

COUNCIL CHAIR'S MEETING
Council of the County of Maui

MINUTES

January 27, 2021

Online Only via BlueJeans

CONVENE: 10:03 a.m.

PRESENT: Councilmember Alice L. Lee, Council Chair
Councilmember Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez, Council Vice-Chair, and
Chair, Budget, Finance, and Economic Development Committee
Councilmember Tasha Kama, Presiding Officer Pro Tempore, and Chair,
Human Concerns and Parks Committee
Councilmember Gabe Johnson, Chair, Affordable Housing Committee
Councilmember Kelly Takaya King, Chair, Climate Action, Resilience,
and Environment Committee (In 10:39 a.m.)
Councilmember Michael J. Molina, Chair, Government Relations, Ethics,
and Transparency Committee
Councilmember Tamara Paltin, Chair, Planning and Sustainable Land
Use Committee
Councilmember Shane M. Sinenci, Chair, Agriculture and Public Trust
Committee
Councilmember Yuki Lei K. Sugimura, Chair, Infrastructure and
Transportation Committee (Out 11:30 a.m.)

STAFF: Traci N. T. Fujita, Director, Office of Council Services
David M. Raatz, Supervising Legislative Attorney
Tammy M. Frias, Supervising Committee Secretary
Kathy Kaohu, County Clerk

ADMIN.: Marcie Hoag, Safety Specialist III, Risk Management Services,
Department of the Corporation Counsel

OTHERS: **Office of Council Services Staff:**

Research Section:

Shelly Espeleta, Supervising Legislative Analyst
Laksmi M. Abraham, Legislative Analyst
James Forrest, Legislative Attorney
Wilton Leauanae, Legislative Analyst
Ana L. Lillis, Legislative Analyst
Lesley Milner, Budget Committee Analyst
Richard E. Mitchell, Legislative Attorney
Nicole Siegel, Legislative Analyst
Alison Stewart, Legislative Analyst
Kasie Apo Takayama, Legislative Analyst

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Secretarial Section:

Clarita Balala, Committee Secretary
Yvette Bouthillier, Committee Secretary
Pauline Martins, Committee Secretary
Keoni Shirota, Committee Secretary
Raynette Yap, Committee Secretary
Lei Dinneen, Council Services Assistant Clerk
Jean Pokipala, Council Services Assistant Clerk

Support Section:

Marlene Rebugio, Support Supervisor
Eric M. Abe, Council Services Technician
April Gragas, Accounts Payable Specialist
Bruce Hashimoto, Council Services Technician
Nicole Kahinu, Senior Accountant
Wendy Kane, Personnel Specialist

Office of the County Clerk Staff:

James Krueger, Deputy County Clerk
Joyce Murashige, Clerk to the County Council
Lauren Saldana, Assistant Clerk to the Council
Dell-Fin Yoshida, Council Information and Reference Technician
Jo-Ann A. Joan, Senior Election Clerk
Dana Ann Nakooka, Senior Election Clerk
Jamie M. Matsumoto, Election Clerk II
Marielle E. Ramos, Election Clerk II
Jillian P. Ugalino, Temporary Election Clerk

Councilmember's Office Staff:

Dianne Shimizu, Executive Assistant to Council Chair Alice L. Lee
Diane Wakamatsu, Executive Assistant to Council Chair Alice L. Lee
Sarah Freistat Pajimola, Executive Assistant to Council Vice-Chair
Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez
Mahina Poepoe, Executive Assistant to Council Vice-Chair Keani N.W.
Rawlins-Fernandez
Evan Dust, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Tasha Kama
Davideane K. Sickels, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Tasha
Kama
Lois Whitney, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Tasha Kama
Kate Griffiths, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Gabe Johnson
Keisa Liu, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Gabe Johnson
Axel I. Beers, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Kelly Takaya King
Michelle Del Rosario, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Kelly
Takaya King
Laura L McDowell, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Michael J.
Molina
Gary Saldana, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Michael J.
Molina

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Christi A. Keliikoa, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Tamara Paltin

Angela Lucero, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Tamara Paltin

Dawn Lono, Executive Assistant to Shane M. Sinenci

Jordan Helle, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Yuki Lei K. Sugimura

Miki Yokouchi, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Yuki Lei K. Sugimura

Michele Blair, Council Aide, West Maui Council Office

Zhantell Lindo, Council Aide, Molokai Council Office

Others (1)

CHAIR LEE: . . .*(gavel)*. . . This is my meat cleaver. Will the meeting please come to order. Hello, everybody. We have people coming and going and really busy people on the call, so we have to be very efficient today.

1. **EMERGENCY RESPONSE TRAINING BY RISK MANAGEMENT** (Director of Council Services)

CHAIR LEE: We're...we're going to start off with the emergency response training, a 15-minute training. If you have questions...we're not going to take questions, okay? You have questions, write them down and send them to Traci, and then Traci can share the questions and answers with us later on. So Traci, would you like to introduce Marcie, please?

MS. FUJITA: Sure. So we want to welcome Marcie Hoag. She's the Safety Specialist III from the Risk Management Division. She's graciously offered to do a refresher training for us this morning on emergency procedures. She's going to touch on her...you've got a copy of her PowerPoint, she'll touch on some of the different types of emergencies in the beginning, and kind of focus her training on what to do.

CHAIR LEE: Traci? Traci, let me interrupt you for one second.

MS. FUJITA: Oh, okay.

CHAIR LEE: I was rushing so much, I forgot to note all the Members who are here.

MS. FUJITA: Oh, okay.

CHAIR LEE: So for the record, good morning, Members. In Samoa, we say talofa. And Member Kama --

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Talofa.

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CHAIR LEE: -- if you...if you would...do you have enough coffee or would you like "Samoa?" So everybody say...we have Member Kama, we have Member Paltin, we have Member Molina, we have Member Sinenci, we have Member Johnson, we have Vice-Chair Rawlins-Fernandez --

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Talofa.

CHAIR LEE: -- and we have Member Sugimura. Right? Did I miss any Members? Because, you know, we do record these meetings so that's why it's important that we take attendance in the beginning, which I...I apologize for not doing. Okay, Traci, you can pick up where you left off.

MS. FUJITA: Okay. Okay, so I'll just turn it over to Marcie. Marcie, thank you again for providing the training for us.

Note: Computer-generated presentation.

MS. HOAG: Thank you, Traci. And aloha, Council Chair and all distinguished Councilmembers, and all OCS and Clerk's Office Staff. Thank you for having me today. I will be short and to the point so...I know you're very busy. Let me share my screen with you real quick so I can get the presentation up. Okay. Can everybody see that okay and hear me okay?

CHAIR LEE: Yes.

MS. HOAG: Okay. So today we're just going to briefly talk about the Emergency Action Plan for the County buildings. It includes the three buildings on the Wailuku campus. And then we'll briefly touch upon the different positions in our emergency response teams. Just a quick kind of refresher, the reason why we have this plan is so that everyone knows how to respond in the case of an emergency. We don't want anyone trying to figure out what to do right when something happens. It's always nice to plan ahead and make sure that everyone is aware of the different directions and different things that we will be doing during an emergency. The plan is available to everyone on the County intranet, so you can look at it at any time. And I think Traci has also sent out of a copy of it for you to review. We do conduct trainings regularly, especially for members of our Emergency Response Team so that they're familiar with the plan. We have this plan developed for a number of emergencies. For some things that may come to your mind very quickly, such as a fire or active shooter event, a civil disturbance, but they're also for things that you may not think need an emergency plan, such as an electrical outage or a broken waterline. Even a first aid or a medical emergency is included in this plan. The first emergency that we always discuss is usually a fire emergency. We've been very lucky that we haven't had any issues recently in this building, but it is always possible that we could have a fire. We instruct employees that if you do have a fire that is as small as a little garbage can, say in your office next to your desk, that if you are trained, you can use the fire extinguishers that are located on the floor. But anything larger than that, we ask that you do not attempt to put it out, that you contact 911, get Maui Fire responding as

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soon as possible, and then begin the evacuation procedures. And we'll discuss those on the next slide. Always remember that when there is a fire, it's important to pull that fire alarm because that is what is going to alert everyone else in the building that there is an emergency and they need to begin evacuating. The employees on your floor that are assigned to the emergency response team will proceed to their assigned duties, and they will help everyone evacuate and clear the floor. Just as a little note, the floor warden is kind of the person that's in charge of your floor when an emergency happens, and their responsibility is to call 911, give a description, they can do this on their cell phone, and then the assistant floor warden will help begin evacuating everybody. They're also going to contact the building captain, which will be in charge of the emergency until the Fire Department gets here. One thing I want to say, when you do hear a fire alarm go off in the building, I know that sometimes people think oh, it's just a drill, but it's very important that if you were not informed beforehand, that you treat it as if it was a true emergency. We have had issues in the past with people saying that they didn't want to leave their computers. Unfortunately, that's not the right way to do it. We don't want anyone to get injured or hurt if there really was an emergency, so we want you to kind of practice. Even if you think that it's nothing, just assume that it's something until someone tells you differently. There are some fire equipment located on every floor. We do have fire hoses at the stairwells. Those should only be used, really, by the Fire Department personnel. But like I said, if you're trained to use the extinguishers, you can use those on small fires only, as small as a tiny trashcan by your desk. The evacuation plans...the maps of the floor are located near the elevator. So sometime, you know, when you're waiting for an elevator, just kind of nice to take a peek at those and see which way you should be evacuating and where all the exits are on any floor that you are on. You're very familiar with the 7th and 8th floor because you guys traverse those a lot, but you may not be as familiar with, say, our floor or maybe the 4th floor. So it's always important to give those a look when you're...you're by the elevators. The evacuation plans will also show you where the extinguishers are located, the AEDs, and the Evacu-chair, which there are three of them on the 7th, 8th, and 9th floor of this building. If we had a bomb threat in the building, what we ask is if it comes in by phone, we want the person that answered the phone to really listen to the caller, try to figure out some distinguishing features, any background noise that you can hear, any keywords that they say, did they threaten anyone in particular or any floor in particular, the voice quality, any accents, anything like that that could possibly help the Police Department identify who this person is. If we do have a bomb threat, the person is to notify their supervisor immediately, and then they will proceed to notify MPD and the building captain. For a bomb threat, MPD would ultimately be in charge of the building as soon as they arrive. Obviously we don't want you to touch anything if you see any kind of packages or if someone has left something in the office. Refrain from turning off your cell phones, sometimes that frequency can trigger a possible explosion. Don't turn off any lights, and do not activate the fire alarm system. Really, all we're doing is just evacuating the building as fast as we can. Same thing goes for any suspicious items. If you see a box or a bag or something laying around or someone deliver something to your office, try as hard as you can not to handle it. If you have handled it, we want you to put it down possibly in a plastic container or put something over it. Do not try to clean up any powder that may come out of that, and leave the room and

