

Department of Public Works – Operating & CIP

Honorable Addison Bulosan
Honorable Bernard P. Carvalho, Jr.
Honorable Felicia Cowden
Honorable Bill DeCosta
Honorable Ross Kagawa
Honorable KipuKai Kualii
Honorable Mel Rapozo

The Committee reconvened on March 24, 2023 at 9:01 a.m., and proceeded as follows:

Council Chair Rapozo: Hello everyone. Welcome to Day 2 of our Budget discussions. The order today, I think everybody has it, is Public Works, obviously Operating Budget, Administration and Fiscal, followed by Engineering, Buildings, Road Maintenance, Auto Maintenance, Highways and Roads, Wastewater, and Solid Waste. If we have time, we will get into the CIP. Hopefully, we can start CIP. Before we get started, is there anyone in the audience wishing to testify? We will suspend the rules.

There being no objections, the rules were suspended to take public testimony.

BRUCE HART: For the record, Bruce Hart. I would like to thank Chair for yesterday having made the statement that members of the public would be able to come in and speak. I know that it is not as open as a regular Council or Committee meeting, but the fact that Chair would do that. I have gotten really good response back already. I think the more the public would participate in these, all of this procedure of the budget, if they realized that they could come in and speak, I personally get a charge out of just being here. Seeing how the people's government operates and how the representatives of the people, this is a big part of what the Legislative body does, but it also involves every other aspect of government. Every other department and entity. We get to see and meet all the different people that do the jobs that most of the public they never realize where it comes from. If they would learn how the government operates, I think they would be a lot more satisfied with the system of this beautiful republic. Thank you.

Council Chair Rapozo: Thank you, Bruce. Is there anyone else wishing to testify? I also want to say a special *mahalo* to Janice Bond, who brought *lei* for all of us here. Thank you, Janice.

There being no further testimony, the meeting was called back to order, and proceeded as follows:

Council Chair Rapozo: With that, let us get started with Public Works, the Administration.

There being no objections, the rules were suspended.

TROY K. TANIGAWA, County Engineer: Troy Tanigawa, County Engineer, Public Works. Good morning, Chair Rapozo and Councilmembers. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony at today's meeting. We vetted the Department's needs with the Mayor's Office and a proposed Operating Budget for Fiscal Year 2024 is before you. Here with me today are members of the Department Administration and Heads for our divisions in Public Works. I will start off with a summary of the Department's services and Operating Budget

summary, and then yield to questions from the Council. First of all, the Department provides a variety of services including Charter mandates services such as engineering, design, planning, and construction of public facilities, road, and other infrastructure undertaken by the County, collection and disposal of garbage and refuse, and enforcement of construction standards, requirements and all construction and improvements in accordance with the building code, subdivision code, and other related regulations as may be in effect for the County. Other services also include wastewater management in areas where the County's Sewer collection systems have been installed, and in automotive and heavy equipment repair shop to manage the County's fleet of vehicles and heavy equipment. Notable changes in our Operating Budget include collective bargaining-related items, solid waste diversion initiatives, as well as motor pool vehicle and heavy equipment purchases. I will open it up to questions now.

Council Chair Rapozo: Go ahead.

Councilmember Cowden: Can I make a comment and just thank your whole team for being the "bread and butter" for what I consider municipal government. I just want to start with that for how important it is to fill our potholes, and take out the trash, and flush the toilet, and mow the lawn, and everything else and I cannot understate my appreciation for the work that you folks do. I will have questions, but I just had to say that.

Mr. Tanigawa: Thank you.

Council Chair Rapozo: Are there any other questions? Are you going to start off with the Administration?

Mr. Tanigawa: I will start off with the Public Works Administration.

Council Chair Rapozo: Just a real quick note. I know we have had the discussion about Mr. Izumo, who is not present for the auto shop. He had a medical appointment he had to attend to. If there are any questions, he will be here on Tuesday.

