

COUNCIL OF THE COUNTY OF MAUI
**PUBLIC WORKS AND
TRAFFIC COMMITTEE**

July 8, 2003

Committee
Report No.

03-53

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

Chair and Members:

Your Public Works and Traffic Committee, having met on June 16, 2003, makes reference to County Communication No. 03-133, from the Director of Public Works and Environmental Management, transmitting a proposed bill entitled "A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 12.32, MAUI COUNTY CODE, PERTAINING TO NUMBERING OF BUILDINGS".

The purposes of the proposed bill are to: a) require that property address numbers are visible from the street; b) delete a provision relating to the Council's review of the house-numbering plan; c) clarify that the Department of Public Works and Environmental Management assigns street numbers; d) increase the fine for violation of Chapter 12.32; and e) enact nonsubstantive changes.

At its meeting, your Committee met with the Director of Public Works and Environmental Management; a Civil Engineer IV, Development Services Administration (DSA), Department of Public Works and Environmental Management; a Captain, Department of Fire and Public Safety; a Lieutenant, Department of Police; and a Deputy Corporation Counsel.

The Director provided your Committee with an overview of the matter. He stated that the purpose of the proposed bill is to ensure that address numbers are clearly visible from the roadway so that emergency personnel can quickly and easily locate the right address during an emergency. He noted that DSA is administering a Countywide re-numbering project. He further stated that DSA recently completed the re-numbering project for the Kula area, and will now focus on East Maui, Lanai and Molokai. Once these areas have been completed, the Countywide project will be finished.

The Captain stated that the Department of Fire and Public Safety supports the proposed bill. He noted that any enhancement, which improves the visibility of addresses from the roadway, is vitally important to emergency response vehicles and personnel.

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The Lieutenant concurred that a uniform numbering system will assist the Department of Police with responding to calls more effectively. However, he noted that a reflective base number may enhance response during evening hours.

In response to your Committee's inquiry, the Civil Engineer stated that even though the address numbers utilized in Kula are consistent in size and style, the numbers employed in other parts of the County have not been standardized. She noted that a grant from the community allowed residents from Kula to secure the numbers at no charge from a local hardware store. Accordingly, the numbers provided were consistent in style and size.

In response to an inquiry from your Committee, the Director stated that the Council has already approved the house numbering plan. He stated that since all the address numbers have been assigned throughout the County, the Council is no longer required to review house-numbering plans. As a result, the Department of Public Works and Environmental Management is recommending deleting the reference to the Council's review of the house-numbering plan.

The Civil Engineer stated that for large parcels, address numbers should be posted near the driveway. However, if a lot does not have a driveway, the address number should be placed at the roadway or access to the property. She also noted that multiple structures on a single lot are assigned numbers, and not alphabetical letters, with the exception of duplexes. Additionally, properties with two or more structures on the same lot require numbers on each building, including an address number on a post or other object near the property's driveway.

According to the Director, the proposed fine increase for violating provisions of this chapter reflects the current minimum fines established for violations of other provisions of the Maui County Code, which are administered or enforced by the Department of Public Works and Environmental Management.

In response to an inquiry by your Committee, the Civil Engineer indicated that the DSA mails two letters to the property owner requesting that the address number be posted. If the owner does not comply with the request, a notice of violation is issued to the owner.

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Your Committee noted that the enforcement and violation of Chapter 12.32, Maui County Code, should be an administrative responsibility. Therefore, your Committee requested that the proposed bill be revised to grant the Director of Public Works and Environmental Management authority to assess the fine for violating provisions of this chapter.

Your Committee noted that the proposed bill utilizes the words "building(s)" and "structure(s)" interchangeably. Your Committee felt that the term "building" or "buildings" should be used consistently throughout the proposed bill. As a result, your Committee requested that the proposed bill be revised to reflect a consistency in the use of the words "building" or "buildings".

Your Committee voted to recommend passage of the proposed bill, as revised, on first reading and the filing of the communication.

Your Committee is in receipt of a revised proposed bill, approved as to form and legality, from the Department of the Corporation Counsel, incorporating your Committee's recommended changes.

Your Public Works and Traffic Committee **RECOMMENDS** the following:

1. That Bill No. _____ (2003), as revised herein and attached hereto, entitled "A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 12.32, MAUI COUNTY CODE, PERTAINING TO NUMBERING OF BUILDINGS", be PASSED ON FIRST READING and be ORDERED TO PRINT; and
2. That County Communication No. 03-133 be FILED.

Adoption of this report is respectfully requested.

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MICHAEL J. MOLINA Chair

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CHARMAINE TAVARES Vice-Chair

JOSEPH PONTANILLA Member

G. RIKI HOKAMA Member