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close the door. We're going to have MPD come to the building and do their process, and also alert the building captain. Depending on the seriousness and what we think it could be, MPD may evacuate the building. That call can also be made by the building captain or the Managing Director's Office. Toxic hazards or unknown odors, we just say please report that to Public Works. There's three individuals that can field that call, and then they will send someone to figure out exactly what the substance possibly is, and if it requires building activation...or I'm sorry, evacuation, the Engineering Department will notify the building captain, and they'll proceed from there. The active shooter protocol, I know we did a drill recently with you guys about a year and a half ago. The active shooter protocol is the only emergency where we would not activate the emergency response team. Because of the seriousness and the emergent nature of an active shooter, it is kind of a every-man-for-themselves, but if you can assist people as you're making your way out of a building or off of a floor, you can also do that. But we really want everyone to focus on the...the run, hide, fight scenarios that were brought up through the Department of Homeland Security. That booklet is attached to the....the Emergency Response Plan for anybody to review at any time. So just remember, no activation of the emergency response teams in an active shooter event. Nuclear threat or a missile attack, hopefully we never have to deal with any of that, and MEMA has put out a very good guide that is also attached to the Emergency Response Plan that can give you tips or ways that we would handle such a thing. And MEMA will really be in control of the situation if that were to happen. Workplace violence, that is considered an emergency that we have to plan for, and that kind of brings in anything, whether it's threats to an employee, threats to someone's wellbeing, or destruction of property. We always want to have whoever the employee is that is...is in the conflict, they should let their supervisor know immediately because we may need to evacuate that floor or have other employees shelter in place, depending on the situation. And then that supervisor will also inform the building captain, and they will make a conscious decision of what the next step is, if it's proceeding with MPD, if we need to evacuate the entire building, it just kind of depends on the situation for that one. An earthquake, very possible event here. It comes really with no warning and there can be aftershocks, so we do want employees to understand that we want to wait to evacuate until after the aftershocks are stopped, and sometimes that can take a few minutes, it can take a couple hours. But what we will try to do is MEMA will take control because they'll be in communication with the National Weather Service, and they can give us kind of tips as to yes, it's safe to evacuate, no, you should still shelter in place in the office. The...the advice from MEMA is to...if you cannot evacuate, you should go under your desk to give yourself some sort of cover. Stay away from bookshelves or windows. Hurricanes and tsunamis, we usually have pretty good warning for hurricanes, but tsunamis we may not have a lot of warning. With that, we are going to once again let MEMA be kind of the guidance as to what should be done. The Mayor may say if we know a hurricane is coming in, he may tell all employees to stay home, which he has done in the past, so we would continue to follow that protocol. If you happen to be here, we do want you to shelter in place and stay away from windows and secure any doors because we don't want anyone to be subject to any breaking windows or anything like that. Also, we usually, if we have a hurricane event, the Mayor or IT will actually come on and tell everyone to disconnect their...their computers and things so they don't get surges.

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Medical emergencies, we do train our ERT members in first aid and CPR, so they are trained and ready to help if needed. If it's a severe medical emergency, obviously we're going to call 911 and notify the building captain just so that they're aware of the situation. Electrical outages, we should call Public Works' Engineering Department and they will come up and assess, and if they need to they can contact Maui Electric. They can also let the building captain know if any further action is needed after that. The same thing with broken waterlines, we're still going to call the Department of Public Works, Engineering Department and then they will contact Water Supply to tell them that there's a broken waterline and how we should proceed from there. Okay. So for evacuation procedures, the Emergency Response Team personnel are trained to go to certain areas within the floor to evacuate everyone from the building. Remember that we are not going to activate them during the active shooter scenario. Anybody that is not assigned to the ERT should listen to those members and follow the evacuation procedures. We have divided up the floors, as you can see, for when...where they should evacuate to. We don't want everyone rushing down the same stairwells. So for your floors, for 7 and 8, you guys would proceed to the Wells Street stairwell. You would evacuate on the 2nd floor kind of behind Finance, and you would proceed down the stairway across the street to the State Office Building, and you wait in the parking lot, and that's where your meeting point is. So your floor wardens for the 7th and 8th floor at that time would take attendance to make sure that everyone is evacuated and accounted for. If you do have disabled people on your floor, there are the Evacu-chairs on 7, 8, and 9. Usually your...you would need some help, so the stair guards are usually the ones that would take control of those chairs and help those individuals out. If you bring them all the way down to the 2nd floor, instead of proceeding down the stairwell by Prosecuting Attorney's Office, you would just proceed to the front of the building near High Street and walk around that way just for the wheelchair access. If you're on any other floor that exits out to the Kaohu Street side, you're going to proceed across the street to the parking lot over by the Trask Building for your meeting place. We ask that you do not move any vehicles initially after the evacuation because that may get in the way of Police and Fire responding and setting up their equipment. So we will keep all vehicles...unless they specifically tell you to move something, we're going to keep all vehicles in place until the building is cleared. And once again, please don't return to the building until the Fire...Fire Department or Police Department give the all clear. So for the Emergency Response Teams, they are kind of the first line of defense when an emergency occurs. They're trained in CPR, first aid, fire extinguishers, and the evacuation chairs. Once again, we will not be using them during active shooters. So these are the positions that we have. Right now we're kind of restructuring who's in there because some of these people have moved buildings or they've changed departments. So if anyone knows of anyone that would like to step up and be part of the Emergency Response Team, please let us know, or if you would like to nominate someone that you think would be great in the position. So for the building captain, they're assuming charge of the building until the Fire Department and Police Department arrive. They're going to position themselves on the 1st floor in the Mayor's parking stall, and they're going to set up a command post basically, and they're going to report the status of the building evacuation to the authorities when they arrive. The assistants will step in if the building captain is not available that day, but they're also going to be positioned in the

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lobby of the 2nd floor to make sure that no one enters the building from that way. The multi-building coordinator is in charge of basically making sure that if we have an alarm in this building, that the employees in the courthouse and the Pakui Building are aware of what is going on and they know why there is an evacuation. If they need to evacuate as well, they will also do so per this...the multi-building coordinator. And then we have an assistant just in case the first coordinator is not available. So each floor has a warden, and they are basically going to be in charge of the floor when an emergency happens. It's their responsibility to call 911 and to initiate the evacuation procedures. They should also be in touch with the building captain and Risk Management and the multi-building coordinator, if necessary. The floor warden, along with the assistant floor warden, will be responsible for making sure that the floor is clear before they leave. So they need to walk around the floor and make sure that no one is left behind and everyone is out of their offices, doors closed. If at all possible, make sure that everything is...is out before they leave the floor because we really want to make sure we have accountability to all of our employees. They're also going to do periodic visual checks of the fire equipment on the floor, just making sure that there isn't any broken extinguishers or anything like that. And then they also are in charge of assigning personnel to be stair guards. The assistant will obviously take charge if the floor warden is not available. The stair guards are used to help people evacuate down the stairwell. There's going to be two for each side, a main stair guard and an assistant. Same procedures would apply on both stairwells. You really want to make sure that no one uses the elevators, that they're using the stairs only if you're on the Kaohu Street side and on the Wells Street side also. You just want to make sure everyone gets out before you leave as you go down the stairs. Okay. Just to summarize really quick, these are the procedures that we use for emergency evacuations. I know that it was kind of quick, but you guys can review the Emergency Action Plan at your leisure. Please, if we do have an emergency, the best thing to do is for everyone to stay calm and just follow the orders of the floor warden and the stair guards, and we have these procedures in place so that everyone can get out safely. I listed here the departments that would be jurisdiction over certain events, and they're pretty self-explanatory, not anything too...too shocking there. And that is all. I hope I...I got it in in time.

MS. FUJITA: Thanks, Marcie.

CHAIR LEE: Thank you, Marcie. We will send you questions if we have any.

MS. HOAG: Okay. Thank you very much, I appreciate it.

CHAIR LEE: And then, Members, you were sent the...whatever she presented you were sent, yeah, so you...please keep that in your offices in a easy-to-access area. And if you have any questions, feel free to transmit your...submit your questions to Traci and then...who will be in touch with Marcie, and we'll get your answers for you. Okay? So thank you, Marcie, again, and --

MS. HOAG: Thank you.

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CHAIR LEE: -- hope we don't have to deal with any of these issues.

MS. HOAG: Yes.

2. 'IMI PONO CHALLENGE CONTINUES (Council Chair Lee)

CHAIR LEE: Now, moving on to the next item is the 'Imi Pono Challenge, which is on your agendas. As you know, we just completed our inaugural event, and I just want to let you know from time to time, I will be giving you updates on the next event, which we hope this to be a series of events. I have already met with Debbie Cabebe of Maui Economic Opportunity and Pam Tumpap of the Chamber, so they will...of the two, Debbie will actually be sort of taking over the...the operations of this 'Imi Pono Challenge, and Pam will be assisting her. And then we will, you know, provide...be resources to them as well. But they will be doing the...you know, most of the work. Thank goodness because, you know, Shelly, Alison, Kasie, Mona, Kayna, Dianne, and myself spent like eight months on this project, and it was very, very time consuming. But yeah, granted it...how did that go off? You haven't been hearing me the whole time? Oh.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Like the last two sentences.

CHAIR LEE: I didn't touch anything.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: After eight months.

CHAIR LEE: Yeah, eight months of...of working really hard, and this was really time consuming. And hopefully we...when we do our evaluation, we can save a lot of time by, you know, changing...making changes to our procedures. But anyway, we believe that this is really worthwhile. And as you know, we're not going to just stop it at giving out prizes, we're going to connect the kids to experts in their field. And then we're going to also work on the next one. So I'll be keeping...keeping you apprised of that. Any questions?

3. VISITOR PROTOCOL (Council Chair Lee)

CHAIR LEE: If not, the third item is the Visitor Protocol. This is something I'd like you to look over when you had...have a chance and give me some feedback. I received a copy of the protocol from Corp. Counsel, and they have a pretty neat procedure, basic procedure, and I thought we should have one too because...because of having to sanitize our areas and making sure that people that come to the building wear their masks. So we need to have some kind of protocol that applies across the board to the 7th and 8th floors. So I will send you a copy, and then feel free to provide your comments so we can finalize the protocol for the 7th and 8th floors.

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4. **MAUI COUNTY LEGISLATIVE BRANCH CAMPUS** (Council Chair Lee)

CHAIR LEE: Now, number four is to me one of the most exciting things we'll do ever and that is in another...I'm not sure, Vice-Chair, when we're going to receive the proposal.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: It will be in the BFED Committee in the next week, Wednesday.

