense and our original mission of our agency was to protect the population, or to prepare the population from foreign attack. And since then, our mission has grown to include hurricanes, flash floods, even active shooters, cybersecurity, and pandemic. And this slide is very appropriate now since we are, we have this pandemic event going on. And so, for that reason we changed our name from the Maui County Civil Defense Agency to the Maui Emergency Management Agency. These are all the possible threats to the County of Maui and you see epidemic, but now it's a pandemic; and that was just announced yesterday by the World Health Organization. And I want to show this so you can see the kinds of responsibilities that we have now. So, we went from just preparing our population for foreign attack to all of these various threats. And this is a THIRA, , we call it a THIRA, it's a threat assessment and it's based on the probability of the threat occurring on Maui and the effect it would have. So, you can see it's hurricane, tsunami, earthquake, and flash flood is in that top category. These are the number of activations that we've had. And so, you can see 2017 you can see all the different activations. Two thousand nineteen, just last year, you can see how many more there were. In some jurisdictions on the mainland, maybe they'll have one a year. So, you can see we're pretty active. Our agency's pretty active. And then these are the different Federally declared disasters. These are disasters that, like, the President has to declare that it's a disaster. And for some emergency managers, my counterparts in the mainland maybe in their career, they'll see one. In the last ten years we've seen six already. So, it's kind of a big deal whenever your jurisdiction has a Federally declared disaster and for us, you know, it's commonplace actually. But the reason why I show all of this to you is that just to

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demonstrate that we have a very active agency that we deal with a lot of emergencies all throughout the year. And this is the phases of an emergency. As you can see, we have preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation. Now, a lot of people think that we only get busy when it's a response, whenever there's an emergency, but that's not true. Actually, we're most busy during a...when there is no emergency and we're doing with things to prepare, we're doing mitigation work, and if there is an emergency, the toughest part is really the recovery, so. Last year the Council approved a position that dealt specifically with recovery and so I want to thank you for doing that. It shows that you want us to focus on recovery and it's, she's been a tremendous help. She's doing a lot of planning. She's also been going to our communities and meeting with community members and, you know, hopefully they'll be able to help us during an emergency. So this is our, these are the members of our agency and there are seven of us all together and it's a pretty small staff actually. Throughout the...I believe on Oahu they have close to 20, on the Big Island, they have over 10 I know, maybe 14 or so. And here on Maui we have seven. We...and for us, you know, I showed how active we are. Also, you know, we have the responsibility of also two other islands, so Molokai, Lanai, and Maui. So, we're the only County that has to also be responsible for them as well, for three islands, separate islands. And so, just briefly I want to go over what each person does. The Planning Operations Officer. So, this person's responsible for developing and updating our plans for various threats and emergency functions. They coordinate training for staff and partners, design exercises to test our plans. And that's her role during, we say, blue skies. Blue skies is when there's no emergencies. So, during blue skies, that's what that person does. But during an activation when there is an emergency, she becomes the operations section chief. And so she's responsible for public safety, human services, and the infrastructure branches. And the Planning Ops Officer, so these are all the plans that we have in our EOC. As you can see, we have different plans for different types of events. And it's important that we have plans available because we want to be able to act quickly without having to try to think things out and try to, you know, plan for things. So, it's important that we have these. We want to develop more plans and we want to update some of these plans. Some of these plans are already outdated and so that's some of the things that we want to look forward to. As an example, developing new plans like cybersecurity. So, we don't have a cybersecurity plan right now, an emergency plan. And so, at some point we'll be seeing if we can get such a plan created. Oh, and this here is a list of all the different plans that we have. And, you know, as I've mentioned, we go by the Incident Command System, so ICS. And so, this is part of the training that we go through and we do this all throughout the year and we have all of our partners take part in these trainings. In fact, Richelle, sitting next to me, our Corporation Counsel, she was in one of our EOC trainings not too long ago. Two weeks ago or so? And that was our like ICS 300-12 or something like that. But that taught us how to, taught us operations in the EOC. So, even though many of us have already been in activations and we kind of know what to do in an EOC, we take these trainings, none the less, to kind of refresh ourselves. And we learn about these things, like this is the planning P. And so, this is what we go through whenever there's a activation. So, we go through this process during what's called the operational period. So, I know Councilmember Paltin is familiar with this because she's gone through this kind of training before. And this is just a photograph of, this is one training that we had last year. And then we also send people to the Emergency Management Institute. So, this is a very prestigious institute and that you have to apply for and they're very selective. And so, we've sent one member of the

