

COUNCIL CHAIR'S MEETING
Council of the County of Maui

MINUTES

February 23, 2021

Online Only via BlueJeans

RECONVENE: 9:00 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 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

EXCUSED: Councilmember Gabe Johnson, Chair, Affordable Housing Committee
Councilmember Kelly Takaya King, Chair, Climate Action, Resilience, and
Environment Committee
Councilmember Michael J. Molina, Chair, Government Relations, Ethics,
and Transparency Committee

STAFF: Traci N. T. Fujita, Director, Office of Council Services
David M. Raatz, Supervising Legislative Attorney
Clarita Balala, Committee Secretary

Sarah Freistat Pajimola, Executive Assistant for Vice-Chair Keani N.W.
Rawlins-Fernandez

Mahina Poepoe, Executive Assistant for Vice-Chair Keani N.W.
Rawlins-Fernandez

Zhantell Lindo, Executive Assistant for Vice-Chair Keani N.W.
Rawlins-Fernandez

Michele Blair, Executive Assistant for Councilmember Tamara Paltin

Christi Keliikoa, Executive Assistant for Councilmember Tamara Paltin

Angela Lucero, Executive Assistant for Councilmember Tamara Paltin

Krystal Cabiles, Executive Assistant for Councilmember Tamara Paltin

Gina Young, Executive Assistant for Councilmember Shane M. Sinenci

Dawn Lono, Executive Assistant for Councilmember Shane M. Sinenci

Mavis Oliveira-Medeiros, Executive Assistant for Councilmember Shane
M. Sinenci

Keisa Liu, Executive Assistant for Councilmember Gabe Johnson

Axel Beers, Executive Assistant for Councilmember Kelly Takaya King

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OTHERS: (23)

CHAIR LEE: . . .*(gavel)*. . . Will the Chair's meeting please come to order. Okay, this is an informal meeting, as you folks know. So I will wish you top of the morning to everyone, and note that Member Tasha Pro Tem Kama is present. Member Shane Sinenci is present. Member Vice-Chair Rawlins-Fernandez is present. Member Tamara Akiko Maile Paltin is present.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Top of the morning, Chair.

CHAIR LEE: Good morning. Myself, Alice Lee. One, two, three, four, five, okay. We have five, so let's proceed. Mr. Mike Molina is excused, and Ms. Kelly King is excused. That's seven.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: And Member Gabe Johnson, Chair.

CHAIR LEE: Oh, he's excused too?

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yeah, he said he let Staff know, I guess.

CHAIR LEE: He did? Okay. And Member Gabe Johnson is excused. And I think that Ms. Sugimura is coming at some point. Okay.

1. **PROPOSING A 12 NOON DEADLINE THE DAY BEFORE POSTING TO GET AGENDA ITEMS AND RESPONSES TO OCS IN A TIMELY MANNER** (Council Chair Lee)

CHAIR LEE: So the first item is Proposing a Noon Deadline the Day Before Posting to Get the Agenda Items and Responses to OCS in a Timely Manner. Does anybody have any objection to this deadline, 12 noon the day before posting to get agenda items and responses to OCS in a timely manner? Yes, Ms. Kama.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: So Chair, so I don't have a problem that, but when a holiday is going to be that time so, you know, like sometimes you have a holiday when you should be posting. So what is your...so you want it the day before the day of?

CHAIR LEE: Yes. Treat the holiday as a Sunday. Treat the holiday like a Sunday.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Okay.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. You know, that would help the...our Staff not having to scramble. Yes, Ms. Rawlins-Fernandez.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. So is this specifically for like the Committee Chair?

CHAIR LEE: Traci.

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MS. FUJITA: Hi.

CHAIR LEE: Traci, I thought this was for the Council meetings.

MS. FUJITA: Yeah, this is primarily for the Council meeting. So, you know, I usually send a reminder on Mondays about posting for Friday. So if we could get items for posting on, so I guess it would be Thursday at noon for Friday posting. So I'll include that in the reminder email too. So Thursday noon, if the items could get to us, that would be helpful. One other thing is ASFs, if we could those like the...you know, 24 hours in advance, so that would be, you know, the 9:00 a.m. before the Council meeting starting, ASFs. And I guess that would be for Committees as well. Because I think we've been getting some...some kind of last minute ASFs even for Committees, my understanding, but yeah. So ASFs, I've been sending reminders for ASFs for the Council meeting, but I can include that time frame in there too. But that would really help us out.

CHAIR LEE: Ms. Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I just was wondering like for the ASFs, does it have...like can we make our own, or about that deadline and stuff, like what...what is the protocols on that?

CHAIR LEE: The problem with Members doing their own ASFs is they have...they will not receive a review by OCS. So, you know, there's always the possibility of people deviating from the standards that are set in OCS. And again, we're trying to prevent scrambling, and we're trying to encourage planning ahead to the extent possible. So Traci, do you have anything to add?

MS. FUJITA: So yeah, with the ASFs, you know, we encourage that a PAF be open so that OCS can draft them, and then they get incorporated into...into the notes for the Members. But, you know, if Members want to draft their own, that's...you know, that's fine with OCS as well. Usually you'll be able to tell on the ASF on the bottom left if there's a coding, you know how we, OCS saves documents. So if the OCS coding is not there, then everybody will know that that...that ASF was drafted by the Councilmember.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. So you're still able to do your own, but just remember, if you want review and to, you know, have it checked for accuracy and, you know, and form, the better way is to go through a PAF and then have the OCS do it and incorporate that into your notes.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. Just not every time I know I'm going to make an ASF that far in advance.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. We understand that. Yes, Vice-Chair.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. So I think a good example, I did my own ASF on the floor while we were in Council meeting last week, and I didn't like make it like super good. So Member King thought there was like two amendments on my ASF

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because I didn't properly, you know, label it. And so that's why on the bottom I put like that it came from my office and not from OCS, so that everybody would know that it was my mistake and not Staff's mistake. So I...and then this doesn't prevent us from being able to, you know, make amendments on the floor without an ASF, ASFs are just like a little easier for everyone to be able to follow. But, you know, on Friday, we had a lot of testimony from people who opposed 5G, and so I wanted to amend it...amend my resolution in a way that would try to address some of the concerns that we heard in testimony. And so I just kind of like whipped it up as quick as I could, but that wasn't necessary. I could have just made the amendment on the floor, but then the Members would have been like can you repeat that? So, you know, it doesn't have to be like a whole form, it could just be in writing and you could just paste it in the chat and then everyone can see it too. So it doesn't...like, ASFs aren't required to make amendments, it's just...it's just helpful for the Councilmembers and Staff to follow the amendments that's being proposed and...but it doesn't eliminate other options to amending bills or resolutions that we have before us. Mahalo, Chair.

CHAIR LEE: Thank you. Thank you for those comments. Member Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you, Chair. Yeah, I had a question for Ms. Fujita. We talked about having this, the other agenda on top of the agenda, did we...what was that, we were gonna just put those items that we didn't really want to vote on, but just put it in a...like we were...we were going to add it to the agenda, I forget what it was, but are we starting that?

MS. FUJITA: Oh, I think I know what you're referring to, it hasn't started yet. The...yeah, I can't remember what it was called either, but yeah, it hasn't started.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Well, we're not necessarily bringing...yeah, okay. So we haven't started that. Okay.

MS. FUJITA: Yeah. Yeah, yeah, yeah. Yeah, I think the rules will need to be revised, the Council Rules, so I think it'll be worked on in the GREAT Committee.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: You said the consent agenda.

MS. FUJITA: Yeah, that's right, consent agenda. Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Okay. Thank you.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. Any more comments on this item, which is deadlines.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Alice?

CHAIR LEE: Yes, Ms. Sugimura.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Yeah, thanks. So I was just wondering, I'm sorry I came...oh, what.

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CHAIR LEE: Let the record show that Ms. Sugimura has joined us.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Oh, okay. So...yeah, so I'm kind of trying to understand where we are, but with the ASF...I have put in an ASF for tiny homes and I have yet to hear back from the OCS. So I'm just wondering is it...is there a problem?

CHAIR LEE: Is it a PAF? Is it a PAF?

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Oh, I'm sorry, a PAF. Yeah, sorry. Wrong one.

CHAIR LEE: Well, since you brought up that--Traci, do you have any comments?

MS. FUJITA: I don't know off the top of my head. David, do you know? David, are you on the call, on the meeting?

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Point of order, Chair. Chair, point of order. That's not on the agenda.

MS. FUJITA: Oh, okay. And I think that's something that Member Sugimura can take up with Staff at another time.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. Yeah, that is true. It's not on the agenda, but I took it because she started off saying ASF.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Sorry.

CHAIR LEE: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Sorry, wrong acronym.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. You know what, Member Sugimura, perhaps you can call David directly on that.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Yeah, I will. I will, I will.

CHAIR LEE: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: It's very unlike him, so I was just curious.

MS. FUJITA: Okay.

CHAIR LEE: All right. Anything else on number one? We're still on number one, Ms. Sugimura. We're talking about deadlines, et cetera. Do you have anything to add? Oh, yes, Ms. Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I just was wondering if this was meant to be like a hard deadline

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or a soft deadline because it's to make everything not last minute, but what if like, you know, something arises major. How do we tell when we're gonna make exceptions to the rule? Because you know how often we break the rules...or waive them...waive them, I mean.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. Ms. Fujita.

MS. FUJITA: So this is something that we're asking, but we...we know that things come up, you know, at the last minute that you're just not aware of in advance. But if we could get the ones that you do know of in advance. then it will help us not have all of them be, you know, rushes at the end. So basically, you know, if it's a true rush, then cannot help, you know, we'll...we'll do our best. But if you do know about it in advance, or if you could take a look, you know. And I know you have to look through the agenda and decide, you know, whether or not you need to do an ASF or not, or post something on the agenda. So the email reminders that I send are just meant to kind of like, oh, yeah, I should take a look at the agenda if there is anything, you know, that's kind of what my hope is. And then if you can, as soon as you do know you have something, you know, submit the...or contact, you know, OCS so we can help you with that. And yeah, we understand things come up at the last minute, cannot help.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: So try your best, if you come late, no promises kine.

MS. FUJITA: Yeah. I mean, you know, the thing is that rushes, it's just more likely for errors to happen, so that's why we don't like to rush. Because we...you know, we want to make sure that everything is accurate. So but, you know, of course Staff always, you know, they bend over backwards basically too, you know, to help out Council and the Members, so they'll...they'll try their best, definitely.

2. **STAFF INTRODUCTIONS BY COUNCILMEMBERS** (Council Vice-Chair Rawlins-Fernandez)

CHAIR LEE: Okay, moving on to number two. So this item was brought up by Vice-Chair, Staff Introductions by Councilmembers. Vice-Chair.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. Mahalo, Chair. So I brought this up, and I was hoping that all the Members would be here for this. With working remotely and virtually, it's...it's made it possible for us to continue meeting, and I'm super thankful for that. There are some things that we're just not able to replicate, and one of those things is, you know, just getting to know each other and each other's Staff, you know, having...you know, saying good morning to the offices when we get to work in the morning, I miss doing that. I miss, you know, like just talking story to catch up with the Members and their Staff on, you know, like how their family is doing, as we're warming up our lunches in the breakroom, singing happy birthday to each other and getting together, so there's a lot of things that, you know, I just...I'm sure we all miss, and it's really hard to do virtually. But it's really important that our Staff know each other. And so hopefully Member Molina's Staff is on, and Member Johnson and Member

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King's Staff is on, and maybe they can introduce themselves. But I have new Staff, and I'd like everyone to know, you know, my Staff, and I'd like my Staff to know your Staff and, you know, we can continue working together as a big family as much as possible. So I...I can go first.