CHAIR LEE: In the next week?

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yeah. So it should be already...no, what is today? Wednesday. So it'll be posted tomorrow --

CHAIR LEE: Okay.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: -- for the Committee meeting next week.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. So technically it's not on the agenda, so I can talk to you about it. We have the opportunity--and this is subject to the approval of the Council, but I hope and pray you approve it--we have the opportunity to buy *The Maui News* building. And the thing is, we can transform that building into the legislative campus for Maui County, meaning OCS, Councilmembers, and eventually OCC move there, and we will have our own campus and not be subject to all the rules and regulations and constraints of the current building. Now, you might think well, why...why don't we just redesign our two floors? Well, it...we just don't have enough space. We have had the same amount of space for 47 years, yeah? And for those of you who weren't born yet, when I was first on the Council, yeah, it was...it was okay because we were only allowed to have one employee. Today we have three and four and five, whatever, yeah? One employee who was half-time. That was our budget. So I was in one office, and my half-time person was in the other office. Now we're bumping into each other. And also, I don't know whose idea it was to design the Chamber the way it is, but it has probably been the most useless building in the entire County system. Because when I first started we only used the Chamber for Council meetings. So if you can picture this where all the researchers are, our analysts, that was the committee room. Now you know where all your analysts are situated? And then when there were...was no election going on, we would use the other side, the OCC side committee room when there was no election going on. So that was our space. And 30 years ago it may have been okay, but today, as you know...okay, 30 years ago, picture this, the 9th floor had the Mayor's Office, yeah, Corp. Counsel, Economic...Office of Economic Development, and some other offices. And so only on one side was the Mayor's side. Today, the Mayor has the entire floor. Corp. Counsel is on the 3rd floor. Oh, yeah, CDBG was up there too. CDBG is out, Economic Development is out, and all these types of offices are out, so the Mayor has the benefit of all 15,000 square feet. We have the same amount of square footage as 47 years ago. So as soon as we have a chance, we're going to schedule a site inspection of *The Maui News*. And the person who will be the spearheading this for the Administration is the Finance Director, Scott Teruya. So what I would like to do today is suggest...make the suggestion to you. I have had the

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opportunity to...to view the place, to visit the place with the Mayor last month, and it's a very big space, and it has room to grow. We have about six acres there. So you know, it's...it's possible to add more buildings in...over time, but for the...for now, I believe we have enough space in the existing building, *The Maui News* building, for Councilmembers and OCS. I do not believe we have enough room for OCC. So my recommendation is going to be that OCC stay on the 7th floor until we can find them bigger quarters. Yeah? Okay, so...and then they'll have the full-time use of the committee room that they...that they only use once in a while. Yes, Ms. Paltin?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Oh, I just was wondering, given these tentative plans, did you need to move forward with the sprinkler installation in the Chambers?

CHAIR LEE: I don't know. I'm...I'm sure Kathy has been working on that. Kathy...and...so is Kathy on the call? If not, Traci? My understanding, we...we were moving forward, but let...let me...oh, is James on the call? James, I see you. James? Oh, Kathy? Okay, Kathy.

MS. KAOHU: Hi, good morning.

CHAIR LEE: What's the status on that?

MS. KAOHU: As of right now, we're still moving forward with the upgrades.

CHAIR LEE: Well, the Administration would be taking over the 7th and 8th floors. I mean, we don't get to keep two. We wouldn't want two anyway. At the...at *The Maui News* building it'll be our campus. It'll be more accessible by the public, they don't have to...even our...we'll have adequate employee parking, adequate public parking. I mean, we'll be close to the...to the hospital, to the police station, you know, a very central area. And we're also looking into the possibility of accessing the building from the back, which is the Papa...Papa Avenue side. So it has many, many, many pluses. What I'm going to be recommending is that assuming that you guys are going to approve this...if you don't approve it, we stay where we are and we continue to be squeezed in and not really have a decent amount of space. Because the fact of the matter is we are a bunch of hypocrites if we stayed where we are. Because we have people using closets for offices, we have...our OCS Office is such that it is not ADA compliant. There's no wheelchair that can access Nicole and Yvette and...and other places within that office. I mean, we break every single Building Code rule on the 7th floor. And...and we're not too sharp on the 8th floor either by stuffing people in the offices. So again, you know, I think there's ample arguments that we need to move to a place that is not only conducive to carrying on our business, but it has opportunities to grow. I mean, we...we got to think of not only of ourselves, but of the future. Yes, Ms. Kama?

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Yeah, do you have a timeline for this begin to end move-in?

CHAIR LEE: Well, we are constrained by the existing occupants of *The Maui News*. In other words they have to move out.

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COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Yeah. Oh, yeah, yeah.

CHAIR LEE: They have to move out, you know. So...so in the meantime, this is what I'm going to propose. That we start designing our section, yeah, now. In...in...because eventually, when it's time to move, we want to be able to go, right? So we want to be thinking of floorplans and how does everybody have, you know, an equal amount of space, but for now and in the future. And then that's why I was going to recommend that our Vice-Chair be in charge of setting up a preliminary plan for us, and then we give our feedback to her. So that means Vice-Chair Rawlins-Fernandez will probably work with the Administration on this, with Scott, with Public Works, whatever, and to come up with a basic plan for us. And then I would ask Traci to come up with that same basic preliminary plan for OCS because we will be sharing the building with OCS definitely. There is space behind, there's like a two-story building, and there's a huge warehouse that we may not be...which may not be available to us right away until *The Maui News* people move out. Because I think they're going from where they are back there, and then eventually finding their own space. So there's a certain amount of leaseback going on, discount. I'm not sure of the exact details. But the...*The Maui News* needs some transition time to not only move to the back, but then eventually move out...off the property. So if you allow me to do that, I would like to...as soon as we...we decide on buying it, get them working on a preliminary plan so that they can give it to us and then we can, you know, review it, provide input, and then eventually...eventually start moving on it. We may need...well, I'm pretty sure we're going to have to have some construction done because when we repurpose that building, it has to fit our needs, yeah? I mean, we don't need a dark room, we don't, you know, need some of the things that they...they have there. So how are you feeling about this so far? Are you excited as me? Okay, good, good.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Kind of conflicted.

CHAIR LEE: Well, any objections? Let me put it that way. Are there any objections?

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: That's...well, that's why I asked the question about the time because we're in COVID times, we...I'm not sure what our budget's going to look like, and, you know, it's just those kinds of issues. But if...if you're thinking that this is probably going to be maybe ten years down the road and we can...I don't know, you know, if...how you plan things out this year, next year, and over time.

CHAIR LEE: I don't think this is ten years down the road. I...I'm looking at...I mean, optimistically, I wish it were one year, but maybe it might be a year and a half, and that may be overly optimistic too. But you know, I don't know about you, but the building serves us no purpose.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Oh yeah, I don't have a --

CHAIR LEE: It's hard...it's hard for the public --

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COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: -- I mean, I...I...I --

CHAIR LEE: -- to get to the 8th floor --

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: -- agree, I think --

CHAIR LEE: -- you know.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: -- we do need a bigger space, and I do...you know, I think you can justify it, and...and I wouldn't have a problem with it. I'm just thinking about whether or not we would have the money, and that's what I think we should allow our Vice-Chair to do the preliminaries, even in terms of maybe budgeting too --

CHAIR LEE: Yeah. We're going to --

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: -- just to get a sense of...

CHAIR LEE: -- receive that proposal. We're going to receive that proposal --

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Yeah.

CHAIR LEE: -- as the Vice-Chair said in about a week --

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Yeah.

CHAIR LEE: -- or so. And believe me --

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Okay.

CHAIR LEE: -- you know, the numbers have been worked out by the Administration. Yes...well --

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Oh, I think that's what it is, Chair --

CHAIR LEE: -- I saw...

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: -- I think not knowing no...not knowing is probably what is, you know, up in the air. But I think once we know, then I think we'd feel a lot more comfortable because then we will know.

CHAIR LEE: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Okay, thank you.

CHAIR LEE: Ms. Paltin, and then Vice-Chair. Ms. Paltin? And I see Ms. King on the call now. Welcome. Okay.

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COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. I just was wondering, it seemed like last term during the budget, like you know, Member Kama, there was a slight discussion about, you know, district offices for all the Members, and, you know, with this COVID situation, many of us aren't in the building. If somebody from the 7th floor needs my office space, I would...I would gladly let people get out of the closets since we're not really using it. But I was thinking that we shouldn't try to do both, you know? Like we should choose if people are going to have outreach offices in their district and do this. It's not that I'm opposed to purchasing *The Maui News* building, but like Member Kama said, it may be hard for some of our constituents to swallow that during these times when so many people are out of a job. Like maybe so if we were relocating some departments that are taking up rental space, like how the Service Center, you know, they said it's cheaper to buy or move than continue to rent and...and pencil it out that way. And maybe we can have more space, like say the 6th floor or something like that. But I just have a little bit hard time, you know, like trying to make an announcement to the public that we're going to renovate, and make a new Chambers, and then I guess renovate the old Chambers to be useful to somebody. And you know, I really thank the Members for allowing us to have this West Maui office. And I...I think it would be great for all Members to have an office in their district to be close to their people to, you know, be able to interact and hear straight from them. And that would...that would be kind of my preference. But I'm looking forward to a more full discussion with more information and details in Committee. But that's my...just my initial reaction.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. Thank you. Vice-Chair?

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. I...I was just going to share a little bit more information as...and as Member Paltin said, we'll receive more details. But basically, when we purchased the Hawaiian Tel building last year, that move is...is going to be saving us tens of thousands of dollars in rent. And so this move, while would benefit Council, is about saving the County money. Right now we're spending so much money leasing space in One Main Plaza, in the Promenade building, in different, you know, various buildings in Wailuku. And...and it's...it's...it's costing us a lot of money. So the...the goal is to try to get all of our departments and divisions into County-owned buildings. And the...the cost of building a new building, as we know with like the Service Center and, you know, other buildings that, you know, it costs what, like \$20 million. The Wailuku service center...or the Wailuku parking lot...I forget what it's...civic hub is...is 40 million. You know, so we know how much it costs to build a brand-new structure, and...and so it's...it's...*The Maui News* building and the six acres that it's on is 9.8 million, and it...it will...I mean, that's substantially less than building something new for the Administration's departments to move into. And so it...it is about cost saving for our...our taxpayers, but yeah, like, you know, we know that there...there will be more details on that. Mahalo, Chair.

CHAIR LEE: Yeah, we will...we will get all the numbers. We haven't had...we've only had preliminary information given to us, but we will work through all the details. And believe me, it...the Administration sees this as a huge cost savings to them. So --

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VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yeah. About --

CHAIR LEE: -- you know...

