CONVENE:  6:08 p.m.

PRESENT:  Councilmember Joseph Pontanilla, Chair
Councilmember Michelle Anderson, Member
Councilmember Gladys C. Baisa, Member
Councilmember Danny A Matco, Member
Councilmember Bill Kauakea Medeiros, Member
Councilmember Michael J. Molina, Member
Councilmember Michael P. Victorino, Member

EXCUSED:  Councilmember G. Riki Hokama, Vice-Chair
Councilmember Jo Anne Johnson, Member

STAFF:  Scott Jensen, Substitute Legislative Analyst
Tammy Frias, Substitute Committee Secretary
Ella Alcon, Council Aide, Molokai Council Office
Lei Kihm, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Bill Kauakea Medeiros

ADMIN.:  Zachary Helm, Deputy Director, Department of Parks and Recreation
Carol Gentz, Community Development Block Grant Program Manager, CDBG, Office of the Mayor

OTHERS:  Belinda Pi dot, Director, Molokai Youth Center
William Yama Kaholoaa
Barbara Haliniak, President, Molokai Chamber of Commerce; President, Molokai Chamber Foundation
Lydia Joao, Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc. (MEO) Head Start
Isaac Iaea
Leinaala Bishaw
Brenda Kaneshiro, President, Molokai Meli
Annette Pauole-Ahakuelo, Business Assistance Facilitator, Kuha’o Business Center
Sybil Lopez
Jesse Ford
Harriet Fukuoka, Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc. (MEO) Business Development Corporation
Kuulei Arce
Julie Bicoy, Director, Molokai Visitors Association
Teri Waros
Pat Palmer
Heidi Jenkins, Kaunakakai School
Lily Jenkins
Grant Sullivan, Executive Director, Molokai Occupational Center
Alex Kahananui, Groundskeeper, Molokai Occupational Center
Natalie Greenleaf
Larry Helm
Wendell Freitas
Al Marciel
June James, Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc. (MEO)
K. Mahealani Davis
Lori Buchanan, Field and Outreach Technician, Molokai Maui Invasive Species Committee (MOMISC)
William H. Kalipi, Sr.
Arleone Dibben-Young, Molokai Island Main Street Association
Rich Young
Greg Moran, Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc. (MEO)
Roslyn Akina, Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc. (MEO)
Julie Lopez, President, Molokai Humane Society
Bo Mahoe, Postmaster, Kaunakakai Post Office
Edward Halealoha Ayau, Project Manager, ‘Aha Kukui o Molokai - Project Halau Wa’a
Adolph Helm, President, ‘Aha Kukui o Molokai
Robert Morris, Treasurer, ‘Aha Kukui o Molokai
Kimberly Svetin, President, Molokai Drug, Inc.
Kammy Purdy, Molokai Livestock Cooperative
Jodi Kaneakua, Incoming President, Kapaakea Homestead Association
Gladys Brown, Vice President, Molokai AARP
Sweetie Salinas, Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc. (MEO)
Glenn Teves
Linda Place, Malama Pono o Ka ‘Aina
Tom Josephson
Suzy Wakefield, Kepuhi Beach Condos
Jay Wakefield, Kepuhi Beach Condos
DeGray Vanderbilt
Ruth Ululani Manu Naki
Judy Lokelani Caparida
Walter Rawlins, Molokai Junior Roping Club
Conrad Aquino
Charlotte Seales, Molokai Occupational Center
Additional attendees:
Clare Mawae
Nancy Gove
Phillip Solatario
CHAIR PONTANILLA: ... (gavel)... Good evening, ladies and gentlemen. At this time, I'd like to call the Council Budget and Finance Committee Meeting for March 27, 2007, at the Mitchell Pauole Center on Molokai to order. Tonight we're here to receive public testimony from the Molokai community. And at this time, I would like to turn over the mic to your Councilmember Danny Mateo to introduce the Council Members that are here tonight. Danny.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Thank you. Aloha, Molokai.

AUDIENCE: Aloha.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: I'm really happy to be able to introduce to you the Members of the Council's Budget and Finance Committee. And what I am going to do is I'm going to go starting from my right and, and work my way down.

The first Council Member I'd like you to meet represents the District of Hana. He is from East Maui. And please welcome, Molokai, Mr. Bill Medeiros. The next, the next Council Member is really a no stranger, he's not a stranger to this Island. We have all one way or another have had the opportunity of talking story with this Council Member. She, she represents the Upcountry Maui area. Molokai, please welcome Councilmember Gladys Baisa. And from the South Maui District, the Kihei area of the Island of Maui, we have, we have our representative. Molokai, please welcome Councilmember Michelle Anderson. Also with us from the Wailuku area, I'm going to start on my left. From the Wailuku District we have with us our Councilmember, Mr. Michael Victorino. And also from the, from the Upcountry area, the Makawao-Haiku-Paia area we also have a familiar face that's been on Molokai quite a bit. Molokai, please welcome Michael Molina. And then I purposely saved the best for last. He's the best, because he is the Budget Chair and this is who you all want to talk story with. So, this evening I am really honored to be able to introduce to you from the Kahului area on the Island of Maui, the Chairman of the Budget and Finance Committee, Mr. Joseph Pontanilla.

ITEM NO. 1: PROPOSED BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2008 FOR THE COUNTY OF MAUI (C.C. 07-29)
CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you, Danny. Tonight it is your opportunity to present us your comments in regards to the Mayor’s proposed Fiscal Year 2008 Budget.

Just a few ground rules before we take in the public testimony. If you could turn off your cellphones or put it on the silent mode. And if you’re old technology turn off your pager or put it on the silent or vibration mode. Tonight as we call your name if you could give us your name, the organization that you represent when you come and testify. We would appreciate that. Everything is being recorded, so if you could do that for us. You have four minutes, three minutes to provide public testimony and one minute to conclude.

To my far left we do have Council Staff that are helping us tonight. We do have Tammy as well as Scott. Scott is going to tell you when your three minutes is there, and then your four minutes is up. So, with that we’ll start with the first testifier. The first testifier is MCSC Molokai Youth Center, Belinda Pidot.

...BEGIN PUBLIC TESTIMONY...

MS. PIDOT: Aloha and welcome. We wanted to just thank our Council Members for, for helping and supporting our Youth Center to be able to service our families and children here on Molokai. And tonight I’d like to, we have a parent here with his moopunas who would like to express his, his mana’o as well. Also, we did want to propose...I’m sorry, but we did have a Rural Youth Summer Job proposal that we had hoped that would have got on our Mayor’s Budget somehow this year. And it actually is a program that is based off of the Youth Opportunity program, the Ho’ikaika program. And what it did was it allowed the 14-year-olds and at least the high-school age to 21 years to be able to get summer job placements with our businesses here. It was hopefully that you consider the proposal that would help at least 100 youth here on Molokai.

Unfortunately, the program, the Ho’ikaika program has ended. It was a Federally funded program, and it would give the youths an opportunity to get some kind of stipends and be able to at least help the families with clothing or, you know, school supplies whatever they needed. It was a small stipend, but it certainly helped the families. And unfortunately, you know, again the funding did end. And so, we were hoping that the children who were left, you know, now those families also had that opportunity. I have the proposal here, and I’ll pass it out to you. But I did want to give our, our family an opportunity to also thank you for our, our support as well. Thank you, and I’ll give this to you. Thank you.

MR. KAHOLOAA: Yeah, Council Member, I’m, my name is Yama Kaholoaa. I’m so grateful for the opportunity that, that I have in being able to have my grandchildren. I’ve got three of my 17 grandchildren here with me, and the oldest is 14-years old. So, you can see how much work the Youth Center have in taking care of my grandchildren. My wife
and I both work and the Youth Center has been a very big help. You know, they are, they have wonderful staff, wonderful leaders, very, very dependable, and they’re very gracious with my grandchildren.

I have one grandchild, my grandson who is H...HA..., ADHD, and this boy needs a lot of attention. You know, and there’s no, I’ve never, ever had to, never did let our children or grandchildren to go to anyone to take care of. But in the situation today both my wife and I we need to work in order to provide for our family and having a grandson having ADHD it’s a tough individual to keep up with. He can’t stay focused more than two minutes. So, you can, so the Youth Center really offers all this opportunity, and they’re very caring, they’re very loving, and they’re very strong in their values in looking after the children in the Youth Center.

So, I just want to thank the Youth Center staff today for being such a great example and a great, great individuals in taking the opportunity of the, you know, of working with my grandchildren. So, I’d like to thank the board too that they will be continue to support this organization, because they’re a great organization. Thank you.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you very much. Members, any question for the testifiers this evening? Member Baisa.

COUNCILMEMBER BAlSA: Just one really short question. You mentioned that you had proposed a new program and that it was not in the Mayor’s Budget. Can you tell me how much the program is?

MS. PIDOT: We were looking at only for Hana, for Molokai, but we were wanting to include Hana in this also. We’re looking at about $200,000. And this would be stipends for a 100 youth and also for, for Hana’s. They would have half of that amount, I guess, of what we’re looking at. But the proposals here.

COUNCILMEMBER BAlSA: You have the written proposal for us?

MS. PIDOT: The proposal is here.

COUNCILMEMBER BAlSA: Okay. We can read it.

MS. PIDOT: Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER BAlSA: Thank you very much.

MS. PIDOT: Thank you, again, for all your support. Mahalo.
CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you very much.

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: Chair, question.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Member Medeiros.

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: Mahalo, Chair. Is this program the Ho‘ikaika program or another program you were talking about that includes Hana?

MS. PIDOT: The Ho‘ikaika program was a program that was based out of a Federal grant which was youth opportunity. It was here for about five years, actually a little over six, about six years. And through that program, that is the program that helped many of our youths here on Molokai where we trained them and got them into placements with our businesses here. However, that program was able to provide a stipend for these youth and, and that was during the summer.

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: So, what would be the program name; the one you’re talking about, the 200,000 budget?

MS. PIDOT: We’re looking, we’re calling it right now the Rural Youth Summer Job proposal.

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: And what age group children will this encompass?

MS. PIDOT: We’re looking at the same age group, 14 to at least 18-year-olds, but the program that we did service was 14 to 21.

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: Okay. Mahalo.

MS. PIDOT: You’re very welcome. And there, again, I have the proposal here that you’re welcome to read.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Belinda, if you could leave the proposal with our secretary over here.

MS. PIDOT: Certainly.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: And we can make copies for the rest of the Members in regards to the Rural Youth Group Summer program.


CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Okay. At this time I would like to call on Judy Caparida. This is the first request that, you know, we’ve ever had in regards to pule before the session starts. So, at this time I would like to call on Rita [sic] to give us the pule for tonight’s event.
MS. CAPARIDA: Before I pule I would like to thank our community for supporting me and my family with the death of our granddaughter. Thank you so much for just the support. You’re such a fabulous and it was a blessing for us because our family had a service in the mainland, and we came home and had a service here. I thank you so much. So much aloha from all of you. I really thank the Lord for that and now, we continue to mend.

Lord, Father God you’re so appreciative. We thank you, Lord, for bringing us here. We thank you, Lord, for bringing our Councilmen here to hear our concerns about Kaunakakai and what matters to us and our community for our water, electric, trash, whatever Lord, Father of God. And we want you to hear, Lord Jesus, the people’s voice, Lord, and what their needs are. Lord, Father God, there is so much things that we need. Our taxes are going up. Everything we do today, Lord, we have to pay some kind of tax. Lord, Father God we pray Jesus that you use these Council people to reach that ... (inaudible) ... Lord ... (inaudible) ... We thank you, Lord, Father God for all those that is here, Lord. Bless them, Lord, Father God. All this we ask in Jesus name. Amen.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you, Judy. The second testifier tonight is Barbara Haliniak. Barbara.

MS. HALINIAK: Aloha, Council. Thank you very much for coming to Molokai and providing us the opportunity to give you public testimony. Tonight I’m...my name is Barbara Haliniak. I’m President for the Molokai Chamber of Commerce and also the Molokai Chamber Foundation. I want to provide testimony in behalf of the two organizations.

And the first one I would be speaking about is the Molokai Chamber of Commerce Founda..., Molokai Chamber of Commerce. We’d like to thank the Council for your continued support for the funds that we get from the County to provide the Business and Food Expo that we have every year at Lanikeha Community Center. And I just wanted to share some results of the Expo, because this is going to, we’re heading into our fifth year, and these are some of the results. Start-ups have been successful in launching and marketing their products. Molokai High School business class of entrepreneurs have grown their small businesses from arts and crafts to providing services such as designing business cards, crea..., creating designer-type ceramics, graphics. There’s a lot that you can find at the Business and Food Expo that the entrepreneurs have provided during the past four years.

In October, we introduced an Ag tour as a test market for add..., additional revenue to farms. The invited guests toured five farms in November 2006. There were 35 ticket purchases for the paid tour, so we started advertising Ag tour as paid, and part of the money goes to the farm. Today this tour is a part of the Island visitors’ offering bringing additional revenue to the Molokai farms and businesses.
Another good thing about the expo is the Molokai High School students who wish to pursue the culinary arts get a hands-on experience by helping the chefs. And this year, I'm sorry, last year, November, we, the chefs prepared Molokai beef slaughtered at the Molokai Slaughterhouse. So, that was the first time ever that we served Molokai beef. And so every year we try to introduce new opportunities to stimulate and support the economic growth and to provide our students with the learning experiences that help to prepare their careers.

Although we received financial report, financial support during the past four years from corporate sponsors as American Savings Bank, Maui Electric, Hawaiian Telcom, Young Brothers, The Advertiser, Goodfellows, Maui Land & Pine, Island Air, Meadow Gold, and Grace Pacific, and a lot of in-kind services and donations,—

MR. SPENCER: Three minutes.

MS. HALINIAK: --we still need funding from the County so I'm asking that the Council support OED's budget. The other thing, and I have probably 30 minutes [sic], but I wanted to let you know that we do have Project EAST, and I'm sure you're familiar with Project EAST at Molokai High School. And we're, we're dialoguing with the Principal at the Molokai Middle School to bring Project EAST to that school. So, MEDB, which is Maui Economic Development Group has been a very supportive partner along with Hawaiian Telcom and Maui Electric to provide the students with this learning. So, mahalo again, and we look forward to your support. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you, Barbara. Members, any questions for the testifier?

COUNCILMEMBER ANDERSON: Chair.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Member Anderson. Barbara,—

COUNCILMEMBER ANDERSON: Barbara.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: --we have questions for you.

COUNCILMEMBER ANDERSON: Thank you. The request that you guys made is that totally included in the Mayor's Budget; in the OED? In other words, everything you asked for is already in the Budget?

MS. HALINIAK: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER ANDERSON: Okay. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you, Barbara. The next testifier is Lydia Joao. Lydia.
MS. JOAO: Aloha, County Council. My name is Lydia Joao. I work with MEO Head Start as a Family Case Manager. And thank you for supporting the MEO Head Start program, and we ask for your continued support. We have our, some of our parents here that would like to express their thoughts too.

MR. IAEA: Aloha, everybody, County Council. My name is Isaac Iaea. I'm a parent of...my kids attend MEO, and we’d just like to thank you for funding and supporting the MEO...oh, thank you...supporting the MEO Head Start program. Being that this is the only Head Start on Molokai that is free to attend, you know, for the kids and especially for the low-income families like us, and we...let me see. The Head Start helped my, helped my kids a lot. They learned how to read and write and everything else. And we, they're doing very well in school. So, thanks again for that. And another thing that we wanted to ask is for the summer school session, which is only six weeks, maybe could be extended to eight weeks being that the families working does have to find babysitters or something because of the gap in between summer school and the new school year starting again. Another thing is...oh, we, and then we also have more letters from families that couldn’t make it tonight. I guess we’ll be turning it into the secretary. And that’s all I have to say, but on behalf of the MEO Head Start and the rest of the parents we’d just like to say thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you, Isaac. Members, any questions for either Lydia or Isaac at this time? Member Baisa.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Question for Lydia. Question for Lydia. Lydia, Mr. Iaea, and by the way thank you very much for coming tonight. I know how hard this is to do, but relax we’re all friends. You mentioned that you needed to have an eight-week session instead of six weeks in the summer. Is this a non...a new thing? Was it this way before, Lydia?

MS. JOAO: Oh, this is something new. It, I, I guess the gap between when Head Start starts, and I guess they wanted to have it for eight weeks, but apparently not enough funding for eight weeks, so it’s six weeks. But for the next Budget year we’re requesting if it could be for eight weeks.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: You made a budget request to the Mayor, to the Administration. Do you know if the money is in there?

MS. JOAO: I don’t know. I don’t know.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Okay. I’m sure that it was asked for. Anyway, we’ll check on it and thank you very much.

MS. JOAO: Okay. I had one more,--
MS. JOAO: --yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: I'm not in charge here.

MS. BISHAW: Okay. Aloha, County Council Members, my name is Leinaala Bishaw, and I am a parent of a Kaunakakai B Head Start preschooler. And I guess, first of all, I'd like to say thank you for supporting our preschool, because of our limited resources here on the Island. And I haven't participated in our summer school program last year, but it's a definite possibility this year because of my full-time job. And, again, we're asking for increased funding for our summer school session from six weeks to eight weeks because of the lag time for families to continue employment and attend, or those that attend school. And once, again, thank you for supporting our MEO Head Start.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, any more questions for the testifiers this evening?

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: Chair, question on the right.

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: Mahalo, Chair. Lydia, does the Head Start program, do you still receive Federal funding or has that been reduced?

MS. JOAO: We do receive Federal funding, but I'm not sure about the amounts.

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: Okay. Is, is there a possibility that the funding is going to be reduced, because we know a lot of Federal funding programs have been reduced in amounts? Do you know if you'll be receiving the same funding you've been having or less?

MS. JOAO: I don't know.

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: Okay, and thank you to the parents for being brave enough to come up. Mahalo.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Lydia, our Member from Molokai has a question for you.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Lydia, thank you very much and thank you parents for coming out, yeah. Lydia, the summer program, the summer program was funded by this body. It's the Council who put it in as a line item in the Budget. We've always been under the impression, you know, because, like, we haven't been contacted in terms of wanting to expand. So, would it be...it's going to be good for you to get information to us so we
know how to deal with it. In the expansion do you have an idea of the size of the class? Has it, it's going to be increased from the regular six-week program? Do you have a waitlist or what kind of numbers are you servicing?

MS. JOAO: Well, we have one class that's open with 20 children.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Twenty?

MS. JOAO: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: And the extension would include all 20--

MS. JOAO: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: --of the youngsters?

MS. JOAO: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Okay. Thank you very much.

MS. JOAO: Okay.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. The next testifier Brenda Kaneshiro.

MS. KANESHIRO: Aloha, Council Members. My name is Brenda Kaneshiro, and I am President of Molokai Meli, and we produce kiawe honey here. Excuse my attire, I just came straight from the bee yard. But I wanted to say, first of all, mahalo for coming. I know it was a sacrifice on your part, and mahalo not only for coming and bringing your ears, but for bringing your hearts. It really means a lot to us that you've come this way to hear what we have to say.