CHAIR LEE: Okay.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: And then I'll start with...I'll ask my Staff to put their videos on, and then I can, you know, do a quick introduction of each of my Staff. And then if each of the Members would, you know, have their Staff turn on their videos, whoever's here and, you know, just do a quick intro, and then...I guess kind of like an icebreaker-ish. So I have Sarah Freistat Pajimola, she has been working as an executive assistant for the County of Maui for 14 years, started in 2007 with former South Maui Councilmember Michele Anderson, followed by South Maui Councilmember Wayne Nishiki for one term, West Maui Councilmember Elle Cochran for four terms, and currently works for myself in my second term in office. Sarah moved to Maui from Portland, Oregon in 2000, and met her husband from Moku O Keawe in 2004, married in 2011. Together they have two children, Asher Kealoha Kahiau and Kaleialoha Makayla--you can correct me if I said it wrong--Puleleihua, ages eight and five. They own a home together in Old Sandhills, Wailuku where Sarah has worked hard for the last six years to turn their small quarter-acre property into a small urban backyard farm where she raises chickens, ducks, and grows large...and the ducks are from Moloka'i, I brought them over in a Costco bag...and grows a large variety of produce to feed her family and to trade with local community. In 2016 she founded the Maui Backyard Farming Swap community group on Facebook as a network for backyard farming enthusiasts to share, trade, or sell their produce with one another. So for everyone that has some kind of like farming or mango tree in their yard and would like to swap, get ahold of Sarah, and then you can join the group. Sarah has been a longtime Maui County community facilitator and organizer and environmental advocate, political strategist, advisor, and is passionate about growing and sharing food, resources, recycling, family, and I'm gonna add jokes. She cracks us up all the time. Okay, wave to everyone, Sarah, and say hi.

CHAIR LEE: Hi, Sarah. Hi, Sarah, nice to meet you.

MS. PAJIMOLA: Hi, nice to meet you all. Thank you guys for doing this. I think it's really important.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Absolutely. Okay. And then, next we have Mahina Poepoe. She is the newest member of my Staff. She has a background in public administration and non-profit administration. She was born and raised on Moloka'i, is actively involved in issues on Moloka'i, passionate about environmental and cultural resource protection and restoration. She founded Kupeke Ahupua'a, a native Hawaiian organization and non-profit that is currently working to restore the local i'a and probably the ahupua'a, and she loves to gather seeds of native plants and propagate those seeds, and continue to plant and bring back the native plants in the area to restore the ahupua'a. Okay. Say hi to everyone.

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CHAIR LEE: Hi, Mahina.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. And then for our district office, we have Zhantell Lindo. She is a strong community advocate, intimately involved and passionate about everything Moloka'i. She was born and raised on Moloka'i. She's married to Hanalei Lindo. She is from the...our large generational family Dudoit. Started at the Moloka'i district office in 2019. Her favorite job is being a Grammy, and we get to see all the grandkids all the time, they come and visit. And she's my self-appointed Mama Bear and Sergeant-at-Arms. Say aloha.

CHAIR LEE: Hi, Zhan.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: So this is my Staff and I...yes. So I'm super blessed and thankful to have them working with me, and championing the issues that we do. And please, you know, talk story with them, and reach out to them if you have any questions, Councilmembers and Staff that we are about to meet. And I hope we can do some kind of like maybe a virtual pau hana at some point so we can get to know each other a little better. Mahalo, Chair. Oh, Member Sugimura has a question.

CHAIR LEE: Yeah, but that's what I'm saying I'm going next.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Chair, I just want to ask that you schedule this again, and I can ask my Staff to be here so I can introduce them properly.

CHAIR LEE: Ms. Sugimura?

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Yeah? Oh, did you hear what I said?

CHAIR LEE: Yeah, that is possible because probably nobody thought that Vice-Chair was going to introduce her Staff online, you know. And so the thing with me...the thing with me, quite frankly, is my Staff probably don't want to be introduced. They're behind the scenes, and that's where they want to remain. So maybe when we have this again, I might show you pictures of them. That's about as far as they'll probably go. But...but...but for now is there anyone else who has their Staff available to be introduced? Member Kama.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Well, no. My Staff wasn't prepared to get introduced, I thought that Council Vice-Chair was going to introduce her Staff, and that's what...I didn't read it was going to introduce for all of our Staff, so my Staff isn't prepared either.

CHAIR LEE: Yeah, I think...I think, Vice-Chair, that most of us thought you wanted to introduce your Staff because some of them are new, and ours is like old timers already some of them, you know. So that's why we didn't think about introducing them, but we certainly can set up something in the future. Vice-Chair.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. It's just...at the...at the last meeting,

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that was when I asked if we could all introduce our Staff because some...some Members have new Staff. You know, for example, Diane S. is on hiatus right now.

CHAIR LEE: Leave.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yeah, leave, thank you. And, you know...and then...so you have someone new who's not like really new to Council work, but wasn't in your office prior to working remotely. And then like Member Paltin, she...she got someone new after working remotely. And I think Member...Member King and Member Molina, and then, you know, Member Johnson has...I mean, he's new...he's new to the Council. So I wanted his, you know, Staff to get to know all of our Staff too, so that they can all work together when needed and feel comfortable working with each other. Because of Sunshine Law, we...there's some things that as Councilmembers, we can't discuss with each other, but our Staff would be able to work together to try to figure out, you know, like the best way forward for whatever the situation is. So there are new staffers and yeah, I mean, I'm happy to take this up again later, but, you know, if we can just remember that we said that at this meeting. Mahalo, Chair.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. This time we will remember. We will remember. I honestly think most people thought you wanted to introduce yours, but that's fine. Ms. Paltin, and then Mr. Sinenci. Ms. Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: So I have most of my Staff online except for Krystal, if you want.

CHAIR LEE: Oh, okay. Why don't we see them. Let's welcome them.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. I have Christi, Angela, and Michele, and maybe they're shy too. I see something. So Michele works our district office once we get back to normal. She's the district office worker, and she comes from the Red Cross. And then Christi, she comes from the Department of Planning. And Angela came from L.A. and USC, and when she started, she just moved here and got married. And their number one job is to be my brains outside my head.

CHAIR LEE: Oh, that's a challenge.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And then Krystal, I'm not sure if she was coming on, but she works Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays during normal circumstances, but in the remote times, she kind of flexes her schedule to what works best for her. Krystal has two daughters in school, like, that stay home with her, so she's a little flexible. And Christi has two sons that go to school remotely too, I think. And I got four monsters here right now, so that's the noise in the background. And then Krystal said she's going to join right now if you want to see what she looks like.

CHAIR LEE: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: If you guys have anything more that you wanted to share that I left out. Angela has master's in planning. Christi worked with the Office of Aging for

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many years before. And Krystal, her other side job is at the Pawn Shop, I think; I don't know if you guys know Richard Dan. And so I think that's about it. I know Michele has a daughter, but I think she's on her own already...two daughters, yeah. And I don't know if you can hear my neighbor, he's a welder. Is the sound coming through?

CHAIR LEE: No.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Oh, okay. And maybe when Krystal joins the call then I can introduce her, I don't want to take up extra time from other folks that have Staff introductions.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. Well, meanwhile, nice to meet all of you, Michele, Angela, and Christi. All right now. Anybody else want to...Mr. Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you, Chair. Yeah, I'll take a stab at it too. We don't have any new Staff members. I believe we have Ms. Gina Young on, and Aunty Dawn Lono. And then Aunty Mavis Medeiros is checking the mail right now, and Uncle Don's on his cell phone, but we are continuing with our Staff. Gina Young, she is...excuse me, she sent me her...she has two kids, Max and Lacey. Lacey is a senior up at Upcountry, and Max is...just started school at Arizona. Gina comes from the Planning Department, and she has a political science degree at the University of California, Santa Barbara, and a master's in public administration from George Washington University, with honors too, so...and Gina just moved downtown, so she's closer to everybody from Upcountry. And did I...did I forget anything, Gina? Lacey's up in...I forget what school up there.

CHAIR LEE: King K? King Kekaulike?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Seabury.

CHAIR LEE: Oh, Seabury.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Seabury. I think she's at Seabury.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Yeah. Yup. And so Gina and all her policy stylings, she's great at helping me with writing policy. Gina, you want to say a few words?

MS. YOUNG: I got my volume going. No, I think you hit it all. I did (*audio interference*) prior to COVID, but I'm enjoying it though.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Yeah, so that's Gina. Our other executive assistant is Aunty Dawn Lono. As everybody knows, Aunty Dawn was Uncle Bob's...under Uncle Bob Carroll's tutelage for years. She's our great resource. She's from...originally from Michigan. She has two kids, Jonna, Acelyn and a whole bunch of grandkids and great grandkids. She's a Lono ohana, so that is a huge ohana in Hāna. So she's established a rapport all through these years. She's a great community resource and...and I'll let her say a few words if I've missed anything, Dawn.

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MS. LONO: Good morning, everyone. This is really hard for me. I really do not like being on the camera.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Oh, yeah, she doesn't like being on the camera.

MS. LONO: But for you guys, I will do it. The only other thing I would like to add is that I have a flower farm, 'Ohana Lei and Flowers. We've been in operation for more than 35 years here in Hāna. And even though we've closed our brick and mortar store because of COVID, we are still operating our farm and doing tropical flower shipping and lei making. So in addition to my duties here, I have that. And my daughter Jonna is really the one that takes up the brunt of that. And I have like nine grandchildren, and I now have two great grandchildren, which I can hardly believe. And so right now on this planet, we have five generations in our family. Because my mom is still with us, and very healthy. And so she's a great great grandma. So that's exciting for all of us. Thank you so much, and it's a pleasure to work with all of you.

CHAIR LEE: And you too.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aloha, Auntie Dawn.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Yeah. Her other name is Napua, and I forgot Sweetie as well, her oldest daughter is Sweetie. And then, of course, we don't have Uncle Don. Uncle Don Atay, as you know, is our cultural practitioner. He used to work HC&S, so he has a wealth of knowledge about the water systems, HC&S. He's a Kamehameha Schools graduate, and I believe he went up to Seattle University after Kamehameha Schools. And he's...as you know, he's the oldest sibling of the Atay Ohana, including Alika and the rest of his ohana. And then Auntie Mavis...

MS. LONO: She just came in so I'm going to put her...she's going to take over here.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Okay.

MS. LONO: She's going to sit down in my chair.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Okay. Auntie Mavis is our Council Aide for the Hāna District Office. She used to be the health nurse aide at Hāna School for years, and so she, we brought her over to work with us at the District Office. She has three kids, Jambu, Tooks and Megan. They have a farm, goat farm down at Haneoo, Hamoa --

MS. LONO: The video is on, but I don't see her.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: -- right on the beach. And so she's a 1978...1978 graduate from Hāna High School. She's my sister's classmate. So...and I remember growing up the Class of '78, they did their own old school concert with all the 1960s and 70s, *Leader of the Pack*, and they were a very talented group the Class of 1978. So Auntie Mavis, you're on.