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: -- \$25,000 a month. Over \$25,000 a month we would be able to save in renting space in other buildings.

CHAIR LEE: Yeah. And millions over time. Member King, and then Member Sugimura.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay, thank you, folks. I...I'm assuming we're on item number four. Sorry to just hop in --

CHAIR LEE: Yes, yes.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: -- in the middle of the conversation, but I just finished with another meeting. So when we get those numbers, are we also going to get estimates, even if they're rough estimates, on what it's going to cost to renovate the building and to make it, you know, divide it up and, you know, whatever they're going to do with it and put that into...so that we know fully the full expense, not just the cost of buying the existing building and the property, but what we're actually signing up for as far as...I mean, just...just having been in that building, there's going...I know there's going to be some renovations and major remodel. So that should be part of that mix too. But you know, I'm all for the idea of...of cost savings, but I also know that we didn't quite get the cost savings we were promised when the new Service Center opened up. You know, we were supposed to be vacating One Main Plaza, and we're still renting space in One Main Plaza, so. And there was also an agreement at that time to put the County Clerk's Office in that building, and that didn't happen either. So you know, some of these loose agreements that happen when we do these purchases, we've got to put those in writing because we...if we had that in writing, we'd be moving County Clerk's Office into the Service Center, you know, we would have already had them moved in. So let's...let's understand that a wing and a prayer doesn't make it when we make these agreements with the Administration.

CHAIR LEE: Ms. King --

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Thank you.

CHAIR LEE: -- and that's another thing I'm going to be asking...well, I'm going to be proposing. I'm not supposed to be advocating a vote one way or the other, but just to let you know that I plan to proviso the Mayor's proposal to say that this will be for the County Council. So we will have a building. It's not like they dangle a carrot so we go for it, and then we get nothing. We're going to get that building.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay. I trust you. That...I...I just...I trust you because I just...I know, you know, that's what we were supposed to have with the Service Center, we didn't get it, so I think we've learned our lesson.

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CHAIR LEE: Ms. Sugimura?

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: So in the analysis, can you also...also describe where the Chambers are going to be or does the new building...we're going to have to build a beautiful Chamber like what we're seeing with Shane and Tasha's screen or...or what is the vision for that? And is that also going to be the meeting rooms that you're talking about? So what are the renovations going to...renovations cost, what about the Chambers, cybersecurity and all those things that are important, you know, for us to proceed. And yeah, I think we all are...are kind of in the same shoes as what Tamara and Tasha are talking about as far as the pandemic and the timing of this. So I look forward to hearing the numbers and justification. Thank you.

CHAIR LEE: Sure. And the Vice-Chair will be happy to work on that as...as we get more information because we...we've received some of it from...because they're proposing it, actually. And so we're saying okay, if we...if we agree to your proposal, then we need to have that building, and even if we proviso it so that we are ensured of getting it. They...they want to use the 7th and 8th floors. They want to bring...if we go there, they're going to bring people back into the building. All that rent that's been going out. And so the...the beauty of this proposal is that we're going to purchase it so over time we will own it, you know. Mr. Molina, did you have a question? You look like you're thinking or something.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Yeah, I was thinking about...you know, following up on Councilmember Sugimura's question about the Chambers, yeah. So we're going to have a...well, I guess the...the long-term view is do away with the old Chambers, everybody just come to this new campus to give testimony and whatnot, yeah?

CHAIR LEE: Right.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Okay. Yeah.

CHAIR LEE: And we'll have an opportunity to make it modern.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Yeah.

CHAIR LEE: I mean, so that people don't feel left out in the back. I mean, if you've gone to O'ahu, you know, they don't have people on...they have people on the sides.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Yeah.

CHAIR LEE: And then everybody has a different way...only Maui is the...

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Yeah.

CHAIR LEE: I'm...I'm not sure why it was designed that way, but I have a...my feeling is that it was due to the influence of Elmer Cravalho, who was Speaker of the House for many years, yeah. And he was the first Mayor to...to occupy that building. So I'm sure he

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had a lot to say on how everything was designed, and how the legislative floors would look like, but that...that has never met our needs, never. Even when I was there earlier, it never.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Yeah. Yeah.

CHAIR LEE: We only...like I said, we only used it for Council meetings. Committee meetings were held other places.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Yeah. And...and...and definitely, we should have the Councilmembers facing the door instead of our backs, yeah? For safety purposes. That's the --

CHAIR LEE: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: -- first thing that needs to be --

CHAIR LEE: And...and that's --

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: -- changed.

CHAIR LEE: -- an opportunity for all of us to...to give our input on how things should be redesigned, you know. Because the way we have our...like I said, we have not gained one half-inch square, not any square footage at all in 47 years, yet the Mayor's 9th floor, everybody scattered out. Corp. Counsel, yeah, CDBG, Economic Development, all those offices were on the 9th floor, they're gone.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Yeah.

CHAIR LEE: We still have the exact same square footage. So it's really not fair. And they...they have never taken...because when I was the Council Chair before, I used to push for getting the 6th floor. We wanted another floor. But because they have control of the building, they're not going to give it to us. So we have to take it by provisoing this next purchase.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Yeah.

CHAIR LEE: Yes, Ms. Sugimura?

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: So is there a time schedule that we're trying to...I know Tasha said to get it finished, but is there a time frame that we need to answer this purchase portion, the 9.8 million? Is there a time frame?

CHAIR LEE: Miss...Vice-Chair?

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. So I...I know, like, this discussion we...we may be getting, like, a little ahead of ourselves. So the first thing is deciding

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whether we're going to purchase this building or not. The deal that Chair was describing where *Maui News* staff will still be tenants in the building is part of what brought the purchase price way down. And so that negotiation, you know, under leadership of the Finance Director is...is not going to remain. It's six acres with prime real estate. You know, it's...it's...it's valuable and, you know, it's a...it's going to be a competitive market. So the quicker we'd be able to take action, the, you know, the better we'll be able to secure that deal that is on the table for us right now. Regardless of whether it does become the new Council campus or not, it is...the central location of it is good for us as a County, and not having our County government, you know, scattered all over Maui island. So the more we can kind of stay closer to each other, the better. And again, it's like...it's six acres, you know, right there, so there is room to grow. But like I said, so as far as the timeline goes, we would first have to decide on whether we want to purchase the building, and...and regardless of whether it's going to be Council campus or not, and then from there we would be able to discuss how much it would cost. If Council decides that we do want it for our campus, how much renovations and the...that kind of construction will be. So you know, realistically, we're...we're not going to have those numbers when we discuss purchasing the building next week. That's not going to be something that we're going to have because we haven't even decided if that's going to be for Council. So we need to purchase the building, then we can, you know, decide if, you know, it's going to be for Council, and then decide on what the layout would look like, and how much that would cost. So the cost of the renovations, you know, will ultimately be up to us. So it can be, you know, more extravagant and cost more, or it can be less and cost us less. And you know, over time we, you know, we can make more renovations when the...the County and the State is in better financial conditions. Mahalo, Chair.

CHAIR LEE: Yeah. The...but however, the problem is if we just bought it and we didn't specify what the purpose would be, then we'll never get it. That's my point. We never got it before, we haven't gotten it for 47 years. I've asked for the 6th floor many, many times, never got it. Secondly, I asked for ten acres in Waikapu, yeah, because Public Works is going to build their building out there at some point. And it was well, okay, maybe, blah, blah, blah. Okay. So this is our one and only opportunity to ensure...and don't think about yourselves...to ensure that the Council will have its own place because we are going to be gone in a few years. We need to think of the people who come after us, yeah? Oh, in the meantime, we'll...please look forward and be ready with all your questions to Scott Teruya. Scott has been actually an ally of ours. It was actually his idea for it to be the legislative campus. Hardly anybody agrees...nobody agrees with him that much. The Mayor...to be honest with you, the Mayor agreed that we...we could have it as a campus, but he wants to put other departments there as well. Well, then we're going to be back in the same old situation where we're going to be squeezed out by the other departments. Unless, of course, we come to a compromise where we can allocate some of that six acres for future development for some...you know, for them. Something like that. But we just can't give it up, to me, because we're...we're not going to get another opportunity like this where the Finance Director came up with this idea. Yes, Ms. Kama?

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COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: So next week at the...the BFED meeting, even if we don't have the numbers to go with it, will we at least have some preliminaries regarding not just space, but...for today, we can see what we need in terms of OCS, the Council, the County Clerk's Office. Do we foresee needing...having other needs besides what we know immediately today, and how do we plan for that? So will we have that --

CHAIR LEE: Well --

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: -- opportunity?

CHAIR LEE: -- you know, first of all, we need to have adequate space for our current operations with the idea of expansion over time.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Okay.

CHAIR LEE: Yeah. We know that the Chamber is a useless building.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Yeah. Yeah.

CHAIR LEE: It's useless. It's...it's...even when it was first built, I don't think it was useful. And so, you know, my idea, and I hope you would agree, that the Chamber we build will be --

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Multiuse.

CHAIR LEE: -- adjustable. You can...you make one portion a classroom, another portion a conference room, another portion da da da, you know. So it's...it's functional, you know, it's...it's...it's useful to everyone.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Yeah.

CHAIR LEE: Not like this one.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Yeah.

CHAIR LEE: You cannot, you know...but, you know, I've had meetings one on one with people in that Chamber because the conference room was taken. I mean, you know, but how...you know, it doesn't make sense for two people to meet in a Chamber that big about, you know, a couple thousand square feet.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Yeah.

CHAIR LEE: The size of my house. So anyway, we'll get more...more details. And come with a lot of questions, ask Scott. But remember, Scott has been our ally, so don't attack him, okay? He has been an ally. He...it was his idea. And he, in his mind, can, you know, justify everything. He can...he can justify the numbers. Because if we don't use it, they're going to use it. I mean, somebody...they see this as a...as a super deal.

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So they're going to make it...the numbers work, but they can make the numbers work for themselves.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: So does that mean that we have to make the decision to purchase, and then the decision to utilize?

CHAIR LEE: No. I'm asking you to do it all one time.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Oh, okay.

CHAIR LEE: I'm asking you --

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Okay.

CHAIR LEE: -- I'm asking you to come up with all those questions so that we will come to the conclusion, yes, this is a good purchase and yes, we need it. So therefore, we have to proviso it. Because why...you cannot rely on them to, you know, give us that property when they have other needs too. They're not worried about us --

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Yeah.

CHAIR LEE: -- that much. The only guy who...who even thought about us was Scott.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Yeah. No, I agree. I agree. I think we need to be thinking futuristically and about the future of the Members of the Council and the constituents and stuff. And so we'll all take that into consideration next week.

