

COUNCIL OF THE COUNTY OF MAUI

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

August 8, 2008

Committee
Report No. 08-85

Honorable Chair and Members
of the County Council
County of Maui
Wailuku, Maui, Hawaii

Chair and Members:

Your Budget and Finance Committee, having met on July 21, 2008, makes reference to the following:

1. County Communication No. 07-31, from Councilmember Joseph Pontanilla, transmitting a report entitled "COST OF GOVERNMENT COMMISSION COUNTY OF MAUI: REPORT OF FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR COMMISSION YEAR APRIL 1, 2005 TO MARCH 31, 2006";
2. County Communication No. 07-158, from the Chair of the Cost of Government Commission, transmitting a report entitled "COST OF GOVERNMENT COMMISSION COUNTY OF MAUI: Report of Findings and Recommendations For Commission Term April 1, 2006 to March 31, 2007"; and
3. County Communication No. 08-102, from the Pro Tempore Chair of the Commission, transmitting a report entitled "COST OF GOVERNMENT COMMISSION COUNTY OF MAUI: Report of Findings and Recommendations For Commission Term April 1, 2007 to March 31, 2008".

Your Committee notes that the reports were submitted to the Council pursuant to Section 8-15.2(4), Revised Charter of the County of Maui (1983), as amended, which requires the Commission to submit a report of its findings and recommendations to the Mayor and Council no later than 11 months after its appointment.

By correspondence dated July 14, 2008, the Council Chair transmitted correspondence dated July 10, 2008, from Warren Suzuki, Chair of the Commission, requesting the Council's assistance in suggesting topics or areas of County operations that the Council would like the Commission to review.

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At its meeting, your Committee met with the Director of Finance; the Economic Development Coordinator, Office of the Mayor; the Director and Deputy Director of Personnel Services; the First Deputy Corporation Counsel; and Warren Suzuki, Chair of the Commission.

There was no public testimony.

Mr. Suzuki explained that past Commissions have had difficulty convening meetings due to a lack of quorum. The resignation of four of the nine members, including the Chair and Vice-Chair, has hindered the Commission in performing its duties.

Your Committee suggested that the Commission consider providing better training for its members, allowing for more flexibility in meeting times, and limiting the number of issues to be investigated.

Mr. Suzuki stated that the current Commission is fully staffed with nine members and is considering areas for review during its 2008-2009 term. He further stated that the current Commission has solicited and received suggestions from the Mayor and would like to provide the Council with the same opportunity.

Your Committee encouraged the Commission to continue the work of its Capital Expenditures Review Subcommittee, its Alternative Models of County Government Subcommittee, and its Energy Subcommittee.

Your Committee voted to recommend filing of the communications.

Your Budget and Finance Committee RECOMMENDS the following:

1. That County Communication No. 07-31 be FILED;
2. That County Communication No. 07-158 be FILED; and
3. That County Communication No. 08-102 be FILED.

Adoption of this report is respectfully requested.

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