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community to take classes here. We also sent our PIO, our Public Information Officer, Chris Sugidono. He also is a graduate now of the PIO class from the institute. We have one member in our office who is going through the masters exercise planner, the MEPP's program. And so, and then we also have a graduate in our office as well. So, but, this is trainings that we do outside of what we do here in the County. And then this is the CST. So, you may have seen this. This is a large exercise that just occurred last month and we have various of our partners, Police, Fire, and then also National Guard comes in. So, this is the civil support team, and if there is a like a biological or nuclear, chemical type of an incident, then these are the guys that get involved. So, it's important for us to do these exercises every year because we don't, you know, we don't want them to get to know each other during the event, right? We want them to know each other already, they know who to call. And so, these exercises are really important. And this, again, this is another exercise. So, you can see they're in their Tydek [sic] suits in the back there. So, this is like they're simulating a chemical event. The next person we have is our Communications Specialist. So, he maintains the Maka`ala, the County Emergency Alert System through Everbridge, maintains and ensures operability of our internal communications, they, he also maintains the operational capability of the agency and the emergency operations center, he supports HIEMA in testing and maintaining over 70 sirens in the County. So, that's what he does during blue skies. During emergencies he becomes our logistics section chief. So, if our partners or anyone in the EOC requires equipment or supplies or whatever the case may be, he's the person that they go to and he will see if he can get that equipment for them. So, a good example is like a brush fire for instance and you need bulldozers, additional bulldozers to create fire lines. He's the person that you would go to, the logistics chief. So, this is the Maka`ala system. I hope everyone is signed up for Maka`ala. And then this is what he does, you know, he sends our request up to the State. If the State is unable to fulfill the request, then it goes up to the Federal government. Our Preparedness Specialist, Charnan Carroll, she promotes community preparedness through public messaging and community presentation, she engages with various community organizations, to assist in emergency response, and she also does public dissemination of information. So, that's what she does during blue skies. During emergencies, she becomes our planning section chief. Okay. So, this is our disaster expo. So, we'll be having this in either next month or May. This is our CERT program, so, it's our Community Emergency Response Team. I know Councilmember Paltin is a graduate of this program when she was a first responder. And it is a great program. It's trained by firefighters and you go through a two-week, like, two weeks of classes and they teach you from triage to how to like cribbing, how to lift a heavy load off of a person, you know, the first aid, you know, all kinds of different things. And so, and from time to time, we have the classes here on campus. So, sometimes you'll see them training out here. But this is an excellent way to engage our public to be first responders. Or not, I'm sorry, not to be first responders, but, you know, to be able to assist in the event that there's an emergency. Because oftentimes our firefighters or police would be so overwhelmed that, you know, when someone's there who needs help, they may not be there to be able to assist them. So, there's members of community that will be able to assist them if need be. And then we have our Hazard Mitigation Specialist, I know this Committee is very familiar with Dr. Anthony Joyce our Hazard Mitigation Specialist. He develops, updates, and implements the hazard mitigation plan. He also manages all of our grants. And he also coordinates FEMA public assistance reimbursements. The last one, the coordinating the public assistance reimbursements,

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that is a very daunting task and so, but he's able to do that. So, he's doing that for us as well. And then during emergencies, he becomes our finance administration chief. So, it kind of fits very well with what he does during blue skies, so. And this is one of the things that we were able to get through some of the grants that he was able to get. This is through a Homeland Security Grant Program, and this is a, we're training and getting equipment for a bomb squad on Maui. So, right now if there was a bomb, we would have to wait several hours to get a EOD team from Honolulu here on Maui. And so, we thought it was important to have a team here on Maui, and so that's the reason why we used the Homeland Security monies to create this team. And then finally I talked about earlier, the Recovery Specialist. So, she develops, updates, implements the recovery plan, coordinates recovery efforts through the EOC, community organizations, and supports the family assistance center. So, in this situation with recovery, it's important that we have someone who engages the public in blue skies and, you know, like as an example with Hurricane Lane, with the fire in Kauaula Valley, Waiola Church was able to step up and, you know, assist us. And there were other organizations that wanted to help, wanted to assist. And so, this is where having a recovery specialist would be able to, you know, engage them and at least, you know when there's an emergency she will be able to call on them for assistance, you know, if need be. Again, we are going to be overwhelmed if there's an emergency in Maui, there's only six of us in the office. So, there's no way we're going to be able to assist everybody. And so, this is where we really need our partners and we really need the community to support us. And then during an activation, she becomes the situation unit leader. So, this is, and you've...I think some of you have seen this picture before, but this is our EOC when it's during an activation, and you can see it's pretty full. And so, that's the reason why we're looking at building a, hopefully building a new EOC. And one of the things that we want to also include in the new EOC if we were to get one, is a training center. So, oftentimes we have to go look for classrooms and, you know, these classes that we provide or FEMA provides, they're usually like an entire day. An entire day and it's for several days. And so, it's difficult like the only thing that we can find is like the classrooms at the college, but, you know, it's the entire day so, you know, usually they're not available. So, that's the reason why we want to be able to include something like that in the EOC if we were to get one. That's just another picture. These are all different organizations that come into the EOC during an activation. And then this is the incident command structure that we use. So, that kind of, in a nutshell is the, I guess, the operational overview of our agency. The only increase...well, not the only one but the significant increase this year in our fiscal year, this fiscal year's budget is the addition of a position. So, that's the recovery specialist position. And that has been...she's a godsend. I also want to note that, I should also note this...it's okay, I was going to show you our org chart again. And we have three individuals there who are SR, well, they're entry-level positions, you know. And one of them is, and I can say this, he told me it's okay for me to mention it, but Dr. Anthony Joyce is one. So, he's someone who has a PhD, who has a lot of experience in climatology and whatnot, and he's in entry-level position. I have Paul Coe, who is our communications alerts specialist. He's a retired fire captain from Arizona and also a graduate of EMI, that institute I was telling you about. And he is at an entry-level position, SR...I can't remember what the SR is, but entry-level, specialist one. And the last one is our recovery specialist who is a...who once owned one of the largest utility helicopter companies in Hawaii, you know. A very capable, very intelligent woman, and she is also at an entry-level position. And so, that's something

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that I'm hoping that we could try and adjust. You know, the lowest SR on Oahu for a specialist is a 24, and that is our highest SR for our specialists.