CHAIR LEE: Yes, please do.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you.

CHAIR LEE: Thank you. Ms. King?

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Just real quickly. So when we...when we get that proposal, maybe we can ask them to also include...itemize what they...what their savings would be if they moved into the 7th and 8th floor, you know, give us that itemization, because that's going to be the justification for making this purchase --

CHAIR LEE: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: -- so...

CHAIR LEE: Yeah, they're going to bring...yeah. And...and maybe, Vice-Chair, you can specifically ask those questions. Because Scott told us, they're going to bring others back, saving...I don't know, did he tell you how much we would be saving?

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COUNCILMEMBER KING: Well, she said 25,000 a month, but I don't know what that...we need to see that itemized and make sure that they're not assuming that that includes some of them moving into *The Maui News* building. Because if we're going to try to keep that for the legislative campus, then we want to know exactly what they're going to save by moving into our space in the County Building.

CHAIR LEE: My...my understanding is, when I was talking with Scott by myself, of course the first thing is, how do we justify this purchase? It's a big purchase, several million dollars. And he said to me, when all the people vacated the Maui Mall and came to the Kahului Service Center, yeah, and Liquor came to the Service Center and then whoever else came to the Service Center, they were saving approximately \$40,000 a month. A month.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Yeah, but how does that compare to our debt service on that? I think it was 25 million or something that we spent on that.

CHAIR LEE: So he said...he said that for the purchase of *The Maui News*, it would probably cost us about 20,000 a month.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay.

CHAIR LEE: That's what he said. So he said that's well within what we were spending. Plus they're going to bring others back to the building. So that amount hasn't been established yet, what savings...

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Yeah. But whatever...you know, when he gives us the proposal if he can itemize those things, then --

CHAIR LEE: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: -- we can...then that's how we can justify it, the expense.

CHAIR LEE: Yeah. Yes, Ms. Sugimura?

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: During the last budget, I remember...I think it was Tamara who made the amendment making space for either Clerk's Office or Elections to move across to the HGEA building, so we're not going to do that. So I guess that discussion can all come up in...when we go to Keani's meeting then. Okay.

CHAIR LEE: Well, that is a good point and, Vice-Chair, you can make a note of that because we were going to be spending like \$9,000 a month for just OCC to go to HGEA. Because they were going to take over a pretty big space, Liquor and I think Transportation. So --

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: I think it was only one.

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CHAIR LEE: -- it was going to cost us, you know, in the neighborhood of nine grand a month. This way, they stay where they are for now, and then when we...when we renovate *The Maui News*, then they come over. So that...that's savings \$9,000 a month times I don't know how many years they would have been stuck there. Okay. So be thinking about it, ask lots of questions. But unfortunately, we're going to have to make a decision whether to proviso that or not, otherwise we're just giving them a gift, and I don't think that's right. Any more questions on this?

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Keani.

CHAIR LEE: Yes, Vice-Chair?

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yeah, I just...mahalo, Chair. I...I just wanted to echo that. So that will be something that...that the Council will be able to consider next week, Wednesday, in the BFED meeting too, and that's when we'll have to make that decision in putting that proviso in for Council.

CHAIR LEE: Yeah. Okay. So anyway, I've already told them if the Council agrees that, you know, we're...you folks have to keep OCS for now...I mean OCC for now. You have to. And...and I got the...the response was, okay.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: So what else...

CHAIR LEE: Anyway, we have lots to talk about, that they...they're not crazy about us provisoing that purchase, but sorry. We can't...we can't run on trust on this one because this is too much of a investment. It's not only for us, it's for the future Councilmembers. All right.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Chair? Chair?

CHAIR LEE: So Vice-Chair, I was going to ask you, I requested a floorplan, and you can make sure that when they send down the information that they include the floorplan or I know Traci has a floorplan too. Maybe you can make...Traci, you can make copies for everybody. Unfortunately, Traci, the copy I have is...you need sort of like a magnifying glass to see, you know, it's not real clear. I mean, it would be nice...I guess the building was built probably around the mid...I mean the late '80s. The late '80s. I remember I went to the blessing over there. We had lunch with Nora Cooper. So I'm not sure exactly what year it was built, but, Traci, can you make sure all the Members get a copy of what you have?

MS. FUJITA: So the copy that I made for you, I tried to blow it up as much as I could, but I don't know if...is it...but it's not clear or is it...I'm just wondering if when I blew it up, I'm wondering if it made it more, you know --

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Blurry.

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MS. FUJITA: -- not clear. I can...I can just print on a regular 8½ x 11 paper. I can print the floorplan on that, but it's going to be super tiny. Like more...you going really need a magnifying class to look at it.

CHAIR LEE: This size is okay.

MS. FUJITA: Yeah, that's the largest I could make it in our office, you know, I...using our...our machine. I...maybe I could go to like, you know, Kinkos or something and get something bigger.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Hey, Traci, maybe you can go to HONBLUE.

CHAIR LEE: Well, if this is the best we can do, you know, let's just make sure at least they have an idea --

MS. FUJITA: Okay.

CHAIR LEE: -- they have an idea of what the...the floorplan is, but they'll have a better idea if we can schedule a site inspection, Vice-Chair. Yeah? And that...that's even better.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yeah.

CHAIR LEE: Wait until you see it, it's so open. It's...it's perfect for the public. So any more questions? Otherwise we'll move on.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: If we do...

CHAIR LEE: If you...if you have comments to...if you have questions to ask the Administration, can you send them to the Vice-Chair?

COUNCILMEMBER KING: I just have a question for the Vice-Chair.

CHAIR LEE: Yes, Ms. King?

COUNCILMEMBER KING: So if we...if we do site visits, can we schedule them so that they're whatever...we're...the minimum, you know, so that we have like three different times during the day or something to go through there so we aren't congregating in a larger group than what the rules say? I think it's up to five people indoors.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Right.

CHAIR LEE: Vice-Chair Rawlins-Fernandez, can you figure something out? Yeah. Maybe...

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Thank you.

CHAIR LEE: I mean, you know, hopefully you don't stay there that long, and so maybe you would do it in two shifts, four at a time, something like that based...you know.

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COUNCILMEMBER KING: Yeah, with that, whoever is leading our...our tour.

CHAIR LEE: Yeah. Okay. Because we were...we did ask about site inspections, and the...and the Finance Director did tell us he didn't want to take everybody individually, he wanted to take, you know, everybody as a group, and which is fine. So maybe we can ask him for two groups. Okay. All right.

5. **EMAIL PROCEDURES** (Councilmember Kama)

CHAIR LEE: Now for Email Procedures. This is an item that Ms. Kama brought up. Ms. Kama, you want to just kind of summarize what your concern is?

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: I can do that, Chair. So you know, we always have been getting emails from our constituents, and sometimes we either get it as individuals or we all get the same email. And sometimes when I get them, I'm not sure who's going to respond to it. I mean, sometimes I think oh, I should because it's in my district, or I should because it's my subject matter. Or then I'm thinking, well, maybe the district representative should take it. And I'm...so I'm never ever sure what. So I'm really happy, Alice, when you take the lead and you say okay, and you respond. And I'm happy when Kelly just sends back stuff like I got it, thank you very much. You know, but...but I think they're looking for something like a response to their question or to their comment or to whatever concerns they have. So my sense was, is there a way to be able to develop it, so a procedure so that when we get this, it goes to whoever it's supposed to go to, and the people actually get a response. Because I think in today's time, I think communication, and we've always tried to do that for our constituents, that we will always respond to them. But...but and sometimes we all feel differently about certain issues, so I don't think a constituent wants a response from all of us that may be different or in opposition to each other, but something that's more consistent and concise. So that was my issue in bringing up the...the email guidelines. For example, I got an email from someone in Lāna'i who wants a skate park. So I said okay, that's great. Because parks is my jurisdiction, but it is in Gabe's community. So I'm thinking well, maybe...I think I'm going to respond to it, and I think I'm going to talk to...to Member Johnson and say hey, this is what I got, what do you think, da da da da, or however, and I...I would just do that because I think I need to. But how would...but when other issues come up...and same thing with the email that I got from somebody else about their park in Paukukalo. It's like okay, they want the...the...the department to...to take over their park and...and do the maintenance and all that. So but it's...falls into my jurisdiction, but it's in Alice's district. So you know, how do we respond to stuff like that when I get it or when we all get things. So that was the issue with the emails and the...if there's a procedure and how do we handle it, or do we just let it go and figure it out on our own.

CHAIR LEE: Ms. King?

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COUNCILMEMBER KING: Thanks. You were muted. It's a really good...it's a really good issue to bring up, I think, Member Kama. I...I tend to think that every Councilmember has a different way of reacting to...to emails. And for...personally, I...if...if I'm copied along with everybody else, I will first look at whether it's my geographical jurisdiction and whether it's admin or policy because admin issues I try to send to Bill Snipes, who's our South Maui liaison to the Mayor. And I know not all liaisons are...are as responsive or as, you know, as good as Bill Snipes is because he'll get right to --

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Oh yeah. Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: -- the constituent and...and try to work it out if it's an...if it's an administrative issue.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Right.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: But you know, I have the same issue with my husband, when people send emails to both of us, and I tell them this all the time, you're probably not going to get an answer because I'm going to assume he answered, and he's going to assume I answered, and so you're probably...so you need to pick somebody to send it to, and you can copy everybody else.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Yeah, yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: But the person who they send it to should be the person...the first...in my opinion, you know, if they send it to me and they copy everybody else, then I'll probably respond to it, even if it's just to say that it would be better going to, you know, Councilmember Johnson because he's on Lānaʻi and this is a...a problem on Lānaʻi. But it's really hard...I think it's hard to come up with a standard for how...who you respond to and when because we're all nine different individuals, and we respond to people differently. And some of your districts don't...you don't have a good liaison so you kind of have to...you don't have a way to say, you know, if there's a pothole then go talk to Bill Snipes and he'll tell you how to take --

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: -- care of that or, you know, where you want a sidewalk or something like that because he's really good at that, but I don't think they're all like that. So it's hard to...I think it's just hard to set up a protocol. You know, I just try to tell...I try to tell my constituents if you want me to respond to something, send it to me and then copy everybody else, but if you just send a...if you send it to all the Councilmembers, I'm going to assume that whichever Councilmember deals with that Committee that has that issue is going to answer it. Because it's...you know, the volume of email we get is just ridiculous. I still have...I'm...I'm trying to keep caught up, and I still have between my personal and my Council email, I've got...I think I'm almost 400...back up to almost 400 in my Council email and 800 in my personal email. And so, you know, of course 20 percent of that is all surveys and people asking for donations, but still, you have to go through them. So I really appreciate the

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conversation. I...and it would be interesting to know how everybody else responds to, you know, these emails. All right, I'll...I'll yield the floor.