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MS. OLIVEIRA-MEDEIROS: Aloha kakahiaka everybody. I don't know if you can see me.

CHAIR LEE: No.

MS. OLIVEIRA-MEDEIROS: But I can see you guys. Shane, what an introduction. Aloha, everybody.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: I...top of the head.

MS. OLIVEIRA-MEDEIROS: Yeah, we live in Haneoo in Hāna. I was born and raised in Honokalani where the State Parks is, and they're putting it on reservation only right now. And we're so happy about that because now we get to park our cars and there's room for us when we want to go fishing or pick opihi or limu. So we're really happy about that. Thank you, everybody.

CHAIR LEE: Thank you, Mavis.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: And Aunty Mavis...Aunty Mavis lives right next to one of the oldest fish ponds in Hawai'i, Kumaka Fish Pond.

MS. OLIVEIRA-MEDEIROS: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Mahalo for the opportunity.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aloha, Aunty Mavis.

MS. OLIVEIRA-MEDEIROS: Aloha.

CHAIR LEE: Oh, there you are. There you are.

MS. OLIVEIRA-MEDEIROS: Aloha, everybody.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. Yes, Ms. Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Oh, I just...right when I handed it off to Shane, Krystal came on. So she's on the bottom left of my screen. And she works Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, I got to keep remind myself not to call her on Mondays and Thursdays. And she lives up Ulumalu and has two daughters, Alyssa and Ariana. And she loves to weed in the garden and be outside, but she's always on the computer, and she can figure out so much stuff. We're so impressed and happy to have her on our team. I would hire her for 60 hours if she would have me. And yeah, she started just a few weeks before the pandemic. I lost Jen and Kathy about the same time, so that's when we brought in Christi and Krystal. And my husband still hasn't forgiven me because he always mix up their names. And that's about it. But don't you guys think of stealing any more of my employees, okay? That's why I was hesitant to introduce them.

CHAIR LEE: Hi, Krystal.

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VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aloha, Krystal.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And if she wants to share anything more else?

MS. CABILES: Thank you for the opportunity. Happy to be onboard.

CHAIR LEE: Yes, Vice-Chair.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. Aloha, Nahiku. Okay. So some of the Councilmembers aren't here, but can we open it up to any of the Staff that would like to introduce themselves? I saw Member Johnson's Staff is online, and would be happy to introduce herself.

CHAIR LEE: Is that Kate?

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Keisa. Is that okay, Chair?

CHAIR LEE: Sure, sure. I don't see that person.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Aloha, Keisa.

MS. LIU: Aloha. I'm here. You know what, I was the one who scheduled all the meetings so that Councilmember Johnson wouldn't be able to attend them. And so I'm actually here in his place, but I figured I'm here, so I might as well introduce myself since I'm the greenest member on the team. My name is Keisa Liu. I graduated from Seabury Hall and went to Seattle University for undergrad. That's where I met my husband. I stayed there for about 12 years while he finished his graduate work, and I did some graduate work of my own. My background is in social justice, non-profit, and my last job before moving back to Hawai'i was the assistant director for annual giving at Seattle University. I moved home, which is here, this is what I call home, to be closer to my grandparents, so we now live with them. And I had a son, so I have a three-and-a-half year old in Makawao, and we all live together. And we have chickens, I have attempted to garden, that has not gone as well as I would like, but I keep trying. And I have a couple of small businesses here with my husband, who does mostly all the work for it, but we do have them. And I am just happy to be a part of this team. I have been having a grand time learning, and I want to thank all of you guys for being so patient with me as I navigate this new world. And eventually we will have the rest of the Staff come back, yeah, who is...Kate Griffith and Autumn Ness are the other two people on Councilmember Johnson's team. Yeah, that's me.

CHAIR LEE: Very nice to meet you, Keisa.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aloha, Keisa.

CHAIR LEE: Thank you. Thank you. Other Members...Ms. Sugimura, Ms. Kama. Yes, Ms. Sugimura.

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COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: I'm going to ask that this get agendized again so I can ask all of my Staff to appear. And I really would like to introduce them myself, so...and have them here in total. So if you could agendize this again.

CHAIR LEE: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thanks.

CHAIR LEE: Yes, Vice-Chair.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. I see Mr. Axel Beers on. If we can invite him to share a few words.

CHAIR LEE: Sure. Hi, Axel.

MR. BEERS: Hey, everybody. I'm Axel. I'm new Staff with Councilmember King. Born and raised Wailuku, graduated Baldwin 2008. Like a couple of our esteemed Councilmembers, I'm a licensed teacher too, licensed in social studies. Happy to be here. I have three kids. Emma, my oldest, is ten; my son Asher is seven; and then my youngest son, Kai, is five. So glad to be here, glad to be a part of the team. And yeah, email me, give me a phone call if you ever have any questions or concerns.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aloha, Axel.

CHAIR LEE: Great to have you onboard, Axel. Okay. Anybody else? Do you see anybody else on the call? If not, we'll schedule this once again so that those of us who, I'll have to drag mine. They'll come kicking and screaming. Okay. We'll defer this item until the next Council meeting if there are no objections.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: No objections.

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3. OFF-WEEK MEETINGS POLICY (Council Vice-Chair Rawlins-Fernandez)

CHAIR LEE: So number three, Off-Week Meetings Policy. Vice-Chair Rawlins-Fernandez.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. So this...so I think we...we have a policy in place where we reserve the following Tuesday for potential recess meeting dates, but that's kind of as far as we took the policy. And I'd like to propose that for everyone's sanity and to protect everyone...everyone from being burnt out, especially before Budget, that we only schedule items that have a hard deadline, so that are time sensitive and, you know...yeah. So if we have like an upcoming imminent deadline that we have to have like an off-week meeting...I guess, you know, examples could be Boards and Commissions if there's, you know, a deadline that we have to meet, budget amendments, I try not to schedule those on off-week meetings, I kind of just take them up at the...on the Council floor generally. But, yeah. So I was hoping that Members would be open to this proposed policy, then we can, you know, discuss it here. Mahalo, Chair.

CHAIR LEE: Discussion. Yes, Ms. Sugimura?

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: I agree, and I noticed though...I noticed usually because my meeting and Gabe's have been scheduled...are scheduled for Monday that in the past, it used to be Tuesday would be my next meeting. But I noticed that with this new calendar it's now back...I mean up to...it'll be on the following Monday, which is fine. So I just had my meeting yesterday, and I guess that's going to be the new rhythm, right? So we have a holiday on Monday, my meeting gets cancelled because of that, then the following Monday is when myself and Gabe would be scheduled. And in the past, it used to be where we would be scheduled for the Tuesday, which was that day that Keani is talking about. But this is your new policy, Chair, for the calendar?

CHAIR LEE: Yes, we would like to try it.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Okay, but I'm talking about where if it's a holiday on Monday, then Gabe and my Committee meeting date is cancelled because of the holiday.

CHAIR LEE: Yeah, cancelled.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: The new policy for this term is going to be the following Monday, right? It's not going to be the Tuesday.

CHAIR LEE: No, not going to be the Tuesday.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Okay. I agree with Keani.

CHAIR LEE: There's so much competition for that Tuesday. So usually that Tuesday is reserved for like some kind of reconvening, or some time-sensitive matter, or something like that.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Okay. Thanks for the clarification. I agree.

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CHAIR LEE: Yeah. Okay. Yes, Mr. Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Chair, would public hearings also be reserved for Tuesdays as well?

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: No.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Tuesday evenings?

CHAIR LEE: Not necessarily. Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Okay.

CHAIR LEE: We don't really have too many so, you know, that hasn't been an issue yet, so hopefully it won't be. And a lot of times the public hearings, we've made it in conjunction with Council meetings, you know. But if you want an evening meeting, well, we'll just have to find a way to do that.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Okay. Thank you.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. Yes, Ms. Kama.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: So if that's the policy...so if your particular meeting week happens to fall on the holiday, like mine's on a Thursday and the holiday would be a Thanksgiving or Veteran's Day or whatever, then the following week would be my next regularly scheduled meeting, and then the following week after that is the actual week where we would actually have. So you would have two meetings actually, back to back, because of a holiday, and that's what we're trying to follow through.

CHAIR LEE: Vice-Chair?

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. So I understand that previous policy was that the Tuesdays were reserved for either recess meetings or if there is a holiday on the Committee week, like Member Sugimura and Pro Tem Kama had brought up, is that that's what the following Tuesday is for, is for meetings that ended up being cancelled due to a holiday. And I understand what you're saying, Chair, is that there has been so much competition for that reserved Tuesday that it's kind of bumped Committees that end up having a holiday on it to some other day. And then before we know it, that week is now a Committee week. And so we have a Committee week, followed by a Committee week, followed by a regularly scheduled Committee week. And that is...it's burning the Councilmembers out, the Councilmembers' Staff, and our OCS Staff. It's just...it's too much. And so that's why I've proposed this policy to, you know, like I'm...like after three weeks, after this, you know, February of like every week being a Committee week, I'm exhausted. And, you know, like I don't...I want...I need rest in order to, you know, really have a lot of patience, and choose words carefully, and to be professional, especially on, you know, public meetings and on TV. And I know everyone

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wants to be their best selves, but when we're having meetings every day for three weeks straight, it's...it wears everyone down. And I want us to, you know, have the time to really commit to each of the items that are being scheduled. And that's what the non-Committee week is for, is for us to prepare for the following Committee week so that we can take that time to meet with people if, you know, meetings are being requested by the following agenda item, you know, that is scheduled for the following week. And so, you know, people are asking me for meetings, and I can't meet with them because we have Committee meetings, and recess meetings, and all these meetings, meetings, meetings, all the time. And so I'm not available, and I can't meet with people who are requesting meetings because their item is on the following week's agenda. And so I think if, you know, we go...if we adopt the policy of only having meetings in the non-Committee week that are...that are time sensitive only, then that Tuesday in the non-Committee week can be reserved for Committees that are just...Committee meetings that are displaced because of a holiday. Mahalo, Chair.

CHAIR LEE: Committee meetings displaced because of a holiday would have the higher priority, is that what you're saying?

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yes.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. Because you know that there's eight of you that are going to fight for that Tuesday, yeah. You know, it's not like everybody is going to, like, agree.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Wait.

CHAIR LEE: So, you know, if...so we need to set a policy and understanding that if you're bumped because of a holiday, you get to go on reschedule to a Tuesday, right, the following Tuesday. That's what you're saying. Okay. That's...yes, Member Kama.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Okay, so I hear that. So...but what Vice-Chair was talking about was not to schedule unless it's a priority, or it has to have a time-sensitive priority. So if we're having time-sensitive priorities versus a holiday that interrupted your schedule, between the two, what takes precedence?

CHAIR LEE: Between the two, the person who got bumped has the highest priority. That's what I was hearing. That's the recommendation.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Agree. Otherwise I wouldn't be able to have a meeting.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. That's how it's...okay. Right now, let's discuss this further. We haven't heard from Member Paltin, and then Vice-Chair again.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I just was wondering, like, if it's a time-sensitive issue, then it seems like there's a time sensitivity to it, so we should try to accommodate the bump and the time sensitive. My question is for...like what if public testimony takes up the entirety of your meeting. Where does that fall into the scheme of things?

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CHAIR LEE: Okay, Member Kama, do you have a comment on that?