. . .END PRESENTATION. . .

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Wow.

MR. ANDAYA: So, just to give you an idea.

CHAIR KING: So, thank you so much for that, Mr. Andaya. So, these folks are at the entry-level because that's, is that the only level you have to offer?

MR. ANDAYA: That's where they...so just so happened we...when we recruited, you know, we recruited at the lowest level at the Specialist I level thinking that it'd be very difficult to find somebody who had the experience already at a higher level, so we went with a lower level. But as it turned out, we got people who are very, some are very experienced.

CHAIR KING: I'm, I am surprised that they accepted the entry-level position. I know they're pretty high-level 'cause I've seen the resume for Dr. Joyce and so that's something that we may need to correct. Maybe we can do...you have those higher levels available on your organization that you can move them up to and then you just need us to approve those positions at those rates?

MR. ANDAYA: No, my plan was to do a little, like reorganization of our...and then create some of those --

CHAIR KING: Oh, okay.

MR. ANDAYA: --higher level positions.

CHAIR KING: Okay. And do you have a slide that shows your budget information?

MR. ANDAYA: I'm sorry, I have my budget. I have it here.

CHAIR KING: Okay. Okay. We have...we can hand this out. This is the current year, correct? This is the...it's 2020, is...okay. So, the current year that we're in. And I'm not sure if that's different from what Mr. Andaya has. It's a different format. But because we're in here to just kind of review the budget from the current year so that as we go into the next year we can be a little more aware of your needs and save some time later on from --

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Thank you very much.

CHAIR KING: --delving into it. One of the requests I have, though, is can we get this on Granicus because I don't know how, about you guys, but there's not too many people I know that can read the tiny print of this. I mean, I appreciate this, but, you know, we were...I can't really make use of this. So, if we can get it on Granicus just so everybody has access to these slides. Those are really good, it's good information. So, can you go through this

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handout that we just passed out that we got from OCS on your budget? It's just the one page. So, it's Emergency Management is number two under management and other function. So, can you just kind of give us a breakdown of what that...or unless you have something that you can hand out.

MR. ANDAYA: No, this is very good --

CHAIR KING: Okay.

MR. ANDAYA: --this is...as I mentioned in my presentation earlier, the only significant one is this one position that was --

CHAIR KING: Right.

MR. ANDAYA: --requested and we received that position.

CHAIR KING: Okay. But, so, the 7 positions are 466,544, and then operations was everything else and then I guess this doesn't include any grants that you are receiving. It shows the \$50,000 grant to Red Cross but the grants that are coming in, do you have a figure for that?

MR. ANDAYA: So the...what they put in our budget was 500,000 for the Homeland Security Grant Program, which we came back to Council to ask that it be amended because we had received more monies --

CHAIR KING: Oh, okay.

MR. ANDAYA: --to roughly about 704,000, I believe.

CHAIR KING: Oh, okay.

MR. ANDAYA: And then the other one is the Emergency Management Partnership Performance Grant, and that was for 100,000.

CHAIR KING: Okay.

MR. ANDAYA: And that's in the budget.

CHAIR KING: Okay, yeah. Probably should have been more specific because as we're reviewing all the departments, we're going over their current budgets --

MR. ANDAYA: Oh.

CHAIR KING: --and just kind of looking at the different categories of where you're spending money now and then we can kind of get to what the needs are for coming up.

MR. ANDAYA: Oh.

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CHAIR KING: So if...we'll go through questions now, and then we can come back to any other comments you'd like to make if that's okay, Herman? Okay, we'll start with Pro Tem Tasha Kama.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you, Chair. So, could you tell us for next year's budget what that increase might be in your salaries that you're looking at? Is that something you can tell us?

MR. ANDAYA: We are...actually what I didn't cover in my presentation too is, you know, we're...we still, well, I kind of alluded to it but we're still, we feel that we're still little bit shorthanded. And I, as I mentioned, I kind of talked a little bit about each of their duties and for a lot of them, a lot of them are doing actually the job of two people, you know. So, as an example, Hazard Mitigation Specialist. So, you have the Hazard Mitigation Specialist, but he's also doing the job of a grants manager. And I think over the years this kind of occurred like we had a grants, we had a hazard mitigation specialist and then say several years ago all of a sudden we started getting grants, so it was just assigned to that person. Okay, you take care of these grants. And then those grants grew and grew, and now it's gotten to the point where it really should be two people doing that job, yeah. Another example is the Planning Operations Officer. So, she's actually doing the job of three people. So, she's our planner, she's our training officer, and then she also is our exercise planner. So, in other, like, on the State level for instance, they have one person for each section.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: So, hearing that you have seven people in your office, how many people do you actually need to be able to do what you are talking about?