CHAIR LEE: Ms. Paltin, and then Mr. Johnson.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I got a great solution, we should all share Bill Snipes. Let's tell the Mayor we all want him. Nah, but seriously, I just...I try to reply to everyone just something. You know, I think...I know sometimes that it's...my...my response is probably not super helpful because it seems like they think that we got a magic wand when we got elected and...and it's...it's a problem that's maybe not humanly solvable that would make both sides happy, you know like chicken, goats, roosters, and like that. But I...I make an effort to, like, try to respond to most, and then, you know, some slip through the cracks, like you said, because we got a zillion in all the different emails that we have. And sometimes I reply to folks like three months later, and it gets resolved on their own and...and then I'm like yay. But yeah, I think we should share Bill Snipes. That's my solution.

CHAIR LEE: Gabe? Mr. Johnson?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Yeah, I...I am just...thank you, Chair. I'm just curious, is...is there a hierarchy? Because it seems like your...your letter, Councilmember Tasha, is that it goes district and then committee, or is it committee then district? I mean, what is the...

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: That's...that's what...that's what my sense is --

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Right.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: -- but I'm not sure what the sense is of the Council, you know, of what...and that's why I'm asking for, just see if we can set up some guidelines if...if --

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Right.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: -- possible, you know.

CHAIR LEE: Why don't we...

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: But Bill Snipes is a good idea to me too.

CHAIR LEE: Why don't we try this...why don't we try this. Have the district person respond first. And if it goes deeper into a more committee-type issue, then...then we refer it to Council and I'll refer it to the committee. Okay? Because what I'm trying to...I don't know if you've noticed, but I've been trying to encourage you not to keep adding to your master agenda. The idea is to whittle it down and solve the problems, not keep adding, adding, adding so that we...at the end of the...the term, we have all these things to, you know, to send over to the next Council. So you know, really the goal, everybody's goal should be to get that...all those agenda items down.

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COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Yes.

CHAIR LEE: Yes, Mr. Molina?

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Yeah, thank you. I just wanted to share what, you know, I found that works over the years and from what...when I hear back from constituents is we try to respond to everything, or at least give a comment and try to give assistance. And you know, rather than just say oh, go call the Mayor's Office, we'll call on behalf of the constituent. And then as a courtesy, if it's something that's out of our district, we'll communicate with our...our colleague, let them know that hey, you know, we responded to someone in your district and, you know, just open the lines of communication. And if you would like to take over it, fine, if not, we'll, you know, we'll follow up. So and it's just kind of a general courtesy towards each other. Rather than just...you know, just take on the problem from, you know, your fellow colleague, just at the...at the very least, you know, make them aware you're working on it and, you know, so that way there's no...any hard feelings like oh, wow, you're just stepping into my district and just taking over, that...that...that kind of feel. So that's kind of what...how...how I was schooled, so to speak, when I first came onto the Council. Just be courteous to your colleague if it's something from outside. But...but at the same time, the constituent appreciates because that way they get a response back. So if, you know, all of you would like to respond to it, that's great, just say hey, I...I appreciate the thought and if there's any way we can help and...or we'll...we'll notify...for example, if it's something out Moloka'i, I would say that, you know, I'll let the Mayor's Office as well as Councilmember Rawlins-Fernandez know, and if you need additional assistance, we...we're here to help as well, so. And I think it's a win-win for all, the constituent and the perception of the Council. Because one of the biggest things people get frustrated about is their Councilmembers or elected officials not even giving a response, you know. So that's the worst thing is when you...you...you get a reputation for not even responding. So that's why we...we...the practice we've done over the years, respond and just let them know we got your concern, and we can help one way or another. So thank you.

CHAIR LEE: Yes, Vice-Chair Rawlins-Fernandez?

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. I...I agree with everyone's comments. And so going back to what was discussed as far as protocol goes, when the email clearly...it's clear what district it's coming from, then the Councilmember from that district will respond. And as a courtesy to all the other Councilmembers, we'll explain that, you know, that that Councilmember will take lead on responding to that constituent. And then that way, the other Councilmembers don't get criticized for not also responding because I've had that happen to me too, where I see, you know, a Councilmember is helping a constituent, so I won't, I'll let that Councilmember go ahead. And...and then I'll get an email later saying like well, only Chair Lee responded, all you other Councilmembers didn't. And you know, that...yeah, that doesn't feel good, you know. So when responding, like Member Molina is saying that, you know, we'll say, you know, respond all...if it's a group email, then you can reply all

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and respond, you know, aloha Keoni, you know, I'm...I'm the Councilmember for this district, for Moloka'i District, and I'll be, you know, helping you and all the other Council...my colleagues on the Council, you know, care about your concern, but they're going to support me, you know, helping you with this issue. If it's not clear what district the person is, then perhaps the committee chair of that subject matter can take lead. That would be kind of my suggestion. Mahalo, Chair.

CHAIR LEE: Member King.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: I have a question about that. Did you call me? I'm --

CHAIR LEE: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: -- I'm sorry. Okay. So I just wondered, you know, I've been told that you...when you're responding, you can't copy all the other Councilmembers because of the Sunshine Law. And so...and I know there's parameters of when we can and when we can't. So maybe we can get OCS...if David's there or Forrest to weigh in on...you know, because I think that's...that would be an excellent way to let everybody else know that this person got a response but, you know, I just was under the impression that we couldn't...that people can email all of us, but we can't email them back copying all the other Councilmembers.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: And to...to clarify, the initial email that would be a reply all to the...that would include all the Councilmembers would just say, I got this...I'll...I'll be taking the lead on this, mahalo.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: And then that will be the reply all. And then in a separate one-on-one email with that constituent, you can go into the meat of the concern and issue --

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: -- and resolution to the problem. So but for the initial email, you know, copying all the Councilmembers, it would...it would only, you know, be to say I'll be taking the lead on this, and then that's it.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay. So does that work, David? I see...I think he's listening. Does that work for...that doesn't violate any...

CHAIR LEE: David, are you on the call?

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Yeah, there he is.

MR. RAATZ: Yes, I am. Thanks, Chair. And yeah, Remy and I have been chatting about this a little bit. You know we appreciate Councilmember King recognizing. We generally

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don't recommend group emails among the Councilmembers because of Sunshine Law concerns, but I think the suggestion proposed by the Council Vice-Chair makes sense. If they're simply a group email that's limited to a procedural note and doesn't get into the substance or something that's foreseeably going to come up on a Council agenda, then you're probably steering clear of any Sunshine Law concerns. Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay. So yeah, just so we don't make any statements about how we're going to solve the problem or...or what direction we're taking on the...on the issue.

CHAIR LEE: Yeah.

MR. RAATZ: I think so.

CHAIR LEE: Did everybody get that? Ms. Paltin?

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay, thanks.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. I just had like a real life example that I...I wouldn't mind some feedback on. Like, so there's this chicken issue in Kahului, and the person is kind of elderly, works for the County and can't sleep because his neighbor has 15 roosters or whatever. But he...I feel like he emailed me because at one time, the Planning and Land Use took up chickens in Residential zoning or something, and I'm Planning and Sustainable Land Use, but Member Kama is Kahului. So I did email back to him, I'm not sure if anybody else got the email or emailed him or what, and I pointed to the State noise ordinance. But I don't think I'm going to take up chicken zoning this term because I don't think that there's a solution, you know, in terms of zoning chickens. Because it's not just...I mean, having people housing chickens, there's already like it's supposed to be like six feet away from the neighbor...the nearest structure or whatever, that's the...the deal, and humane about how many you can squeeze into a container or whatever. But then there's also the issue, like the extra issues about like roaming chickens, which is not going to...so like say the people let go of their chickens out of their cage, but they still get fed in the same place at the same time every day, it's not going to --

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Do you mind?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: -- solve the problem. Huh?

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Chair? So it sounds like what Member Paltin is saying is as far as whether a constituent is satisfied with your response, and I think that's a separate issue. And if the person is not satisfied with your response, that person can go to another Councilmember to see if they can find their champion. And it sounds like that...that is what you're describing without going into too much detail.

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COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Oh, I'm not sure if he's satisfied. We corresponded a couple times, and I...I think he stopped corresponding to me, so I'm not sure if he's satisfied or not.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Then it turns into Chair --

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: But I can take up...

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: -- to decide. So like as far as like we as Councilmembers, you know, like with the...with the procedure that we're discussing, if it's a group email that...then we would, you know, reply all and then we would go, you know, first district, and then subject matter for committee chair. And you can give them your response, and then let them know that that is your response. And if it's not something that they're satisfied with, then they...they can seek advice or, you know, consultation at these other places, and then you can point. And then that way your...you took lead, you attempted to satisfy the constituent's concern, and at least you did respond and tried.

CHAIR LEE: Ms. Sugimura, and then Mr. Molina.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: I gotta get to my 11:30 meeting, it's going to start in a few minutes, but this discussion is very interesting. Miki is here, so I'll ask her to give me a follow-up. And that another...another situation that's happened recently is Alice has referred items for me to discuss as it related to my...my Committee, which is Infrastructure. So I took that on, and it was Kelly, and Kelly sent Michelle to the meeting. So there is some other situations, but I...I'm still working on it. I will zone out right now and go to my next meeting, but thanks, everybody. Thanks, Tasha, for bringing this up.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Thanks for working on that issue, Yuki.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Yeah, we got to do it together.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Very good. Very good.

CHAIR LEE: Mr. Molina?

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Yeah, thanks, Alice. I don't know if maybe something under your signature, we could give some recommended instructions to the Administration about the frontline employees. Some is when a constituent goes up to them and complains that something needs to be fixed in the parks or on the roads, some of the employees they just tell oh, call your Councilmen when it should be, call the Mayor's Office, or...or call your...the director. We get that a lot of times. So I don't know if maybe a letter under your signature recommending to the Administration to talk to your department heads and filter it on down to your employees. Any types of

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problems that's supposed to be for the Mayor's Office to look into, please tell your constituents call the Mayor's Office first before coming to the Council. But I don't know if it's maybe our own County workers not understanding how the process works. That's where I think we need some education because it takes up staff time when it's something that should be the Mayor's Office. I mean, we're happy to help, but it would save a lot of time if the frontline County employees would understand that. You know, sometimes they just think oh, call the Councilmember when it actually should be call your director, or call the Mayor's Office. Because when I worked up in the Mayor's Office, the EA's were assigned to various districts, so if there's a problem in the...in your district, okay, the EA handles it. The EA calls the department, and the department goes and tries to resolve the problem instead of bothering the Council or, you know, taking up Council time.