Councilmember Cowden: I have a follow-up on that. When you folks are talking, if you can layer into it the workforce need. Particularly Mechanics, it seems like that is a big deal so we have to keep all our engines running well. I am glad you brought up auto shop, because that was one of my big interests as we hardly hear from them, but they do a lot of very important work.

Mr. Tanigawa: Okay. Any questions that you folks have on workforce we can try to address. It has actually been an area that we have had difficulty because of a very thin pool, if any, applicants, when we go out for recruitment. We will continue to try and do recruitment. Maybe possibly look at different ways to publicize the openings so that we get more responses in. Our current system has actually been able to attract applicants from the mainland, as well as in the State. We have been a victim to the

effects of COVID and some of the other things that have impacted the workforce across the board, including the private sector.

Councilmember Cowden: I noticed that our Facebook gets a lot of attention, especially when we are trying to attract people from the younger crowd to join the workforce, and maybe get this type of mentorship or training. I just recommend it be considered. You can put things on that are inviting and get people to consider coming and joining the team. There is a lot good that can happen and they are needed, so that might be a place. Just a thought.

Mr. Tanigawa: Thank you.

Council Chair Rapozo: Thank you.

Mr. Tanigawa: I guess we can start with the 001 Public Works Administration Budget and you folks can go down line by line, beginning with Public Works Admin 201.601.01-01 Salaries. That is master page 186.

Council Chair Rapozo: Increases, again, as we will see with all the departments is mainly due to collective bargaining increases. Is that the case with the Admin this year?

Mr. Tanigawa: Salaries across the board. Blue-collar, as well as white-collar.

Council Chair Rapozo: Go ahead Councilmember Kualii.

Councilmember Kualii: I have a quick question. On page 186, are all those positions listed there filled? Confirming if there are no vacancies.

Mr. Tanigawa: Yes.

Councilmember Kualii: Nothing new since this report?

Council Chair Rapozo: Yesterday, it was mentioned that this vacancy report changes pretty much on a daily basis. I will look to Human Resources (HR). This one that we have is currently March 15, 2023. Is it possible to get the most current? It does not need to be today. I just want to make sure that we have it, otherwise we will be asking every department what their status is. We will go off the March 15, 2023 sheet for today. Are there any other questions on Public Works Admin? I noticed in your report on page 7. "No major changes. We continue to develop a plan for our reorganization." What is the plan for the reorganization for Public Works?

Mr. Tanigawa: Public Works' reorganization involves the thought of creating a new Division for Project Management. Currently, we have project managers on staff managing a variety of projects from vertical construction projects to infrastructure improvement projects. Those positions are currently housed in Admin. We began planning

for a consultation process with the affected union. Once we are underway, we will eventually end up with a new division for project management where we will be moving those project managers from Admin to the new division structure.

Council Chair Rapozo: Will that require new positions? New supervisors, new managers? When you create a new division, typically, you will require additional positions. Do you folks have an idea of what this new division will look like?

Mr. Tanigawa: At this point, we are not looking for new positions. As you will see later on in our Budget Review, we have some vacancies in the Building Division that we plan to allocate to this new division to satisfy the needs.

Council Chair Rapozo: I am just trying to figure out the fiscal impact, because I am assuming that these changes will occur in this next Fiscal Year.

Mr. Tanigawa: Correct. That is what we are planning.

Council Chair Rapozo: For me to determine that, I want to know if that comes with additional costs? Even if you are using existing positions, are those positions reallocated to management or supervisor positions, which are going to impact the pay?

Mr. Tanigawa: We have a couple of high-level positions that are currently vacant. I believe the Proposed Budget is partial funding those positions. We anticipate that once we get through the consultation process, we will begin recruitment and our target is to fill those positions by midyear. We have the 6-month funding in place. We are not expecting to come back to ask for new positions. We are going to be using those new positions, plus the existing positions that we currently have warm bodies.