MR. ANDAYA: We'll be asking for two more people. Two more. But ideally for us, I think it's ten, you know, and but --

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Okay.

MR. ANDAYA: --two more. And we would still be smaller than other offices, you know, other...yeah. Like Big Island is, I think they have, like, 14 or so. And they are looking at expanding as well.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Okay.

MR. ANDAYA: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: So, you know in your, you had all the different mitigation plans, I guess you want to call them. Do you...are they all on shelves like that or are they digitized?

MR. ANDAYA: They're, some of them are, they're, I think they're all digitized, so that's how I read them usually.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Okay.

MR. ANDAYA: You know, like a PDF of it. But they're on the shelf so we do that for redundancy --

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COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Yeah.

MR. ANDAYA: --in the event that say our power goes down or whatever, you know, we can, we have those plans that we can still go to the hard copy.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Have you memorized some of them?

MR. ANDAYA: Did I memorize them?

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Yeah, have you memorized some of them?

MR. ANDAYA: No.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Oh, okay.

MR. ANDAYA: But --

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: . . . *(inaudible)* . . .

MR. ANDAYA: --the pandemic I've read several times already. Yeah. So...

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Okay. And my last one was, do you know your bomb disposal unit, is that what it's called?

MR. ANDAYA: The bomb...yes.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Yeah. Do you need somebody to operate that or is it just --

MR. ANDAYA: So...

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: --you push a button and it goes on its own.

MR. ANDAYA: Oh no. So, we have...those were police officers and I'm not sure how many in all, but part of the grant that we received from Homeland Security was to send them to get trained so they had to go to the mainland to get trained how to handle explosives.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Last question. So, how is your new EOC coming along?

MR. ANDAYA: We're still in discussions with the Mayor. The Mayor is very supportive. He also recognizes the need for a new EOC. And so, I mean, we're still...I believe that they've already started like the design, you know. So, they have some conceptual designs of how it would look like and everything. So, we're moving along on that. In the meantime, downstairs they're trying to, you know, they're trying to do some, I guess, some improvements. Some renovation. And so, we just got new furniture. Yeah. We got a grant from Homeland Security and typically we don't spend it on ourselves. Usually whenever we get a grant --

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COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Give it out.

MR. ANDAYA: --yeah, we usually Police, Fire, you know. Because they really take priority. But there was some extra monies and so we bought some furniture for ourselves, you know.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Good.

MR. ANDAYA: And then there's some other things that, you know, hopefully we'll be able to make improvements to.

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

CHAIR KING: Thank you, Ms. Kama. So, when you talk about the design, EOC being in design, is that, are they looking at building a separate building? Or is it designing a space within one of our existing building?

MR. ANDAYA: No, they're looking at building a new building.

CHAIR KING: Putting a separate building in?

MR. ANDAYA: A separate building, yeah.

CHAIR KING: Okay.

MR. ANDAYA: The footprint that we have right now, it would not be able to...it's not large enough.

CHAIR KING: Yeah, no, I agree with you but I just know but I just know once we get that new service center opened up there's going to be some openings in this building and that building and I didn't know if you were looking at a totally new building.

MR. ANDAYA: Yeah, I think the thought is a new building.

CHAIR KING: Okay.

MR. ANDAYA: And that way, you know, you can, we can design it, you know, to our, you know, what we need. Our specifications.

CHAIR KING: Okay.

MR. ANDAYA: So...

CHAIR KING: So, yeah, what we just handed out was the budget detail for the Maui Emergency Management Agency. So, if anybody has any questions about that, now's the time to ask. And on page, it's the one that's numbered Page 142, has the expenditure summary and it goes the salaries and wages, the operations and equipment. And then I guess the other questions since you're talking about new E/Ps is have you thought about hiring a health

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specialist given what we're going through right now? Somebody who has, you know, some experience in CDC or something like that?

MR. ANDAYA: So, with our...Madame Chair?

CHAIR KING: Yes.

MR. ANDAYA: Sorry.

CHAIR KING: Please.

MR. ANDAYA: So, in our pandemic plan the lead agency is the Department of Health. And so, we rely on them for expertise, you know, and things like that. And so, that's where we would go to.

CHAIR KING: Okay.

MR. ANDAYA: So, I don't think we would necessarily need somebody to, you know, like a health officer on our --

CHAIR KING: Okay.

MR. ANDAYA: --staff. Yeah.

CHAIR KING: Okay, we have adequate people on this island? Okay. Councilmember Paltin, questions?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Mr. Andaya, for your presentation. I was wondering what unit or bargaining unit your employees fall under?

CHAIR KING: Mr. Andaya?

MR. ANDAYA: Madame Chair? I believe it's 13.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Oh, okay.

MR. ANDAYA: Bargaining Unit 13.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And then is there currently a position in there that ties, like, a coordinator that ties all the outside agencies so they're, like, working with one central person that is familiar with the roles of all the other folks in there or is it more like a silo thing? Like, do the other outside agencies all coordinate with a central person or based on what they do kind of? They're going to different people? Like, how do you communicate with the inside and the outside, I guess? Or is that one of the positions that you're going to be hiring?