CHAIR LEE: Who...who is your...who is your liaison, Mr. Molina?

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: For...well, in terms --

CHAIR LEE: Makawao-Pā'ia.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: -- of like...I was. I was assigned Makawao-Pā'ia.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. No, but now. Now.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mayor's liaison, Mayor Victorino's liaison for --

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Oh.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: -- your district.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: For...for...for Upcountry, I know it was Gladys, so I don't know who took it over from Gladys. But yeah, but we get those on occasion where, you know, the...

CHAIR LEE: I think Bill Snipes is probably the only one --

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Yeah, he's Mr. Everything looking now.

CHAIR LEE: -- who responds to these things.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Yeah.

CHAIR LEE: Because half the time I have to...

COUNCILMEMBER KING: I have...I have a suggestion.

CHAIR LEE: Yes.

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COUNCILMEMBER KING: So you know, sending out a memo would be good, but I think...I've been told by some of the employees...the Mayor's employees that they're told...they're instructed to tell people to call the Council a lot of times when it's really not appropriate. But one of the things that...that my email does is it usually...it's...it's any email that comes to me, not necessarily CC'd to me but that comes to me, they get an automatic response that says thank you for your email and we will...you know, we'll look into this or we'll refer it or whatever. But if we had a unified...a uniform response that we could all put on there that says something about, you know, thank...thanking them for their email, that, you know, the...the...just something about what we just agreed to that the district person will...would be the first one to respond. Possibly also could even say something about, you know, administrative issues, please call the departments or your community liaison and, you know, the policy issues are the purview of the Council or something like that that lets them know that, you know, if they don't want to wait for us to necessarily get back to them and it's a pothole or if it's a issue of crime or something that's administrative, that they should go right to the Administration. You know, that might be a way of...you know, I mean that...those automatic responses are a way to have...get...anybody who emails us gets something back, and if it's a little bit of direction on where they go from there, you know. Because that's...that's an ongoing confusion in the constituency, is what...what is the...you know, when do I call the department and what...or when do I call the Mayor's Office and when do I call the Councilmember. And you know, like Mr. Molina said, we're the catchall. You know, if you can't get anyone else to answer, then you go to the Councilmember. And they don't...and we can't necessarily do anything about the chickens, you know. I think one of the issues with the chickens is that they don't read signs, so they don't know what zone they're supposed to be in. But you know, it's...it's also...it's also a feral animal thing, so maybe we can take it up when we talk about the feral animal management in my Committee because a lot of them are just wild, you know.

CHAIR LEE: Well, the real answer to that problem is the two neighbors discussing it and coming to a resolution. Because I've...I try not to say this, but the County Council cannot legislate happiness in the neighborhood. That's a civil...that really is a civil matter, and oftentimes my...

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Well, and I have --

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Not feral, not feral chickens.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: -- I have referred people to the Maui...I have referred people to Maui Mediation before and had them go and work out their differences because they were...you know, it was a matter of who was throwing their green waste over the fence, and who was blocking somebody else's driveway with a boulder. And so Maui Mediation, you know, when...when the person first called my office, he was yelling so loud that my staff member had the phone out to here and I can hear, you know, him, and...and by the time he got to my office, he had...he had made the appointment that we recommended for Maui Mediation. And then he was calmed way down when we talked and then, you know, after we talked about it and he went to the mediation, I

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never heard from him again. So I think that's one way of working it out. But I think what...what...what Member Paltin's talking about is people who want us to regulate stuff because they're not happy with it, you know, they can't --

CHAIR LEE: Right.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: -- you know, there...there --

CHAIR LEE: But...

COUNCILMEMBER KING: -- there's this idea that if people aren't going to follow what's commonsense, then you need to...to make a regulation.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. So what I do normally is when I get a complaint that's beyond our purview, I would say thank you very much for reaching out to us. You may not know, but the Maui County Council is the Legislative Branch of the County. Enforcement issues is norm...is handled by the Administration, and on...I will CC the Mayor and his Chief of Staff, Tyson Miyake every...every time so that they will see that, you know, I'm referring this to them indirectly. And then...because what Tyson usually does is he then assigns it to...because all the EAs come under him, so that's the reason why I CC Tyson. But getting back to the chickens, yeah, I've had chickens right next door to me, but of course, it's...it's a...it's a big lot owned by Foodland and they're in the trees. I don't know if it's a chicken or a rooster, but they're making big noise, yeah. So I go out there and I shoot them with water, and then okay, some of them I shoot, I leave, they come back, they...they make noise. I go back again, and then some days I stay there for maybe one hour, and I'll keep shooting them until they get the message. I mean, sometimes you got to do things on your own, you know, you cannot be calling the Council to be getting rid of the chickens. Shoot them with water. Yes, Ms. Rawlins-Fernandez?

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. Very effective methods of reducing noise. Yeah. So the chickens, they're not feral chickens, and they're roosters and they're likely for cockfighting, and...and that's the ones that make the really loud disruptive noises. They're probably not laying hens, laying hens are rather quiet, and they're not just chickens that don't belong to anyone that's running around, you know, disturbing, you know, the neighborhood. They're...what the complaints are is about the fighting roosters that are in people's yards. They...they are very loud.

CHAIR LEE: Well, if...if...you know, I would think if somebody had roosters, they must be expensive to let them run around --

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yes.

CHAIR LEE: -- and, you know...

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: They pay their way.

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VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: No, they don't run around. They...they have a wooden tipi-looking house, and they have...they're on a string and there's...there's just a bunch of roosters. And they're worth a lot because when they take them to go chicken fight and they win, they can win a lot of money.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. Are these the ones that howl at like 4:30 in the morning?

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yes.

CHAIR LEE: Oh.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yes. So that...that...that's the ordinance that some neighbors that have neighbors who fight chickens would like to have so that there isn't fighting chickens...these types of, you know, roosters in...next door, like 20 feet away.

CHAIR LEE: Well, I don't know. I would shoot them with water. See, what would happen is then they'll go to the other side of the yard and bother the other neighbors. See, that's how you do it. Okay. Let's get through this real quickly, Fiscal Year...Audit...Balance, Council Services.

MS. FUJITA: Yeah, I just wanted --

CHAIR LEE: Oh, by the way, we ended with saying...Ms. Kama, we ended with saying that the person from the district should be the one to respond, and if they feel it necessary, contact the chair of that relevant committee. Okay. Try that.

6. FISCAL YEAR 2021 AUDIT FUND BALANCE (Director of Council Services)

CHAIR LEE: Ms. Fujita, number six.

MS. FUJITA: I just wanted to provide a status update to the Members on the funds available for our audit appropriation in the FY'21 Budget. The opening amount was \$405,000, which I believe hadn't changed from the prior fiscal year. We did have a couple of expenditures. The Affordable Housing Plan, which was \$300,000 and the...updating the community plan...expediting the update of the community plans, that one was \$87,000. So our current balance in...for those funds is \$17,120. So there's not a whole lot of money left for this current fiscal year. If Members...I've been hearing about some...some other possible projects that the Members want to do. So my suggestion is to have them consider it for FY'22 Budget, and it would be better to add funds to the general pot of money. So...so the proposal for FY'22 is just...is status quo, \$405,000. That money is generally for things that kind of just come up throughout the year that are unbudgeted, but if you know during the budget process that you have projects that you'd like to do for FY'22, you can add them in during the budget process, but just add the amount that you believe your estimate of the cost to that total, the 405,000 rather than doing line items with dollar amounts. So you can put line items under the audit, you know, audit appropriation for different projects,

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but my suggestion is to just put the money in that total amount because otherwise, what's going to happen is when we go out for procurement, the proposals are going to come in at that exact amount that's appropriated. So we don't want to specify the amount for each project, we just want a lump sum, you know, for that. So I think that was it. Just...just to let everyone know that we don't have too many...too much funds left for this fiscal year, and if you want to consider other projects, maybe they could be considered for FY'22.

CHAIR LEE: Ms. King?

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Thank you, Chair. So...so Traci, I thought we had appropriated funds for those two studies because they were...they were not necessarily audits, they're consultant contracts. But you're saying we didn't, we just...we just passed the...just passed the item without...without funding it?

MS. FUJITA: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay.

MS. FUJITA: Normally what happens...what...normally what happens is through the, you know, through the fiscal year when...when projects and audits come up, there's usually a resolution, right, that is adopted to authorize the plan or the audit, but there's usually no funding attached to that resolution.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Well, do you remember --

MS. FUJITA: So that's...

COUNCILMEMBER KING: -- when we passed the original...the original 200,000 for what was supposed to be the Affordable Housing Plan, and it ended up being a study that was...cost a lot less than 200,000, but that was an actual amount that was passed with that. So you know, I'm just surprised that we didn't pass...that we didn't add an amount of money for that when we...when we decided to do that, the actual plan.

MS. FUJITA: Right. So...yeah, that's...so that's my suggestion going forward is that, you know, if you do have projects that you want to consider for the new fiscal year is to include it during the Budget Session, but of course, just adding the amounts to the total.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Yeah, no, I...

MS. FUJITA: The other thing...

COUNCILMEMBER KING: No, I know what you're saying, but I just thought we had done that. So...but the other question I have for you is, have there been other savings that we have in your budget in other pockets because of the fact that we've been in this COVID lockdown, there hasn't been any travel, you know, there's been a lot of cut

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down expenses of even people coming into the office. So is there...is there leftover funding that we...we had left in there, not knowing whether COVID...the...you know, the lockdown was going to last or not?

MS. FUJITA: There is some additional funding that could possibly be used. So if it's something urgent, you know, that Council needs to have started in FY'21, we could search other appropriations for...for additional money, but there's not a whole lot that we could use. And what...for example...I'll give you an example, one...one pot is like our Special Counsel Fund, but I don't know if we really want to touch that because I'm not sure, you know, what...what other litigation might be coming up. There's some money left from, like, our budget software. It came in...our appropriation...I'm sorry, our expenditure came in less than what we had budgeted for, so there's a little bit there.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: So was it...

MS. FUJITA: So you know...

COUNCILMEMBER KING: ...was...was there any money in there for travel or for things that just aren't happening because of COVID?

MS. FUJITA: There might be, but not...we're...I mean, these...these audits and plans are in the tens...hundreds of thousands of dollars, so it...not enough to like fund, you know, something like that.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay. Yeah, I was just wondering because I know there's a lot of things that a lot of us aren't doing that we normally do, you know, especially travel-wise that --

MS. FUJITA: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: -- it's, you know, saving money, so okay. Well, thank you for that report.

CHAIR LEE: Vice-Chair?