Right now I'm speaking on behalf of my company Molokai Meli in favor of Maui Economic Development Board. And as you can see they have our company featured in their Hi-Tech Maui newsletter that's just come out, and we're very grateful for that. Tom has come over, Tom Liu, has come over and helped us with some marketing. And he's also taken products of ours back to Maui and taken them to several different hotels and gift shops to help us with our marketing efforts on Maui. And we're very thankful for that because we can't just pick up and go to Maui whenever we want to, and he knows the people. And we're very grateful, and we're thankful that you've supported MEDB up until this point, and we encourage you to continue support for them. Mahalo.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you, Brenda. Members, any question for the testifier? Seeing none, thank you again. The next testifier is Annette Pauole Ahakuelo. Annette. And following this group here is Harriett Fukuoka.
MS. PAUOLE AHAKUELO: Aloha and good, good evening to the Maui County Council. First of all, I want to tell you thank you for coming to Molokai even if the weather looks a little cloudy. But I’m here tonight to represent the Office of the Mayor, Charmaine Tavares; the Office of Economic Development, the new coordinator being Deidre Tegarden; and the Molokai Kuha’o Business Center.

First of all, I would like to humbly express my gratitude to the Maui County Council for being in just absolute positive support of the Center for the last three years. I cannot even express how much I love my job. It’s my turn to give back to the community, but, you know, without the help from the Council to help the Office of Economic Development, the Molokai people would have nowhere to go. Over the last, since January 2007, there’s been approximately about 607 people that came to the Center for services like workshops, for consultations, and also to...I’m working, I’ve been referring a lot of clients to Kuulei Arce with the Core Four program with MEO. That’s another great program that they have, and I fully support what MEO is doing here on Molokai. They’re, they’re a blessing to the people of Molokai.

Also, to...kuha’o in Hawaiian means to stand alone and to be independent. And this is why the Kuha’o Center has been quite instrumental over the last three years in helping our local people to come somewhere to get business assistance, and guidance, and training. We don’t have the DCCA here, we don’t have a lot of the agencies here. We don’t have anything here. The only thing that they can do here is apply for their GET tax and get a business checking account. That’s all. They don’t have any other resources. And thanks to the Kuha’o Business Center, I do a lot of that training that the other government agencies like the Federal Government is not here to do.

But, again, I humbly say to you, to you all mahalo nui loa from the bottom of my heart. I genuinely think that the Molokai people is really past due on getting the services that they deserve. And before I end I would like to speak also to another thing regarding my support for the Molokai veterans and how hard they’re working to get funding to get what they need. It’s way overdue, too, for them. My father was a veteran, and I also have a sister. Believe it or not she was in the U.S. Army. But I’m also in support of that. But, again, thank you from the bottom of my heart and see you folks next year. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you, Annette. Members, any questions for the testifier? Annette, Member Mateo.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Chairman, thank you very much. Members and the Molokai community just for your information Beverly...Annette, Beverly’s sister--

MS. PAUOLE AHAKUELO: I’m used to that.
COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: --Annette was recently recognized, and she is the recipient of the Small Business Administration Award. And, Beverly, will you,—

MS. PAUOLE AHAKUELO: Annette.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: --Annette, would you please cite, cite the name of the award?

MS. PAUOLE AHAKUELO: It’s kind of funny, it’s the financial champion. . .(chuckles). . .

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: And, and she...

MS. PAUOLE AHAKUELO: You know, it’s a business stardom.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Yeah, so thank you very much, and I think the Molokai community needs to, to hear that she has been working for all of your behalf. And, you know, in three years she has been able to bring SBA’s attention to Molokai. So, mahalo.

MS. PAUOLE AHAKUELO: Yeah, you mentioned about the Federal funding being cut. You’re absolutely right, because a big funding program that Molokai farmers usually get this year is out. And so, this is why I’m working really hard to look for my own funding outside of the, the Federal Government to bring more agricultural workshops here to help our Molokai people, because without that, you know, but thank you anyway. And I have some of my entrepreneurs here. There’s more to follow, but they’re coming with their families later. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you, Annette. Annette, one more question from Member Anderson.

COUNCILMEMBER ANDERSON: Hi, Annette.

MS. PAUOLE AHAKUELO: Hi, Michelle.

COUNCILMEMBER ANDERSON: How much money did they lose in the Federal funding?

MS. PAUOLE AHAKUELO: It was quite a bit. They started in 2000 and...2000 with, excuse me, about half a million dollars. It’s been dwindling every year. Last year it was about 175, and this year it’s el zilcho, nada. There’s no funds coming to Molokai--

COUNCILMEMBER ANDERSON: Okay.

MS. PAUOLE AHAKUELO: --which is really sad. . .(end of tape, Side 1A)... This is Brenda from Molokai Meli.
MS. KANESHIRO: Aloha, Council Members, it’s me again. And I’m Brenda Kaneshiro from Molokai Meli. And I’m here this time to speak on behalf of award-winning Aunty Annette. She has been so helpful when...thank you. When my husband’s job here on the Island was ending two-and-a-half years ago, we decided we needed to find other work so we could still remain here and raise our family on this Island, and we decided to start a business. And I walked into Aunty Annette’s office with a lot of research, and a mess of a notebook, and a lot of ideas. And she helped me put those ideas together, and write a business plan, and apply for a grant which we were able to receive which is the same grant that has just been cut, which is sad for, for us here on Molokai, but it has helped our, our business. It’s helped our family, and we are now thriving.

We have about 80 hives of bees that we’re taking care of. We started from no bees, and we, we’re just thankful. And also the community is thankful that we’re here to remove bees from their houses. I’m sure there are some of them here, because we’ve taken, most of those 80 hives have come from somebody’s house, or office, or somewhere that they didn’t want it. But we’re very thankful to be able to provide this service to the community and also provide the tasty honey that we can provide to our community. And it’s just now going to be exported to Japan. So, we’re thankful for that. Thank you.

And I just, I can’t say enough for, on behalf of Kuha’o Business Center and for Aunty Annette. She has really made the difference in our family that we can stay here on the Island of Molokai. She’s also helped my two older children. We have four children as you can see in the picture. My two older children are now entrepreneurs with their own business. And it would not have happened at this point of time in their lives without the input of Aunty Annette and her help. So, I just want to say mahalo for your support of Kuha’o Business Center, and if you could please continue supporting her. It’s making a difference on the Island. Mahalo.

CHAIR PONT ANILLA: Thank you, Brenda. Annette, can you introduce your next speaker?

MS. PAUOLE AHAKUDEL: I have Sybil Lopez here who’s going to be reading a letter from one of my entrepreneurs who couldn’t be here tonight. Also, she’s speaking on her behalf. And also another entrepreneur, her name is Jesse Ford. And the others will come in-between everyone who’s be coming later. Okay. Thank you. And Gladys Brown. Okay.

MS. LOPEZ: Well, thank you, Aunty Annette, for the introduction. I’ll read this letter first. Aloha, Council Members, my name is Ehulani Kane. I want to speak on behalf of Annette Ahakuelo and the Kuha’o Business Center. I have been both client and part-time employee of Aunty Annette’s. The Center enables individuals in our community to gain education, skills, and ongoing support in their endeavors towards beginning and running their own businesses. Workshops are offered, office equipment is outside for the client’s use including computers and instructional advice if needed, and most importantly Aunty Annette’s expertise is always valuable.
Besides Annette’s wealth of experience and superior business sense, the most valuable thing about Kuha’o Business Center in my opinion is the enthusiasm, the encouragement, the care and aloha Aunty Annette imparts to all of her clients. One feels welcome the moment they step over the threshold. It is this feeling of welcomingness and open-heartedness in the atmosphere of the Center that helps inspire people to open their minds to absorbing the information and tools needed to be seriously committed to their goals.

What begins with the first gesture of aloha as one steps through the door offers the possibilities for each new client to practice and engage in self-empowerment, self-improvement, and self-confidence which can inevitably lead to a self that is successful. Kuha’o Center is the business of improving people’s lives here on Molokai which also impacts the health of our precious Island community. Thank you for supporting the Kuha’o Business Center. Please continue to do so. Mahalo nui loa, respectfully, Ehulani Hope Kane.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. And the last testifier for Kuha’o Business Center.

MS. LOPEZ: Oh, I also would like to testify on her behalf.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. Go ahead.

MS. LOPEZ: I’m Sybil Lopez, and I’ve worked with her in numerous activities, business summit, the youth entrepreneurship with Ms. Yonemura up at the high school, and also currently with Molokai Middle School after school UPLINKS Program, which I’m an instructor trying to kick-start a youth entrepreneurship training program which we accommodate over 60 middle school students. Currently, right now we have over 160-plus students at Molokai Middle School and almost half of that is in our UPLINKS Program. And part of it is that we just teach basically seven and eighth graders how to start your own business. And just inspiring their youth and motivating them to do, actually to look beyond what’s out there, and not out of the box, but yet creating their own box where they can eventually grow and just be their mentor for them. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you.

MS. FORD: Aloha. Thank you for the opportunity to speak. My name is Jesse Ford, and it is an honor to speak on behalf of Annette at the Kuha’o Business Center. I’ve only been on the Island a short time, but I’ve just been, I’ve done a lot of work with and for Annette in the past. She’s been very, very open, brought me into her family, and made me feel very welcome here. I’ve recently become a client of hers as for agri-business. I’m living on a small farm, and we have a lot of work to do to get some of our goals realized. And, you know, with Annette being the financial champion of Maui County, you know that she’s
very, very organized. She's also very creative, and she's very dedicated to every individual that comes in.

Her specialty is her creative capacity to tailor individual methods for people to approach business. And there's a lot of legalities, there's a lot of forms, there's a lot of confusing loops that you have to go through, and I don't know very much. And she's helped me so much in the last two sessions that I've had with her. And I look forward to working with her for a long time in the future. So, I thank you for your support of the Kuha'o Business Center. I think it's a very, very important resource for the people on this Island. Mahalo.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, any more questions for the testifiers? If not, thank you very much. Harriett Fukuoka, followed by Julie Bicoy. Harriett.

MS. FUKUOKA: Good evening, Mr. Chairman and Finance Budget Committee, Finance Budget Committee Members. My name is Harriett Fukuoka, and I'm here to give testimony on MEO Business Development Corp.

The MEO Business Development Corp., which initiates a core of four business planning classes teaches you step by step, giving you actual incentive in doing a business plan. These classes has truly helped me and covered areas in all aspects of starting a business. It is edu..., educational and the MEO Development Corp., is a needed one. I'm so thankful for having the opportunity to attend these classes. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you, Harriett. Members, any question for the testifier? If not...

MS. ARCE: Excuse me, my name is Kuulei Arce, and I am with the MEO BDC, Business Development Corporation. I just wanted to give a brief...for those of you who don't know what the Business Development Corporation is all about. It helps entrepreneurs who have either ideas or need help with the start-up or existing business that need help either with loans. And, like, Aunty Nona has come through our Core Four class, graduated with a certificate, as well as...and we also started credit...I need to use the right words on this one, taking control of your credit program. And this helps entrepreneurs as well to build up their credit, and we actually go line by line and how to read their credit report. And being that I've taught three classes of Core Four I found out that all my graduates that came to the class did not know anything about a credit report.

So, we thought about it. Susie is my boss...Susie, on Maui, and we thought about, and we said we need to bring this to Molokai as well. So, we started with it and this is our second month in it now. But I ask you to continue your support for MEO, as well as MEO Business Development Corporation. Mahalo.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, any questions for the testifiers? Thank you very much. I, I just want to remind the people here tonight if you want to testify if you
could see our secretary and sign up for testify. Thank you. The next testifier is Julie Bicoy, followed...I think, Julie, you have a group that’s coming up?

MS. BICOY: Yes, I have my board members here with me tonight.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay, and following Julie Bicoy will be Teri Waros.

MS. BICOY: Okay. Teri Waros is one of my board members so she’ll be testifying with me.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. Fine. Thank you.

MS. BICOY: Thank you, Council Members, for coming out, coming here tonight and having us speak to you. I want to thank you for continuing the support that you have given us in the past year, and hopefully to this upcoming year as well.

I’m going to start with the statistics of our visitors here on Molokai. This past year we have increased our visitors by 13 percent. This past year 76,312 people have visited our Island. December 2005, we had seven..., 73,648 visitors. And in ’74, we had 2,806. This has been in the last three years number statistics bringing us up to the 13 percent this year.

Some of the monies that have been allocated in our, in our budget supports the local print ads as well as global ads that we do and collateral. We also...editorial writers and travel agents come to our Island and video the Islands to see what we have here to share with them, as well as we go out on the road and share our information with them as well. We continue to do this in Hawaii, the USA, Canada, Europe, Australia, and New Zealand.

Some of the community relations that we do is current and ongoing. We’re establishing working relationships with and partnerships with the Molokai Chamber of Commerce and also the Molokai EC. Molokai Airport and Kaunakakai Harbor, we’re doing a greetings program and currently working on a user-friendly Island map to be presented at the two sites.

Community crisis...I mean crisis communication. We’re working with the airport to get some key people involved to help us with visitors on Island and to just have a program ready when we do have situations where our planes will not be flying or people can’t get out somewhere. And these are some of the events that have been supported by MVA: the Makahiki, Chinese New Year, Prince Kuhio Day, Ka Hula Piko, Youth in Motion, Molokai Cowboy Connection, Aloha Week, and Food Expo.
We continue to educate our kamaainas, and visitors as well, from near and far of what our Island has to offer, and we, and the spirit that our Island has to offer. Please consider and continue to support our program. Mahalo. I would like to introduce my board members. Our chair..., chairperson Teri Waros, which will be coming up to testify, Claire Mawai, Felipo Solitario, and Nancy Go. Mahalo.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you, Julie.

MS. WAROS: Good evening, Danny and fellow Council Members. Thank you again for coming to Molokai. I just want to be real brief. I know you folks know the visitor industry is very fragile. It doesn’t take a whole lot. It could be a month full of rain, it could be a sewage spill, it could be a helicopter crash, or it can be a USA Today article that’s going to change the influx of visitors. And while the visitor industry works on a much smaller scale here on Molokai as compared to Maui, still proportionately we support our visitor dollars and the taxes paid, the real property taxes and our TAT tax. And all the small businesses that are supported on our Island help to support a lot, a lot of the people that are in this room, individual crafts people, we do Meli honey in our hotel, et cetera, et cetera. So, we also believe that these programs are very important and the visitor industry helps to support what we do in our community.

I just came back from a trade show. This is what keeps me real and my feet on the ground. I just came back from a trade show in New York City. I was amazed at the number of destinations out in the world that are really aggressively marketing to the same travelers that we are. While we here on the Board of Molokai Visitors Association celebrate our uniqueness of our destination, we understand the importance of educating our potential audience and then specifically targeting who we need to be marketing to. So, I know when it comes up on your table if you continue to support Maui Visitors Bureau, we appreciate it here on Molokai. Thank you all.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Excuse me, if you can state your name please?

MS. WAROS: Oh, I’m Teri Waros.

MS. BICOY: Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Excuse me, Julie.

MS. BICOY: Yes.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Member Baisa has a question for you.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Hi, Julie.

MS. BICOY: Hi.
COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Thank you for being here. I wanted to ask you so, your, your...are you funded by the, the Maui Visitors Association? You mentioned at the end to take care of them. I, I kind of got lost. I couldn’t follow.

MS. BICOY: Well, we’re, we’re under MVB, and then that’s where we work from. We’re just the sister Island.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: I see so when we fund them, we fund you also is what I’m trying to say.

MS. BICOY: Correct.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Okay. The other question I have relates to your, your...you mentioned dealing with stranded people who, you know, the flight cannot take off and there you are at the airport, no hotel, no car. What’s the plan?

MS. BICOY: I’m currently working with the airport people in getting key people such as the hotels and different members in the community who can help give food and, you know, support wherever we can, and try to make the visitors comfortable, kamaainas as well, so that while they’re here waiting for their flight they’re not wondering where’s my next meal coming from or are we really going to get out, do we have a place to stay, that kind of thing.

MS. WAROS: Can I help? I believe what we’re setting up here in Molokai is very similar to what happened last year on Maui with the fires, and that they responded. It was the Visitors Bureau that responded and really helped with the Red Cross. We don’t have all of the same resources here in Molokai. And so, our network is oftentimes the coconut wireless, but we want to be the drivers of that to make sure...to ensure there’s the communication and that we’re all taking care of our visitors.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: I think that’s a marvelous effort, because it could affect your tourism a whole lot if a tourist is stranded at the airport, and they close the doors, and they have nowhere to go.

MS. WAROS: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: So, I think that’s really important. In fact, I discussed it with Terryl recently and, of course, not everybody knows to call Aunty Gladys. I would. Thank you.

MS. BICOY: Thank you.
CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you, ladies. The next testifier is Pat Palmer, followed by Heidi and Lily Jenkins.

MS. PALMER: Aloha, ahi’ahi. I brought it just for that reason. I’m here for two reasons. First off, I was asked by my lovely Nani to come and say a good word for MEO which I receive chore service. I look very healthy and everyone says, God, you look great, but I can’t mop floors. So, they do. And now they’re getting cut back some more. And if it’s possible could you think about maybe giving them enough so that I can at least have chore service?

The second thing I heard is coming up is we need the Veteran’s Center. I’m a veteran. The Veteran’s Center really needs to get done. Is there any way you guys can help? Thank you for listening. Aloha.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you Pat. Members, any question for the testifier? Seeing none... oh, I’m sorry, Member Baisa.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: I’m sorry, but this is something that of course is of great interest to me your chore service. I’m not at MEO anymore so I don’t really know where the money is coming from for the program that you receive services from. But it’s been my experience that many times it’s State funds that are cut, and then we have to cut services to the, to our service clients. But I do know that it’s a very valuable service that allows seniors to be independent, and it’s really, really important. So, maybe we can discuss it with our Office on Aging when they come before us. Thank you very much.

MS. PALMER: Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you Pat. Members, any question for the testifier? Seeing none...oh, I’m sorry, Member Baisa.

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: Chair? Pat.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Member Medeiros.

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: You, you brought up the veterans, and I, I know Annette brought that up, too, and because, you know, I’m an Air Force military veteran, and I’m concerned where veterans are concerned. What kind of funding, for what purposes would help the veterans on Molokai?

MS. PALMER: Well, we have the land. We just don’t have the building.

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: Okay. Somebody’s going to come testify later.

MS. PALMER: Yeah, Larry is going to come.
COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: Okay. Mahalo.

MS. PALMER: I just wanted to put my voice in there, too, as a vet.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you.

MS. PALMER: Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: The next, next testifiers, Heidi and Lily Jenkins, followed by Grant Sullivan.

MS. H. JENKINS: Hello, Council Members. My name is Heidi Jenkins. I’ve been given permission to speak on behalf of Kaunakakai School. And I’d like to speak on behalf of the positive impacts the Maui Arts and Cultural Center has had on teacher professional development and student learning in the classroom. Art is I think one of the common threads that links all cultures. For our students it definitely has a very intrinsic motivation. If you tell them they’re going to do art, or drama, or dance they’re pretty much good to go which is the first step to learning is wanting to learn. Justification for teaching fine arts in the classroom it comes down to educational practice and theories.