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: I think maybe...you know, we know our Committee items, and we pretty much can guess which items are going to be items of contention. And just by looking at the list too, maybe...maybe when you see that your list...as soon as you ask the clerk when you come on, and he says, well, so far we've got 30 people signed up, then maybe you need to think about not giving everybody three minutes. Maybe just giving them two minutes per item, and if they are going to speak on more than three items on the agenda, like they did the other day, give them a maximum of, I don't know, five minutes or something. I'm not sure, but to be able to control the time that the testimony takes up. That's my sense of things.

CHAIR LEE: Well, you may recall I tried to do that early on, but nobody went along with me. But getting...that's...you can hold that point, but getting back to what we were talking about on the Tuesday, who gets the Tuesday is the question, yeah? Vice-Chair Rawlins-Fernandez.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. So two points. I wanted to bring up what Ms. Fujita explained in the chat, and that's regarding holidays. So she said that she believes the only other Committee days that fall on a holiday are May 31st, Memorial Day, and then June 5th for...I'm sorry, July 5th for July 4th, I'm assuming. And so it looks like we may not really need to accommodate, it's just going to be two more days of Committee days that we would have to accommodate for holidays displacing those Committee meetings.

CHAIR LEE: May 31st is what day?

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh, I don't know.

CHAIR LEE: Okay, May 31st is...

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Usually a Monday.

CHAIR LEE: Is a Monday. Who's...okay. That would be IT.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: IT and AH.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Again.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Again. Most holidays are Mondays.

CHAIR LEE: And then July...July 5th is also Monday.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mondays, yeah. Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Except Labor Day.

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VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: No, July...July 4th, it would be for the Independence Day.

CHAIR LEE: No, she's talking about Labor Day in September.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Yeah, for Mondays. We're talking about Mondays, right?

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: No, but...

CHAIR LEE: Is September 6th the holiday also?

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: But it's not a Committee week. It's not a Committee week.

CHAIR LEE: Oh, I see.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: It falls on a Monday, but not on a Monday that we have regularly scheduled Committee meetings.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. So May 31st and July 5th. Okay.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Right now, Traci is saying that the Committee meeting day is scheduled for the following Monday for both of those days.

CHAIR LEE: Following Monday. Well, you know, I mean, I hate to take it like this. I like standardized policies, but in this case, the good news is the major Budget meetings will be done, yeah. So, you know, like Budget wouldn't be a competitor at that point, I don't think. I mean that's...that's the main Committee from here on out, is Budget. We got to get that budget in and off and running and passed. And normally by May 31st, we're done. Yes, Vice-Chair.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. So that...that's for Committee...for Committee meetings that are displaced because of holidays. And then the second point I wanted to address is Member Paltin's concern about what to do when testimony takes up the three hours that we have for Committee meetings. So there's two things. One, it's...it's incumbent upon us as Members to try to really make sure that when we're asking questions, that they are clarifying questions. And if we need someone to serve as a resource person, then we ask them to serve as a resource person. Because in my experience as the Chair and, you know, being a member of a Committee, that that really is what takes the longest. Because we could take, you know, ten testifiers, and if each of them took three minutes each, that would be a half an hour. But it's when we start asking open-ended questions where, you know, they are explaining for, you know...and then each testifier ends up taking about ten minutes each, then that's like, you know, almost an hour and a half now on the same ten testifiers that are now speaking at ten minutes each instead of just the three minutes. So that's something that we have to be mindful about. And then if we know that it's going to be like a contentious item then...you know, Member King and I did this, you know, at the end of last year, where

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we worked together. And I had a full meeting day and Member King had a full meeting day instead of, you know, two meetings in that month I had a full one-day meeting. And then that gave Member King the whole day so that if there was a lot of testimony, she would be able to take the three or four hours of testimony, and then for the rest of that Committee day, we could deliberate and pass whatever legislation was scheduled on the agenda. And so I think, you know, when we're preparing for something like that, we can work with the Committee Chair that is scheduled on the same day as us to see if they would be open to working, you know, with us in having a full day, you know, if it's the first Committee week, and then letting the other Committee Chair have a full day the next Committee week. So I think we can be creative in that way. So that would be my proposal.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. Vice-Chair, I know that's something that you are very supportive of, but as it turns out, most of the Members didn't particularly want to have the whole day of...

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh, Chair, yeah, I know. I'm just...I'm just saying it's not going to be like a permanent schedule, but for when you anticipate taking up contentious items in that month. And so just for that one month, you can work together with the Committee Chair on the same day as you to have one full day. And then the next item I have on the agenda is the West Maui Community Plan. So, you know, we can...I know that that's an item, you know, that has brought out a lot of testimony, and perhaps we...the purpose for having that item on the agenda is for us to figure out a better way to not allow testifiers to hijack the meeting by bringing out tons and tons of testimony so that we're not able to deliberate.

CHAIR LEE: Member Paltin. Member Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Yeah, I just wanted to share that I did have a meeting with Peter Martin and Blaine Ginoza, and they pretty much stated that outright, that they were trying to stack testifiers so that we couldn't get to our business. So they...Peter Martin said that to me, that that's what his intention was, that they tried to stop the deliberation by calling on all the testifiers they could, whether it pertained to the subject or not. So that was just something that I wanted to share with you guys, that he said over the phone to me, when I agreed to meet him. And personally, I don't know that he's stable...if we should be encouraging that kind of thing.

CHAIR LEE: Yeah. Well, it's hard to stop people from testifying. Now, getting back to...since we only have two days, two Mondays, is it possible that you, Ms. Sugimura, and you, Ms. Kama, just plan for not having, you know, maybe...

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Member Johnson is on Monday. Member Johnson.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Me and Ms. Kama are on Thursdays.

CHAIR LEE: Oh, yeah, yeah, that's right. You're Thursdays. So it's more, you...

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Is your question, you don't want us to have a Committee

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meeting?

CHAIR LEE: No, I'm saying that, that you would have to compete with Tuesday.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Well, that's fine. And I hope that all the Councilmembers respect our Committee meetings will take priority, and that...of its importance. Because I will fight for it. If it has to be on a Tuesday, I will fight for my rescheduled meeting to be heard like a regular Committee meeting week. I understand, but I will. Yeah.

CHAIR LEE: So what you would do is not fight for it if it's not time sensitive. You would have your time-sensitive items planned out so that you don't get caught on that Monday holiday, right?

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: I will work really hard to represent the people of Maui County. I will do my job, no worry Alice. Yeah.

CHAIR LEE: I'm not worried about that, I'm just talking about a schedule.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Well, I'm going to fight for my meeting to happen is what I'm saying, you know. And I'm sure the other Members will respect that, yeah.

CHAIR LEE: Yeah, yeah, but I'm just talking about a schedule, I'm not talking about life and death matters and politics, whatever.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Yeah. Concur. Concur.

CHAIR LEE: I'm just saying...I'm just saying that when you folks know you have a holiday coming up and it's going to fall...and your meeting day is going to fall on that holiday, don't plan for something time sensitive for that period, right? Just in case you cannot get the following Tuesday, just in case. I mean, you know, things...things can be planned, you know.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Yes. Agreed. Better ask Gabe though. I'm only speaking for myself.

CHAIR LEE: Yeah, we will talk to Gabe. We will talk to Molina and Kelly, you know. This is not over yet. This is not over. Yes, Vice-Chair.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. So for those two dates, I think, you know, no one has to fight for the day. There's a holiday, and we just agreed today that it'll be on that Tuesday so that Member Sugimura and Member Johnson don't feel like they have to fight for the Tuesday. We're just going to all agree that they will have the Tuesday after the holiday.

CHAIR LEE: And what I am saying, Vice-Chair, is what if their items are not time sensitive and in competition with a GREAT Committee time-sensitive matter. So if you don't plan time sensitive matters to clash with the competition for Tuesday, we wouldn't have this

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problem. Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Right. Right. Right.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. You got it, Ms. Kama.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Well, I got it, I got it. Because when you talk about planning, so that means that GREAT would have to plan strategically too for that holiday coming up, and knowing that he may have...knowing it's a holiday, that he needs to schedule his stuff either before or after that particular Tuesday that he has. So I can see how it can work, but everybody has to plan accordingly too so that we are sensitive to each other's needs and wants and desires.

CHAIR LEE: The only difference is you guys are probably more in control of your schedule than Mike Molina. Because his stuff comes up, you know, without him being able to plan. It's just deadlines come up, people quit, need to reappoint, you know, things like that. Litigation, you know. So he has a harder time planning, but you guys have more control over what you're going to plan for your meetings. Yes, Vice-Chair.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. So Member Molina is pretty good at knowing when items will...may bring out a lot of testimony, and may have a lot of discussion. And in anticipation of the three hours not being enough, I've seen that his practice has been to poll ahead of time in anticipation of there may be, you know, the potential need of a recess meeting. And so Staff has done that, where they just poll for one of the days on the following week, and then that way we reserve the day in case we need it. And then, you know...so I think the GREAT Committee has done a great job at, you know, looking ahead and planning accordingly, anticipating the, you know, more contentious items, and reserving a day so that the Tuesday isn't, you know, the only fall back for the GREAT Committee.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. And actually...actually Tuesday can hold two Committee meetings. It's not reserved exclusively for GREAT, you know what I'm saying?

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Right.

CHAIR LEE: And luckily...

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: But Chair, for the two...the two holidays, for the two Monday holidays, what we're saying today is for the Memorial Day holiday that affects IT and AH, and then for the July 4th holiday that affects IT and AH again, that the following Tuesdays will be for those two Committees to have their regularly scheduled meeting because they are affected by the holiday. So their items wouldn't need to be time sensitive, they just wouldn't be robbed of having the opportunity, like every other Committee, to have a regularly scheduled meeting.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. Well we just talked about the competition for those...that day and the Committee that has the high...the high time sensitivity would be the priority. So if...if

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what you guys are saying, Tuesday is reserved for Gabe and Yuki on those two holidays...after those two holidays, yeah. What if somebody else needs that Tuesday? What if?

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: They can poll for another day.

CHAIR LEE: They can poll for another day. Okay. That's what you were kind of against, right, in the beginning?

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: I'm against.

CHAIR LEE: You're changing your mind?

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: No.

CHAIR LEE: No.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: No. I'm just saying that February has been crazy. We have had recess meeting days and special meetings that aren't time sensitive. And it's burning us out, and it's burning out Staff. And as the Councilmembers, we need to be more mindful of not burning everyone out. And together, if we can decide on a policy where if we're going to take up meetings...if we're going to take up time on the off-week to have a recessed meeting or a special meeting, that it be because it's time sensitive. That's...that's...that's the policy that I'm proposing. And that's separate from when Committees have...is affected because of a holiday. So if on those two dates we would prefer to have it on the following Monday to leave the Tuesday open, you know, like...I mean, that's just the two days in the year. And, you know, like, I would be okay with that.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. Okay. Okay. Then that way, they get their two days no matter what, it would be the following Monday. The Monday before the Tuesday. The Monday before the special Tuesday. Okay. Member Paltin, leaving Tuesday open. Member Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Can you hear me?

CHAIR LEE: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. Sorry, I had to switch devices, my battery died. I just was wondering how you guys felt about March 18th. Because I know Member Kama polled for an evening meeting, so are you guys cool with my morning meeting running a little bit long on that day? It's a regular Committee week.

CHAIR LEE: What day is that, March what?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: 18th, I believe...a Thursday.

CHAIR LEE: Yeah. Member Kama, you...you wanted a meeting in the evening on March 18th?