Council Chair Rapozo: If I am hearing you correctly, the positions that are vacant today that is in the current Budget that will be used, is that right now 6-month funding?

Mr. Tanigawa: Correct.

Council Chair Rapozo: Okay. Perfect. Thank you. Councilmember Carvalho.

Councilmember Carvalho: Is that the same with the Senior Project Manager from Parks?

Mr. Tanigawa: That position is actually currently filled now. We will be moving that position over to the new division. That is the plan.

Council Chair Rapozo: Go ahead.

Councilmember Cowden: You might have said it, but what are you calling the new division?

Mr. Tanigawa: It is not fully decided, yet. We are looking at it as a Project Management Division.

Councilmember Cowden: Okay.

Council Chair Rapozo: That would make sense.

Councilmember Cowden: Yes.

Council Chair Rapozo: Are there any other questions? Alright. Thank you. We can move on to Engineering. Engineering would be 192 in the Budget. Do you folks have a presentation?

Mr. Tanigawa: Actually, we just wanted to open up to questions to you folks.

Council Chair Rapozo: If we could just get any major changes. Let us just start with that. Are there any major changes? I know you referenced the new code adoption that will require training. What are the highlights of your Budget in Engineering that we should be made aware of? According to our vacancies, it is showing some vacancies, but none that have been open for long.

Mr. Tanigawa: Engineering Division's Budget is basically status quo, except for those collective bargaining-type increases to salaries and other related accounts that will reflect those increases.

Council Chair Rapozo: Councilmember Kuali'i.

Councilmember Kuali'i: I am going to delve into a couple of the vacant positions. 1431, Civil Engineer VI and V. In the Budget, it shows \$138,000, and on the vacancy report it is \$125,000. That represents an 8.9% increase, and I notice that is the case with a lot of positions. Is that just the adjustment?

Mr. Tanigawa: It is the collective bargaining adjustments.

Councilmember Kuali'i: Oh, it is collective bargaining and inflation. It is for 104 days, and the status is pending reorganization. We were talking about that briefly. Where are you at in reorganization and will you be completed, and will you be able to get this person started by July 1, 2023?

Mr. Tanigawa: Our reorganization that I mentioned will not be affecting the Engineering Division. The Engineering Division will be intact with their Engineering group, and they are continuing to work on filling vacancies.

Councilmember Kualif'i: You talked about how some of the positions are less than 100% funded, but this is not the case. This is fully funded, so you will have this person hired and started by July 1, 2023?

Mr. Tanigawa: We are actively recruiting, and we hope to fill vacancies as soon as possible.

Council Chair Rapozo: I want to follow up with that because, again, on the report it says, "Pending reorganization," but you are saying there is no reorganization of the Engineering Division.

Mr. Tanigawa: That might be a misprint. Our reorganization is not affecting the Engineering Division.

Councilmember Kualif'i: Is it reclassification, then, or something else? It says "Pending reorganization." HR, maybe you can help.

JANINE RAPOZO, Human Resources Manager III: Good morning. Janine Rapozo, HR Manager. At the time the report was done, this is a different reorganization than the one Troy was mentioning. It is not the project management reorganization, but the reorganization within the Engineering Division on his different sections. I am not sure where that is going to go now, but that was the plan at the time.

Councilmember Kualif'i: Based on what is going on with HR support, can you tell us if it will be successful in getting a person hired and started on July 1, 2023?

Ms. Rapozo: Michael and I have had discussions to look at how we can attract and retain some of these engineers to reorganize those sections. That is our absolute hope, to get that done by July.

Councilmember Kualif'i: You might as well stay there. The next position is 1432, Construction Inspector III, 104 days vacant. It just says, "Request to recruit received." Does that mean you are working on it already?

Ms. Rapozo: Correct.

Councilmember Kualif'i: You have enough time to get the person hired?

