

COUNCIL OF THE COUNTY OF MAUI
PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

March 3, 2006

**Committee
Report No.**

_____ 06-31

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

Chair and Members:

Your Public Works Committee, having met on February 6, 2006, makes reference to County Communication No. 06-20, from Councilmember Joseph Pontanilla, transmitting a newspaper article from the January 9, 2006 edition of *The Maui News*, relating to placement of trash receptacles in the roadways, bikeways, and shoulder areas.

At its meeting, your Committee met with the Director of Public Works and Environmental Management; the Chief of the Solid Waste Division, Department of Public Works and Environmental Management; and a Deputy Corporation Counsel.

There was no public testimony.

The Director informed your Committee that the Department's policy is that trash receptacles should be placed as close to the property line as possible following collection. The receptacles will normally be placed in the landscaped strip that is located between the roadway and the sidewalk, or in some cases, between the sidewalk and the private property. Compliance with this policy becomes more challenging when narrow rights-of-way provide little or no shoulder area. According to the Director, the Department considers this problem a training issue. They will continue their efforts to train refuse collectors to ensure that receptacles are placed in locations that are as ideal as possible under the circumstances.

Your Committee questioned how training will be conducted, and whether the Department currently monitors refuse collectors, or performs spot checks to evaluate performance.

The Solid Waste Division Chief stated that refuse collectors had received written communication about the correct placement of trash receptacles, and that follow-up training sessions would be held within two weeks in order to address training concerns.

Your Committee discussed the impact that automation will have on trash collection, as well as related equipment and personnel matters. The automated system

COUNCIL OF THE COUNTY OF MAUI
PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

March 3, 2006
Page 2

Committee
Report No. 06-31

will replace multiple trash receptacles with one standardized container. Furthermore, the container will need to be placed appropriately to guarantee that the automated mechanism can operate. Your Committee questioned whether the Department had received other similar complaints and whether automation has resulted in fewer complaints.

The Solid Waste Division Chief responded that the Department has not received other similar complaints. He stated that more typical complaints are about missed or partial trash pickups.

Your Committee voted to recommend filing of the communication.

Your Public Works Committee **RECOMMENDS** that County Communication No. 06-20 be FILED.

Adoption of this report is respectfully requested.

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COUNCIL OF THE COUNTY OF MAUI
PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

March 3, 2006
Page 3

Committee
Report No. 06-31

JOSEPH PONTANILLA **Chair**

G. RIKI HOKAMA **Member**

MICHAEL J. MOLINA **Vice-Chair**

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ROBERT CARROLL **Member**