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COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Yes. Yes. It's a Committee meeting in the evening.

CHAIR LEE: And evening is 5:00 or 6:00?

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: 5:30.

CHAIR LEE: 5:30.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Yeah.

CHAIR LEE: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: 5:30.

CHAIR LEE: So, I mean, I think you would have to...

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Poll for it.

CHAIR LEE: Poll for it because you don't want to lose quorum. You don't want to lose quorum.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Yeah, I think we did already. And you know, my Committee is only five people.

CHAIR LEE: Yeah, yeah, no, no, I'm not talking about yours already. You already polled, yeah?

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Yeah, I did. So we already polled.

CHAIR LEE: You already polled, and you probably got the responses.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Yes, I did.

CHAIR LEE: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: So now you're talking to Member Paltin.

CHAIR LEE: Yeah, so now I'm talking to Member Paltin to see if she can poll also, if she's going to have a longer meeting so everybody will be aware, yeah. They'll be aware of your normal time, but they need to know about the extended time.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And that's just anticipating if we cannot finish all of Section 4 this following Thursday...if I can finish it up and still have the pre-budget presentation on the 18th.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. All right. So Traci, are you getting all of this down?

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MS. FUJITA: Yeah, I just wanted to clarify for Staff. So on the current Council calendar that was recently, I think, distributed to everyone and is going to print. For May 31st, normally it would be a Committee meeting day, but it's a holiday. So on the calendar, that Committee meeting has been scheduled for June 7th, the following Monday. And then for July 5th, which would also be...which would have been a Committee meeting day, but it's a holiday, that Committee meeting day has been rescheduled to July 12th, which is a Monday, the following Monday. So we're keeping that now, we're going to follow the calendar; is that right?

CHAIR LEE: Is that okay with everybody? There's two, four, five, six of us here today. So yes, Vice-Chair.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. My...my preference would be for the June 8th and...which is the Tuesday, and the July 13th, which is the Tuesday. I think that would make it easier on Staff for meeting posting deadlines too.

CHAIR LEE: But you...wait a minute. I thought you said you were okay with the following Monday, and then leaving the Tuesday open for emergency, you know, like time-sensitive stuff.

MS. FUJITA: Sorry, I just have to correct myself, for July. It's not the July 5th holiday. I'm just looking at the calendar again, it's actually...I think it's due to NACo, so it's actually...the meeting...the Committee meeting should be July 19 and 20, but it's being rescheduled the week before to July 12th and 13th.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh, yeah.

MS. FUJITA: Yeah. Sorry, that's my error.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. So it's really only one meeting then. It's only Memorial Day week...day holiday. Okay.

CHAIR LEE: Only one.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Only one. Okay. So June 8th.

CHAIR LEE: So only one time the following Monday, right? Okay, leaving Tuesday.

MS. FUJITA: Yeah, due to a holiday.

CHAIR LEE: Leaving Tuesday open. Right? Okay. Everybody got that straight? So IT and AH will move to...again, Traci?

MS. FUJITA: So just for the May 31st holiday, IT and AH is scheduled for June 7th...Monday, June 7th.

CHAIR LEE: June 7th.

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MS. FUJITA: Yeah.

CHAIR LEE: And then on the other one, the July...

MS. FUJITA: July...so that one, it's because of NACo, I'm not sure if Members are planning to travel for that. But we did try to accommodate that. So NACo would be July 19 and 20. So that's normally Committee meeting days. So those have been rescheduled to July 12th and July 13th on the Council calendar.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: So that holiday doesn't affect a regularly scheduled...

MS. FUJITA: Yeah. No, sorry, the holiday is an off-week. July 5th holiday is an off Committee week.

CHAIR LEE: Okay, did everybody get that? So IT and AH is fine. It's just back to, you know, that Tuesday for overflow business or time-sensitive business, right? And we will try our best not to schedule anything else other than that Tuesday, right? Okay. Wow, okay, let's go to number four.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Chair?

CHAIR LEE: Yes, Vice-Chair.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Can we take up item five before four since it kind of...it doesn't really relate, but it kind of does.

CHAIR LEE: Okay, it's your two...your two items, so...

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo, Chair.

CHAIR LEE: Actually...actually, let me, let me correct the record. The eight items, four are yours.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: You're welcome, everyone.

5. **COUNCIL'S CONSIDERATION TO CANCEL COMMITTEE WORK FOR ONE REGULARLY SCHEDULED COMMITTEE WEEK AFTER BUDGET SESSION TO COMPLETE THE REVIEW OF THE WEST MAUI COMMUNITY PLAN**
(Council Vice-Chair Rawlins-Fernandez)

CHAIR LEE: Okay. Number five. We're skipping four for now.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: All right. Yeah. Okay. Mahalo, Chair. So...Members.

CHAIR LEE: Okay, number five.

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VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Number five. Number five is Council's Consideration to Cancel Committee Work for One Regularly Scheduled Committee Week After Budget Session to Complete the Review of the West Maui Community Plan. As Member Paltin had explained to us, and as we've seen ourselves, that a three-hour Committee meeting slot may not be enough if members of the community are...are deliberately trying to have a whole lot of testimony so that we don't end up getting to deliberation. And so the thought is that if we together are willing to relinquish that three-hour meeting time in that Committee week, that we would be able to get the work done for the review of the community plan and...and I actually think this would be, you know, a good thing for us to do for all community plans. And then that way we can really focus and dive in to the community plan, do the review, and get it done so that we are helping to expedite the review and completion of community plans as we say is a priority to us. Instead of taking a year to review, which is, you know, allowed by Code, that we have up to a year to review, but we all agree that it's...it's taking too long and all the community plans are, you know, like double the amount of time, like way over ten years that they're supposed to be reviewed. And so I would be happy to relinquish, you know, one of my Committee meetings in the Committee week so that we can get this work done in one week.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. From when to when? When are you talking about?

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: It may be one of the Committee weeks in like June or something.

CHAIR LEE: Oh, in June. Okay. Yeah. Okay. Any other thoughts, everybody? Any other thoughts? Yes, Ms. Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And I figure it's okay to say this, it's about process for the West Maui Community Plan, and that's been agendized, right?

CHAIR LEE: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. It would be cool to do this. The one thing that's a little bit different about this community plan, and all of the community plans that follow and come before is the new community plan designations, and that's a different thing than we've ever dealt with. And so to talk a little bit about the process, you know, from the first time when I tried to put the focus on Sections 1, 2 and 4, even at that time, and because it was agendized in the way it was, everybody wanted to talk about maps. Maps is like sexy or something. Like everybody...that's all people want to focus on. And of course, that's the most controversial part pretty much. And so I was hoping that we could separate the maps from the community plan designation because that's such a significant change, the new community plan designations, but it's only a change for the West Maui Community Plan right now. But going forward, I mean, it only makes sense to at least use those new community plan designations for all of Maui Island, and I guess when we go around again, possibly for Moloka'i and Lāna'i. But so basically, after we finish Section 4, I was going to just go over the new community plan designations

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separate of the maps so that we don't have those...that kind of controversial thing as we're trying to figure out what these new community plan designations do, what they mean...because I've been trying to figure it out since I received the West Maui Community Plan. And the Planning Department's like explained it to me at least two, three times after getting it, a couple of times before getting it. So I just wanted to let you guys know that process. I want us to be able to focus in on these new designations because it is such a significant shift in the way that we've been planning, separate from maps and Appendix 5. And so when we're doing that, I won't be taking testimony on maps or anything else in the community plan. We want to focus solely on the community plan designations so that we understand that completely, and then use that understanding...

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Chair, point of order.

CHAIR LEE: Vice-Chair.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Sorry, it's kind of going a little more into the weeds than what was agendized.

CHAIR LEE: I think she's trying to explain to us the overall schedule.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: No, yeah, I get it. Yeah, I get it. So...but if...if Member Paltin could tie that into the agenda item itself, for Sunshine. So is one week enough where you take testimony on Monday, and then, you know, we recess the meeting to Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, so that we can get through everything. Are you saying, Member Paltin, that that is not enough time, and so...or is that enough time? But if you could just tie it into what was agendized, what you're saying, if you could tie it into what was agendized, and then that way we're, you know, still complying with Sunshine Law.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: So I haven't seen the calendar yet that we were talking about. Before I answer that, are we meeting in May at all?

CHAIR LEE: Who's we, you? Your PSLU?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Is it Committee on and then Committee week off, Committee week on and Committee week off for May?

CHAIR LEE: Vice-Chair?

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. Yeah. So Budget session generally ends April 30th, so that's it. But Staff is...is then like tasked with doing all the background paperwork, and so that's all hands on deck, right. So while we are going to go back into the...our regular schedule of Committee week, non-Committee week, Committee week, non-Committee week for the month of May, we have all hands on deck --

CHAIR LEE: You're frozen.

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VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: -- finishing up (*audio interference*) meetings. Oh, okay am I still frozen. Am I still frozen?

CHAIR LEE: No, no, you're okay now. We can hear...we can hear you.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. So logistically, I think taking up both budget and West Maui Community Plan in the month of May may be a really tall order for OCS Staff. Because what Councilmembers don't see is Staff all working together to finalize what's going to be posted to the Council meeting for our final approval for all the Budget documents. And so it's a lot of work to ensure that there aren't little typos or numbers that are placed in the wrong column. And so, you know, we don't see because Staff is doing it behind the scenes. But there's a lot of work that is taking place after we finish our deliberations for the month of April. So if Member Paltin is asking if we can have a week, you know, that week of doing the West Maui Community Plan in the month of May, I think that would be a really hard ask of OCS.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. Okay. Well, let's have Ms. Kama...Ms. Kama, then Ms. Paltin. Ms. Kama.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Okay. I just want to talk about a couple of things. One, I am okay with having a whole week of PSLU to hopefully get towards completing the West Maui. I don't know if we are, or is that one week is going to be sufficient, but I can support that. But with that being said, I think the issue of coming out of Budget and just using the month of May to just get back into our own routine before we go into the full week again is probably more feasible, only because we all know what it felt like coming out of January and February, and we're already saying, at the end of February, we need a break. I can see that happening again. And so as to not exhaust our Staff--and our Staff does work--you're right, we don't really see everything. We think we do, but we don't. All the stuff that goes on behind the scenes, we should know that when we're getting text messages, when we're getting emails from them late at night, you've got to know they're still working. I get text messages at night from my own Staff for HCP, so I can imagine what they're doing with your Committee. But my Committee, to me, is one of the easiest Committees because I don't have that many members, the agenda is not so contentious, it's a pretty nice feel good kind of Committee, you know, so it's a very light Committee. But I see for the rest of you that carry bigger burdens of our community, I think the work schedule has to be balanced. And so that's all I'm saying, Chair. Thank you.

CHAIR LEE: Okay, good. Ms. Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: So yeah, I wasn't going to suggest if...if you guys agree to that one week that we do it in May, I just was thinking that maybe I can split up community plan designations and take that up kind of separately in May so that when we...if...if Members agree to laying down one week that we're strictly working on the rest of the community plan, I think that should be sufficient time if the Members would agree to it. If...if we have our regularly scheduled meetings in May, and I just take up the community plan designations so that when...if we can have one week, then we're back

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to maps, appendices, going back over sections that if they need to be, like, adjusted for the entirety of it. The other thing, maybe I shouldn't take the Friday because I know that we have to do Council meetings twice a month. So given that we would have just regularly scheduled Committees in May, maybe I'd like to try and do...focus solely on the community plan designations in May, which is a part of the West Maui Community Plan, but just take up that one aspect of it during my regularly scheduled meeting. And then...