Ms. Rapozo: That is the plan, yes.

Councilmember Kualif'i: Thank you. My last one is 902, Civil Engineer V. It is different here, because the salary in the Budget is \$74,124, and then on the vacancy report it is \$63,288. That is not an 8.9% increase, like a lot of the others. It is a 17.1% increase. Can you explain that? Why that amount and is this fully funded? Again, the recruitment status says, "Continuous," so where are we at in that recruitment?

Ms. Rapozo: The vacancy report reflects current year. At the time the Budget was passed last year, there was an incumbent who was in a lower level position. She retired and we reclassified it to get Engineering another engineer at the Engineer V level. When they do recruit now, they will require a little higher starting pay. That person was there for quite a while, so I am not sure what the difference exactly is. The plan is, it is on continuous recruitment so I believe Michael is working hard to try to get that filled as well.

Councilmember Kualii: Working hard to get it filled, but likely to get it filled by July 1, 2023?

Ms. Rapozo: Absolutely likely.

Councilmember Kualii: Thank you. That is it.

Council Chair Rapozo: That is the right answer.

Councilmember Kualii: Then we will see.

Council Chair Rapozo: We know the difficulties of hiring with every place, everywhere. I just want to make sure, and I think every department will hear this mostly from Councilmember Kualii, is funding positions that most likely will not need the 12 month funding. I would rather half the position and then come back when it is filled. I think it is a poor way of budgeting. These positions have been vacant for months and months, sometimes years, and we are still funding.

Ms. Rapozo: In defense of these particular positions, they are relatively recently vacant. They have been on continuous recruitment and they have been coming to us asking for the list. I am very hopeful it will be filled.

Council Chair Rapozo: I am hopeful, too.

Councilmember Kualii: Thank you, Chair.

Council Chair Rapozo: Councilmember DeCosta.

Councilmember DeCosta: I have a follow-up question. I am just trying to understand the system. In defense of what you folks are doing with funding the position and not being able to fill it, and I believe we as a Council are saying that we should not tie up taxpayers' money in the account that we do not have the position filled, but we do not know when we are going to fill that position. If that candidate pops up someplace, we need to have that funding available to hire that candidate. If not, will you not have to come back to us to get an approval to move money to that position, which takes time, and that candidate could take another position someplace else? I am just trying to understand. I do not want to not take away what our duty is to watch you folks on the Budget, but at the same time, understand what you folks are doing and want to be able to give you that flexibility to do it. Am I making sense?

Ms. Rapozo: Yes, absolutely. That is the quandary that I think we are always in, right? If we do not fully fund it and we do find that candidate, then what do we do? To come back, yes, it takes a while to get that funded. Right now, everybody is struggling and fighting for employees among each other, so it is very important.

Councilmember DeCosta: Thanks for that.

Council Chair Rapozo: I think, for Councilmember DeCosta's information, we would never cut a position because we have not filled it in 3 years. We put a dollar or we, maybe, put 6-months funding, so you would have the ability to hire. When the hiring was actually made, then the Council would have the opportunity or ability to fund the rest of the employment for that year. If everyone came in with that idea that we need the money in the account because we do not know when we are going to hire, this would be millions and millions and millions of dollars higher. I appreciate the Administration reducing the request on certain positions, knowing you are not going to fill it in 6 months, but on the other side of the coin, as Councilmember DeCosta said, it is taxpayers' money that is being tied up. All I am asking is that if you honestly believe you are going to fund it July 1, or August 1, or even September 1, that 3-month period, that is fine, but if it is one that we, because of experience, know certain positions take a long time and we also know that date from someone's application to the day they get their first pay takes a while, we just know that that is how the system is, that we have to be cognizant of this as well.

Councilmember DeCosta: I have a follow-up.

Council Chair Rapozo: Go ahead.

Councilmember DeCosta: Just for my *akamai*. I want to learn. If you folks fund this position and it goes past 365 days, into the next Budget, do you not have that money to be carried over? Do you have to spend it or you lose it?