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. I...I think...and, Traci, you can correct me if I'm wrong, but during the pandemic, we also had to make other accommodations to enable our staff to work from home, so additional supplies, equipment had to be purchased that was not budgeted for. It was...so like there's...there's also those types of things that I'm...I'm sure we hadn't planned to spend money on that we ended up spending money on. So there's that. And then I just wanted to clarify. So Traci, what you're saying is instead of us discussing like the budget software, for example, allocating specifically \$400,000 for a budget software, and then the vendors knowing how much we allocated and will try to get as close to 400,000 as possible. We just put...allocate that funding, so 400,000 into the budget, not itemizing it out so that the vendors who would be bidding on the project would know how high they could go. So

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I...I think that's a...a great plan. And...yeah, I can...I can do that. Mahalo. So that's the...that's the correct understanding of what you're --

MS. FUJITA: Yeah.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: -- suggesting --

MS. FUJITA: Yeah.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: -- for us?

MS. FUJITA: That's correct. Yeah. The other thing I wanted to mention too, is that we're trying to get away from the term "audit" unless it's a financial audit. The Charter allows the Council to do investigation, so maybe that word investigative study, investigative...you know, something with the word "investigative" would be better to use than the word "audit" because audit, I guess it means certain things. Like it means like okay, now you need a CPA, and it needs to be done, you know, through accounting standard. You know, it kind of comes along with...with other things. So if we could save that term "audit" for like financial audits, that would be better. And then other...like if you're trying to do a performance audit or a program audit, it would be more like an investigation.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: So in preparation for the next fiscal year budget, your recommendation is for Councilmembers to work directly with you to allocate funding that they are planning to need for an investigative report?

MS. FUJITA: Well, for...

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: And then . . .(audio interference) . . . Okay.

MS. FUJITA: Yeah. For FY'22 it's...you know, that...our budget was already submitted, so it would have to be brought up during the Budget Session. Maybe for the next...we haven't done this in the past, but maybe we should start for like FY'23 maybe having this discussion with the Members earlier so when we put together our budget, you know, we can already include these things in. This way it would give us a chance to reach out to all Councilmembers, you know, to get input. I don't think that we've done that before, but, you know, maybe that would be worthwhile to...to try to get it done in advance of the Budget Session.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Great plan. Mahalo, Traci.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. And thank you.

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7. **COVID-19 IMPACTS** (Council Chair Lee)

CHAIR LEE: And finally on number seven, COVID-19 Impacts. Member King has a great idea as a follow-up to her town meeting...town hall meeting on the COVID-19. She made a suggestion about contacting our Federal representatives, like Senator Schatz for instance, who is now very influential now that Biden is the President. So I think this is...would be very helpful for us as well as our community to find out, you know, what's available, when are we going to be receiving our allocations, what other monies are coming down from the Fed...Federal government. So maybe, Member King, you can talk about it because she'll need to get started on this fairly soon, the planning of it, contacting Senator Schatz and maybe other representatives to set this up for us. And she can, as the HSAC representative, be the moderator or organizer of this, facilitator. So maybe, Kelly, you could talk about this a little bit so that the Members have an idea of --

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Yeah.

CHAIR LEE: -- what --

COUNCILMEMBER KING: It would be...

CHAIR LEE: -- you can do.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Thank you, Chair. So it will be a follow-up to both the web...the town hall webinar that we did that we got incredibly positive feedback on from everybody in the County except for one person who shall...who we don't need to talk about right now. But...and also a follow up to a meeting that I put together last year for HSAC with Brian Schatz, with Senator Schatz on, you know, when...when COVID was...we were kind of in the throes of it. So I think...I think the public is really confused about what's happening with the vaccine supply and the vaccination schedules, as well as we could also do with a report on what's going to be coming down from the Federal government as far as national mandates and how they're going to try to make some uniform responses to COVID across the country. So those are the...the two things I think that are missing from our conversation. And one of...one of the things I ascertained from having that town hall webinar and...yeah, we had...we talked about some of the remote areas too, so thank you to the Councilmembers who participated. And thanks for putting that video together, Keani. I'm sorry we couldn't get it, but they spliced it into the...the meeting, so it's showing on *Akakū* now. But we...you know, the...the response we got was really positive because people are feeling like they don't know what's going on, and they're not getting their questions answered in real time. So just to let you folks know who participated, we're...we're working...we're going to have a report in the next...for the next Council meeting too, so we can take care of the Sunshine Law issue. But we did do a follow...we had...we had hundreds of questions and comments, and so we followed up on the frequently asked questions that we didn't get to and got answers from the experts on our panel, and so those were posted on our Facebook page. And we're...just to give some continuity to that. So this would add the additional layer of bringing in...now that we have a

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changeover in our Federal government, that we can start linking them in more closely with what the counties are doing. And if you were on that NACo call a couple...a month or so ago with the President, President Biden and Vice-President Harris, they, you know, they made a commitment to the counties and said we're the frontline people...we're the frontline and so, you know, they understand that we're doing all the work at this level. So I think there's a renewed respect for government at this level and a renewed commitment to it. So that's...so that was my thought is...is to create a follow-up webinar, and...and it can originate from our...our County since it's our idea, but we can also invite the other counties to sit in on it through HSAC and that way we're...we've got some information going to the entire State through HSAC. So that...that's my idea, and I appreciate if everybody supports that. Thank you so much, Chair Lee, for...for encouraging that, and we'll get started on it.

CHAIR LEE: Yes. And so if Member King needs our help, we're going to be there for her, right? Whatever support in terms of getting the word out, whatever, yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay. Thank you.

CHAIR LEE: Thank you so much, Member King. So that brings us to the end of the calendar, and I know Mr. Molina had a...to leave at 12:00, so we gave you a few extra minutes.

MS. FUJITA: Chair?

CHAIR LEE: So you can powder your nose before you --

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Yes, yes.

CHAIR LEE: -- go to wherever you're going.

MS. FUJITA: Alice?

CHAIR LEE: Yes, Traci?

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: I can't think of a better...a better way to spend the day.

MS. FUJITA: Did you...

CHAIR LEE: Traci?

MS. FUJITA: Did you want to bring up the ceremonial invitations from the Administration?

CHAIR LEE: Okay.

MS. FUJITA: Under the...the COVID...

CHAIR LEE: I don't have it on my list, I'm sorry. You can bring it up.

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MS. FUJITA: I think...yeah, I think it was going to be discussed under the COVID-19 Impacts to reduce the number of Members attending ceremonial events.

CHAIR LEE: Oh, Sunshine Law. Yes, I...I guess we're going to have decide amongst ourselves. Perhaps those should...the people who should go to these ceremonial things should be definitely the person in the district, number one. And anything else, Traci?

MS. FUJITA: No. I think there was...I think that you were planning to just have a discussion on whether...what the Members --

CHAIR LEE: Yeah.

MS. FUJITA: -- if...if they want to...

CHAIR LEE: And if you don't mind...

MS. FUJITA: Yeah.

CHAIR LEE: Okay, and if you don't mind, I normally get an invitation so if...if I go or designate another Member so that there's...at least there's two or three. We cannot...we can send three without a report required, Traci?

MS. FUJITA: Yeah. I...I'm not sure if a report is required for these types of ceremonial events.

CHAIR LEE: Okay.

MS. FUJITA: You know because they're usually...

CHAIR LEE: I...I will try...I will try the...the subject matter chair definitely, and then the district person, and then anybody else who wants to go, we can fight over it. I highly doubt if...this is something we're going to fight over because we usually...you know, these things aren't that important as far as...these are just, you know, ceremonial things, yeah. Yes, Mr. Johnson?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Yeah, I...I don't...I'm just going to say something that's kind of like, I don't know, take it as it is. But I...I have...like during the time of COVID I have to be careful about this, I only have one lung. I had lung cancer when I was a kid. So I'm trying to get my...what do you call it, vaccine. After I get my vaccine, sign me up, I'll...I'll go to these larger events, but right now, I'm kind of sensitive to it. And I don't know if other Members have their vaccine, but for me, it's like that's really top on my list because I don't want to go to a silver shovel ceremony and...and...in this time. You know, maybe give me...give me some time and when I get my shot, that's about where I'm at. So that's just me being honest with the...with the Council, you know.

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CHAIR LEE: Well, thank you. Appreciate that. Yeah, all of us actually want to be careful, and I don't know anybody...none so far has received the vaccine, we're all waiting. You know, and so...

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: They put me on a...oh, Chair? They put me on a list. I have to go to Kaneohe Bay or something, that's the only place I can go and get it for some reason. So I don't know, there...there...there's something going on.

CHAIR LEE: Oh, are you a vet? Are you a vet?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: No, but I think because they...you know, I asked to be the...you know, I told them what my situation was, what do they call it...I don't know, there's a fancy word for it. But basically they put me up, but then they said I have to fly out to O'ahu to get this thing, so I...I don't know. There...I'm waiting to get back from them.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: That doesn't sound right.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: You have a pre-existing condition, is that what they...I think that's why they put you on the list.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Just as a higher risk, you know, because it does attack the lungs and I only...I don't have the capacity for...for that, you know, I only got half of the...50 percent use. So that's kind of where it's at, so.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Yeah.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. Well, good to know. But when we receive these invitations, I will be careful to make a note about that. All right. Thank you, everybody. If you think of...yes, Vice-Chair?

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. For the next Chair's meeting, I was thinking that we could have on the agenda, introducing all of the Councilmembers' Staff and what their responsibilities are so that our Staff would be able to work together better. So --

CHAIR LEE: Okay.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: -- but for the next...for the next Chair's meeting.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. Tammy, could you do that for me, please? Thank you. Yes, Ms. King?

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo.

MS. FRIAS: Sure.

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COUNCILMEMBER KING: Oh, I was just saying goodbye to everybody because --

CHAIR LEE: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: -- I thought we were leaving.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. And any...any other comments, questions? If not, bye. Have a great day.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Bye, thank you.

CHAIR LEE: Thank you, everybody.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Bye, everyone. Do you have to say meeting adjourned? Oh, no, that's just for *Akakū*, yeah?

CHAIR LEE: Well, you know what, meeting adjourned anyway. . . .*(gavel)*. . .

ADJOURN: 12:01 p.m.

APPROVED:



ALICE L. LEE
Council Chair

chr:min:210127

Transcribed by: Daniel Schoenbeck

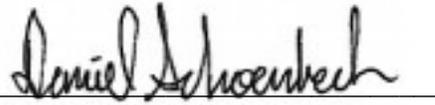
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CERTIFICATION

I, Daniel Schoenbeck, hereby certify that pages 1 through 42 of 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 23rd day of February 2021, in Wailuku, Hawai'i

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Daniel Schoenbeck", is written over a horizontal line.

Daniel Schoenbeck