CHAIR LEE: Okay. Okay. You mentioned something about during that, you're not going to take any testimony. How do you manage that?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: No, only take testimony on what we're talking about, community plan designations.

CHAIR LEE: Oh, I see, I see.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Not...if people want to take up the maps, that's not what we're focused on. We're focused on the community plan designations. And if they start talking about the maps, I'll just cut them off because we're not talking about maps.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. Vice-Chair.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. I see what Member Paltin is trying to do, but if we schedule the entire community plan on the agenda, we cannot stop the public from testifying on all parts of the community plan. So my proposal is that perhaps Member Paltin can schedule...or like refer a subject matter item, or maybe separate out that document. And then that way, Member Paltin, under PSLU, can legally restrict testimony to only community plan designations. So if...Member Paltin, if you do a referral item and the referral item subject matter is community plan designations, and then, you know, it...it only has the discussion of community plan designations, then you can restrict testimony to community plan designations and not maps. But if you schedule the West Maui Community Plan as a whole, we...we cannot legally restrict testimony on any part of the West Maui Community Plan.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Oh, I'm not...I don't know how to do that, but I thought that Ana and David had a way, but whatever is legal.

CHAIR LEE: Oh, you've discussed this already with your Staff.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Only with my OCS Staff and the Planning Department. We were going to have like a little game for you guys, and I was going to get prizes so that you really understand community plan designations.

CHAIR LEE: Oh, I like that. Okay. So let's leave it in the hands of Staff, they'll know how to separate the items so that the testimony will be restricted. But once you put West Maui Community, that's it. Then anybody can talk on it, yeah, about any part of it. Okay. Good.

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COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Yeah, whatever's legal. I don't want to be breaking no laws.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. Now what I need clarification on is earlier, Vice-Chair, you said all hands on deck up until April...I mean, all the way through April and May. We're not going to have meetings in May, but you're going to need all the Staff in May? Vice-Chair.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. And so Traci posted in the chat that Council calendars shows that May 31st Committee meetings is scheduled from June 7th and the July 5th Committee meeting. Oh, okay. That's something different. All right. So the calendar shows that Committees will resume Committee week on May 17th. And so I think that is...and so I think that is in preparation of having all hands on deck to finalize budget documents. So...and perhaps we can invite, you know, Ms. Fujita to speak on what is...what would be needed for OCS staff to complete the posting documents for the budget bills. But Committee meetings would resume on May 17th, so that would be the first Committee week after budget session, and then the second Committee week would start on May...oh, sorry, June 1st.

CHAIR LEE: Since you have the calendar, when does...when do the Committee cease meeting, stop meeting?

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: March 15th is our last Committee week, and then we receive the budget on March 25th.

CHAIR LEE: And so from March 25th through and to May 17th, no Committee meetings.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: May 14th.

CHAIR LEE: May 14th.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: And then May 17th is a Monday, and that's the first day of the Committee week.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. Everybody got that? Tamara, is that your hand up? What is that? Oh, okay. Everybody got that? March 25th through May 14th. Okay, no Committee meetings except Budget. Okay.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: March 25th is a Thursday. And that week, the only thing that we have scheduled is Chair's meeting on the 24th, March 24th.

CHAIR LEE: Okay.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: The day after March 26th is Prince Kuhio Day.

CHAIR LEE: So that's...okay, it's a holiday.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yeah.

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CHAIR LEE: Okay, everybody. Everybody got that? So you don't have much time to have your Committee meetings. Today is the 24th, you have like one month and then a huge hiatus. Okay. So any questions or comments? Yes, Vice-Chair.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. So I don't know if Members would like to reserve that week, and if...I only heard from Member Paltin and Member Kama if having a week to go through the West Maui Community Plan is something that they support doing, which would mean that for that Committee week, they would not have a Committee meeting. So, yeah. If we could do that for us.

CHAIR LEE: That would be May 17th you're talking about?

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Well, I think the first part, the first step is hearing from the Members if that's something that they're willing to support, and then the second step is deciding on what week that would be.

CHAIR LEE: Oh, so it could be before the...March 25th or after.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Probably not.

CHAIR LEE: Okay, so...

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: But step one is...

CHAIR LEE: There's only like four weeks in May, and then, you know, there's May 17th and then...May 17th, yeah, there's only two weeks left. I mean, they're not going to be given...you're talking about giving up a week in June possibly as well?

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh, I was just saying that...so we heard from Member Kama as the Human Concerns and Parks Committee Chair that she's willing to give up her meeting time for one week of going through the community plan, but we didn't hear from Member Sinenci as the APT Chair or Member Sugimura as the IT Chair if that's something that they would be willing to do. I don't want to just assume that everyone's cool with it.

CHAIR LEE: Yeah. And not only that, it's kind of hard for them, to me, to answer in a way if they don't know when, what dates we're talking about.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: I was just looking at June.

CHAIR LEE: Doesn't it matter to you guys when, whether it's June, whether it's May, whether it's March. Does it really matter, or you don't really care, you just give up. Yes, Mr. Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: June.

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COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you, Chair. We just have the water use development plan, of which we extended the deadline to September, the end of September. So we would just have to look because our meeting dates would be probably eight meeting dates after the budget session to complete the report if we have any amendments. We don't have to...we heard from OCS that we don't have to go through the entire process again because we're just acting on a draft, and it's...it's not a plan that has been already accepted. So...so we don't need those extra dates to go back to the Commission or to have another public hearing. So that's the only issue with the APT Committee, is getting all of our WUDP in before the deadline in September. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. So you're pretty open. What about you, Ms. Kama?

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: I already said what I wanted to say. I think Ms. Sugimura hasn't spoken yet.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. No, I just wondered if you had timing wise, you know, June sensitive, May...

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Yeah, I was looking at June. I was looking at June.

CHAIR LEE: Huh?

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: I was looking at June to give our OCS staff the month of May to get all the budget documents in order.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. Ms. Sugimura.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Yeah, I'm just listening to what everybody has said. So it sounds like May would be the crunch time to get the budget document done and it's accuracy, and probably Tamara is going to...from what I gather, you want to schedule the Land Use designation to be one meeting, that would be your 20th meeting in May. And then in the month of June then, at a Committee week, you may be asking for the other Members to give up a Committee day to schedule your pass...or try to pass your water use...I'm sorry, your West Maui Community Plan in the month of May for your week-long schedule of PSLU meetings, but not the Friday because you're saying that would be designated for Chair's Council...I mean Council meeting, right?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: So that's what it sounds like. So you're actually talking about June to do that.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: And that might be like the week of June 14th, which is...because there's June 1st...well, the holiday, Memorial Day on the 31st of May, that's Committee week, which is a short week because of the Memorial Day, so possibly you're

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maybe looking at the week of June 14th, Tamara, which is a full Committee week.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. So we all understand where everything is, what I'm going to do is ask Traci to work with the...to poll the Members and see if the other Members who are not here are agreeable.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: I want to know what kind of prizes Tamara is gonna give for the...for the game. Just kidding.

CHAIR LEE: I want a trip to Vegas. Can?

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: I want to be Alice's buddy.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay, next.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. That takes care of that. That's good. That's good.

4. PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURES FOR TAKING UP AGENDA ITEMS
(Council Vice-Chair Rawlins-Fernandez)

CHAIR LEE: Back to four. Vice-Chair, back to four.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Number four, all right. Parliamentary Procedures for Taking Up Agenda Items. So we briefly discussed this yesterday in the AH Committee meeting, where in OCS's workshop on Robert's Rules and parliamentary procedure, the recommendation from Robert's Rules expert--I didn't sit in on this, but this is what I understand--was that we should have a motion on the floor before commencing with our deliberations. Past practice has been that we bring up the agenda item, and then we have, you know, discussion with resource personnel, whether it's from the Administration or experts in our community. And then after we've exhausted our questions, that we would then have more of an idea of where we stand on the issue, and are ready for a motion, and are ready to speak to our position on how we would vote. And so, for example, yesterday my proposal was to amend 2.96, and Members wanted to kind of hear what the proposal was before having a motion on the floor. And so I think...like I said, I don't know what was recommended exactly in that workshop, but we don't follow Robert's Rules exactly, we follow our Council Rules, and wherever parliamentary procedure is silent, then we fall back on Robert's Rules. So Robert's Rules is secondary. And so if we need to have like a Council Rule on how we do this, then I'm fine proposing a Council Rule. But I think it's fine in leaving that discretion up to Committee and Council Chair on...well, I guess not Council Chair, but Committee Chairs, leaving that discretion up to the Council Chair...sorry, leaving the discretion up to the Committee Chairs to bring up an agenda item, have discussion, and then when Members are ready for a motion, then we make the motion and then, you know, we vote on the motion. So I like that process, and that has been past practice. So that's why I'm bringing up this item. Because the workshop had recommended that we not do that, and that we take up a motion first, and I don't think that fits with how our Council

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operates. Mahalo, Chair.

CHAIR LEE: Yeah, I think everybody agrees with that. Yesterday I think Gabe maybe was thinking too much about the workshop he was in regarding parliamentary procedure, and he brought up the motion right away. But I think most people...most Members know that that's too soon, and that you need some discussion first. And then generally, in Committee--and he will learn this over time--in Committee, you have discussion, and then oftentimes, people ask for the Chair's recommendation, or they make a motion. So Committee is not...the setting for the Committee work is...is more informal. And so a lot of it is at the call of the Chair as opposed to the Council meetings is when you dispose of the Committee work, you know, you finish it up, you conclude it. So did you want us to write up something about that or...what I was going to do was ask Traci or David to do a recap of today's meeting and send it to all Members, yeah. And then Traci, I was going to ask you to, on number five, poll everybody. And if you need clarification ask Vice-Chair, yeah? And then...yeah, a recap if you could do it because for the next meeting, we have to like, for instance, bring our Council Staff...I mean our Staff, okay. And then, you know what, Traci, you should bring your Staff too.

MS. FUJITA: Okay.

CHAIR LEE: Yeah. Yes, Vice-Chair.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. And, you know, to Member Johnson's defense, it's not only Member Johnson that was doing that, it was all the Members that attended that workshop. And so...

CHAIR LEE: Like what?

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Bringing up the motion.

CHAIR LEE: Oh, the workshop. Oh, yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah. Okay.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Bringing up the motion first before having discussion.

CHAIR LEE: Right.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: So it wasn't only Member Johnson.

CHAIR LEE: Yeah, okay. Okay. So everything is all right with number four?

6. **DISTRICT OFFICES** (Councilmember Kama)

CHAIR LEE: And then number five...number six. Member Kama, District Offices.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Okay. Thank you. So I'm hoping that everyone went ahead and downloaded the memo that that was sent to you by...I think was probably Traci, I think, but I brought this up last year, and I just wanted to bring it back up again seeing as

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how we're working remotely, the idea of having...conducting our County's legislative business through electronic means, but also in our districts, where having district offices beyond just West Maui and Hāna and the neighbor islands, but also maybe Upcountry and Kihei and Central Maui. So when I thought about it, I thought that, you know, we're trying to...we're trying to preserve what we have in terms of spacing, in terms of safety, in terms of our carbon imprints [sic], and in terms of transportation. And so when I thought about putting together our district offices, then I thought well, let's see what our...our Council has to say about that. Because I think there's a benefit to having satellite offices, as we'll call them, for both not just us, but also for our Staff too. So it's in the front of you. I didn't want to have to read it to all of us, it's kind of like self-explanatory. But if you have any questions, we can talk about them.