Ms. Rapozo: At the end of June, we start all over.

Councilmember DeCosta: Correct, but does that funded position's money go?

Ms. Rapozo: It goes back into that lapse.

Councilmember DeCosta: Exactly, so just because we funded you, it is not to say that you used the money. The money lapsed over and now we can use it for the next 365 days. It is not like we are funding the position 3 years in a row, and we are seeing that much money 3 years in a row, correct?

Ms. Rapozo: Yes. If we did not use it, then it goes back.

Council Chair Rapozo: What happens is that money goes back to the Department, and the Department can use those funds?

Ms. Rapozo:

Within that year.

Council Chair Rapozo: Correct. This is why I always have had a problem with this. This Budget is not for the 7 of us. This Budget is for the people. We are telling the people, "I need to take this money from your taxes to hire this position," and then we do not hire that position. Then come close to the end of the Fiscal Year, all these requests start coming in, "We want to go buy this thing and we are going to use unexpended salary money." That is where I have a problem and I think that is where Councilmember DeCosta does not understand. The money does not just carry over for you to use next year. The Department Head has the ability and the authority to spend those funds without Council approval. You could come in here, and this is not directed to Engineering or anyone in particular, but I could come up here and fill out \$3,000,000 in positions that we are not going to fill, then come to the end of the Fiscal Year next year, "We want to buy this truck. We want to buy this desk. We want to buy these computers. We want to travel. We want to do all of this." Then the Department Head just transfers the funds without Council approval. The people thought their tax money was going for staffing because we are short-staffed, but at the end of the day it did not go to staffing. It went for a new truck, or it went for someone to go on a conference. That is why, for me, I just want to be as accurate as possible. We can always come back and fund the remaining or the shortage of that position. We can always do that, so that is all I am asking. Go ahead.

Councilmember DeCosta: Thank you, Chair. I like to learn, and I take that constructive information very well. I also want to say to our Department Heads and Deputies that if you do have that extra funding, and you did not fund that position, it is your responsibility to be fiscally responsible that if you do not have to spend it, you put it back. I think that is why the mayor hires the most competent positions of authority to make those accurate decisions, and I have every confidence that you folks are doing that. Thank you for teaching me a little more.

Council Chair Rapozo:

You are welcome, my friend.

Councilmember Cowden: I have, what I hope is, a simple question. I want to, first of all, acknowledge the great grants that your Department gets. You folks have been really quite successful. We just came back from a conference where we see all this opportunity for money. Is one of these positions here, for example, position 1444, Engineer Support Technician, who writes the grants? Do you have a person on your team that writes the grants?

MICHAEL MOULE, Chief of Engineering Division: Good morning, Chair, members of the Council. Michael Moule, Engineering Division Chief. We do not have a specific person whose title is "Grant Writer" in Engineering. We partner with our staff and other departments and divisions on those things. For example, when we use the RAISE grant, we received for Po'ipū road, which is the largest grant we received maybe ever, in our division, at least, our staff did parts of the application. We worked with Planning staff, Office of Economic Development, and Mayor's Office. It is a combination of a number of different people that get involved with that. Typically, the people in my office who do the grant writing

that Engineering does would be the Project Manager for that project, which are, for example, the vacancies we have now are on the project management side for Engineering projects. That is why they are critical to fill, so we can keep these projects. The Project Manager, the Project Management Section Head, and then me, as the Engineering Chief.

Councilmember Cowden: We just had that Kawaihau walk.

Mr. Moule: Yes.

Councilmember Cowden: What was that grant?

Mr. Moule: That was not a grant, per se. It is a traditional Federal-Aid construction project. We get a certain amount per year of Federal Funds, then we are able to work with Administration and Council on determining where those projects are funded on that. It is just traditional Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) Funding, as opposed to us applying for a special grant outside of our overall allocation of Federal Funds.