Howard Gardner is one of, a very famous educational researcher. He developed the concepts of multiple intelligences. And basically, art provides a variety of multiple intelligences that’s already incorporated into it. Basically it’s visual, you can see it. It’s auditory, things like dance and drama. It’s kinesthetic, you move; you’re doing it. It also incorporates multiple intelligences like interpersonal, they’re working in groups; intrapersonal, sometimes they’re doing art by themselves. And I don’t want to get too much into that, but basically, again, it’s very high motivation, high engagement for students.

Under NCLB we pretty much have to...how do we justify arts in the classroom when everything comes down to testing? Well, one of the major things that art does it has a very nice marriage into language arts, into reading, writing, into oral communication. Things like drama, tableau pantomime, soundscapes, improvisation. It helps to improve language arts standards such as understanding main idea, theme, character development, settings, sequence of events, author’s message, author’s purpose, vocabulary development. Reader’s theatre, drama helps reading fluency and comprehension. All those things make test scores go up, and it’s fun for the kids. So...

Dance, rhythm, and beat connects with poetry. Creative movement helps students to develop descriptive writing and vocabulary development in their writing. My students can...if you ask them they can tell you the difference between walk, slither, scurry, scamper, trot. You know, all those kinds of things and, and getting specific on word choice really kind of makes writing come alive. Fine arts, when they can draw or paint. All those things that I mentioned before in reading, it just helps to expand their learning.
Colors in art also help to describe the story’s mood and character’s feelings. So, sorry if I’m sounding kind of teachery, but that’s kind of where I’m coming from.

Basically, the MACC, the Maui Arts and Cultural Center, they’ve provided a lot of different professional opportunities, one being the power tools in the classroom workshops. They provide them to outer-island students, excuse me, not students, to outer-island teachers, and they help pay for our transportation, for our hotel while we’re there, which I have to say I’ve actually been a recipient. I’ve gone and attended courses over on Maui, and if they didn’t pay for the transportation and the hotel it would be expensive to go, and I probably wouldn’t go. But that also helps my professional development and instruction in the classroom.

I know other teachers at Kaunakakai School, Sandy Cjzakowski has also gone over. And we’re trying to encourage more teachers at our school. So, please continue that support.

They’ve also brought over Can Do Art days where the artists come to the school, and they teach art in the classrooms. And then teachers get to observe those kinds of lessons. And they’re all language arts and math integrated. They’ve also had artists in the classroom for dance.

MR. JENSEN: Three minutes.

MS. L. JENKINS: And I’m going to let my daughter speak on behalf of the students and how it’s affected our, our class. Ready.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. Lily, it’s your turn.

MS. L. JENKINS: Aloha, Council Members. My name is Lily Jenkins. I am in second grade at Kaunakakai School. I would like to tell you why we should keep art, art and dancing at Kaunakakai School. Do you like dance? I do. Dance class is fun because we learn a lot of new moves. The lady came over from Maui, and she taught us the, the monkey dance, and it’s from Indonesia. I learned about rhythm and beats in dance. This helps me write poems with rhythm and beats. Mrs. Cjzakowski will...we sing and dance every day to keep our bones strong. This helps me focus and listen to the teacher, so I am not so wiggly. I would like to dance every day.

Do you like art? I do. My teacher went to Maui to learn about water coloring. Mrs. Cjzakowski teaches us how to blend colors. I watched how they changed into new colors. This helps me in reading because the illustrators use colors to show the mood of the story. Blues and grays mean the mood is calm or, or sad. Bright colors like red and orange mean the mood is angry or something exciting is going to happen next. I would like to paint every day, too. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you, Lily. Thank you, Heidi.
MRS. H. JENKINS: So, thank you. I just wanted you guys to just please continue supporting the MACC and all the programs that they offer especially with the schools. We don’t, we really don’t want to take art out of the classroom, and it’s, it’s happening more and more. So, please keep art in. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Having two members of my family, my daughter and my daughter-in-law are school teachers, I understand where you’re coming from. Members, any questions for the testifiers? If not, thank you very much. Grant Sullivan, followed by Larry Helm.

MR. SULLIVAN: Good evening, I’m Grant Sullivan. I’m privileged to be the Executive Director of the Molokai Occupational Center. I’m here with Charlotte Seales who’s been a supporter and influential person, lover of the MOC for several years now. She coordinates our Medicaid waiver services, providing services for those with more severe developmental challenges. Also, Natalie Greenleaf who helps our thrift store run smoothly as a client, and then Alex Kahananui, who for over 22 years now has served the needs of the, the grounds of Molokai through maintenance and upkeep.

The primary purpose of the Molokai Occupational Center is to provide jobs for those of us on the Island who have developmental challenges. And one of the primary ways we do that is through providing low-cost goods and services to the community through the thrift store, our car wash, laundry service, and lawn care service. And so, I, I wanted to say thank you, again, Chairperson, Chairman Pontanilla and Council Members. It’s your support that through entrusting to us the six County parks, the grounds and maintenance of the six County parks, and the Kilohana Elementary School provides about one-fourth of the budget for the Molokai Occupational Center and supports numerous jobs, over 20 jobs at the MOC. And so, your continued support and keeping us there...we, we know there’s many options and, but, that you could choose, but by supporting us and, and trusting that work to us we provide many jobs. I think Alex might have something he’d like to add.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. Alex, your turn.

MR. KAHANANUI: Aloha. I’m thankful for you helping me out with the, with the money, supporting MOC. And I, I appreciate all you done for us. We need, we need little bit more support to continue the job, the work we have on Molokai. And without your support I guess be harder on, for Molokai to continue the job. And I hope you can see that it’s a small agency and with big love. And we appreciate you coming to see us, too. And I hope we can do better out there. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you.
MR. SULLIVAN: It’s been...in the last few months actually Alex has helped to begin supervising the grounds and services. And so, it is challenging, but again thank you for continuing to entrust that work to us, and we’re going to continue to do the best job we can to take care of the parks and the Kilohana Elementary School.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you, Grant. Members, any questions for the testifier? Seeing none, thank you very much.

MR. SULLIVAN: I’m sorry, I didn’t know--

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Oh, I’m sorry.

MR. SULLIVAN: --if Natalie might have something to say. I’m sorry.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Natalie.

MS. GREENLEAF: To Mr. Danny Mateo, thank you for supporting us. We, we been robbed at MOC. How I feel, how the community do this to us? We get clothes, we get do the yards, we do Food Bank for them. How they treated us, hurt us more. That’s why we, that’s why we, our slogan is the little big...and you see the big heart and a big ohana to take care the needs out there. Danny Mateo listened to me how I feel MOC is. I work over there, my boyfriend work over there, he work 22 years. I support him. I support my agency. Why they do this to my agency? They have a big heart and a big love, too, he said. Mahalo, Council Members.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you, Natalie.

MR. SULLIVAN: In case you don’t know, just recently we all felt kind of violated as someone came through and just ransacked the place, breaking into things, tearing things up, that kind of thing. And so, it is, it is, it’s been kind of sad for us, but we’re getting things back together and...

CHAIR PONTANILLA: You have another person to testify?

MR. SULLIVAN: No.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Members, any more questions for the testifier. ...(end of tape, Side 1B)... Thank you very--

MR. SULLIVAN: God bless you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: --thank you very much. Next testifier Larry Helm, followed by June James.
MR. HELM: Aloha, Council Men and Council Women. Welcome to Molokai. And again this is the fifth year I come up and request for funds to pay our rent, the Molokai Veterans Caring for Veterans. This organization started five years ago, and because of Maui funding to keep a place for the vets to come and dialogue, and get counseling, and, and share camaraderie today we got over 350 members in our organization of all wars including a lot of World War II 442 guys that have been sitting up in Kualapuu that haven’t been addressed with deaf ears for so long, and now they got hearing aid and getting the benefits that they rightly due.

And we thank Maui County for providing this, this service. Today, we have a doctor here that provides...a physician that lives on the Island that works for the VA and, and service our veterans. We have a psychologist, psychiatrist that comes here on a regular basis, because we have a place and we are advocates for veterans. Molokai have had 50 or more young men and women serving in Afghanistan and Iraq that will be coming back, and will be falling into the mix, and they will need help. When the dust settles, they will need help.

So, we ask again, our rent is $9,000, and if you folks can kokua us, again, we’ll be open another year. And something very, very great happened to Molokai vets this year. I want to introduce you to this guy by the name of Karl Whelchel, a marine, serving George Bush number one, General Schwarzkopf’s assault when Saddam was in Kuwait, got messed up, but ended here on Molokai and stayed with us, hang with all us Vietnam vets over here. He wanted to see Vietnam, so he took off, walked from north to south just to see combat area, ended up in Thailand, got married, got a baby, went on a motorcycle, and got in an accident and was paralyzed.

The U.S. Embassy couldn’t help him, the military couldn’t help him, he was in the hospital, got a call late at night because I know him, asked for some help. A long story short, by, by connecting different people and being steadfast on trying to get this guy some help and get him back into the United States, Molokai vets were instrumental in connecting all the dots. United Airlines, service nurses, the veterans, the State Department, and anyway he’s up in Stanford getting rehab and, and that was something, because you guys provide a place for the veterans that we can do stuff like this and a lot of other stuff. So, again, I thank you very much and request $9,000. Thank you, Danny.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you, Larry. Members,--

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: Mr. Chair.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Mr. Chair.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: --any questions for the testifier?

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: Question.
CHAIR PONTANILLA: Member Medeiros, followed by Member Victorino.

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Larry. And thanks to all the vets here for your service to your community and your, your country. But the facility you in, who owns that facility that we pay rent to?

MR. HELM: That’s Naomi Blue, and it’s right in the end of town over here. It’s a building… we pay her $750 a month, and it goes 9,000. And it’s small. It does provide a place. We are now working on trying to get some funds for putting up a building. We’ve, we’ve acquired a property from Molokai Ranch about four years ago. So, we’re trying to get some funds and hopefully if everything go right we’ll have a bigger place and more. But right now it, it suits us. It’s, it’s, it’s comfortable. It does the job.

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: And do you get support or do you work in partnership with the Veteran’s Administration groups on Maui?

MR. HELM: Yes, we do. We belong to the Veteran Council and all, all of the veteran people, the doctors, they pick up from Maui come here to service our, our veterans.

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: Thank you, Larry, and thank you to all the veterans here.

MR. HELM: Anybody want say a few… Al, Al.

MR. MARCIEL: Hi, I, I’m a new member here on Molokai. I’ve only been here a couple years now and got hooked up with the veterans’ people over here. I hear Larry talking about just one incident that made the national news about giving someone, our fellow warriors from way back when, some help that he couldn’t get any other way. Larry and a few of our members from Molokai made a few phone calls and all of a sudden something begins to happen.

Now, I’d like to address the fewest amount of dollars for the greatest amount of good. This rent that we’re requesting that you people have been paying, thank you, is probably your smallest line item that’s going to come in this budget that you’re going to have that you’re going to vote on. We got people here, one person in particular, 80-some-years-old, had benefits coming to him since 1948. He just recently got it. He had no place to go, and nothing to do, and nowhere to get it. We have other members like myself from Korea go back, back that far. Most of our members here come from the Vietnam era and now, of course, from the most recent fiasco we have going.

The little dollars that this place makes possible gives a benefit… we have 345 members, 13 of which have got lifetime benefits right now who had nothing three years ago, and had no place to go and nothing to do. We thank you for making it possible for us to have
someplace to go to and enjoy those benefits that these guys were entitled to for many, many years. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you, Al. Member Victorino, you had a question?

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Well, actually the question was answered, but, you know, I would say that it is our duty and responsibility as citizens of the United States to repay all our veterans who have gone off and served. Whether the cause was right or wrong, whether the war was good or bad, you still served our country, never questioned why, and many of you did not come back, and those who did came back scarred. And so, we need to continue to work to support and honor you. So, yes, we’ll do our best to make sure that 9,000...and when you get ready to build your building come to us so that maybe we can get some money to help you there, too. Mahalo.

MR. HELM: Mahalo.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you.

MR. HELM: Joe and Danny, thanks, eh, for coming. Mahalo bruddah.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Yeah, you’re welcome. By the way I’m number 49. June James.

MS. JAMES: Aloha, Council Members. Thank you very much for coming over this evening. I represent and want to express my support for one of your MEO services and that is chore workers. I am suffering...not suffering...I’m recovering from major surgery. I cannot bend, and I cannot lift. And if any of you can imagine living not bending or lifting, I want you to realize how important these people are. They make our lives very wonderful and livable. And I just want you to know that I appreciate all that they’ve done for me and for all the other people that they’re helping. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you, June. Members, any questions for the testifier? Seeing none, Mahealani Davis, next testifier, followed by Lori Buchanan.

MS. DAVIS: Aloha, Council Members. Nice to see all the new faces here. We have new faces, and you have new faces. I want to thank you for the support that you folks are contemplating hopefully giving the veterans here and also Kuha’o Business Center. I’m a community building facilitator at the Queen Liliuokalani Children’s Center which we have social workers and community workers, and I’m one of the community workers. And we have...we are thankful that those two organizations in particular are here in the community for us to, it allows us to refer people that we are working with to quality services in those two areas.

I wanted to talk tonight as an individual and in support of a project that I’ve been a partner of, in, which is a cultural resource mapping project of the East End of Molokai.
We are very grateful that we have right now a Molokai planner which is a new thing for us, a full-time planner who lives here on the Island and takes care of Planning Department work. And also that we have in, over in the Long Range Planning Department a cultural resources planner who we are also working with on this particular project.

Now, this began as a, the project began as the brainstorm of a group out on the East End of Molokai, Malama Pono o Ka’aina, and some of their members will be speaking later, who were struggling to find a way to protect and preserve cultural resources of importance to the community. And given the influx, recent influx of new residents who are not all from Hawaii there were not conflicts, but misunderstandings, I think, because people just didn’t know how different it is here in Hawaii from the place that they may have come from.

The community group is a mix of kamaaina, long, long-time kamaaina families and new residents who are looking for ways to protect their very unique community and the resources that support traditional activities. Where they, where they are starting, and we have been working for three days now with University of Hawaii urban and regional planning grad students who are here in the room to go out and just begin to feel our way through how to do fieldwork to relocate sites that have been documented in the past and locate sites that have never been documented, but are known to exist in the community, and take all this information and create a set of maps that will be..., become part of our community plan and be useable as a resource for Planning Department Staff, for Planning Commissioners here on the Island, for community members, for realtors, for new residents, and for education purposes.

Right now when the Planning Department people who are reviewing applications and are required by law to see if that potential house or development would impact cultural resources or traditional practices, they really don’t have any reference to look at. We’re taking information that has been collected over the years through surveys and studies and reports. A lot of the work has already been done and compiling it so that it is in a useable format.

We are partnering with the Long Range Planning Departments and need the expertise that is there, we need their technical skills, and we also need or want this to become part of a planning document and not just another study that will sit on the shelf someplace. So, our hope is to actually implement, put into a useable format, all of the information that’s been collected over the years by many wonderful people.

MR. JENSEN: Three minutes.
MS. DAVIS: Okay. Thank you. We understand that there’s a request from the Planning Department for $300,000 for this particular effort Countywide over the next two years. I am a member of the General Plan Advisory Committee, Council, Committee for Molokai. And so, right now we’re reviewing the General Plan and will shortly be reviewing our Community Plan. And, and so, I guess I just want to make a pitch for good planning that...there’s an old saying that if you don’t know where you’re going any road will take you there. I think planning is often the, the less, the less sexy job, I guess, because it’s tedious, and it’s painful, and people need to sit around and talk through things. It’s a long process. But unless you have good planning, people with good skills, and unless those people have the tools that they need, we end up in situations where we have to deal with a crisis, because the plan...we didn’t spend enough time or resources on the planning portion of projects, yeah.

MR. JENSEN: Four minutes.

MS. DAVIS: Okay. So, I guess that’s it. Time is up.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you, Mahealani.

MS. DAVIS: Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Members, any questions for the testifier? Member Anderson.

COUNCILMEMBER ANDERSON: Mahealani, thank you very much for the work you’re doing. You didn’t ask us for any money. How come?

MS. DAVIS: Well, John Summers at the Long Range Planning Department says that there is a request in the budget. I’ve been reading through it, but it’s not broken out where, where I can see it here. But I’m speaking in support of that request by the Planning Department.

COUNCILMEMBER ANDERSON: How much do you need?

MS. DAVIS: How much do we need? 2.5 million, no. ... (laughter)... We’re, we are a community group partnering with the Planning Department. We also...I work for the Queen Liliuokalani Children’s Center, so we’re putting in resources. We also have potential technical assistance from Kamehameha Schools. They’ve asked us for a few years what help do we need? We weren’t sure what help we would need, and we are also pondering going after grant money. But I’m speaking in support this evening of the, the line item that John Summers mentioned at our last GPAC meeting of 300,000. And I’m not sure how it’s broken out in, in their budget, but it is specified for cultural resource survey work. And that would be Countywide over the next two years.

COUNCILMEMBER ANDERSON: County, that’s Countywide?
MS. DAVIS: Yes, it wouldn’t only be for Molokai. But we were already working on mapping cultural resources when the new Administration, the new Planning Director came in, and when the GPAC meetings started. So, things are just kind of coming together in a very nice way.

COUNCILMEMBER ANDERSON: Okay. Two quick questions. Who, who, you said that there is a Cultural Resource Planner now for the County. Who is that?

MS. DAVIS: Stan Solomio, Solamillo, sorry.

COUNCILMEMBER ANDERSON: And how long has he been with the County? You don’t know?

MS. DAVIS: Three years. Three years. He’s been in Long Range Planning for three years just recently moved over to the Cultural Resource Planning…took a cut in pay and moved over to Cultural Resource Planning.

COUNCILMEMBER ANDERSON: And he does have background in cultural resources, archeology, anything like that?

MS. DAVIS: He has background in archeology, also, in planning and historic preservation. He’s the staff person that works with the Cultural Resource--

COUNCILMEMBER ANDERSON: Commission.

MS. DAVIS: --Commission, yes.

COUNCILMEMBER ANDERSON: And then one other question. Have you interfaced at all with State Historic Preservation Division on any of this and gotten their background materials?

MS. DAVIS: Yes, we have. We’ve gone over to the office on two occasions. Two members from our community group, Malama Pono o Ka’Aina, and then later two members from the Maui Planning Department, and I’m pretty sure on their own time, to look through and pull out all the information that SHPD had that was previously documented for Molokai. They are under such staffing--

COUNCILMEMBER ANDERSON: Yeah.

MS. DAVIS: --and resource constraints that literally things are in cardboard boxes piled up against the walls. But they were very helpful, and we think we’ve, we’ve been spending a year and a half gathering whatever we can find that’s already been done so that we’re not duplicating work that’s already been accomplished.
COUNCILMEMBER ANDERSON: That’s very wise. And, and my last question, Mr. Chair, have any of you been able to obtain a report that was done by Inez Ashdown probably in the 50’s I think it was for Molokai? And it, and it was, it was, all the informants were kupuna that are long since gone. So, have you found that report, because she did quite, she was the Maui County Historian Emeritus.