CHAIR LEE: Ms. Sugimura.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: This is interesting. So you're saying that...to me, this is making me think that we won't need additional space, like the Maui News building.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Well, when I did this, the Maui News wasn't even part of the discussion a year ago.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: But I know you brought it up last budget cycle, you withdrew it, but...

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Yeah. Well, nobody was interested last year, but maybe this year because of what we're going through with COVID-19, it's an idea to take a look at it again. Are we ready for this? Maybe not. Maybe we'll just keep hanging out until we are ready.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: So what would be the purpose of like Upcountry, right, the District Office Upcountry. Okay, let's say I open up something in the Kula Community Center, I guess or...or by Longs or something, whatever...in Pukalani. So the purpose would be like the way Shane meets, and Tamara uses...not today, but Tamara uses district office to replace her coming to the building. I mean, right now, there's just me and Gabe in this facility on the eighth floor, right. So you're saying maybe no need these offices. Is that what you're saying?

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Maybe. It's possible, right? I mean, no need, no need.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: And no need to go back to the sixth floor. I mean, that's greater impacts that you guys are talking about, rather than just open up a district office, you know. They're talking about money, rent, staff, you know, equipment, you know, desks.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Well, maybe not rent.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: I don't really want people to come to my house, which is where my alternate office is right now.

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COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Right.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: You know, I've got to clean it all the time. But what are we talking about?

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: A community center...

CHAIR LEE: She's talking about having a district office just like everybody else has now. So in other words, you would...let's say...let's say we ask the Mayor for the downstairs of the Pukalani Community Center, Hannibal Tavares. The downstairs has offices, yeah, meeting rooms.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: That's DMV, yeah.

CHAIR LEE: So let's say you and...you and Molina share that, it would be, like, the Upcountry, Pā'ia, Makawao District Office, and so you guys would go work from there. That's what she's talking about.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Okay. So my opinion, okay, I'm up for discussion, right, and some of you are already living the dream. And for me, I prefer to work the way I am because a lot of my community work I do out at the Upcountry Farmer's Market, or whatever. And my situation maybe is different, I don't know. I don't live on another island, so I can see that or maybe Lāhainā is like another island because it's so far away, I'm not too sure why but, you know, the challenges. But I'm up for discussion, you know, to learn about it. But I think that the impact of what you're talking about has huge impacts, and maybe it should be discussed in a Committee meeting because it impacts our budget, it impacts accessibility to the community. I would like to hear what the community has to say about us spending more dollars to rent office, equipment, you know, all the things we need to do to set up an office, and what is the impact for that, and is there...you know, is there a need for it. And I'll go ask my community if they think I need to open up an office, I would like to ask them; Pukalani Community Association, and I have the Kula Community Association, the farming groups that I have all Upcountry and, you know...but yeah, I would like to take this up in a bigger discussion, bigger than us because I think it's who we're talking about, which is the community. So that's my input.

CHAIR LEE: Yes, Ms. Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Well, I just wanted to share that the West Maui Office has been working out really great. Tomorrow...I've had a couple meetings with constituents where we all are masked up and social distanced in the office. Tomorrow, I'm meeting with Theo Morrison, and she was actually...had a hand in helping us find the location. You know, at the time when we had planned this out, we weren't meeting virtually and so, you know, a lot has changed since all of that went through. But, you know, if I had to do Committee meetings here with my entire family and the dogs and my neighbors and like that, it wouldn't have worked out very well, and so I'm very grateful for the West

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Maui Office. And still yet, if I leave my kids home alone with the grandmother, I'm not too far away. If there's an emergency, I can just run home, you know, 15 minutes as opposed to an hour. So it's really worked out very well for me. I realize that there is an added expense to it and, you know, I think that's something that we should look at when we're doing any kind of building in the districts. Like I think Member King had said that, you know, if we ask for like, you know, just an office space to be included for us so that it's not something that we're having to rent continually, but it's been a real blessing for us on the West Side, you know. I think a lot of folks feel...at least the West Maui mentality is that, you know, they feel kind of offended that they have to drive Central or catch the bus Central for everything. And so, you know, although we haven't taken testimony at the district office yet, a lot of people are really happy. And it may be different for other districts where they don't get so offended of having to cross the Pali. I think the tourist traffic is probably a big reason why folks get offended crossing the Pali or something. I'm not sure exactly the reason, but majority of folks, if they can stay and do their business in West Maui, they're very happy. So that was my personal experiences, and I would be supportive of others who would like to engage in their community in this way.

CHAIR LEE: Yes, Mr. Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you, Chair. I just wanted to add to the conversation. And just to let people know, the district office was not necessarily my personal office, it's for all the Councilmembers. But since it is during the pandemic, it's just been great to have our meetings at home. They are currently remodeling the Civic Center in Hāna, so we're using the Hāna Museum to operate out of. I did...I do come over to Central because I still have Staff in Central Maui, you know, meeting with Gina and Uncle Don, and sometimes I'll go out to the office to take a couple meetings, but I try to arrange it where I've got a couple meetings out there that I can...you know, can be more productive when I'm out there for couple days. And then Committee weeks, I'm probably at home taking Committee meetings. But it's been working out great for us and the Staff here, but having the Central location for Staff that are still out in Central Maui is also crucial for our office. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR LEE: Wait, wait, wait. So you like the idea, you don't like it...what is your conclusion?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Well, the idea...specific to Hāna, it's been great for us because we get to work at home. But we also...I also have Staff out in Central Maui, so...so coming up to the office a couple days of the month to work, I still need to do that plus any...

CHAIR LEE: I see. Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: And I represent everybody. So having somebody at the office taking in calls from the entire County, I think we still need to answer to our constituents, Chair.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. Vice-Chair, you have anything else? If not, I'll move on to Ms. Sugimura.

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VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: I'm just curious, you guys are making me think of something, so I know that...yes. Oh, go ahead, Keani.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Can I? Okay. Mahalo, Chair. Mahalo, Member Sugimura. So if Members will recall--and I'm happy to send the document out again to everyone--at the beginning of the pandemic, OCS and my office was working on like transitioning us to remote work, and then addressing, you know, the immediate goals, objectives, strategies. And then we had short-term goals and strategies and then long-term goals and strategies. Having a district office that's more convenient for the members in the community in which you reside was one of the short- to long-term goals, and so this has been something that we've discussed before right after the pandemic had started last year. And so I think there's a lot of pros and cons that can be discussed for a...you know, a fuller conversation. And I can, you know, ask my Staff to send the document to everyone again that kind of outlined some of the things that we've done and some of the things that we can do in envisioning what it would look like for us...for our legislative branch for the Council office. So I support having, you know, cost-effective measures for Councilmembers to be in their residency district, yes. So one of the things that I, you know, like think would be a great idea, and we don't have to discuss it like a lot right now, but I think working remotely has been really beneficial to a lot of the community, and in mitigating, you know, climate change with our carbon footprint, saving on...a lot of money having...you know, paying for airfare for myself back and forth to Maui costs a lot of money. And I don't like to spend all that money for me to fly to Maui all the time, but that's, you know, part of having a Councilmember that resides on another island, you know, that's not Maui. But having...having our Committee meetings perhaps remain online, and then maybe having, you know, the Council meetings in person after the pandemic is pau, might be a nice compromise for us. Because I think it...it is important for us to come together in person, for us to continue to build comradery and, you know, just the small things that is impossible to do virtually, you know, just working on, you know, collaboration and having, you know, like meaningful relationships, that's hard to do online. Anyway, so I'm supportive of the idea. And as, you know, Chair Lee mentioned, there's a way that we can do it so that's not as expensive, you know, not as costly, but would have, I think, tremendous benefit to the districts so that they have easier access to the Councilmembers that reside in their district, so that they can just stop by. I have community members drop by my office all the time. Zhan is always busy because there is, you know, people there that are constantly coming, even during the pandemic. Mahalo, Chair.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. Thank you. But that really doesn't solve...don't forget, this is a multi...a problem with multiple levels, yeah. We still have the issue of the inadequate space for Staff, so that really must continue with Vice-Chair in negotiating with the Administration to get more space, yeah, for Staff.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Absolutely. Yes.

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CHAIR LEE: So this is not exactly one...you know, one solution. We need couple solutions. Yes, Vice...I mean, Member Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And please stop me if I'm too far off the agenda, I don't have the agenda pulled up in front of me, but is that related to this agenda item? Like since we don't know when the COVID situation is like finished, and we're having an issue with not enough space for Staff, I just was wondering...I mean, are we looking at what is working, and what isn't working, and who would like to continue to work remotely? Or I mean, I kind of feel like the Analysts are doing a great job, and most of them aren't there and, you know, what are the thoughts towards...I think they have this thing called shared working spaces or whatever, where it's...you know, it's set up and it's open for whoever shows up that day to use as a working space. Because the way that it looks like when I go in there is, you know, we've got certain people cramped into this small area here, here, and here, but then the whole analyst area is just open empty cubicles most times. And I just was wondering, you know, if we had any plans, looking ahead, if Analysts would love to come back, or if they'd love to stay home, or they'd love a hybrid since we're talking about, you know, negotiating for more space, which I'm all for as well. But I think we should also take into account like, you know, what we would like to see and what our Staff would like to see. Because if they are more productive working home and they want to continue, I don't have a problem with that. Or if they want to come back, I don't have a problem with that either. But I don't know that we're having the discussion with them about how they envision the future looking like post-COVID, or as COVID dies, or as a new whatever challenges come up. So I just was wondering if, like you said, that's part of the conversation, how are we, how are we addressing what we, all of us, wants the future to look like. Because then maybe the space issue isn't as big of an issue if people are working great from home and they don't want to come back, I don't even know. So just throwing that out there.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. This is part of the agenda because it was Vice...I mean, it was Pro Tem Kama who brought this up in her memo dated February 12th. And in it, she talks about district offices, and various scenarios, and the possibility of repurposing the Council Chambers for space. So this is all the same conversation, and...however, we're at the beginning stage of working toward a master plan. And one of the things that we have to agree upon is that number one, we don't have enough space for our clerks and secretaries and maintenance people like Eric and what's his...Bruce. So all those people are all crammed like sardines, okay. Now, it's hard for us to know what the Governor and the Legislature is going to do with regard to if they're going to let us continue online, or they're not going to let us continue online. So until those things are established, we really can't say if we're going to...because if we cannot continue online, that means we have to be present in the building, right. But we don't know that yet. So until we can establish some facts going forward, it's hard for us to come up with a hard plan, a concrete plan. Yes, Vice-Chair.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. Just real quick. Sunshine Law allows us to meet online even without the emergency proclamation, the issue that had come up, which is why we needed the emergency proclamation, is that if we have...when we have meetings online, the locations from where we're meeting would have to be

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agendized and open to the public to come and testify. Which is why having a district office would, you know, be better because then we're not opening up our houses, our residence, to the public to come and testify after the emergency proclamation stops suspending portions of Sunshine Law.