Councilmember Cowden: It seems like you folks do a pretty good job of matching projects to needed money from different places, so if there is something that you are doing right that could be copied for the departments. I just was sort of looking at that. When I look on page 193, I see where it says, "Meeting with State consultants," so is that our same consultants we were talking about yesterday, Smith Dawson & Andrews, Inc, or which consultants do you folks use?

Mr. Moule: For that particular Budget line item, that would be us traveling to O'ahu.

Councilmember Cowden: It is your flight?

Mr. Moule: Flights, typically, for us to meet with the State, usually the State Department of Transportation (DOT), about various things related to our projects or other things. Not specifically with that consultant, but we do work with that Smith Dawson on our grants. They assist us with the Federal grants and Federal funding, in general. We are not flying to meet with them, in that case. It is just flying to meet with the State.

Councilmember Cowden: Okay. I am just trying to figure it out because it was a little frustrating to me to go, "We spent all this money to go to these conferences and then they are throwing all these opportunities at us and there is no way to really catch them." I am just trying to figure out how to catch them, so when we come back from these things we are able to pass out those opportunities appropriately. You folks seem to do a particularly good job.

Mr. Moule: Honestly, the best way for us to catch the money that is coming out is for us to fill those positions that are vacant. We are actively trying to fill those vacant positions, getting back to the earlier discussion. The positions that are

vacant in my office right now, largely the Project Manager side, we work very hard to make sure we have projects ready to go after grants. If we cannot fill those positions, or are underfunded, we could lose the potential to be able to go after those grants. That is a critical element to us. I will also just add to the earlier discussion, I am aware of the situation of salaries potentially being used for other things and for you to buy things. That is not something I do in my office. We are not, "Oh, we have this salary, let us go buy some more office supplies." It is not something my office is in the habit of doing. I know it can happen. My budget is mainly salaries anyway, if you look at it. The critical thing for us would be able to continually fill these positions and keep people as much as we are able, given the market, and we have some prospects right now. It is a weird time to be going through Budget when we have the vacancies that we are hopefully on the cusp of filling, because a lot of things happened recently, and we really want to get those filled so we can keep going after those grants.

Councilmember Cowden: When you have those Project Management positions, when you are recruiting for them, are you typically pulling from within our experienced crew, so that they have a knowledge of the island, and the knowledge of what we talked about yesterday, and had the Resolution a few months back about promoting from within? A Project Management job, to me, sounds like a desirable job. Is that typically coming from within or are we typically recruiting from a private sector on the island, or are we going off-island?

Mr. Moule: It depends. At this point, we need bodies from the outside. With respect to the Engineering Division, if we promote from within, we still have a vacancy, right?

Councilmember Cowden: You are robbing yourself, yes.

Mr. Moule: It happens. We do, sometimes, recruit at a higher level, pull someone from a lower level, then backfill that position with another recruitment. That happens. We often will do that because sometimes it is really hard for us to predict just where the body is going to be. Right? Where is the person going to be that wants the job? Is it a Civil Engineer (CE) V or is it a CE II or I, who is just out of school. If we are ever able to promote within and open a lower position, we will do that, but we will continue to try to recruit at different levels until we fill the positions. Typically, we ultimately have to get someone from the outside, somewhere, or our position does not get filled, because we still have another vacancy. But, yes, we are absolutely drawing staff from within. One of my big things on succession is making sure we have people progressing through the engineering licensure process to move into the upper level positions, and that is something that I am always trying to work on.

Council Chair Rapozo: Councilmember Carvalho.

Councilmember Carvalho: I wanted to clarify this Budget process. When you folks, as Administration, come to the Council and you say these are the positions and this is the funding that is needed, it is your responsibility to fill it. However, on the other side, if it

is not filled, then it is your responsibility, and to me I think it is important, that you have that flexibility to utilize the funds that will really help wherever you need, but you need to be accountable to explain that. I know it stays within the Budget, right, within the salary part. Knowing that, I just wanted to clarify that this is an example. If you did have additional funding, you did not fill the position, that money be used for just in any area you decide, accountability-wise, just to clarify.