MS. DAVIS: Yes, I’m, I’m recalling the, I think what I’m picturing was the work she did for Kahoolawe.

COUNCILMEMBER ANDERSON: No, this is different. It’s a specific plan for, for Molokai.

MS. DAVIS: A plan. A cultural resource protection plan?

COUNCILMEMBER ANDERSON: Well, not, not, no, not that, but just identification of sites and the stories behind them from the kupuna who knew about it.

MS. DAVIS: I think we, well, we spent the last three days put, brought together all the maps, all the reports, studies that we’ve been able to locate, and if we don’t have it we’ll look for it. We do have...

COUNCILMEMBER ANDERSON: If you don’t have it, call me, please.

MS. DAVIS: Okay. We will. Thank you very much.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, any more questions for the testifier? If not, thank you.

MS. DAVIS: Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: The next testifier is Lori Buchanan and after Lori Buchanan testify, the Committee will take a ten-minute break. So, Lori...

MS. BUCHANAN: I was going to say you need a break. My name is Lori Buchanan. I wear many hats in this community. I didn’t know I was after Mahealani, but since she did the segue way having finished a five-year stint as the Chair of the Planning Commission in 2005, the last great thing was getting a planner to Molokai on board. That was the greatest thing. Thank you, Danny, for helping to facilitate that. I guess maybe they felt never have enough work for her to do, but since day one she landed on Molokai, she has been burning rubber ever since. And I know she works well with interns, because I met her during the Papohaku Dune Restoration project.

I’m here tonight for the Molokai-Maui Invasive Species Committee. Sorry, I have a cold. And I’m not asking you for money, but I wanted to thank you all, because on the Mayor’s Budget under environment the Maui Invasive Species Committee under that Department
has asked you for funds already. And I just wanted to tie that in and put a face to where
that money goes. It supports the two-and-a-half position, two full-time position and a
half-time position of native Hawaiians employed here on Molokai doing invasive species
work. Myself, my field tech...I'm a mother of eight, and my husband and I also jointly
own two small businesses, Molokai Security Services and Molokai Mortuary as well.
And we all know when you live on Molokai you got to do everything for survive,
especially when you decided to have eight kids and send 'em college.

So, my 40-hour week job besides Annette saying she had the best job, I have the best job
and that's protecting Molokai from invasive species. So, that funding that you approve in
the Mayor's Budget directly affects us. And I just hired an ad..., part-time admin person
Mapuana Hanapi, who is leaving tomorrow to have child number three. And so...and
that didn't deter me from picking her up, okay. I was glad. We make a great team. We
kick butt on Molokai. It's very difficult. We don't have an Ag inspector.

And you would think on an Island that is focused on Ag...I have a committee comprised
of all the heavy hitters on Molokai: Monsanto's, Hawaiian Research, Dow Chemicals,
Mycogen Seeds, UH College of Tropical Ag, USDA Plant Protective Quarantine people.
I have a lot of people that sit on my committee and that's the only way we stay effective
on Molokai is by partner collaboration. Kalaupapa National Park Service is a big hitter.
Last year we surveyed 13,000 acres for miconia and that's why I'm not asking you for
money for miconia. I'm not asking for a million dollars this year. For your information,
we don't have coquis and we don't have miconia. And we dealt with banana bunchy top.
We got it in time, and we took it off the Island. Right now it's a big problem on Maui
spreading.

My problem is I don't have an Ag inspector. And so, if at any time in your dealings
throughout the year--

MR. JENSEN: Three minutes.

MS. BUCHANAN: --you have the opportunity to hit up Lyle Wong, Sandra Kunimoto, Carol
Okada at the Department of Ag and hound them to get us an Ag inspector for Molokai, at
least then when somebody is carrying that rotten pineapple or papaya on that ferry from
Maui, we can legally stop them. Okay. So, I got a minute more.

I just wanted to touch on the budget you did previously for the purchase of Moonui from
Pu'u O Hoku Ranch. I haven't heard what happened to that. I believe it was in
Jo Anne's committee. Every time I drive to East End with the kupunas I'm still
wondering what's happening with the purchase, the budget that was done for the
purchase of Moonui Beach from Pu'u O Hoku Ranch, and I hope that's still in the
budget.
I support MEO Head Start. Half of my eight kids went to Head Start, and I really support that program along with the AmeriCorps Program. My, my office is in The Nature Conservancy. We employ the Americorp interns through the MEO, and it’s been a great, great program. I support everything the MEO does. Also, the veterans. I really support the veterans. I have a heart for them, also.

MR. JENSEN: Four minutes.

MS. BUCHANAN: Okay, and I guess that’s it. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you, Lori. Members, any questions for the testifier?

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Chair?

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Lori, we have a question by Mr. Victorino.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: You know on this Moonui Beach purchase--

MS. BUCHANAN: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: --can you see me afterwards? I’d like to get more information, and so I can go follow-up, because Parks and Rec and Public Works has kind of combined. So, I want to find out more about this, because I’m not aware of it, so I’d like to hear more about it.

MS. BUCHANAN: Okay.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you, Lori.

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: Chair, I have a question, please.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Member Medeiros.

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: Mahalo, Chair. You’re talking about the need for an Ag inspector and usually Ag inspectors are with the State. Have your pursued our State Legislators about...
MS. BUCHANAN: I’ve personally attended a listening session with Governor Lingle, and Sandra Kunimoto, and all her cabinet members, Lyle Wong, Nakahara, and Carol Okada, because they recently got the $2 million funding, yeah, to hire 56 new positions. And all we wanted was even a half-time position, and we’ve been asking them for four years. But you would think…and that’s why finally we got Hawaiian Research and Mycogen after the whole gall wasp incident came aboard it came real apparent that Ag had no defenses against papaya ring spot virus, because we’re doing organic right now for Ag. So, I’m here heavy hitting for the, for Ag even though I’m in invasive species.

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: All right. But, you know, our Maui County Legislators in the State, Kalani English, Senator English and Representative Mele Carroll, you, you have pursued it through them?

MS. BUCHANAN: Yes, I have.

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: Okay. Hopefully, we, we can convince them to get you an Ag inspector.

MS. BUCHANAN: I hope so.

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: Okay. Mahalo.

MS. BUCHANAN: Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you, Lori. Members of the community, the Committee is going to take a ten-minute recess. We’ll be back 7:45. This meeting is in recess . . . (gavel). . .

RECESS: 7:37 p.m.

RECONVENE: 7:52 p.m.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: . . .(gavel). . . Members, thank you for that recess. We’ll continue the public testimony. At this time, I do have some special requests by four individual testifiers. Because they’re on wheelchairs and they need to utilize the MEO Transportation, I would like to call on William Kalipi, Sr., Greg Moran, Roslyn Akina, and Sweetie Salinas in that order. Please identify yourself as you provide us your testimony. Thank you.

MR. KALIPI: Okay. My name is William Kalipi, alias Billy Kalipi. I represent my ohana, and I’m the kupuna. Okay. I just going down kind of fast, because I get questions and maybe you guys can send ‘em to me later on. The first question I said how much revenue are being collected in our Water Department? This is only for Molokai. What is the revenue? And the second question is what is our operation costs? Only Molokai. I know
you guys gave us one big budget book and Molokai is the last page, only one paper, which is nothing wrong with that, but no more answer, yeah. I don’t know what is what.

Then the next one going be you are budgeting $2 million for Pukoo Fire Station. My question is what happened to Mauna Loa substation? We get people dying up there. No more nothing. First responder cost nothing, and yet I see on the Budget, Pukoo Fire Station, one...1100, and you gotta times ‘um by 1,000. So, I no can see how come they, they forget we get, we get family up there too, yeah. They taxpayer. You guys no like build fire station, then waive all their tax. They no need pay tax, because they no more service. Simple. Easy.

Okay. Then over here get the rec..., Recreation Department, budget from 2009 to 2013, $1,100,000 for Mitchell Pauole Center. Eh, that’s good. That’s this center right here. But I don’t know what you guys going use the money for, because I no, I no see the breakdown. But we really need the money here, because we get one small little room in the back there, it’s a storage room, but we can turn that into one reefer space, because we no more enough ukana for, for put the cooler for our food when we get big luau over here. We gotta bring our own cooler and all that kind stuff, but if we get one walk-in reefer over here, oh, this $1 million really can use.

And then I get two last one. The next one is how come you said we no more Meals on Wheels? Every place get but East End no more. We get, we get kupunas, handicapped, and no more Meals on Wheels. Then are we one different County? Why I ask, ask that? Maui, you guys get public bus service go around. Molokai we no more. MEO is not one bus service for the public. They one special service for me, for senior citizens. They beautiful. You know, they get...(end of tape Side 2A)...help us in everything what we need, courtesy, but we become Cinderfella. We gotta go home before 12 o’clock or we going turn into one pumpkin. Monday, Wednesday, Friday shuttle, 11 o’clock we got to go home.

MR. JENSEN: Three minutes.

MR. KALIPI: So, we, so, you know, if Maui can get public transportation I no see why Molokai no can. We the same County, eh? Okay. Mai’kai. So, work hard. Work hard. We thank you guys for, for coming. We thank you for all the service you guys render us, and aloha. God bless you guys.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you, William. Members, any questions for the testifier?

MR. KALIPI: Mr. Chair, are you going to response [sic] to these questions as far as the questions that I asked?

CHAIR PONTANILLA: No, we are here to take public testimony.
MR. KALIPI: I hope, I hope you guys can...--

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you.

MR. KALIPI: --I hope you guys can send me one letter. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. Next testifier is Greg Moran.

MR. MORAN: Test. Okay. Hi, my name is Greg Moran and as you can see I am disabled. And I'm here in support of the MEO transportation program. These folks pick me up just about every day, about five days a week, and bring me out to the fitness center. I can work out, I go shopping, I make all my endless doctors appointments. Anyhow, I just want to let you folks know that it is a real good service for the Island of Molokai, and it really does benefit us. And I hope that you folks do consider or do continue your funding of this wonderful service to the Island. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you, Greg. Any questions for the testifier? Seeing none, the next testifier Roslyn Akina.

MS. AKINA: Hi, my name is Roslyn Akina. I recently had received assistance from the County Rental Assistance program. I am very grateful for all that MEO has provided for us, and I hope that the County continue to fund this program for me, for people like myself. Mahalo.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you, Roslyn. Members, any questions for the testifier? The next testifier is Sweetie Salinas.

MS. SALINAS: Aloha, my name is Sweetie Salinas. I'm here on behalf of MEO. I'd like to thank all of you for the support you have given MEO. I am a rider to work and from work that uses the services of MEO. In the beginning we had drop program and now we're into the shuttle program. I would like for you to continue helping us out, the workers, you know, everyone else that uses the services of MEO. And we have the best, courteous, family-oriented drivers that anyone can ask for. And I'm especially thankful to Zessica and her staff for all that they do for us. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you, Sweetie. Members, any questions for the testifier? Okay. Thank you.

MS. SALINAS: Okay. Now, I'm on my second half. I now speak on my behalf. I am a full-time worker with Parks and Recreation. I am here to ask of you to please help us, the Parks Division, to get us some...this is our baseyard Mitchell Pauole. What we do is we, we're park caretakers. We have many, we have a lot of machines, we have vehicles, we have chemicals, we have everything that you need to use to run the facilities, to run the parks, to service everyone who uses our parks. But this is where we, part of our things
are. Our BMR, this is their shop. Not much, but they make do with what they have. It is very hard for our maintenance supervisor to go around, to do inventory on equipments, and some of them are so outdated, because they’re locked here and there.

All we ask is that you please help us to get a better facility, and a baseyard where we can have everything in one area. The BMR, the parks, our irrigation specialists we all stay together in one area. Not have equipments here, chemicals here, gas here, you know. We want everything to be nice and this is a facility for the public, but we have to share with the public. You come around the corners you’ll see old buildings. We have the cats with us, because it’s open. We have chemicals that is across the street. We have a ball field that shares the place, you know, with other equipments that we need. So, if you can help us just get us a baseyard it would be really helpful for all of us, for all the workers in Parks, every one of us. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you, Sweetie. Members, any questions for the testifier? Member Mateo. Sweetie.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Sweetie, just, just for your information in the existing Budget there is $1 million set aside for the construction of the Molokai Parks baseyard.

MS. SALINAS: Are we going to have the driveway on the original park also, the extension so that the people don’t have to park on the main highway when we do have ballgames? Safety. Safety.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Safety. We’ll see what $1 million can do, Sweetie.

MS. SALINAS: Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. That kind of leads me into an introduction that I’d like to make tonight. Here with us tonight is the Deputy Director for Parks and Recreation Zachary Helm who is in the back. Zachary. You have a really, really good employee in Sweetie, so you better thank her. And then also with us is Carol Gentz, from the CDBG. She’s the Administrator there. Carol. Thank you. The next testifier is Arleone Dibben-Young, followed by Rich Young.

MS. DIBBEN-Young: Aloha mai. Thank you so much for coming over tonight. A lot of new faces and some good old ones, too. I’m here tonight on behalf of the Molokai Island Main Street Association, and I’m here to talk about parking. Right now we have some negative parking situations when it comes into the ballgames. We have events here at Mitchell Pauole Center, Earth Day, we have Makahiki across the street, and it’s not a safe situation as far as the parking goes and our keiki walking back and forth across the street.
So, I'm here to ask you tonight to please support negotiations with Molokai Ranch and the relocation or change of Alohi Street, I believe it is, across the way, and to put in a municipal parking area. So, that’s all. Any questions?

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, any questions for the testifier? If not, thank you very much.

MS. DIBBEN-YOUNG: Mahalo.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: The next testifier is Rich Young, followed by Julie Lopez.

MR. YOUNG: Aloha, Council Members. My name is Rich Young, local...

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Yeah, put the mic up. There you go.

MR. YOUNG: There we go. Thank you. I'm a local architect, planner and for the last ten years my involvement with the community, helping them with their businesses and helping with the Molokai, the Island Main Street Association. It has been a conversation that we've had over and over again about how to help the town grow, what are the problems that the community is, is dealing with on an ongoing basis, and one topic that comes up over and over again has been the parking.

Of recent, the, you know, just coming to the events here, if any...well, when we were at full throttle with not really a big meeting, you know, most of the, you know, the parking lot was full and people were parking out on the road, you know, in the dirt, in unassigned stalls. You know, the intensity of the town, the heart of the town with the post office, the Kamoi Center Friendly Market, we don't have overflow parking. Everybody's struggling with this. It's, this is kind of the first time I think anybody has been able to come to the Council about this, but as a planner and as an architect, I see this, I hear this story, and I, I'm constantly looking at the birds-eye of this little town.

And so, in an effort to try and jump to the chase or try and find something that was tangible I, I have this schematic proposed preliminary that was a handout to, to you folks earlier that...the, the only space that I saw that was realistic in a Country Town zone which is unusual in its own way and how parking is configured and, you know, you actually park on the individual’s property, the street is part of the property. It's just, it's very unusual how helter skelter the, the town evolved, and we didn’t have parking or the need for or there just wasn’t a plan for parking, public parking.
So anyway, it looks, it looked from the bird’s-eye that we have an opportunity here. That large area of land that’s occupied by the ball fields has a, has, has extra space available and originally there were lots developed there for the purpose of a subdivision but that never happened. We’ve been leasing, the County’s been leasing those ball fields and thank God for that. I mean these are the most used facilities that I see almost in our County. I mean these facilities are constantly used, and we just don’t have overflow parking. We don’t have any way for the community to get through that, come to those events, and be able to park safely.

So, the extension of Alohi Street is a suggestion and the area that is surrounding the ball fields could be utilized as, as this parking. I did it the best I could with what I would know to be our County requirements, and I was able to get 116 stalls. I’m here tonight to re... to at least enlist your, your ear on this, the possibility of, that the Council would support perhaps funding a feasibility study, begin the steps of actually starting the negotiations with the Ranch to see if we could prolong the lease, or if nothing else to purchase those properties. I think they’re, they’re essential to the growth and the long-term stability of Kaunakakai. And I think it would be a tragedy to not, to have that property taken or sold as it was originally planned as residential lots. And I think the opportunity is there. There is a lot of open space that’s dead space that could solve a major part of our parking problem, at least on this end of the town.

MR. JENSEN: Three minutes.

MR. YOUNG: Thank you for your ear, and I appreciate you coming.

CHAIR PONT ANILLA: Thank you, Mr. Young. Members, any questions for the testifier? If not, thank you very much. Julie Lopez, followed by Bo Mahoe.

MS. LOPEZ: Hi, my name is Julie Lopez. I’m the President of the Molokai Humane Society. I’m here to support the Maui Humane Society for our line item for the grant money that we get. I’d also like to thank Danny Mateo who champions us and helps us out all the way and guides us.

And I wanted to let you know where the money goes. We’ve had, in the last year we’ve had seven visiting vets. Right now we have one from L.A. He’s here for the week. He works only on dogs, and he works all day, and he brought his assistant from USC Davis to help. We also have three vets that come in from Maui, and three vets that come in from Honolulu. We are also working on a portable molecular office building, because Julie Coelho’s building won’t be usable, and we have to be out of it by September. So, we’ve looked and written to three landowners if we could temporarily use their land for a Humane Society office and a visiting vet office.

So, I wanted to let you know that. And I just want to thank you so much for all the grant money that you give us. I wanted to say that 41 times last year the visiting vets came to
Molokai, and they stay here, and they stay overnight. We pick them up from the airport, we feed them lunch, the whole nine yards. And I wanted to say that 287 animals were spayed and neutered, and we just got a call from a doctor, a vet from Honolulu who works with big animals, and he wants to start coming over, too. So, I just want to thank the Council, Danny Mateo, for your continued support with the Molokai Humane Society. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, any questions for the testifier? Seeing none, the next testifier Bo Mahoe, followed by Edward Halealoha Ayau.

MR. MAHOE: Aloha and good evening. And I wanted to thank the Council Members for being here this evening. You have an elongated day. We’re going late into the night. And when the meeting is all pau we go home to our beds, but you folks make that extreme sacrifice of being away from your homes.

I’m the postmaster at Kaunakakai Post Office. And I just want to bring some information to you to reiterate the stance of Rich who spoke about the parking problem here in Kaunakakai.

In the year 2000, the United States Census Bureau put our Island population at 7,400. Two years ago our Hawaii State statistician said it crested about 8,100. So, you can see that there’s been residential population growth here on the Island. And it’s also reit...to reiterate what Julie Bicoy said about tourism traffic’s grown 13 percent. So, there’s a lot of people driving around. And so, the parking problem has escalated.

Now, the post office which is sort of center in town has 16 parking stalls, 15 for all customers, one for the handicapped. And what was mentioned earlier, especially on weekends when there’s baseball games, and here on Molokai any baby born was born with a baseball bat, because that’s one of the most popular sports here. And when, when things happen on Saturdays there’s not enough parking to go around.

