Draft Timeline

January 18, 2022
APT Committee Meeting

Q1 / Q2 2022
Continue to gather public and stakeholder feedback / budgetary recommendations

February or March 2022
Community Meeting on updated recommendations and feedback

Q2 2022
Coordinator possibly established
Possible Budget Amendment
Department leadership identified

April 2022
FY ’23 Budget Presentation

July 2022
Department Established (per the Charter)

Strategic planning, ongoing refining/adjustments to goals/objectives, grant writing, FY ’23 Budget Amendment, FY ’24 budget preparations, farmer/rancher assistance...
Draft Mission Statement

The County of Maui’s Department of Agriculture will support the development and continued management of a sustainable regional agricultural system for Maui County, to promote resident and ecosystem health and well-being and create a thriving circular agro-economic system that can be a model for the rest of the world.
Department of Agriculture
POWERS, DUTIES AND FUNCTIONS
(2021 Maui County Charter)

- Develop a sustainable regional agricultural system for Maui County
- Build the economic resiliency of the County’s communities by increasing opportunities in the agricultural sector
- Boost resident health and food security through ensuring access to locally grown agricultural products
- Promote healthy ecosystems through natural-resource regeneration and protection, including through advising other agencies and the council on all programs and projects that affect the agricultural section
- Develop and implement programs to diversify and expand sustainable forms of agriculture
- Report to the Mayor and Council annually on the County’s overall performance in meeting agriculture objectives and any barriers that could be addressed by ordinance
- Perform other duties as assigned by the Mayor or Managing Director.
Develop a sustainable regional agricultural system for Maui County

- Collect and collate market data
- Collaboration with the State Department of Agriculture
- Identify needs, issues and solutions for sector expansion, sustainability and improvement
- Advocacy Collaborate with PUC
- Update cost centers
- Agricultural land use review
- Incentivize and utilize IAL lands
- Assessments
  - What are our current needs, what are we importing, etc.
Build the economic resiliency of the County’s communities by increasing opportunities in the agricultural sector

**Workforce Development**
- Training and education
- Exploring different programs and services

**Resource Development and Deployment**
- Program access
- Feral ungulates
- Policy and regulation assistance
- Assessments
  - What resources are currently available (assistance, grants, education, etc.)
Boost resident health and food security through ensuring access to locally grown agricultural products

Marketing and Distribution
- Storage, processing and distribution
- Develop institutional purchasing channels
- Ensure customer service support to navigate county processes and departments

Advocacy
- Front-facing voice
- Work with existing entities
- Water
- Infrastructure and policy needs
Promote healthy ecosystems through natural-resource regeneration and protection, including through advising other agencies and the council on all programs and projects that affect the agricultural section.

**Education**

- Partner with UH Maui to develop and train on new technologies
- Collaborate with State, Federal and local organizations
Develop and implement programs to diversify and expand sustainable forms of agriculture

**Business Support**
- Increase access to available and affordable support infrastructure
- Share access to new technology and equipment
- HUB for meetings and collaboration
- Leverage resources
- Funding streams
- Contract and procurement assistance
- Grant programs and acquisition

Photo Credit: University of Hawaii
Report to the Mayor and Council annually on the County’s overall performance in meeting agriculture objectives and any barriers that could be addressed by ordinance.

Perform other duties as assigned by the Mayor or Managing Director.
Additional Comments/Considerations by Community Members and Stakeholders

• Develop a plan/roadmap for ag (where are we going, how much it will cost, what will we need, etc.)
• Don’t just hand out grants. Provide workshops/webinars on how to apply for and report on grants
• Work with non-profit partners (e.g., Lokahi Pacific, etc.) to apply for grants on behalf of farmers/ranchers
  • Paperwork, compliance reporting
• Work with employment agencies or other groups to assist entities with employment issues, benefits (medical coverage for farmers/ranchers) or personnel
• Director should establish a framework and mechanics on how to achieve goals
• Obtain farm land and provide infrastructure (or funding/access for) to reduce barriers to entry
• Provide incentives for farming/ranching
• Department needs to be really serious about food security for our community
• Advocate for good water rates for agriculture
• Propose and support legislation to advance agriculture in Maui County
• Provide liaisons on each island
Additional Comments/Considerations by Community Members and Stakeholders

- 5 to 10 year leases not feasible for agriculture
  - Long term leases are needed to make agricultural production a reality
- Provide for inspectors within the Department
- Advocacy for farmers/ranchers with County processes
  - RPT, water rates, etc.
- Help to ensure other agencies and resources don’t overlap
- Help farmers/ranchers be successful
- Stormwater retention
- Value added crops (e.g., hemp) and promotion of cover crops
- Focus on regenerative agriculture
- Economic diversification
- Agriculture’s importance to climate change (regenerative ag, erosion and wastewater issues, etc.)
- Impacts by feral ungulates and mitigation efforts
- Geographic issues (land/water use and availability, community concerns in area, mix of organic/conventional farmers, etc.)
- Performance measures, goal setting and strategic planning needed by new Director
Draft Initial Organizational Recommendations
For Fiscal Year 2023

Staff:

• Director
• Deputy Director
• Secretary
• Grant Writer(s)

Photo Credit: Alii Kula Lavendar
Divisions of Responsibility Based on Community Input (without factoring scope, availability of funds, jurisdictional issues, etc.)
Minimum Qualification Recommendations
(Draft)

Minimum Qualifications:
(In addition to Charter requirements)

• A bachelor’s or master’s degree in operations management, project management, public administration, agriculture, sustainability or a related field

• A minimum of 5 years experience in agricultural based field work, operations, production, education, or food distribution systems, in Hawaii

• A minimum of 3 years of experience in the following areas:
  • Managerial and budgetary experience;
  • Developing, supervising, and coordinating agricultural programs and projects in Hawaii; and
  • Experience working with various cultural backgrounds
FY ‘23 Budget Considerations

Examples of Ideas:
• Strategic Planning for the Department
• Grant workshops
• Grants
• Research
• Data Collection
• State/Federal lobbying
• Game management plan(s)

Photo Credit: Hawaii.com, Maui Farmers Market
QUESTIONS or INPUT?

Email: Mayors.Office@mauicounty.gov