CHAIR KING: Director?

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MR. ANDAYA: Madame Chair. So, we have branches...so we have sections. The sections are the planning section, the logistics, operations, and within those sections we have branches. And so, in those branches like as an example, public safety. So, the public safety branch would have Fire Department, Police Department, they would also have ARFF, the airport firefighters there, the EMTs, they would have the Parks Police [sic], who else?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: So, but is it possible for like a possibility that the outside agencies might be getting different information depending on who they're coordinating with?

MR. ANDAYA: They're all sitting on the table. They're all sitting together, so...and then the ops chief is responsible for talking to all of them. But that's the beauty of our EOC, it's very different from like say Honolulu. Honolulu, because they have like the State has their own EOC, the Federal government has their own EOC, so they all kind of, they're all separated, yeah? And so, like, Mayor Victorino just went to the EOC on Oahu and, you know, it was just County employees there, you know. As opposed to our EOC we have everybody, because they have nowhere to go. There's no State EOC here, so they come to us. Yeah. So, we have...there's been no issues with like not being able to interact with our State partners or Federal. I mean, we're all in there together, you know, at the EOC.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And then, you know, since...thank you for this timely presentation since they did say yesterday that it reached pandemic status. What stage are we currently in in terms of preparation, management, response? And at what point do you make calls like shutting down the government? And, like, we just heard the cancelling the budget district meetings. Like, how far out are the projections and is it like, are we in a state of emergency right at this moment? And what would it take to reach that level? And if people are not working their regular jobs under the pandemic scenario and people need help, at what point do they, the community come in and fill the roles of folks that aren't working that are needed in your community?

CHAIR KING: And you're talking about Maui specifically?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Yeah.

CHAIR KING: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And I guess as it relates to budget. Like, do you have enough to carry out the next three, four months if the worst case scenario pandemic happens? Or is there going to need to be a budget amendment and maybe we're not holding Council meetings, like the effect on those types of actions? And at what point and who shuts down the government?

CHAIR KING: Mr. Andaya?

MR. ANDAYA: Madame Chair. So, those are a lot of questions, Councilmember. Thank you very much for that. So, right now we are in a Level 3 activation. So, the Mayor declared an emergency declaration last, was it last Thursday or so? Last Thursday. And so, by doing

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that he also activated our EOC. But we have already been working like last week almost every day, and weekends too. We've been having meetings with our State counterparts with HIEMA, and with Department of Health, and with the Governor also. And all the mayors are part of that as well. And so, we've been doing this, we've been active, implementing our pandemic plan for about a month or so already.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: So, we're past preparedness and we're going into response? Or would you say we're still in preparedness?

MR. ANDAYA: So, right now there is still, there's still no, there are no confirmed cases on Maui, yeah? But we're leaning forward none the less. We're already looking for, as an example, quarantine facilities. You know, we're trying to identify locations that we can have those types of facilities. We're already sending out a lot of public messaging about, you know, washing your hands. We may not be able to prevent the virus from coming to Maui County, but we can prevent it from entering our bodies. And so, that's where it's really important that, you know, we send out the messaging about washing our hands, not touching our faces, if you are sick don't come to work, you know, those types of messaging --

CHAIR KING: And what about --

MR. ANDAYA: --has been going out.

CHAIR KING: --test kits, because I've been told there's no test kits on Maui. Are we trying to get those?

MR. ANDAYA: So, there are test kits on Maui --

CHAIR KING: There are?

MR. ANDAYA: --but we...yes, there are. And so, but we have to send it to Oahu and they are the ones who...

CHAIR KING: Okay.

MR. ANDAYA: Yeah. And it takes about several hours to get the test results back.

CHAIR KING: Okay. So, where would people go if they want to get tested?

MR. ANDAYA: Go to their doctor.

CHAIR KING: To their doctor?

MR. ANDAYA: Uh-huh.

CHAIR KING: Okay.

MR. ANDAYA: Go to their doctor, they --

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CHAIR KING: All the doctors have them?

MR. ANDAYA: --and the doctor will make a determination. What it is it's a swab, you know. But, yeah, so, to answer your question, you know, we've been, we've already been activated and we're already doing things, you know. We're already going through the process, so you saw like the planning P, we're already going through that. We're creating objectives and incident action plans. With respect to...I'm sorry, your other questions. Oh...

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: With respect to the state of the emergency, are we at the point where you can make budgetary decisions and we don't need to go through the budget amendment process because of the state of emergency? And how high is the limit of funds that can be spent in response to this state of emergency that has been declared? And at what point would we then authorize the funds that have been spent?

MR. ANDAYA: I'm not sure, and maybe Corporation Counsel may be able to answer that questions, but I should say we are...the Mayor is planning to submit a budget amendment. And so, that should be coming shortly --

CHAIR KING: Okay.

MR. ANDAYA: --to this body.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: So, your expectation is for us to continue holding meetings to hear the budget amendment? Or is there a point when the Mayor, due to the state of emergency, will direct us to stop holding meetings? Or...