So, what Rich was intending for was a proactive approach, much foresight involved in, in that we conduct a parking study to see what’s feasible, because it’s better to set up an item for structured parking, because here on Molokai everybody has four-wheel drive. So, you know, if you need a parking stall you can park anywhere your four-wheel drive can get to. So, that’s not a problem. So, I just want to just thank you very much for considering this kind of foresight. It is a proactive approach to our parking situation. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you, Bo. Members, any questions for the testifier? Seeing none, thank you. Next testifier is Edward Halealoha Ayau [sic], Ayau. Mr. Ayau, followed by Adolph Helm.
MR. AYAU: Aloha ka kou. ... *(Testifier speaking in Hawaiian)* ... Aloha. I am here as a project manager, a consultant to a non-profit organization ‘Aha Kukui o Molokai. And with me tonight is our Board President, Adolph Helm, our Board Treasurer, Robert Morris, and our Board Secretary, Joshua Pastrana.

We are asking this Committee to place our project, Project Halau Wa’a, which is a canoe house project on the County’s agenda. By way of background, the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism in the 1980s did a master plan for Malama Cultural Park. One of the uses they determined was appropriate for that park was establishment of canoe houses or halau wa’a. Well, the State never funded the project. And so, they did some, you know, work out at the park, but they never actually fully implemented that project.

We’re seeking to implement the recommendations of that master plan with respect to the, the building of, of a canoe house, of a halau wa’a. Our partner in this project is Wa’a Kapaimua Canoe Club. So far we’ve been able to raise money for a project manager, that’s myself. This is all through grants, through either private or, or government grants. And those grantors have been the Dow Corporation, the Cooke Foundation, the Molokai Economic Community, and then recently the Dowling Foundation on Maui.

So, we’ve been able to raise about $80,000 so far to do our public planning, I mean our Land Use planning. So, we’ve been able to hire Chris Hart Partners out of Maui to do all of our studies, because the, the halau is located along the shoreline. To do all of our studies and to make sure that we can qualify for all of our permits, to represent us before the Maui Planning, the Maui Planning Department as well as the Molokai Planning Commission. We’ve also been able to raise money to hire architects. The company is called Mauna Kai and Associates, and the principal architect is Carlo Presco.

We’ve been working with other community organizations with the idea that, you know, with Kukui the focus of this organization is not just racing, not just paddling. It’s restoring the place of the wa’a, of the canoe in terms of, of Hawaiian culture. And so, part of the programs that they’ve developed include teaching youth how to use the canoe to fish, how to teach ocean conservation, how to teach reef restoration, and before, you know, those programs can, can be implemented we got to house the canoes. Because right now if you go to Malama Cultural Park they’re all out in the open, and when it rains the whole place floods. And so, there’s a lot of work that needs to be done.

And so, you know, one reason I signed onto this project is because it represented Hawaiians taking initiative using Hawaiian cultural values and traditions to deal with contemporary problems. And, and ‘Aha Kukui and Wa’a Kapaimua are committing to that. Where we’re at now is we’ve hired, we’ve contracted Chris Hart and Partners to do our Land Use planning. We’re hoping that that work will be done within the next eight-to-ten months. We’re beginning our visioning meetings or, or our planning
meetings with Wa’a Kapaimua and our architects to vision out what this building is going to look like.

At this point, the estimated cost for construction is going to be about 400,000. And so, we’re looking for partners. We’re committed to about $100,000 from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs through their community grants program. We’re asking the County, this is a County, Malama Cultural Park is under the Department of Parks and Recreation. This is County land.

Similar to the County support for Lahaina Canoe Club and the building of their Halau Wa’a same thing, to support the project to the tune of $150,000, which means that we need to find two more partners to come up with the difference. We’re, we’re committed to doing that. We, our board has a plan and how to, to carry that out. And we’re asking the Committee to consider placing us...we’re a new project, and we understand that if you are added on to the Budget somebody comes off or some project comes off.

MR. JENSEN: Three minutes.

MR. AYAU: And we believe that this project for Molokai is, is important culturally. And it is important from the perspective of, of Hawaiian people demonstrating initiative and, and planning out what it takes to get things done, and then doing it. And so, we’re, we’re asking that we, our project be placed onto, onto the, the Mayor’s Budget for the Fiscal Year 2008. And then with that...you want to take questions or you want me to...(inaudible)...?

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you, Mr. Ayau. Members, any questions for the testifier? Member Mateo.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Chairman, thank you. Mr. Ayau, good evening.

MR. AYAU: Aloha.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: In addition to a place to store your canoe is public access also available?

MR. AYAU: Yes, the, the, at least at the planning stage the vision is that it will be a public, it will be a community gathering place. So, it’s not just to store canoes. It’s for the clubs to hold meetings, it’s to host other clubs especially when, you know, we have off-island races. So, there will be a community function to this.

Having said that, you know, one of the things we’re negotiating with County Parks and Recreation is a grant of real property for that parcel. If that happens, Kukui then becomes the legal owner which means for purposes of liability we become the principal liable party.
And so, you know, questions like that we’re still trying to work out how would that work if we’re responsible for liability and have the general public use. The board encourages it, you know, and they’re leaving it up to me to figure out how do we do that so that the board doesn’t, you know, face a lawsuit because someone is injured on the property. Same questions the County faces as a landowner and public use. So, we’re going through that right now as well.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Member Anderson.

COUNCILMEMBER ANDERSON: Thank you, Chair. Thank you very much for being here. You’re saying that you’re looking at trying to obtain ownership of the, of the, the land itself?

MR. AYAU: We want to carve out a portion of Malama Cultural Park where the Halau Wa’a would, would be situated and to seek a grant of real property from the County to be, to basically become the owner outright.

COUNCILMEMBER ANDERSON: And is the purpose of that in order to make it easier to get grant funds? Or what is the purpose of ownership? I mean you could have a lease, too, you know.

MR. AYAU: Except that the building, yeah, I’m sure you would appreciate this. The building is going to be worth about 350, $400,000. And so, you know, the board has been wrestling with that question for quite a while now. And my recommendation to them or my suggestion to them is to think about this. If you’re going to put an investment of $400,000 into a building you better own the land, or else if you’re asked to leave, or your lease is terminated, then what? And so, the board hasn’t made a final decision on that. Those options are all on the board, I mean all on the table, but that’s my, that’s my definitely my recommendation is to be the outright owner if the County grants it, obviously.

COUNCILMEMBER ANDERSON: Okay. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Member Medeiros.

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: Aloha.

MR. AYAU: Aloha.

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: O kane aloha ko inoa.

MR. AYAU: Aleo.
COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: Mahalo no ko mana‘o. The size of the halau wa‘a going to house how many canoes?

MR. AYAU: I cannot say for sure. You know, like I said we’re just staring the visioning process with the architects. And so, between the board of Wa’a Kapaimua and the board of ‘Aha Kukui they’re going to work that out.

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: And will the halau wa‘a be built with traditional materials?

MR. AYAU: I would say that the design is going to be traditional, but because concerns of long-term maintenance, getting insurance for fire protection, and other issues like that that the chances are the materials are going to be contemporary.

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: I see. Okay. Mahalo.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Mr. Ayau, just one question. Do you have anything in regards to the information that you provided us tonight regarding this particular project here?

MR. AYAU: Yes, I had spoken to Councilman Mateo earlier, and I would ask the Committee with their permission to be allowed to submit, to supplement my testimony this evening with written documentation of, of our plans for this project.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you.

MR. AYAU: Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Next testifier is Mr. Helm, followed by Robert Morris.

MR. HELM: Mahalo ka‘a, Councilmember Pontanilla, Chair, and fellow Committee Members, given the opportunity to testify on behalf of ‘Aha Kukui o Molokai. I’m the President of ‘Aha Kukui o Molokai, and would like to just follow up on, on Halealoha’s comments about the vision, and the plan, and the direction of Kukui o Molokai. And this, this vision is actually something that was created by a few men that was born and raised on Molokai.

And Robert Morris being one of them five years ago they had a vision to paddle across the channel, participate in the Molokai Hoe, but also with that had a vision of outreaching to the community. And one of those long-term goals that we created in our mission was to provide a canoe hale for the community of Molokai.

Again, to specify what Halealoha had mentioned is that we are, we’re basically a conduit, an avenue to try to accomplish this. We’re a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. So that allows us some opportunity to seek funding to accomplish some of our goals. And one of
our objectives is to ensure that we include everyone in this planning process. And this process actually started three or four years ago. We had contacted basically the stakeholders, the people that were directly involved in the Malama Park project, involved them in...letting them know that we were interested in resurrecting this canoe hale project. The Malama Park project was a community-based project that involved basically the whole Molokai community. And in that plan it recognized the need for a hale.

So, what we’re doing really is just resurrecting a plan that the community has already agreed upon. And with that we ask for your support in our endeavors to accomplish this halau project. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you, Mr. Helm. Members, any questions for the testifier this evening? If not, thank you very much. Mr. Morris.

MR. MORRIS: Good evening and aloha, everybody. I’m here tonight to give my testimony on, you know, our attempt to, to pursue this project that we’ve been, you know, talking about for many years now. It actually started out on the table, you know, just talking story, and it’s becoming a reality. So, you know, tonight I’d like to ask for you guys support to assist us financially to achieve our goals as far as building this canoe house.

For me, from my perspective, it’s, like the question came out about the ownership of the land. For, me it don’t really matter who owns the land, who owns the halau, is the main thing is that it serves its purpose of what we discussed the halau to be for. For the many years that I’ve been involved with not just paddling but cultural practices, teaching our younger generation, and even the generations in my, you know, my generation, you know, the proper practice of gathering, protecting, and conserving our Island resources. I believe that this one place, this one place will, will add value to... (end of tape, Side 2B)...

As far as health is concerned I not only represent ‘Aha Kukui o Molokai, the paddling aspect, but I do represent a native Hawaiian healthcare agency called Napua Wai. And our purpose is to provide information on good health and improved health. And it’s all related to the things that we do daily. And, again, all I ask for is your guys’ support of the amount that, you know, we are, we are requesting to attain this goal.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you, Mr. Morris. Members, any questions for the testifier? If not, thank you very much. The next testifier is Kimberly Svetin, followed by Kammy Purdy.

MS. SVE Tin: Okay. Dear Chairman Pontanilla and Members of the Maui Council, on behalf of my family I ask that you support a request to fund a parking assessment study for Kaunakakai town near the Kaunakakai Little League park. An expansion of public parking would be a wonderful benefit to our community. We have used the Little League park for three seasons via my seven-year-old son’s t-ball and little league games. On
game days it is sometimes impossible to find parking if our child was playing the second, third, or fourth game.

In many of the towns my family has visited there’s free and accessible parking within the town center or village. My family, my husband, and my two sons, and I have parked our car in one area, then walked small towns in Canada, Europe, and the Continental United States rather than drive from one stop, or shop, or restaurant to another. Some of the towns we have visited have closed down the main street to cars and had us park outside the boundaries of the town.

A beautiful, beautifully designed and planned parking area would allow our kamaaina and visitors alike to park their cars and walk to stores, restaurants, doctor’s offices, and entertainment venues such as the little league park. This request for additional parking would benefit the entire town as well as the visitors who make short trips to our Island. Finally, our physically challenged residents and kupuna need appropriate handicapped parking and facilities which truthfully our town is lacking. We thank you for your consideration for funding for this project in the upcoming Fiscal Year.

Now, I’m going to also talk about a second area dear and near to my heart. I’m asking for funding to repair and renovate the Cooke Memorial Pool building which is right here, built in 1969, which is also the year I was born. As a keiki o ka‘aina, someone who was raised here for 18 years before moving away for 18 years, and getting smart and moving back two years ago, I learned how to swim in this pool during the early 1970s. My husband and I now take our sons, Eric and Owen to this pool, and we, as, as residents of an Island community it is essential for our keiki to know how to swim. My seven-year-old son, Eric, two years ago learned how to swim at Cooke Memorial Pool and swims there weekly via his A-Plus after school and County of Maui Pals programs.

The facility has been neglected for many years and needs major improvements including the replacement of the plumbing infrastructure which was great in 1969, but is inadequate in 2007. The building also needs a true renovation. The bathrooms are in such need of repair that when my sons need to use the bathroom I tell them to wait until we, we reach home.

Finally, the facility is not ADA compliant. I hate to say this, but there are some really horrible attorneys out there who would love to sue the County of Maui on behalf of their physically challenged clientele who are not able to use the Cooke Memorial Pool, because the appropriate bathroom facilities and ramps are not available.

Finally, I’d also like to show my support for several of the Parks and Recreation programs that are also in this year’s Fiscal Budget. The first is Mitchell Pauole Center, which as a child and currently as a parent, I utilize literally every week. And so, I ask for your support for the air conditioning and extension upgrades of this center. This is part
of our community. This is where we all come to meet, and it would be nice especially during the summer months when it gets very hot to have air conditioning.

The second other reason why I’m asking for the air conditioning is I have a son who utilizes the Pals program which the County of Maui funds. And I cannot tell you how appreciative I am, as someone who works as a full-time mother who is always trying to scramble for babysitting during the, the summer, spring, and Christmas intercessions. I don’t, I’ve told Zach Helm and Auntie Luana Alcon how appreciative I am, but I really--

MR. JENSEN: Three minutes.

MS. SVETIN: --want you to know how much we appreciate the Pals program and the staff that they’ve hired for this program. The only addition I would ask is if we could possibly extend the period for Pals, because currently we don’t have Pals a hundred percent of the time. We are now on a Statewide year round school system, and so the only thing I would ask is if we could follow the vacations of, and the breaks of the State education system. But on, on behalf of my family we thank you for the support of these programs.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you, Kimberly. Members, any questions for the testifier? Member Mateo.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Kimberly, thank you, thank you very much. And, and first of all, thank you for helping to shepherd the concept of Kaunakakai parking. It’s much appreciated. In, in your prepping along with Rich this was the only site that you guys looked at, yeah, just the, the back of the park side?

MS. SVETIN: Well, you know, having grown up here you start to think what areas could you put safe parking as well as what’s really become important. People don’t realize how many residents are physically challenged as well as our aging population who, our kupuna who, who have walkers, who have canes, who need to be near handicapped parking.

So, we started thinking where could we put some parking that would be beautiful, would be well planned. And pretty much the only area we could think of that was near the center of town, and, and growing up here we always considered wherever the post office that was the center of town. Currently, the post office is on Ala Malama, and the Little League park is right next door to that, and there’s space here with the land across the street that is being leased by a private landowner that we thought could, you could add 116 stalls, safe stalls as well as being ADA compliant and having the facilities for people who need larger than average handicap stalls.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, any more questions for the testifier? Thank you, again, Kimberly. The next testifier Kammy Purdy, followed by Jody Kaneakua.
MS. PURDY: Aloha, Chair Pontanilla and Council Members. I am Kammy Purdy. I’m here for the Molokai Livestock Cooperative. The Molokai Livestock Cooperative is an agricultural cooperative organized under HRS 421. Let me give you a little history.

In the 1980s, we had the TB eradication of all cattle. In 1985, Molokai Ranch closed their doors. They had the only slaughterhouse on Molokai. 1987, an initiative of the Molokai Grazers Association to open a new slaughterhouse on Molokai was formed and also they became very active in State, in the State Legislature to get funding. Finally, in 2002, they had a blessing for the slaughterhouse which, Danny, I know you were there. I saw your pictures. And so...and then in 2004, they were able to hire an executive director and two part-time assistants. And then in 2006, they temporarily closed their doors, because they ran out of funding. And then I was hired, excuse me, I wasn’t hired. I was contracted to do administration work on February 1st, February 5, 2007, and I’ve been here with the Molokai Livestock Cooperative almost two months.

So, during that time we did our first ad on February 14th, which you see somewhat a copy of it. We’ve changed it as time went by. When I found out we had, we can do doggie bones I did doggie bones. You know, and when I found out we can do retail sales or whatever, we did that. The ads have really helped. We put ads in both Molokai, the local papers on Molokai, and they’ve helped our retail sales skyrocketed. And the problem is just as we were doing great, February 8th, we had a broken water heater which we had to order from Kona. It took us two weeks, it took the water heater two weeks to get to Molokai; Kona, Honolulu, Maui, Molokai, and it finally made it in two-weeks time. We were up and running the day after we received the new water heater.

So...and then we went back into business, reopened, and yesterday March 26th, although it was a holiday, we worked, and we did resale, retail sales up to $260 for just one day. So, that is the potential of the Molokai Livestock Cooperative. The problem we have, as many of us on Molokai have, is the electric, the gas, the utilities. We pay $3,500 a month for our utility bills. And so, we need to work on this problem. And in doing so I contacted...well, actually Victor Reyes from the Office of Economic Development came with another person from the County, I’m sorry I forgot her name, but they came and did an inspection on the Molokai livestock facility.

MR. JENSEN: Three minutes.

MS. PURDY: Thank you. And so, what we’re trying to work on is renewable energy. We do have a grant for operation expenses and renewable energies to help us with these utility costs. There will be a time, I guarantee it, that we can stand on our own two feet, but we really haven’t been open long enough to do so, but there is much potential here. Thank you. Any questions?

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you, Kammy. Members, any questions for the testifier? Member Mateo.
COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Chairman, thank you very much. Kammy, how much does the potential cost?

MS. PURDY: Right now the existing, the grant that’s in right now is for 50,000 that we’re hoping, cross our fingers that we will get approved on, and that should carry us over for one year. And I think within that time we’ve already looked at how we’re changing, like, the water heater which is gas, propane, and electric. So, you know, that. And then, of course, the facility itself has this big walk-in reefer, and we have a big walk-in freezer. So, like the cooling plant that was one of the problems with the electricity being so, so high. I do want to extend an invitation to all of you, I know you have to go back tomorrow, but if you would like to stop by the facility I’m more than willing to show you around. We’ve got a state-of-the-art facility--

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Kammy.

MS. PURDY: --one of the newest ones in Hawaii.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Kammy, the 50,000 grant is with whom?

MS. PURDY: Right now, Victor’s got it on his desk. So, we’re, between Victor and I we’re trying to beef it up, because actually I didn’t write that grant. I just got in two months ago. So, that grant was issued in 2006, I believe. Okay.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you, Kammy. Members, any more questions for the testifier? If not, thank you.

MS. PURDY: Okay. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Next testifier is Jodi Kaneakua, followed by Gladys Brown.

MS. KANEAKUA: Aloha, Members, and congratulation on the new Council Members. My name is Jodi Kaneakua, and I’m here representing the Kapaakea Homesteaders Association. We’re asking for your support and our monies.

You know, we’ve been having a lot of flood problems. At one time, we had two drainage, now we’re down to one. We had to close down one. And then the drainage that we do have, the main road on Kamehameha Highway, there’s a culvert. Okay. The water goes through that, but when it comes towards the ocean side, under that road there’s no culvert. So what happens the water just sits there and goes into everybody’s property.