Mr. Moule: In the Engineering Division, I will say we are not in the habit of taking salary moneys and moving it to other things. It is just not something we do a lot of. It is not how I run my office. What we have sometimes ended up doing is we may have to, occasionally, use money for overtime because we are backfilling those vacancies. Other than that, at the end of the Fiscal Year what we typically look at and say is, "Okay, let us look at our supplies budget," which is pretty small, relatively, as you look at them. "Okay, we have money in our supplies budget, let us go ahead and oh, we have got these chairs in our conference room that are broken, let us fix that now at the end of the Fiscal Year." We do not say, "Oh, we have salary money, let us move that to supplies and buy a bunch of chairs." We are just not doing that. We are being fiscally responsible with those funds and it is not a habit that I have. It is just not something that I feel is appropriate. If you look at our Budget, you will see we do not have a lot of monies that we spend on things besides salaries. Money for my office is mainly for salaries, and then our other monies are the CIP and the STIP, where we are doing projects, right? That is the money we are spending, it is on building things.

Councilmember Carvalho: It was more with Troy, too, as a Department Head.

Mr. Tanigawa: Also, we have requirements for purchasing unbudgeted equipment. We have thresholds that we have to go and get approval from the Mayor's Office, if it reaches a certain threshold. If the cost is higher, then we actually have to come back and get Council approval. I think with those checks and balances, and our typical habits of spending, I think the funds are pretty safe and there should not be too much concern.

Councilmember Carvalho: I think at the end, like Chair said, our responsibility is to the public, so we have to make sure whatever we spend goes in the right place. That is all.

Council Chair Rapozo: Councilmember DeCosta.

Councilmember DeCosta: We are not going to "beat the dead horse," but constructive information for you, Mr. Moule, I want you to tell your dad, if he is still living today, thank you for teaching you how to advocate for yourself, because you spoke very well today. You have ethics. I know you personally. This is my third year on the Council. I appreciate that you strongly stated that your Department is fiscally responsible, because you are the person in charge of that Department and I am impressed that you are here telling us that you are not mismanaging taxpayer dollars. Now as far as the checks and balances, you folks know that if they do have positions that they did not fill, and they have extra money at

the end of the year and they spend it on things that are not appropriate, we are going to catch them in the next Budget, and we are going to know their flaws from the Budget before. I have been here 3 years. I have an excellent relationship with Public Works. I have not seen them mismanage any funding, but I guarantee if I did see it, I would question you folks. I think we, as a body, have that ability, and it might be a later year, but you folks sit in front of us and take the tough questions.

Council Chair Rapozo: That is what we will be doing. My comments were not directed towards Public Works, I think I made that very clear. If you look at the vacancy report, that is exactly to your point Councilmember DeCosta, there are positions here that have been vacant for 1,200 days, 1,700 days. That is multiple Budget cycles. That is why it is critical, I think, for this Council to understand if you will fill it, we will fund it. If not, then we will not. That simple. If you think you will fill it, then we will fund it with partial funding. Again, at the end of the day, our job is not to try get as much money as we can from the taxpayer and perhaps spend it. The balanced budget is we tax what you need to operate government, and not more. That is all my point is. Councilmember Cowden.

Councilmember Cowden: Speaking of past purchases, a few years back we invested in some scanners. I know in Engineering and Roads, and everywhere, we have those 4-by-4 sheets that had all these maps and important information, and the goal was to scan that stuff and get caught up. I remember when I first saw it, I thought, "Oh my goodness, what if we had a flood or a fire?" How have we done on scanning those older documents that have all the underground lines and everything else? Have we made some progress through that?