CHAIR KING: I don't think the Mayor can direct us, but is there a point where the Mayor can actually enact emergency funds without the Council? Ms. Thomson?

MS. THOMSON: Thank you for the question. I don't know that I'll have the complete answer, but in terms of moving money around, the operational funds, there's a bit more leniency to be able to move those funds around such as, you know, have Parks employees do additional cleanings and things like that, or work overtime. So, those types of actions I know are ongoing right now.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Because of the state of emergency?

MS. THOMSON: Right. So, under the state of emergency. But it's not unfettered, it's, you know, as needed to respond to the emergency. But I think that the intention is to come back before the body to probably seek additional, through a budget amendment some additional funding through you folks. And in terms of cancelling meetings or Sunshine Law issues and things like that, our office has been in touch with the Office of Information Practices and then also the State AG's Office. So, I know that it's on the State's radar. It would probably be through a supplement to the Governor's proclamation to be able to relax some of the rules regarding Sunshine Law meetings so that we can accommodate video conferencing and things like that and still stay in compliance.

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CHAIR KING: Oh, that's good news to be able to do it that way. Do you know how much is in the Emergency Fund right now, Mr. Andaya?

MR. ANDAYA: I think it's about 39 million or so.

CHAIR KING: Thirty-nine million?

MR. ANDAYA: Yeah.

CHAIR KING: Okay. Ms. Paltin?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: In terms of folks that are either in self-quarantine or regular quarantine and basic needs, food or whatever it may be, is there plans in the pandemic to how that would happen? And then would the people, the economic situation of it like folks not going to work and whatnot, what is the big picture scenario for addressing those types of issues?

MR. ANDAYA: Madame Chair?

CHAIR KING: Are you able to address those?

MR. ANDAYA: I'll try.

CHAIR KING: Okay.

MR. ANDAYA: So with quarantine, if they're self-reporting, so that means they're quarantining at home, right? They're...so in that case, I mean, we wouldn't provide them food, right? But in the event, like say a visitor comes, so of course, you know, there's nowhere for them to be quarantined, right, except for the, maybe their hotel room if the hotel would allow that. But what we would do is find a quarantine facility. That's the reason why we're looking for a quarantine facility now. And then in terms of like food and, you know, those kinds of things, there's plans for that. So, and Public Health would be the lead agency on that. So, they would be responsible for establishing their quarantine facility. But we are assisting them right now with trying to locate one. . . . *(inaudible)* . . .

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And then I guess, you know, when you're talking about training facilities, do you have an estimate about how much it costs annually right now that we don't have a training facility to book them?

MR. ANDAYA: Madame Chair?

CHAIR KING: To book who?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Training facilities.

CHAIR KING: To book who? You said we don't...

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COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Book the training facility.

CHAIR KING: Oh, okay. Okay. If you can answer that, go ahead and then we'll move down to Mr. Sinenci.

MR. ANDAYA: I'll just quickly...so with respect to the training facility, you know, we...if we can't find one we typically go to like, you know, a hotel or like the MACC for instance and we'll, you know, there's monies associated with that. But if we had our own training facility, we could hold more trainings, you know. So, what's holding us back right now with holding more trainings is the fact that we don't have a facility to go to.

CHAIR KING: Okay. All right, thank you. I'm going to go to Committee Vice-Chair Shane Sinenci and then we'll come back if anyone else has any more questions at that time. Mr. Sinenci?

VICE-CHAIR SINENCI: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Director Andaya, for your presentation. Yeah, so just along the lines of the questions from Member Paltin, so say for instance the Governor sends down about closing schools. I mean, is there something that the Department would do in the County as far as school closures?

CHAIR KING: Mr. Andaya?

MR. ANDAYA: Chair, so again, the lead agency in this is the Department of Health, and right now they have not...there's no recommendation to close schools or close anything at this point. Again, there is no confirmed case on Maui. And so...but that would be, like, with respect to schools, I mean that would be the Governor's authority to do that.

VICE-CHAIR SINENCI: Okay. So, you know, Chair King mentioned about the test kits. Have...are you aware of any of the, if there has been any tests and have they been sent away and awaiting any of those tests to come back?

MR. ANDAYA: I know...oh, Madame Chair?

CHAIR KING: Director?

MR. ANDAYA: I know there are...we've done tests. And so, as an example just two days ago or three days ago there was a tourist that felt that she had symptoms for, you know, Coronavirus. And her physician agreed, and so she was tested while she was here on Maui and then the test came back negative. So, we have been sending, you know, tests to --

VICE-CHAIR SINENCI: Oh, okay.

MR. ANDAYA: --or samples --

VICE-CHAIR SINENCI: Yeah.

MR. ANDAYA: --to Oahu.

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VICE-CHAIR SINENCI: And one more, Chair. So, you've met with the Mayor and so has he been kind of prepping for the, any fallout should there be any? Anything that you can share with that meeting?

CHAIR KING: Director?