So, instead of waiting for 2009 and 2011, at least put in culverts, do bandage work or whatever. We need culverts, we need the cleanup. Like for the County they do a lot.
They did clean even though they said they, they not supposed to be there which is true, but I must say Steve Arce does a great job. As far as for the State, I had to yell at that supervisor, because the culvert was plugged up. And he said, you know, it’s almost 20, 10 years. It takes a lot. I said I don’t care. Your workers can hide outside on the main road, go underneath the culvert and hide. And they just stay there and knock that thing out, you know. You know, instead of hiding in the kiawes just go underneath the culvert and do your job which they did. They did. I mean I went there, and I watched them do it. And he was right – it was so thick took them almost two months just to get that thing opened again.

So, the problem is even though that culvert is open we don’t have a culvert to let the water go in the ocean now. So, it just linger on the road and everybody’s yard is flooded. So, I know we got monies. So, instead of waiting for 2009, 2011, maybe we can do something now. Thank you, anyway.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you, Jodi. Members, any questions? Member Anderson, followed by Member Medeiros.

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: Mahalo, Chair. The culvert that goes under the State highway it exits on whose property?

MS. KANEAKUA: The Kapaakea.

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: And Kapakea [sic] is Hawaiian Homes?

MS. KANEAKUA: Hawaiian Homes.

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: Okay. So, it goes from a County culvert, under a State road, and then on to Hawaiian Homes?

MS. KANEAKUA: Yeah, and then it, it goes through the County road, again, because there’s the road in the back.

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: Okay.

MS. KANEAKUA: You see that road don’t have a culvert under.

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: So, that road kind of blocks the flow, because there’s no culvert?

MS. KANEAKUA: No culvert.

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: And, and, and what’s the name of that road?
MS. KANEAKUA: Kapaakea Loop.

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: Kapakea [sic] Loop?

MS. KANEAKUA: Uh-huh.

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: Kapaakea Loop.

MS. KANEAKUA: Kapaakea Loop.

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: And that’s a County road?

MS. KANEAKUA: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: Okay. Thank you. We’ll, we’ll check on it when we get back.

MS. KANEAKUA: Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you, Member Medeiros. Member Anderson.

COUNCILMEMBER ANDERSON: Thank you, Chair. I, I think Member Medeiros covered the question I wanted, but, yeah, nothing, nothing is funded on this until, design in 2009 and land acquisition in 2010, and then actual construction in 2011. So, so what you’re saying is that you need culverts on the makai side of the road.

MS. KANEAKUA: Yes, because we only have one drainage now. You know, before we used to have two, and that one that they shut down had the culvert. That one had, but now the one that they made the new one--

COUNCILMEMBER ANDERSON: They never put.

MS. KANEAKUA: --they never put a culvert.

COUNCILMEMBER ANDERSON: And so, if culverts were put on the makai side of the road where would it drain into?

MS. KANEAKUA: The ocean.

COUNCILMEMBER ANDERSON: It would be right at the ocean by then?

MS. KANEAKUA: Yeah, there’s another drainage that go right to the ocean.

COUNCILMEMBER ANDERSON: Okay. Thank you.
MS. KANEAKUA: Anything else?

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, any more questions? Thank you very much.

MS. KANEAKUA: Okay. Now, remember, now, Kapaakea.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Yeah, I just reviewed the documents here. There’s lot of monies that was budgeted I think back from 2005, 2006, to take care the flooding issues, not only Kapaakea, but also Kaunakakai town. And I think the County had some problems in regards to the drainage on Wharf Street that would take some of the water away from Kapaakea as well as Kaunakakai town. So, I think that issue has been resolved by Public Works and hopefully they can continue on that particular project for Kaunakakai. The next testifier is Gladys Brown, followed by Glenn Teves.

MS. BROWN: Good evening, everyone. How are you? I’m here today as an advocate. I’m Gladys Brown. I’m the Vice-President of Molokai AARP where we try to help seniors with their problems. And I try to help as many people as I can, but, you know, being limited by two hands and two feet, it’s kind of hard. Well, anyway, today I would like to stress three organizations that really need help. And as you look over the Budget make sure that they get their demands, because they do so much for our community.

One of them is the MEO department. You know, all these workers that have come up tonight to tell you about all the good things happening to them, well, that’s all used money, and it was funded by all of you. So, I would like you to continue that. You know, actually what I was going to tell you is, you know, it’s too late by the time we come to talk to you about these things, because the Budget is already done. So, would you please next year have this thing maybe one month or two months before you do the Budget? Because I think tonight you got lots of ideas of what to do with the money, but I think the money has already been spent. So, that’s my suggestion. And, Danny Mateo, you know I mean it.

Well, the second thing I’d like to talk about is that Parks and Recreation that Kimberly talked about. You know, we really need a better community center. We senior citizens come here twice a week, because we have to share this facility with other people. We can’t come here every day. We can’t put our things here, because we have to move out the next day. And so, we do need a place where we can have a storage space. And as Billy said, someplace where there’s a reefer so the people that come here to have their activities would have a place to keep their cold food. And that would keep them safe and healthy.

And then, of course, the Parks and Recreation need that Cooke’s Memorial Park fixed. You know if Kimberly is 38 years old that pool is 38 years old. So, it really needs a makeover, you know, like they do on T.V., they make over people until they look so
beautiful. Well, can we do that for the pool? I think that would be really nice. And then, of course, we need help at the regional park, because as many people have told you that baseball is so important here. And when they have a ballgame people are parking on the streets. People rather go to the ballgame than do anything else. I wish they would go to some of the things that I advocate, but I don’t get any help doing that thing. But that is true. They’d rather go to a baseball game than anything else. Okay. So, if you could help Jack fix all those things up you’ll make him very, very happy.

And then, the third one is that Kuha’o Center which Annette runs. You know, in the three years she’s been in it she has done so much good for the residents on Molokai. She’s really built up their business sense, and she’s given them responsibility, and she’s even made the little keikis feel like, gee, I want to start something myself, because other people can do it. And I think that’s great when young people have that initiative and want to do as much as adults do today.

And so, after saying these three things...and, Danny, don’t forget my solar lights. Danny, you know, those solar lights are going to save you money. You really need them, you know, especially out the East End. Don’t wait until somebody make, and then you say why didn’t we do that, Danny. So, I thank you for coming tonight, and I wish that you find time to visit Molokai, because it’s a wonderful place to live. Thank you very much.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you, Gladys. Gladys, Gladys, excuse me, Gladys. Mr. Victorino want to ask you a question, followed by Member Mateo.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Gladys...well, I’ll let, I’ll let Danny answer about the solar. So, I’ll leave that one alone. You’re the Vice-President for AARP.

MS. BROWN: I am.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Okay, and one of the things that you mentioned is asking us to come here early to hear your Budget concerns from not only you but everybody.

MS. BROWN: I think so.


MS. BROWN: Okay. Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Tourist. You ask the Mayor to come early with her Department heads--

MS. BROWN: Good idea.
COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: --because they the ones sent this to us. So, if you want things start with them, then when you come to us we can go and work with you even better.

MS. BROWN: That’s a very good suggestion, Mike.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Okay. Gladys, thank you.

MS. BROWN: You’re doing a good job.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you, Gladys. Gladys--

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: The solar.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: --some more questions.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Gladys--

MS. BROWN: Yes, Danny.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: --just, just because I’ve been taking the heat tonight, I going share some information with you. The Mayor does come early. They come in the month of September. In September, they came, they met with the community, and this is where he listened to input from the community in order for him to do the Budget.

MS. BROWN: Her.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Well, it was him.

MS. BROWN: Oh. Oh.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: It was Alan. Yeah, Alan. The prior Mayor was here in September. The process is after, after he comes here, and he gets all the community input from communities around the, the County, they put together their Budget. It is turned over to the County, to the County Council on March 15. At that point, we come to the communities, and we go over the Budget, again, so that in the event--

MS. BROWN: Can you make changes?

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: --Gladys, in the event Gladys was absent that night, you know, we can still listen to you, we can take input, and we can look at various considerations.

MS. BROWN: Can you make changes?
COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: So, it’s not, it’s not set in cement, Gladys.

MS. BROWN: Oh.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: It is...we’re able to take a look at it.

MS. BROWN: That’s what I thought. I thought it was cement already.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: No, not, not quite. We knew we had to deal with you coming home, so we...so, Gladys, you still have opportunities to comment on the, on the Budget altogether.

MS. BROWN: Well, I want to live to see those solar lights, Danny.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: You stuck with that one, Danny.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you, Gladys. Next testifier is Glenn Teves, followed by Linda Place.

MR. TEVES: Aloha, Council People. Following Aunty Gladys is a hard, hard act to follow. Hopefully, I can be as feisty as her when I’m, I don’t know, 80 almost 90 years old like her. First of all, I wanted to thank the Council for funding CTAR, the College of Tropical Agriculture for agriculture development in Molokai. I receive some of those funds, and working on the development of a creation of an orchid industry on Molokai, because I think we have a lot of potential in this area. In fact, I’m having a workshop next week Wednesday, at 6:00 o’clock, at Lanikea for anybody who wants to come.

I realize that Molokai’s needs are great, but one of the things that we cannot live without is water. We have a crisis situation in Kaunakakai where one of the wells have already gone salty. The other well that supplies Kaunakakai is up in Kualapuu well field. And the Commission on Water Resource Development has asked the County to minimize their use of that well. So, what you got now is a need for two wells to supply the town of Kaunakakai. It seems like we’re the only ones that sees this as a crisis. And I’m really concerned that things are not moving as fast as they should, because once you’re out of water, you’re out of water. And, and I think, you know, the, you really got to ramp up the schedule that is on this piece of paper right now, because we need to get a well in as soon as possible just to backup that well, and then start working in Kualapuu and start downsizing that well, because that water is for, is for Hawaiian Homes.

And basically, Hawaiian Homes area they have over 26,000 acres of land. Probably only 15 percent of that land got access to water. So, if you look at future development, we need to save the Kualapuu Aquifer for Hawaiian Homes expansion.
So, I hope that, you know, you folks can maybe ramp it up a little bit. We need to get one well on-line as soon as possible, and then see how the water goes, and then maybe another one, and maybe working closely with the Commission on Water Resource Management. I know, you know, Molokai community would be willing to help. I know there’s been some problem in identifying well sites, looking at the costs and those kind of things. And I’m sure the community can help.

Also, I sit on the, the GPAC, the Molokai General Plan Advisory Committee, and you folks gave us $15,000. Hopefully, nobody touch that money, but we may need more. I heard West Maui got 300,000. So, maybe you can pinch some from there and give ‘em to us, yeah. Some, some big number. I mean not 15,000. You know, so, you can give us little bit of that money. DeGray can clarify that. ...(laughter)...
MR. TEVES: I mean I would say maybe, you know, three to five thousand dollars so, you know, we can move this thing forward. Because I think Molokai is going through some crucial, crucial changes, and I think the, the Mayor had made a comment recently, you know, because Molokai has been preserved for so long there’s so much pressure coming down on this Island for development that we need to have a plan to protect ourselves from going in the wrong direction.

COUNCILMEMBER ANDERSON: Okay. Thank you.

MR. TEVES: Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER ANDERSON: And did you...you know, there is 50,000 design money this year.

MR. TEVES: You talking for the water?

COUNCILMEMBER ANDERSON: I’m talking about the Kaunakakai-Kawelo system. And it’s really, it’s not... (end of tape, Side 3A)...between the Kualapuu Well and the Kawelo Shaft.

MR. TEVES: That’s not going to answer anything.

COUNCILMEMBER ANDERSON: That’s not going help?

MR. TEVES: No, because what’s, what’s happening now is because Kawelo is salty you folks increasing reliance on Kualapuu. What you need is another well to replace the Kawelo Well and decrease reliance in Kualapuu, because what happens at Kualapuu is you got three wells right next to each other, and they’re affecting each other. So, if Kualapuu goes salty that means all of Hoolehua, Kualapuu, Kalamaula, and Kaunakakai got one salt problem. So, we just, we just aggravate the situation. We need to spread out the wells so we can, you know, we can assure long-term clean water. I mean the fact that the Kawelo Well the salt level is higher than recommended for safe drinking is alarming if not unsafe.

COUNCILMEMBER ANDERSON: You know, and once the chlorides reach a certain level they never drop back down do they?

MR. TEVES: Well, we got a lot of evidence--

COUNCILMEMBER ANDERSON: I mean...

MR. TEVES: --of wells that have gone salty that have never returned.

COUNCILMEMBER ANDERSON: Right.
MR. TEVES: Molokai got a lot of them along this whole south coast. So, what it’s telling us is, one, we may not have as much water as we thought we had under the Island and, two, we got too much pumping in that area. We got Kawela Plantation pumping water, we got Molokai Ranch taking ‘em from behind the mountain that affects the water that goes down and recharges the aquifer. So, you know, it’s probably a combination of those two, two factors.

COUNCILMEMBER ANDERSON: Thank you very much.

MR. TEVES: Okay. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you, Glenn. Members, any more questions for the testifier? If not, thank you again.

MR. TEVES: Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Next testifier is Linda Place. Following Linda is Suzy and Jay Wakefield.

MS. PLACE: Aloha and welcome. I represent Malama Pono o Ka’Aina on the East End, and I would like to thank you for the $10,000 that you gave us for the mapping. I want to thank you in advance for supporting the Planning Department, Planning Department budget for cultural resource continuation of mapping.

This past week we had 11 UH students who GPS, with GPS knowledge and skills to document sites. We also did more oral history. This is the first project of this kind that we’re working with the County personnel, UH Department, community and, and other committed, to commit to this project, through Molokai, through Malama Pono o Ka’aaina. The Planning Depart…, the Planning Department budget for the cultural resources survey is important, important and to be able to map the significant sites with knowledge of community who know and can, know the locations and history, which is the springs, the wetlands, the heiaus, and the trail access. These sites are very important to all of us, you know, to the people on the East End. And we’re trying to work with people in our community.

And Tom…we had the privilege of having the students over and Tom is one of 11 and the others left. They’re tired, they’re going home. They’ve been here since Saturday, and they’ve been a great access [sic] to us, and we thank them for being here, and I thank you. And I really want you folks to consider giving us money for the mapping for the cultural resource. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Tom, you’re going to testify?
MR. JOSEPHSON: Yes.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Go ahead.

MR. JOSEPHSON: Thank you. Good evening, my name is Tom Josephson. I'm a master's candidate at University of Hawaii in urban and regional planning. Myself and ten other fellow students came over to assist with this mapping project that Linda spoke of, and at that time we met with kupuna and other community members of Mana’e, to locate some of these important sites. And we went out and mapped them with GPS units and compiled all that data which we will present to the County of Maui Planning Department so that they can compile a master inventory of all these sites.

And on behalf of the students and myself we'd like to advocate our support for the Council to, to support this $300,000 cultural resource inventory. So, thank you very much.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, any questions for the testifier...fiers? No. Thank you.

MS. PLACE: Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Suzy and Jay Wakefield, followed by DeGray Vanderbilt.

MS. WAKEFIELD: Hi, I'm Suzy Wakefield and my husband is with me, Jay Wakefield. And we both would like to speak tonight. We are residents of the West End of Molokai. We have a home at the Kaluakoi. We've been homeowners there for 17 years. And on November 16, 2003, there was a spectacular brush fire that came down the hill behind us and almost got into the Ke Nani Kai complex which is right behind us. And we learned that day that the response time on the West End of Molokai is 25 minutes. That's how long it takes the Fire Department to come in from Hoolehua. Well, it got there just in time and eventually a helicopter came over from Maui and scooped up salt water and got the fire out. That was really an eye opener to us that we are a Class 10 property. We have the highest insurance rates you can have and still insure your home against fire.

Well, we were quite concerned, and we met with some of our other homeowners at Ke Nani Kai, Paniolo Hale and so forth and decided to meet with Danny Mateo. And I must complement Councilmember Mateo who immediately became a champion for us and wrote a letter to Chief Kaupalolo, at that time, and was very supportive of our concern for a substation on the West End of Molokai, so we would have a ten-minute response time instead of a 25-minute response time. We, again, met with Councilmember Mateo in November 2005. So, I just want to publicly thank you, Danny, for your terrific support.

Well, three-and-a-half years later we haven't moved much closer to getting a substation on the West End of Molokai. So, my, my husband will talk more about that, but I want to
show you on a map when you look at where the fire departments are, where the stations are, there’s one at Kilohana Elementary on the East End. And of course, there’s the Kaunakakai station right here servicing this area and the Kaunakakai Elementary and the Kuula, Kuula pu, I’m sorry I’m not saying that right, Kualapuu Elementary and this station is right next to that. And here is your Maunaloa Elementary School and they’re nothing out there.

So, not only are the residents of Molo...of Maunaloa not being serviced and, of course, the West Molokai Association which is composed of Papohaku Ranch lands, Paniolo Hale, Ke Nani Kai, and Kaluakoi, but the students are not serviced either. So, we’re deeply concerned about this. And our insurance rates, and this is just a personal thing, just went up $50,000 this last year from $92,000 to $142,000. And the sky is the limit. There’s got, not going to be any way to slow that down.

If we could get a substation, a first-response station so that our response time was something like ten minutes instead of 25 it would reduce our insurance rates probably by a half. But more importantly is what’s really going on out there. And there was a very bad--

MR. JENSEN: Three minutes.

MS. WAKEFIELD: --thank you, a very bad brush fire about three weeks ago. Apparently, the T.V. towers were being disassembled and there was a short circuit, and a spark, and the fire took off. So, that’s, the situation is chronic and it’s scary. And let me give me some time to my husband, Jay.

MR. WAKEFIELD: Yeah, I wanted to say something, because there’s some ironies involved here. We’ve been coming here 18 years, we’ve testified here before, and we’ve heard Maunaloa people testifying also, and how in the world did Molokai Ranch thinks they can sell more houses out there at Laua [sic] Point or somewhere with no fire service is kind of beyond belief.

But anyway let me explain that our association which is the, we’re now calling it the Kepuhi Beach Condos, we’re paying, you know, about $150,000 a year for insurance and there’s no prospect to that going down. And we know that Ke Nani Kai across the street is having a similar increase, and so is Paniolo Hale. If you add those insurance payments together for a year, our 150, the 150 and the 150, that’s 450,000. That doesn’t include the homes. They’ve got to be paying more. So, you’ve got at least $600,000 in checks being written from Molokai to insurance companies off the Island, all right, every year. And we’ve been told that if we had the response times that are on Oahu, that our insurance would go down 50 percent.

So, there’s $300,000 a year that we’re writing checks for that are going off this Island. That could support...we’ve been told by the Fire Department that we need two firemen
and, and two other to substitute. So, that’s four guys. They need $200,000. They can’t build a fire station, because they need $200,000, but we’re wasting 300 per year. Now, in ten years that’s 3 million bucks that we’re just mailing off the Island for nothing. We also have free land, because there’s acres dedicated to a fire station at, at Highway 460, Kaluakoi Road. We also have been given a fire truck by Steve Pillar, Battalion Chief of the Anaheim Fire Department, because they’re buying a new one, and they’re saying this one’s perfectly fine for Anaheim, and they were using it until they said we could have it. So, we don’t have that, but if we had a place to put it we’d have it.