CHAIR LEE: So anyway, regardless, we still are subject...well, at the mercy of the Legislature and the Governor for now. So we can't like make lavish plans because we don't know what the future holds exactly. But what we can be doing is thinking along those lines and considering options. And everybody tends to forget our Staff, and that's the reason why, like I said, you know, it's really unfair for them to be crammed into small spaces. Even if...and that's why, you know, we need to keep our option open with regard to more space. And so we've kind of accepted the fact that we're not moving to the Maui News, but if we don't, what are we getting in return. Because as the Portuguese would say, we've been getting bufish all these years, you know. It's our turn to be able to acquire more space. You're muted. Okay. Anybody else have something to say? Ms. Sugimura.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: I do. So this is making me think, right, just listening to all of the outer island people talk about, you know, they've been on Moloka'i, Hāna, and I've seen Gabe here, but...so what, you guys rent space on Maui because you want to come to work on this side of this island or come to Maui to work, do you not. It's not really agendized, but it just made me think about how spending the taxpayer's dollars to pay for rent for a place that you're renting because you might come here used to be justified with the Committee meeting and our previous co visit [sic]...I'm sorry, COVID schedules. But now that you are not, and you're telling me you're meeting, you know, from your whatever, do you really need to rent space on Maui? I don't know if you are. I'm not sure what you guys are doing then?

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Chair.

CHAIR LEE: Yeah. Okay, Vice-Chair Rawlins-Fernandez. Vice-Chair Rawlins-Fernandez.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Am I frozen?

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: You're frozen. You're frozen.

CHAIR LEE: Yeah. Okay. I'll tell her.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Am I good? Am I good now?

CHAIR LEE: Yeah. Now you're good, now you're good. Now you're good.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: I don't rent space. After the pandemic happened, I gave up the space because I am fiscally responsible with the taxpayer dollars, so I think it's better not to just listen to, you know, crazy people. But yeah. So like I said, airfare, transportation, lodging, these are all things that, you know, in order for us to have all the Councilmembers that...I mean, I prefer not to be called an outer island person.

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COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: I'm sorry.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: But it's okay. I think we just need to be mindful of, you know, we're sister islands, all equal and important and not other. So we...I don't rent the space that I used to, and in...renting that space was cheaper than staying at a hotel for \$200-something a night. So it was more of a taxpayer saving method of being able to have lodging like everyone else on Maui would have. So...but if the other Members--and I'm only speaking for myself--but if the other Members are continuing to, you know, make themselves available in Central Maui and need lodging while they're there then, you know, I'm not opposed to that. I think that's part of having representation from the entire County. And so when we're talking about costs, I mentioned it earlier, you know, that while there would be cost to having a district office, we could be saving costs in other places, such as having to rent a place. If I don't have to be on Maui as much then, you know, then I won't need to stay at a hotel or rent space. Mahalo, Chair.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Sorry if I insulted you. I didn't mean to.

CHAIR LEE: Let's look at that individually.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Anyway, it's not on the agenda. I just thought about it because by listening to everybody talk about, you know, being on their, you know, designated district offices, I was thinking well, okay, so what does that mean.

CHAIR LEE: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: But let's bring it up at another...and agendize it for another meeting. Thank you.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. Good. Okay. So, you know, it's good to hear your ideas, but this...probably with this...this issue, do you want it in your Committee, Vice-Chair Rawlins-Fernandez? Because what's in your Committee is only additional space for the overall Council.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: I have an additional space for the overall Council item in my agenda?

CHAIR LEE: Yeah, the Maui News.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh. Well, yeah, that acquisition is its own. I..you know, yeah, I mean, I can take that into my Committee and we can have a fuller discussion. I think that discussion would probably take longer than three hours, but I think that...

CHAIR LEE: I know, but this is what would happen. If the...it's probably best appropriately placed in the GREAT Committee, but then it's going to go to your Committee because...for money, right? So do we want to go the GREAT Committee first, or just go straight to the lady with the purse strings, you know. We're not going to solve...we're not going to solve this in the Chair's Committee.

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VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Unless, Chair, it's...it's, you know, like the only item on the agenda, and we have a full discussion on what we would want to see for the Council in the future. And then when we get to the point of it involving money, it can come to the BFED Committee.

CHAIR LEE: We could do that. Wait. Pro Tem Kama, and then Member Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: What I was thinking, because it has to go through various Committees, if we could start a discussion at one Committee, then punt it to another Committee that it needs to get to. So that when it really talks about the heavy stuff, that it ends up in the proper Committee, that the Committee doesn't feel burdened by I got all of this, and now I got this orphan on the side I gotta take care.

CHAIR LEE: You know, Member Kama, yeah, I can see that. But, you know, if I just put one item on the Chair's Committee, we could probably handle it in one sitting.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Okay.

CHAIR LEE: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Okay.

CHAIR LEE: Ms. Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I just...so separate from the district offices and our offices in the Council building and whatnot, I guess the part that folks feel like we keep forgetting is our Staff. And I wondered, you know, in Committee or Chair's meeting or whatever, it's not really that we bring them into the conversation. And so is that what you mean by having it at one item in the Chair's meeting or in a Committee meeting? Like at what would be the point where we talk to all the Staff, the Clerks, the Analysts, the Secretaries?

CHAIR LEE: Okay. I have been in conversation with...with Traci and some Staff, but we could...if you want, we could bring them all in if they want to participate, you know. But...

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Yeah. I mean, most folks I spoke to don't have a desire to . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

CHAIR LEE: Okay. Most people you talked to what?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Don't have a desire to leave where they're at.

CHAIR LEE: Yeah. That's because they're not crowded. Yeah.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Gina, you're not muted, Gina.

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CHAIR LEE: And this is the reason why...really, this is the reason why there has been no change in 49 years. Everybody has changed except the Council, and it shows. We're bursting at the seams, but for some people, they're not. And the only reason why people feel comfortable with the way things are is because of COVID, they're not here. But when things go back to normal, then that's a different story. And you know what? By then, that train will have left and we have...we would not have our bargaining chip anymore, it would be history. So that's all I'm saying, we got to...we cannot think for our term, we got to think beyond our term for the people who are going to follow us. Okay. Any...any more on this? Okay. Last...last item is...Ms. Sugimura.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Chair, I really would like...I'm with Tamara, I'd love to hear what the OCS Staff and what Traci and David are thinking, you know, and Clerk's side too, right. So we're like one big family. I would love to hear what the strategic plan or how they see this and how we fold into the post-COVID, you know, and what they want to do. Maybe they want to continue working from home, you know, that's a really interesting question. So please schedule this again for discussion.

CHAIR LEE: Yes, we're going to schedule this with a one item only on the agenda so we can spend as much time as we need to with all the Members...well, hopefully all the Members here, and then we will invite Staff. Okay. But I'm not sure what Staff, probably the supervising Staff.

7. OPERATION OF eCOMMENT (Councilmember Kama)

CHAIR LEE: All right. So number seven, and this is the last item.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you, Members.

CHAIR LEE: We've been going at this meeting for two...almost two and a half hours. Okay. Operation of eComment. Member Kama. We also have a representative of Granicus on the call.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Oh, okay.

CHAIR LEE: But you can talk about your concerns.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Well, my concern is just that people were not able to...to leave their comments. And they were struggling, they were having a hard time, and it was frustrating enough for them not to do anything except call. So...and I've heard that time and time and time again, so I'm wondering if there is a resolution to that. So thank you.

CHAIR LEE: Traci...Traci, we have the representative on the call, right? Traci?

MS. FUJITA: Unfortunately, she was only available until 11:00 a.m. But I can...

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CHAIR LEE: You see this, Council? Portagee out this Council. My God.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Yeah, but we never know. If we knew that, we would have been able to accommodate her, I am sure.

CHAIR LEE: Oh, well, how would I know that if you guys would just keep on talking and talking and talking.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: You don't know your chickadees by now?

CHAIR LEE: Yeah, I know. I should know you guys better. But Traci, can you answer...

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: And Kelly not even here.

CHAIR LEE: Pro Tem Kama, can you answer her question...

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Sure.

CHAIR LEE: Regarding the issues that we've been having with eComment.

MS. FUJITA: Right. So I did prepare a little bit for this item. So there are pros and cons with eComment that even Staff has found. So of course, some of the pros are that it's an alternate method to submitting testimony. It's a more modern method. The State Legislature has a similar type of program for the communities to submit testimony to the State Legislature. Some...we've gotten good feedback from some of the public, they like the convenience of it. They're able to submit comments easily for each item. And also because it's a...it's a platform, reports can be generated from it. We haven't really explored that too much because we're still, you know, trying to get people to use it, but the thought was that once it was in place that Members would be able to pull reports from eComment to kind of get a consensus of what the public thinks about different items, so that's another benefit of eComment. Some of the cons that we've experienced is that eComment doesn't work well with Chrome browser. Granicus is aware of the issue, and their engineers are working on it. eComment has to be enabled to stay on once the meeting starts. So some of the glitches that you've...that we've been experiencing are just based on the newness of it for Staff. I guess the rest of the country, it seems that their public testimony closes at a certain point before the meeting starts, so that's the standard. We...we keep our testimony open, so we have to enable it...like, we have to take an extra step to do that. So it's something, you know, that we're figuring out. The biggest challenge that we've had is that we've...we're not able to manage all the testimony in eComment. So our hope was, when we looked at eComment, was that it would be more efficient for the Staff to manage all of the testimony in eComment. But people still want to submit testimony by email which, you know, which is fine. They don't want to use eComment, that's fine. But there's no mechanism for us to get that email testimony and input it into eComment. We've tried different options, we've tried working with Granicus support, it's just not built to do that. So right now, what's happening is that Staff and the...this is primarily the Secretaries, they have to now manage it in two places, they have to manage the email testimony, and then...now they

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have to manage the eComment testimony. So I've been discussing with Staff about it. We're kind of leaning to recommend not using it anymore. It doesn't seem to be doing what we had hoped it would do. I don't know if we want to give it a little bit more time and see if the...you know, if things will get better, but...and I know there's a learning curve for the public too, you know, to transition from submitting testimony by email to eComment. And you do have to fill out a...you have to sign up for an account to use eComment currently. Yeah, so we're kind of...we're still thinking about it. We were happy to get this input from...from Councilmember Kama because it's timely for us, you know, we've been kind of evaluating it ourselves. So I'm kind of interested to hear from the other Councilmembers to see how you feel about it, and how we should move forward. Thank you.

CHAIR LEE: Okay, Traci, that's a good idea. Why don't you send, you know, an email to all the Members and get their feedback.

MS. FUJITA: Okay. Okay.

CHAIR LEE: All right, Members. We're done unless you have something else. Okay. We have reached the end of our agenda. Thank you very much for all your input, and hopefully the other Members who weren't here agree with everybody. Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Good discussion.

CHAIR LEE: So I've asked Traci and David to work on a recap for all of you and the Members who didn't attend. If you read it over and you see something that we've missed, let us know right away. So it's almost 11:30, and this meeting is adjourned. . .*(gavel)*. . .

ADJOURN: 11:27 a.m.

APPROVED:



ALICE L. LEE
Council Chair

chr:min:210223r

Transcribed by: Terianne Arreola

**COUNCIL CHAIR'S MEETING
Council of the County of Maui**

February 23, 2021

CERTIFICATION

I, Terianne Arreola, hereby certify that pages 1 through 47 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 1st day of April 2021, in Wailuku, Hawai'i

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Terianne Arreola', is written over a horizontal line.

Terianne Arreola