MR. ANDAYA: Madame Chair. So, we've been meeting with the Mayor quite often actually. And so, almost every day. And he's been part of our VTCs, so even though Department of Health is the lead agency, we've been having all the VTCs in the EOC downstairs. And the Mayor has been, for the most part, participating in that, in those VTCs. And then he's also made some directives. As an example, he's directed the departments to clean, like as an example, like busses. So, have the busses cleaned three times a day rather than just once a day at night. You know, so he's ordered more cleaning of our facilities. Does that answer your question, or?

VICE-CHAIR SINENCI: Sure. Has he mentioned anything about, you know, putting in extra...you mentioned that there might be some funding coming --

MR. ANDAYA: Yes.

VICE-CHAIR SINENCI: --down?

MR. ANDAYA: Yes. He will be shortly, he will be sending up a budget amendment.

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

CHAIR KING: Okay, thank you, Mr. Sinenci. Just to let you know too that because we started getting, you know, you all have probably started getting requests from different non-profits to meet with us, which, you know, we may or may not be doing in the future. But there were a couple of the non-profits that deal with afterschool programs that I, and Boys and Girls Club I actually asked Kelly Pearson to start putting some numbers together on what it would cost to run that program during the day if the schools did shut down and we need somewhere to send our kids to so people can continue to go to work so the economy doesn't come to a grinding halt. So, if we're prepared ahead of time, then I think a lot of that expense could probably also come from the hotels, and the corporations, and the businesses that need their people to come to work and to help assist in that, in the extended daycare. But that will be, that's kind of one piece of that, the, you know, the economic downfall if the schools start closing down. Because people can't go to work if they have kids at home. But that, you know, those are things that we have to start thinking about ahead of time. What other mitigations the...I'm glad that we're on top of the Sunshine Law issue so that if we need to have, you know, the meetings by phone then we can get those decision done on an emergency basis. So, thank you so much for your answer. Are there any other questions about the budget? Member Paltin?

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COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I just was wondering the cost of the test kits, if the Federal or the State government is picking it up, and if people do test negative during the incubation period?

CHAIR KING: Director?

MR. ANDAYA: I believe the test kits...so we're not paying for it. I believe it's the State that's paying for it. And with respect to your other question about testing negative during the incubation period, I don't know. I don't know what the...I know people who are being tested, they are either...they are symptomatic. So, you know, they're not testing anybody who's just sick, I mean, you have to be, you have to have certain symptoms and then they're tested.

CHAIR KING: Okay, so you have to be symptomatic in order to get tested. Because I know I've read the article, everyone probably has, about the Kula man who wanted to get tested and was denied. So, you have to be symptomatic but then in the meantime, if you're, if you know you've been exposed, are they wanting folks to self-quarantine then to see if the symptoms arise during the two-week period, it's a two-week period I think?

MR. ANDAYA: That's correct.

CHAIR KING: Okay.

MR. ANDAYA: So, we've had like situations where people have either gone to China or, you know, certain areas of China, Wuhan or, you know. Well, Wuhan. And so they, you know, they report that and then they're self, we do, you know, self-reported quarantine.

CHAIR KING: Okay.

MR. ANDAYA: Or they are in contact with somebody who's been confirmed with having --

CHAIR KING: Okay.

MR. ANDAYA: --Coronavirus. Then they can, well, they have to be quarantined as well.

CHAIR KING: Okay. Because I think there's going to be a fair amount of that where those of us who've traveled recently may have come in contact with someone who later came down with it and then we have to wait until the symptoms manifest, I guess, before we can actually go in and request a test. Member Paltin, did you have any more questions?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: No, thank you, Chair.

CHAIR KING: Okay, thank you. Any other questions? Member Sinenci? You had another question?

VICE-CHAIR SINENCI: I did have an announcement --

CHAIR KING: Okay.

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VICE-CHAIR SINENCI: --but I can wait until the end.

CHAIR KING: Okay. Do you have a question --

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: I just --

CHAIR KING: --Pro Tem Kama?

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: --a thought as you were mentioning that. If the schools close down, where do the children go? So, people start to shut down places of employment, the economy kind of goes, where do the people go? What do the people do if they are not working? And how do we prepare for that? Just food for thought.

CHAIR KING: Right.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you.

CHAIR KING: Yeah, that is definitely food for thought. I did hear and I don't know, I didn't hear any studies or anything more than anecdotal cited, but I did hear an announcement on the radio from one of our local radio DJs that most people recover. It's not necessarily a death sentence if you get the Coronavirus, and so there is a panic about it, but that it's usually two to four weeks is what was announced. It's like a cold, right? Getting a cold takes two to four weeks, possibly six weeks. But there are a fair amount of deaths that we've been hearing about, and so that's been a lot of the panic. So, just balancing out that information on, you know, how dangerous is it really and is it more...and we're hearing it's more dangerous to the older population. So, Member Paltin? Another question?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Yeah, I just was, you know, I heard the same thing that a lot of people recover and it might like, you know, a case of how many respirators and then if the majority of the population it could come down to choosing who gets the treatment and who doesn't which is part of the problem if we don't have the facilities to respond to the population at large. But I think that, you know, I was wondering at what, if you guys are...like being that a lot of people recover this is an excellent, it's not a training exercise, but it's a training exercise for the ones where a lot of people don't recover. And so, in your preparations in your responses, are you scaling it as, like, you know, this is a low Level 1 where a lot of people do recover, it hits one segment. But are you making the plans and the budgets for the worst case scenario at the same time so that we're prepared for future scalable events?