So, we got...we’re wasting the money that could go to support Molokai firemen and their families. It’s being mailed away every year, and we have fire equipment that we could have, and we got free land. So, we essentially...it’s kind of ironic that this isn’t happening, because the resources are here to do it. Okay. So, I’m here to just ask you for a little seed money and leadership. I don’t think it’s inappropriate to ask government for some leadership. The problem is that when we talk to the West Molokai Association, or so they say, well, we’re not going to work on a fire station, because Molokai Ranch isn’t interested. So, you know forget it.

And we go and talk another, to our, where’s our, where’s our co-owners? They’re not here. They don’t care. It’s just hopeless. Everybody is cynical and says, well, it won’t happen because they won’t. And yet we’re all writing these big checks. I mean you can’t see ’em, but they’re being written. So...and the Fire Department won’t put a fire station like they used to have in Maunaloa, because they don’t want to do it with volunteers, and that’s the way it used to be done. They got to be paid guys, but we’re wasting the money that could be paying them.

MR. JENSEN: Three minutes.

MR. WAKEFIELD: What we need is some seed money and a, a public/private partnership development agreement that would ask us to put our savings towards those salaries, because for five or six years there would be no stress to us to dedicate our savings to the fire station project. You could have that 300,000 we’re wasting if, with the proper development agreement. Okay. So, we’re not asking you to provide money for this very much, we’re, I’m asking you or suggesting that you ask us for the money, because we’re wasting it. Okay. So, if you could just dedicate a little to a fire project that would ask the community to make its appropriate contributions we could have this thing happen. Otherwise, just ten years from now we’re just going to spend another $3 million and still not have fire service.

MR. JENSEN: Four minutes.

MR. WAKEFIELD: So, at any rate, it’s just kind of ironic to see all this waste going on and nothing happening. And you would think that with somebody, what we need, the whole problem is there’s no credibility for this, for, for an effort. Since we’re the only ones
working on it, we’re the fire committee for our association, but there’s no credibility. The credibility could come from the County. It can’t come from the Ranch, it can’t come from any individual, it can’t come from us. If the County would come out with some, a fire station program that we could go to our associations with that we could promote and work on, this thing could happen because we are spending the money. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, any questions for the testifier?

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: Question.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Member Medeiros, followed by Member Mateo.

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: Mahalo, Chair. Mr. Wakefield.

MR. WAKEFIELD: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: Yeah, do you live in a detached home or a condominium?

MR. WAKEFIELD: No, I just have a condominium at the...at Kepuhi.

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: Okay, and so the 150,000 insurance you pay is for how many units?

MR. WAKEFIELD: 150 units.

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: Okay. So, $1,000 a unit. Is that correct?

MR. WAKEFIELD: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: Okay, and then, and inquiring with your insurance if there was a substation there, would that reduce your insurance?

MR. WAKEFIELD: We’ve been told by the insurance agent that we have that it would go down about, almost, probably, just slightly less than 50 percent.

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: What would be your insurance rating with a substation?

MR. WAKEFIELD: I believe it was down to, they said if we were on Oahu that our insurance rates would drop 50 percent. And that I think would be taking us from a Class 10 down to a Class 2 or something, well, Class 3.

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: With the, with the substation.

MR. WAKEFIELD: With the substation we’d have a Class 3.
COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: Okay.

MR. WAKEFIELD: It would cut our rates 50 percent.

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: Okay, and in your area the fire supply system, do you have full-size hydrants or do you have standpipes out there?

MR. WAKEFIELD: Yes, and we just, one of our...

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: Yes. Yes, what? Hydrants or standpipes? What do you have?

MR. WAKEFIELD: I think we have hydrants. We just did a fire test yester... yesterday with our staff--

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: I see.

MR. WAKEFIELD: --and our fire hoses and so on. And we've just changed... the associations are doing what they can. We're just going to spend $1 million putting metal roofing on our buildings. And Ke Nani Kai has new roofing. Paniolo Hale has new steel roofing. So, all three complexes now have fireproof roofing which it were... you know, they were allowed--

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: Okay.

MR. WAKEFIELD: --to be constructed with wood roofs which is astonishing.

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: Yeah, I, I would be, I would really check with your insurance agency, because in Hana when we first had a fire station there were three-men crews and our rating did not go down. So, I would be sure you check about a substation decreasing your insurance that much. Insurance companies usually require a full-service station meaning five members or more on a 24-hour shift.

MR. WAKEFIELD: Yes, that's what we're talking about. And that's four people.

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: You said two, two people a shift.

MR. WAKEFIELD: I did. Two on and two for the other shift. So, we're talking four people.

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: Okay. Fire Departments work 24 hours.

MR. WAKEFIELD: Correct.
COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: Yeah, you need three shifts.

MR. WAKEFIELD: Okay. So, we need five people.

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: Five is what Hana has per shift, so that’s 15 people.

MR. WAKEFIELD: Well, that’s not what we’ve been told.

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: Okay. That’s what I’m saying check with your insurance to be sure.

MR. WAKEFIELD: No, well, we’ve been, we’ve been talking to the Fire Department here--

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: Uh-huh.

MR. WAKEFIELD: --and they really have some terrific staff.

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: Okay. I, I would talk to the insurance company not the Fire Department.

MR. WAKEFIELD: Well, we were told that if we had Oahu…I’m just telling you what we’ve been told by the insurance agency.

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: Okay. Yeah, that’s who to check with. Okay. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you, Member Medeiros. Member Mateo, followed by Member Molina.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Mr. Wakefield.

MR. WAKEFIELD: Hello.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: When, when Chief Kaupololo came and met with, with the association, did you participate in that meeting?

MR. WAKEFIELD: No.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: No.

MR. WAKEFIELD: I don’t recall that. So, I guess I didn’t.
COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Okay. Did any of your association participate with that meeting with the Chief because one of the issues that was brought up in the, in the, I guess in the Kaluakoi Homeowners Association they had some kind of an annual meeting. The Chief was invited as a speaker to address West Molokai’s fire concerns. Was your association, did they participate in that?

MR. WAKEFIELD: We were at the annual meeting of our association and it did not occur.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Yours...I’m talking about the homeowners, the total homeowners that you people are a part of.

MR. WAKEFIELD: Oh, you mean the West Molokai Association?

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Yeah. Yeah.

MR. WAKEFIELD: I thought...I think the meeting was recently postponed due to the lack of enough proxies coming in.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: It did happen.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: No. No, it happened.

MR. WAKEFIELD: Oh, did it?

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: So, maybe--

MR. WAKEFIELD: Oh, okay.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: --so, maybe...yeah.

MR. WAKEFIELD: Well, we weren’t there. See, we’re, we’re not. That happened, that occurs at an odd time. So...

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Yeah, but the thing is Mr., Mr. Wakefield is that I understand your passion, and we’ve been working with each other for a while.

MR. WAKEFIELD: Correct.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: You know, but, like, somehow...you know, and I think we talked about this. Right now it seems that just the two of you are the ones that, you know, are really recognizing the urgency. The rest of your association, they don’t even come.

MR. WAKEFIELD: Correct.
COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: They don’t even support your efforts.

MR. WAKEFIELD: Correct.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: You know, so, we need to see what we can do to light fires under their okole, because they got to get out here, and they got to participate, because we’re hearing from two people who are private homeowners or condominium owners and, you know, like, we’re missing 149 other owners.

MR. WAKEFIELD: I understand that.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: You know, so maybe we can, you know, try to get in touch with each other.

MR. WAKEFIELD: They’re just writing checks. I’m just saying that the money is being spent.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Well, you know, like, they, they choose to do that.

MR. WAKEFIELD: That’s correct.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Yeah, so, we want to find an adequate way of addressing the problem. So, you coming and telling us that they wasting money that’s not my problem, that’s your problem. It’s your association. When you break down the monies, it comes down to $1,000 per unit.

MR. WAKEFIELD: Correct. Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: So, we need to get them revved up, and if it…you know, we got to think of how to stir the, the hornet’s nest. Okay.

MR. WAKEFIELD: Yeah. Everybody says it’s someone else’s problem.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: No, it’s, it’s our problem, yours included. Okay. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you, Member Mateo. Member Molina.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Yes, Mr. Wakefield,--

MR. WAKEFIELD: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: --have you had, have you had a chance to submit something in writing to either the Fire Department or to the, this Committee at this point?
MR. WAKEFIELD: No, I don’t have anything to...


MR. WAKEFIELD: This is just a suggestion that--

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Sure.

MR. WAKEFIELD: --and to inform you that these rates have recently risen to quite high numbers and that these could be used to make contributions toward this solution.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Okay. I think it would help the rest of us...I know you’ve had meetings already with Member Mateo, but it would help the rest of us as well as if you could put your comments and suggestions in writing, so we could review and consider your recommendations. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you, Members. Excuse me, Mr. Wakefield, one more comment. Member Anderson.

COUNCILMEMBER ANDERSON: Thank you, Chair. So, would you estimate that you have maybe 450 people out there totally in the various condominium complexes? Just an estimate.

MR. WAKEFIELD: Well, there’s 150 units in, in our complex, and then there are probably, what, another 200 more. So, there’s like 350 units. And if they’re half occupied you might have that number, yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER ANDERSON: Well, let’s just say they’re fully occupied so then it would be even more people.

MR. WAKEFIELD: Sure.

COUNCILMEMBER ANDERSON: But what I’m suggesting you might want to look at, because, you know, when you have a small number of people in a, you know, far-out location it’s difficult to get funding dedicated to that when there’s so much needs in the high-density area. So, what I might suggest to you is there is a provision in the County Code that allows for a community to develop their own civic improvement district--

MR. WAKEFIELD: Uh-huh.

COUNCILMEMBER ANDERSON: --so that maybe you could start the ball rolling by developing your own civic improvement district, and then get help from the County. But that way you guys are leading the charge, and maybe funneling some of those dollars that
are going to insurance to building up a fund to actually pay for a fire station to take care of your needs.

MR. WAKEFIELD: Yeah, I under...that kind of an approach would, would suggest, or I think that’s a mechanism whereby we would be taxing ourselves to support the objective.

COUNCILMEMBER ANDERSON: Exactly.

MR. WAKEFIELD: But at the same time we’re simultaneously paying all the insurance rates. So, we’d be double paying.

COUNCILMEMBER ANDERSON: Well, yeah, but there’s a way to work around that. You can work in partnership with people.

MR. WAKEFIELD: Okay. Maybe we can get your card afterward and get your email, and try to get your email address--

COUNCILMEMBER ANDERSON: Okay.

MR. WAKEFIELD: --so we can learn how to do that.

COUNCILMEMBER ANDERSON: Okay.

MR. WAKEFIELD: Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. The next testifier is DeGray Vanderbilt, followed by Ruth Ululani Manu Naki.

MR. VANDERBILT: Aloha, everybody. Welcome to Molokai. My name is DeGray Vanderbilt. I’m a member, I’m Vice-Chair of the Molokai Planning Commission, but I’m speaking as an individual at this time.

I want to go on record to really give my support to MEO and all the work that Zessica and the great staff out there has done especially on this transportation. It started out just for workers and now it’s open to everybody, and the rural bus routes. And it’s a wonderful thing. It’s a successful public transportation. And on, little on, small Molokai has again set a good standard.

And, and one thing though they, they do have a great summer Head Start program, and I think they put in funding for, for eight weeks. And the best I could tell they only got six weeks funding. It doesn’t sound like much, but it means a lot, because that targets families that are working or trying to further their education.
I’d also like to, and I don’t know this, if there’s anything in there for Makahiki or if they’ve applied, but they just finished the 25th year of the Makahiki games. That’s a tremendous event in our community and, and it will continue. So, hopefully something will be in there. And the Kuha’o Business Center that Annette and her staff run has just been great. I’ve gone in there every once in a while, and you can’t even get on the computers some days. And there’s a lot of adults as well as youth there.

I’d also like to request this year, some time that Molokai get a line item budget item. For the last five years we’ve requested it. With all these computers it seems that, that Molokai could get a line item budget of revenues, money coming in, how it’s spent. But we never, we’re always combined in various groups like Billy Kalipi said today have questions of where the money is going. So, hopefully that could be done.

I guess that the one thing that, that I was really going to speak to tonight was the GPAC and the Planning Commission. Glenn brought it up and said, oh, DeGray, I don’t know what he was talking about. But, anyway, I’ll try my best. Well, okay. Well, on the Planning Commission we got a planner finally thanks to Danny’s efforts and the Council. And Nancy McPherson has been doing a tremendous job and doing more than what a planner really does. She’s been working with planning, current planning, and she’s also been helping out with the GPAC, because they’re, they’re pretty well strapped. And so... but she needs some help. She... you know, as far as equipment there’s no equipment. She doesn’t have a digital camera, there’s no scanner, there’s no printer, nothing is networked with the County. She doesn’t have her own telephone line. And I think they’ve put in about $5,000 to help equip the office, so hopefully that will go through. And the other thing is we have a tremendous--

MR. JENSEN: Three minutes.

MR. VANDERBILT: --thank you. We have a tremendous staff support person in Nina Kawano. And before... several years ago she’s been, she’s been there for 15 years, and she was just great doing everything that a Commission Support Clerk would do on Maui. She did the minutes, she arranged everything, she took complaints, she wrote letters for us, and all of a sudden they took a lot of her duties away and took them over to Maui, but they still call her, because there’s something that says, and you’ll do what the County tells you to do. So, she does a lot of the stuff that Commission clerks.

So, hopefully some way she could be made a full on Commission Clerk. I guess the Administration’s personnel have a problem because it would only be one commission, but she could do a lot of other things. And I think it, it wouldn’t have to set any kind of precedent, because she would have to have other responsibilities here. So, hopefully something may be done.
And then just real quickly on the GPAC. I think what Glenn was trying to say, and you probably are all familiar is, we’re trying to see where things are going. Maui has 25 GPAC members, Lanai, 13, and Molokai, 13. We’re all working on this County policy plan which is for the whole County, and then right after that there’s going to be the Maui Island Plan which the, the 25 GPAC members on Maui will work on. Then Lanai and Molokai their 13--

MR. JENSEN: Four minutes.

MR. VANDERBILT: --their 13 members will work on the Island Plans which will be the community plans. And they’ve put in 15,000 for Molokai and Lanai for the, for the GPAC, for the Island Plan Community Plan. And as you can see there’s so much great initiative in this community, you know, with the guys at the canoe hale, with Halealoha, and with Robert, and then the parking that Rich and Kimberly did. They’ve taken the initiative and gotten something to you, and we had the community center that Gladys mentioned. So, everybody is really working hard, and we want to make sure that there’s at least enough money in there that the momentum isn’t cut short, because we’re $10,000 short. So, hopefully our GPAC can talk with Planning and get some more details of really where we have to go, and what they need, and again, I appreciate all you guys help to this Island over the years.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you, DeGray. Members, any questions? Member Anderson.

COUNCILMEMBER ANDERSON: DeGray, you know, if the, if you guys get down to the wire, and you need ten grand, and enough wasn’t budgeted, don’t let anybody tell you that there can’t be ten grand supplied. The job you guys are doing is too important. Administrative Departments come to the Council for supplemental budget appropriations all the time. So, don’t worry that you’re going to run out of money. If you need money, you just let the Council know.

MR. VANDERBILT: Well, I, I guess the only one problem there is that we’re under time constraints, too. So...and I don’t know how long supplemental monies have, take to get released with the County...

COUNCILMEMBER ANDERSON: I mean, if you know within a month you’re going to run out of money, then you ask for a supplemental appropriation. It’s not that hard time-wise.

MR. VANDERBILT: Okay. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, any more questions for the testifier? Thank you, DeGray.

MR. VANDERBILT: Thank you, Joe.
CHAIR PONTANILLA: The next testifier is Ruth Ululani Manu Naki, followed by Judy Lokelani Caparida.

MS. NAKI: Aloha. Welcome. I going speak for myself, the committee, the committees, and the whole Island of Molokai. My concern is about the senior citizens and for the handicapped. Why I talking about them is because the MEO bus is very, very important to our Island. Why I say that is because I want to be riding that bus too. And don’t you guys cut my line like taking away the money that belongs rightfully to us. Now, I want to have that privilege of riding that bus. I’ll be 62 years old, and I intend to ride it, honey. So, we need to continue have your support. Very, very much important.

Plus, we have two handicaps that you seen tonight. One was Moran and one was Uncle Billy Kalipi. You see how important when we have meetings like this? Don’t you think that the MEO bus does have a good service of bringing them here, an important meeting like this where they may be losing their leg or half-paralyzed, but their mouth still can open. They still can testify and say what their needs are. You see how important?

So, when we’re talking about...(end of tape. Side 3B)...we of one, one ohana. So, please keep supporting this MEO bus, because, you know, my experience is I work for Kaluakoi Hotel 24 years. All my life I’ve been driving 18½ mile mark all the way up to Kaluakoi. I have my own transportation now. Now, look at these guys. Wonderful I told them. Don’t you thank Jesus that you guys get bus? Aunty Ruthie, you know, what, oh, we can meet the bus at Kilohana, park their car over there, and go sleep while they traveling. Wow, I tell, Jesus, you guys get about, like what, almost one, two hours of rest. But they have to get up early. But that’s besides the point, because Molokai drivers are very wonderful.

So, I want to continue ask you guys as the Budget Council to please keep on supporting that, and the senior citizens, and the handicapped and as well as for me, I want to ride that bus, because I live over there, too, Mana‘e, where Billy comes from.

Okay. The next one I want to say is about property tax. Hello! The GPAC, I’m on the GPAC, that’s besides the point. The part is this. When we have new guys that coming on our Island, not kamaainas now, malahinis. They come and they buy, okay. I going give you guys, it’s a true example, because I come from Wailua and had this...(inaudible)...came from outside, millionaire.

MR. JENSEN: Three minutes.

MS. NAKI: Okay, bruddah, just hold up. I’ll give it to you short and sweet. Two point something million dollars he went sell his house. Us living over there in six month’s time we have $5,000 increase on our property tax. Now, who the hell, like us people poor going pay that kind of property tax? I no think so. Exempt us from that, Molokai.
Don’t you come here and sell. You let them pay the taxes, not us! We don’t have enough job on this Island to support and to care for that. I no think so. Hello! Wake up! Look at us! Whatever we have, whatever we have, the people on Molokai are thankful. We love what we have here and by God’s grace we intend to fight for it and keep it.

So, with your help and sitting here as Board, makaala means wide awake. Check it out. I’m here because I love Molokai, and I love all you that came here that we can share our mana’o with you. And thank you, Danny, for being here and also for Joseph and whoever is here. Thank you very much and aloha. God bless you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you, Ruth. Members, any questions for the testifier? If not, thank you very much. Next testifier is Judy Lokelani Caparida, followed by Walter Rawlins.

MS. CAPARIDA: Aloha, everybody. I want to know what you folks are jacking up on Molokai? The water, trash, what else? We need to know, because that’s all we do is get jacked up. Jacked up for what? We still get the same service. They never give us more. They give us less, but we got to pay more, and I cannot understand that, because I know you guys all new, some of you guys are new. But, you know, the care is that we don’t have that kind of funds. They barge everything. Go! like come over, but Go! if he come over here, we run ‘em broke, because everybody going catch Go!. But for us on the Island we get the electric, we get the water, we get the garbage, we get the shit that goes with the darn water. I mean all these necessities. I call it necessities.

This is things that we cannot go without and yet this is what we getting really burned for, because we live here on Molokai. We pay more going over to Oahu than going to Las Vegas. How you like that one? That’s how expensive it is, $260. Where the hell we going right to Honolulu? I mean we can catch the boat. And yet, you know what, you folks are here to go ahead and support us, because we’re all in the same County. And that’s why we here. We when put you guys where you guys are. So, we expect you guys to go ahead and look to the needs of our people here.

Those that’s coming out over here they only coming to invest. And you know who pay the taxes? Hello! You know who get the water that get cut off? Who? Those that live here. And this is what we were saying, there’s not enough of everything that Maui want to have which we don’t need. And that’s why we say Molokai is, is unique. We love what we have. It’s not a fantasy. It’s not a make-believe. This is reality. And this is why I come to the meeting. You know, I was there Mana’e. I said, well, we’re going to come. Because why? We care. We live here. Nobody going tell us guys how to live. You either come over here and enjoy our living or forever goodbye. That’s the way we feel. Because why? Because everything we have is real, is reality. And you know what, our kids no need fantasy. Get too much T.V. junk stuff. They need to have real stuff. And you know what is that? Going to the beach and enjoying life. That’s what it is.
So, I need to let you folks know that our barge, everything we gotta pay big money. He works over there for the barge. He knows. But that is our living. How can we get our food if we don’t pay? But I need to tell you guys you folks better make sure...I going pray, you know, I’m a good reporter and better than those guys, because I report you guys to the boss. The main boss is him, because you are accountable to us. How you like that one? If you forgot about that role, I’m going to remind you.

MR. JENSEN: Three minutes.

MS. CAPARIDA: Yes, bruddah. But the thing is I need to let you guys know that everything that you have and I have comes from the boss. Thank you. Aloha. I love you guys.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you, Judy. Members, any question for the testifier? Thank you. The next testifier is Walter Rawlins, followed by Conrad Aquino. And Conrad will be the last testifier this evening. If you want to still testify and haven’t signed up, please sign up with our Secretary. Walter.

MR. RAWLINS: Hi, my name is Walter Rawlins. I represent the Molokai Junior Roping Club, and the High School Roping Club, and the Senior Roping Club, and the Keiki Roping Club. We have an arena down here at the Kaunakakai area that really needs help. We don’t know where to go. This is the first time I ever, you know, come to a meeting like this. We have our arena, we have the dirt facilities. We keep digging it up and picking up glass, rocks, stuff like that. We have to clean the arena for the kids. Our paneling along side it’s all run down. We been trying to weld it, keep it up, keep it up for the keikis. We had a...once upon a time when we first started we had, like, about ten, 15 children that was in there. We up to 50 something right now with the junior ropers, with the high school ropers, and the keiki ropers.

And we need, really need help. We don’t know where to go, where to turn, so I talked to my good friend Danny Mateo here, and he told me, hey, they have a meeting tonight. I tried to get a hold of our President to bring him here, but I couldn’t get a hold of him. So, we just want to see what kind of help can we get from the County, from the, from you folks here. I don’t know what it is, what can we get? Like I told Danny a dollar is more than what we even have. We don’t even have a bathroom facility down there for the kids. The kids have to get up, go to the town, main town, go in to use the bathroom, come back there. Our, our fencing is so bad. Cows get out some times. The goats run away from the kids. We cannot use the goat tie, because we don’t have the goats. They down the street running somewhere. You know, and the, and our facilities for the horses, for the kids to put in there for the roping we have to take it home almost every day. We have a two-day rodeo, after the rodeo we have to take the horses all home, because we don’t have facility to hold the horses that is adequate for all the kids, because we have too many kids right now and not enough facilities.
And I heard in the Big Island they have, the County have two or three, three arenas there. We only asking for, for help on one of ‘em, which is our main arena right down here at Kaunakakai. I mean if you folks ever have the time to go down there and look at it, on one of the days we have the rodeos with the keikis and the high school, we would really appreciate you guys to, to see what’s going on and what kind of help we really need. Like I said, I don’t know, I don’t have a budget with me right now. I have to meet with our President and to see what kind budget we can set up. I know it’s going to take, like, a lot to get it fixed, because it’s so run down right now. That’s all I have to say. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you, Walter. Members, any questions for the testifier?

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: Question.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Member Medeiros.

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: Mahalo, Chair. Mr. Rawlins.

MR. RAWLINS: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: Yeah, Mr. Rawlins, are you folks in partnership or do you stay in contact with the other roping clubs, like, on Maui?

MR. RAWLINS: Yes, we do.

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: Okay.

MR. RAWLINS: We have all the high school--

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: Right. Right.

MR. RAWLINS: --and all the juniors with us.

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: Has there been any suggestions from the roping clubs on Maui on how you can go about getting funding or what you need? How they get funding so somehow we can maybe help your arena?

MR. RAWLINS: Well, I’m not too sure on that, because right now I know that the arena they use I think is owned by either a Baldwin or something that they’re letting the junior roping club to run and use for their--

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: Right.

MR. RAWLINS: --their roping right now. I don’t think they really have their own, you know.
COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: And your, your arena is, is on what, whose property?

MR. RAWLINS: It’s on Molokai Ranch.

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: Molokai Ranch property.

MR. RAWLINS: Yeah, they, they, they let the children wrangle.

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: Right. Yeah.

MR. RAWLINS: They been using that arena now probably for the last 20 years or so I guess, you know.

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: Yeah. Yeah, the, the Hana one is on Hana Ranch property, too. Right. Okay. See, you know, if, if you guys can come up with a budget or at least an amount that might help you, that would be good to submit to the Council. Or, you know, or, or the next Budget round at least through the Mayor. But, you know, contact people and see what you can do.

MR. RAWLINS: Yeah, well, that’s why I’m here for, I want to know where, what route to go to, you know, to help these keikis, yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: Right.

MR. RAWLINS: Because like I said the more keikis we keep off the streets the better they will be. That’s why they...

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: I agree with you, and I, you know, I applaud you and the rest that are doing this for the keiki. Mahalo.

MR. RAWLINS: Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you, Member Medeiros. Member Molina.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Yeah, good evening, Mr. Rawlins, and thank you for coming by and sharing this with us tonight. You, you mentioned that enrollment now you up to 50-plus kids, yeah. What is the age ranges in the keikis?

MR. RAWLINS: We run from, well, actually it’s supposed to be five, but we run some from four-year-old all the way up to the high school.
COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Four-years up to high school. Good. That’s something I think is really good for the community. Keep them out of trouble, and it’s a good healthy type of activity.

MR. RAWLINS: Well, it’s a good family sport too, yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Oh, okay.

MR. RAWLINS: All the family get involved with this.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: So, so, the conditions right now potentially, I don’t want to use the word unsafe, but a lot of the things are run down and not appropriate in your opinion?

MR. RAWLINS: Yeah, it is. You know, like I said we try to do the best with the parents. We try to weld some new stalls, try to put some new panelings up, you know, whatever we have that was there. Like I said, but, you know, you only can do so much because it’s costing us a lot of money just to, to put in for the kids to rope, because everything that comes out comes out from the parents, yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Yeah. So, the Club basically doesn’t have enough money to cover a lot of those expenses?

MR. RAWLINS: No. Well, what we do after every rodeo that we have with the kids we hold a jackpot. Then the money that we make for the jackpot, about one-third of that goes to the stock fee.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: I see.

MR. RAWLINS: So, we can cover our expenses. And for the water that the kids use when they wash down their horses or they feed and water horses, well, whatever we have there.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Okay. Thank you for that information. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Any more questions, Members? Thank you, Walter. The last person to testify this evening is Conrad Aquino. Conrad.

MR. AQUINO: Aloha, everybody. This is last-minute kine for talk to the, the leaders of Hawaii, that’s, that’s you, leaders, politicians making, making decisions. I just wanted to say one thing, nothing about money. It’s about Hawaiian people. We need help. We need a lot of help. I please asking you people, leaders of this Hawaii, native Hawaiian people we need help merge with the State. Get us on the land. It’s going to come like Maui on the beaches. Hawaiians on the beaches. Not, I just trying to say my feelings on what I, what I see. I was born on this Island. Raised on Molokai. Victorino, Molina,
Pontanilla, Mateo, Anderson, Baisa, Medeiros, I know all your names, because I was raised one Molokai local. We all, we all the same blood, but please help the Hawaiian people any way you can, because they sweeping us under the rugs like dust. I hate to say it that way, but we need help.

We need help from you leaders. Merge, give us some water, get us on our homesteads, and change the laws. Fifty percent give us one drop. One drop Hawaiian. Put us on our lands. That’s what, that’s what Prince Kuhio wanted, 1/32 blood. We need help very much, you know. I got haole family, Japanese family. I’m half Filipino. My mom’s pure Hawaiian. Maybe that’s why I talking to you people. Waiting for 22 years. Still on the waiting list. Waiting another 22 years. Still on the waiting list – 8,000 of us waiting. We need help. Please help. Please help Hawaiian people. I’m not discriminate. I just, we just need help. We as Hawaiians need help very much, and I don’t protest too much, but I’ve come to ask for help. Nothing to do with money. We need land to grow our kalo, so we can live. So, we can…feel like this is still with our hearts not being taken out of our bodies slowly and seeing all these changes and all these people asking for money which we don’t want money.

We need, we need land. Land to live, and we can, we can self support ourselves. We can work. Give us the land. Work with the State. Work with anything. Work with the Federal. I know you guys get powers. Somehow don’t forget us Hawaiians, native Hawaiians. That’s all I got to say. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you, Conrad. Members, any questions for the testifier? Seeing none. Thank you, again, Conrad. The last testifier is…I hope I don’t jam up your name, but--

MS. SEALES: Charlotte.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: --your last name is Seales.

MS. SEALES: Seales. Mahalo, Chairman Joe Pontanilla and to recognize all of you. I know I stood up here earlier with Molokai Occupational Center, and it’s really not my ano that I don’t say anything, but it was great, because we had two of the clients here that represented some of the, the different…it’s, it’s…if you look at a he’e, and with all the different legs, I, I cover one and that’s with home base care, and it’s called the Medicaid Waiver, and it’s been for about three and a half years. I think the E.D. never like me talk, because he know I go 280. I go on and on, but that’s okay, because it was good time for him to introduce himself. He’s been here a short time, but loves Molokai. Six months as the Executive Director up there. I’m older than him so, you know, I just kind of move with things, but, but it was just great that those two clients came tonight unrehearsed to speak from their hearts.
Molokai Occupational Center is unique, because it’s the only of its kind on Molokai. And, and I stayed tonight not to speak now, but I stayed because I wanted to ho’olohoe to everything that was being said tonight, and I, I support everybody that came up. It’s just that there’s one day out of the week high school students do come down, and these are the ones that are, have autism, you know, they have some disability. So, they come down so they can get ma’a in the, in the, you know, like go shopping, how to give change, or even come to MOC to do whatever they can, because we have car wash. We have the thrift store.

And we’re thankful for Molokai for bring their, all their ukanas, things that they cannot sell or however they come and donate it to Molokai Occupational Center, and we in return help many in the community. People who cannot afford the high cost of clothing, shoes, whatever, and, and all kinds of houseware. And so, someday, what, what is a hoala moment for me is that I tell myself why are you getting into all of this, because you get your kuleana. Why you, you know, hey, you got the E.D., but there’s something that’s motivating me that I figure I need to alakai him in, in some way until he get on his, you know, and then he’s moving to network.

And, like, Danny and I had talked story already, and he’s really helpful in, in trying to guide us what we need to do. We’re like regrouping. I’m trying to get a communication there, because I, I’m not a grant writer, but there’s something that probably is telling me that maybe I got to start to maka’ala as Aunty Ruthie was saying, because we have to learn so we can do these things. It’s not saying that we need kala, but when you look around these workers up there, these clients, and most of them are Hawaiian, they, all they know is just come to work, do their kuleanas, go.

So, we have to have some people in place that will look beyond and see what else we can do to encourage them, to inspire them, to get them excited. And that’s really...and give them incentive. And sometimes what they’re...you know, with tonight the mahalo, thanking them for the, for the yard crew, and with the young girl, the young girl that spoke, and she’s in my program. The thing is she spoke about the break-in, and we’ve had...she said to me, we’ve had seven, Aunty, so far. And I’ve just been up there three years, three-and-a-half years, but over the course of the years there have been seven break-in, because there is really not, like, security and so forth, because it just sits right below the hospital.

But if you guys get time tomorrow, and you guys like maka’ala just drop in, because this place...sometimes I feel sorry for this place that it gets forgotten, but it’s a special type of population that sometimes just gets swept underneath the rug.

MR. JENSEN: Three minutes.
MS. SEALES: And so, car wash. They wash the police cars, they do laundry for the hotels, some of the accounts. So, these workers I want to praise all of them. They come, they just... all they know is to work and then go home. They not thinking of, oh, we got come tonight, we got da kine, because they not thinking like that. They not ma’a. And so, I guess that’s why I think I was inspired there. And I said, you know what, I got to go up and say little bit more just to add little bit flavor to the stew. But, Danny, thank you so much for your aloha. And we’re so, we’re so grateful as a community to have Danny and all of you.

And, and I, like I said I’m going to maka’ala. I just went to CDB [sic] or whatever. I cannot get the acronyms. I cannot even say the word, but, you know, I’m going to maka’ala and see if there is extra kala that we, we have to speak up. And as bruddah said about the Hawaiians, and I’m half Hawaiian, and I’m from this Island, and we’re going to, the only way we’re going find out, right everybody, we gotta go ask. We got to ninau. If you no ninau, you not going know. Yes, or no, or maybe we can try. Okay.

So, thank you for all of your time, and happy dreams tonight. Get some hot bread, and then, and maybe you guys will come up tomorrow, and then my boss going pa’i me because I went, he, he not going know. But I’m going tell him tomorrow that I went wala’au. Cannot help. Thank you, again, so much. Aloha hui ho.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you very much. Members, any questions for the testifier? Member Victorino. Mrs. Seales, question.

MS. SEALES: I know I should say Leinaala so you can give the...(inaudible)...the Hawaiians. Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Yeah, no. No, first of all, thank you very much for coming back--

MS. SEALES: Mahalo.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: --because I could see the hurt in her heart. And, you know, it’s, it’s a kind of a shame that people do take advantage of these special people. They are special.

MS. SEALES: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: God put them on this Earth for a major reason.

MS. SEALES: That’s right.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: For us to go back and take care of them.
MS. SEALES: That’s right.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: And we’ve been blessed in our family, and whenever we can do that, like what you do and this community does, and all the things tonight, just like Hana. You know, I can see the self-worth, the, the community dedication and commitment to all.

MS. SEALES: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Not just to one, but to all. Whether it’s roping, whether--

MS. SEALES: Right.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: --it’s GPAC, whether it’s the kupunas, it’s everybody.

MS. SEALES: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: My question to you is real simple. If, if we can, you know, you can get some funding, how many more students can you help with this program, because I understand there are still some that you’re just unable to bring into the program, because of the lack of funding--

MS. SEALES: Right.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: --but how, how much more? You know, a rough estimate.

MS. SEALES: Well, I think right now, because if you folks get chance to go up there tomorrow, it’s really tight space.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Oh, okay.

MS. SEALES: And I think eventually if the nursery is expanded and some other thinking,--

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Yes.

MS. SEALES: --I think as the students come down, and it comes, sometimes it can be three a year as they transition to adulthood.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Right.

MS. SEALES: There’s really, they’re not, they may not be hired anywhere else. So, job training can be provided there. So, it’s really hard to say, you know, as far as, you know, it could be three next year or... because they come down every Tuesday to MOC to get some type of, you know, training, a life skill training.
COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Right.

MS. SEALES: And that’s what they, yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Unfortunately, most of us are going back first thing tomorrow morning on the 6:55 flight.

MS. SEALES: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: You know, the one direct back to Maui. So, not this time, but--

MS. SEALES: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: --I assure you if I’m back, again, I will make a moment. I will get down to see you.

MS. SEALES: We appreciate it.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: And tell your boss we will come and see him.

MS. SEALES: Yeah. Yeah, I know--

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Mahalo.

MS. SEALES: --and he’s been so... and then Danny of course. You know, but thank you again.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Yes, thank you.

MS. SEALES: Okay. All right.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. By the way what’s your first name?

MS. SEALES: Charlotte.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Charlotte.

MS. SEALES: Yeah, it’s my writing. I should call myself Leinaala, because I’ll tell you honestly. One time I went to apply for a job, I said Charlotte Seales. And then they said what do you want to do in five years. I said to be a home sitter. They said, oh, see my name throws it all off. They think its po’e hale, but it is po’e kanaka. But, you know...

CHAIR PONTANILLA: You spell it...
MS. SEALES: What did I say Charlynne or Charlotte?

CHAIR PONTANILLA: I don’t know. I can hardly read it.

MS. SEALES: I was getting haalulu so I had to come in front of you, you know. So, but it’s all good. Thank you, again.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Yeah, by the way, my, my wife’s name is Charlotte, also--

MS. SEALES: Oh, that’s maikai.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: --that’s a good name. Good name.

MS. SEALES: So, mahalo to all you guys. Aloha, a hui ho.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you.

...END OF PUBLIC TESTIMONY...

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Members, Mrs. Seales was our last testifier. Members, you have any comments that you want to provide the people of Molokai before I close this meeting. If not, as Chair of the Budget and Finance Committee it was really enlightening...oh, okay.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I just wanted to say please, I would ask if we could have some kind of cap on our, like, water instead of just going overboard, because every year, you know, it seems like it’s going up and up. If we can some kind of cap to hold it down where we can afford? Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Yeah, thank you. Again, you know, it’s been a very eventful evening tonight. You know, I thought Hana was long, but Molokai is longer. But anyway, you know, the Budget and Finance Committee really appreciate the people of Molokai for coming out and testifying in regards to the Mayor’s Fiscal Year 2008 Budget. You know, it is a tough job, you know, trying to decide where funding goes, but you know, all of us do have soft hearts, for one. I’m sure we’re going to take a look at requests being made by the community. You know, part of our responsibility is not only the County infrastructure, but also providing the human services side that is needed within Maui County.

So, again, you know, as your Chair for the Budget and Finance Committee I, I just want to say thank you for being here tonight. Members, if there is no more questions the Chair would like to adjourn this meeting.

COUNCIL MEMBERS VOICED NO OBJECTIONS.
ACTION: DEFER pending further discussion.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. This meeting adjourned. . . (gavel) . .

ADJOURN: 9:56 p.m.

APPROVED:

[Signature]
JOSEPH PONTANILLA, Chair
Budget and Finance Committee

CERTIFICATE

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

DATED this 17th day of April 2007, in Wailuku, Hawaii.

[Signature]
Jessica Cahill