CHAIR KING: Director?

MR. ANDAYA: Madame Chair. That's a good question. So, our pandemic plan, it goes through all that. Like from, you know, like a small breakout to, you know, like a large, you know, where there's a lot of deaths and, you know, things like that. And so, yeah, the plan has those, you know, those things.

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COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: But --

MR. ANDAYA: But...

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: --budget-wise like projecting into the future like at this level if 50 percent of the population gets infected, if 75 percent of...like what the correlation is monetarily on how the, how much the cost will be in consideration of the hit to the economy as well, as well as, you know, if the difference is between where the treatment is you go to ICU and the ICUs are all overwhelmed versus the treatment when people you don't even make it to the ICU because people are just dropping. And I think we spoke before that the capacity of the hospital is six cadavers at a time. And so if, you know, that's...I don't think we've hit that six cadaver level and storage space and whatnot, body bags, are we scaling up that expense in budget?

CHAIR KING: Director?

MR. ANDAYA: Madame Chair. Not in terms of...I mean we haven't really penciled out what the expenses would be, but there are plans like mass burials and, you know, things like that. That's something the DOH, Department of Health, has planned or, I mean...but we're not at that point yet, but I see where you're coming from. I...in terms of the money part, I mean, we haven't really looked into that, but we have been like planning like if this was to be much bigger, then what is our plan at that point. I know you're saying like the hospital has its limitations, the plan does call for creating like an acute, I forget what they call it, but like a health center, you know. And we can take care of some people there. But there are, that's the kind of things that's in the plan. And if this starts to ramp up, if it gets to that point, then that's what the EOC will start doing. We'll start to implement the plan and create these like health facilities or whatever. Yeah.

CHAIR KING: Okay, thank you. We just got a media advisory that there's going to be a press conference in the Mayor's Lounge. It's not open to the public but it can be watched on *Akaku* at three o'clock with Dr. Lauren Pang from the Maui District Health Office, and Dr. Lee Weiss from Maui Memorial Medical Center, the Emergency Department. So, today at three o'clock p.m., you can watch it on *Akaku* channel 53 or watch it online at www.akaku.org/channel-53. So, hopefully we'll get some more information on what's happening locally. And then, following up on that, Mr. Sinenci has an announcement to make about your meeting that's scheduled at 1:30. Mr. Sinenci?

VICE-CHAIR SINENCI: Yeah, thank you, Chair. Yes, in light of the County's efforts to address Covid-19 and, you know, the recent developments here at the Council including the cancellation of district meetings, we've decided to cancel this afternoon's EACP meeting. And so, we just wanted to apologize to our invited guests, our resources, staff, testifiers who have provided input and for their hard work. But in lieu of public health and anticipating this afternoon's press release, we just wanted to just be responsible and ensure everyone's health here at the Chambers and in our surrounding community. So, mahalo.

CHAIR KING: Okay. Thank you so much for that and yeah, apologies again for the folks who were going to, were expecting to have their issues heard today. But we're also waiting to

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hear whether or not the full Council meeting gets canceled for tomorrow, so stay tuned for that. As far as I know right now, it's still on. But the Chair will make a decision on that. She's been meeting with the Mayor as well. And I think with that, I really appreciate you being here, Director. And I appreciate all the updates that you can give us. I know a large part of this particular pandemic we're dealing with is Public Health as well, so I know you're working closely with them. And we ironically did have a meeting scheduled I think Councilmember Hokama in his upcoming meeting was supposed to be addressing the Coronavirus, but now it's probably questionable whether that meeting will actually happen. So, we're all kind of in a flux of deciding which, you know, how often to gather, where to gather, what kind of groups to gather in, and it's very likely that probably over 50 percent of the people in the islands have, you know, already been exposed to somebody that you didn't even know later on you'll find out they had it. So, it is kind of, it is a concern of what's going to happen in the future. And appreciate your openness with, you know, sharing what you know. We're all trying to gather the most accurate information. And thank you, Ms. Thomson, for being here as well.

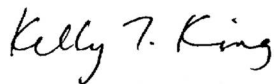
COUNCILMEMBERS VOICED NO OBJECTIONS. (Excused: RH, AL)

ACTION: DEFER PENDING FURTHER DISCUSSION.

CHAIR KING: And with that, we'll go ahead and adjourn and let everybody get back and quarantine yourselves if you choose to. Twelve oh four, adjourned. Thank you. . . .(gavel). . .

ADJOURN: 12:04 p.m.

APPROVED:



KELLY TAKAYA KING, Chair
Climate Action and Resilience Committee

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Transcribed by: Crystal Sakai

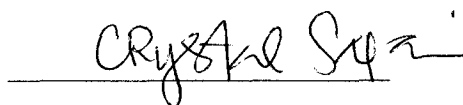
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CERTIFICATE

I, Crystal Sakai, 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 6th day of April, 2020, in Kahului, Hawaii



Crystal Sakai