Mr. Moule: I can answer that question, at least with respect to the Engineering Division. We have a massive map room, and it has been an ongoing effort for 15 years to continually scan what we have. The plotter scanner that we purchased, you referenced, was a replacement for the old one. I would not say we have increased the amount of scanning we are doing. We just continued the effort because it was a replacement of the existing. We are continually scanning documents. We have one staff member for whom that is one of his jobs, so when he does not have any pressing requests, one of his main roles is our document manager, in a sense. If we get a request from another department or from one of our consultants who is working on another project, "Hey, we need all the as-built plans for this street," he will go into our files, see which ones we already have scanned, we will send those. If there some that are not scanned, it will be scanned then sent off. When that person is not actively doing those special requests or working on other parts of his duties, he is constantly scanning. That is what he is doing when he is those things. I could not say, specifically, how many have been scanned this year versus last year, but it is an ongoing effort and it is being done as much as that staff has been able to do it.

Councilmember Cowden: Okay. I just remember being staggered by the effort that it would take to go through all these maps and then the impact it would be if somehow that building burned down. I am thinking about jobs and needs, especially with the sewer lines, I guess with sewer lines you know where they are, but it seems like a lot of

those things, if you lost those maps, anything under the ground, you would lose the knowledge, right?

Mr. Moule: The important maps are scanned.

Councilmember Cowden: The important maps are scanned. Okay that is what I wanted to hear.

Mr. Moule: There are a lot of things in that file. Every once in a while we will find a small subdivision where the plans have not been scanned yet, and we need those drawings, so we get those scanned. The major roads are all scanned. They are all available. It is the more minor roads and some of the subdivision roads that have not yet been scanned and are in the queue to get scanned. Some get scanned every month. It is happening.

Councilmember Cowden Thank you.

Council Chair Rapozo: Are there any other questions for Engineering?
Thank you.

Mr. Tanigawa: Next is Buildings.

Councilmember Cowden: Which page?

Mr. Tanigawa: Master page 196.

Councilmember DeCosta: I had a question.

Council Chair Rapozo: Hang on. Councilmember DeCosta has one more question. Sorry, Mike, if you could come back real quick.

Councilmember DeCosta: Sorry. In this Operational Challenges, I noticed that the Construction Section Head is no longer there. I believe Mr. Donald Fujimoto is moved over to Wastewater. How much will that hurt our division, losing that experienced personnel in the Construction Section Head position? How do we plan to manage that?

Mr. Moule: At this time, that position is not showing up as one of the vacancies in the Vacancy Report because at the moment Mr. Fujimoto is temporarily assigned to Wastewater. My hope and understanding is that that will change and he will either be permanently there or back. If he does end up being permanently in Wastewater, like the other vacant positions we have, we will quickly move to fill it, because it has been a challenge. We have never filled that position because it has been temporarily assigned elsewhere. I have been doing more things in Construction Management I would otherwise, because that position has been vacant. We are aware of that vacancy. It is part of the discussions that we have had that Janine talked about with respect to reorganization. We

are actively working to fill that, along with other positions, if and when it becomes available to fill.

Councilmember DeCosta: I appreciate your extensive elaboration on it. I have a bit of a concern. You said that Mr. Fujimoto may or may not stay in Wastewater. Please educate me on that. Does he have the right to recuse himself from that position and come back to us, or is it that he is checking out that job position? If he likes it, he will stay, if he does not, then he will come back? How does that work so I can understand? It leaves you folks in a tough position, right? If you are trying to fill this, you do not know when you will fill it if that person who is moving or not moving is going to come back or stay. I want to understand.

MICHAEL A. DAHILIG, Managing Director: Mike Dahilig, Managing Director. Councilmember DeCosta, any position, when we have a Temporary Assignment (TA) position like this, where Mr. Fujimoto is at Wastewater, and when, that actually goes out for recruitment... Right now, what we are doing is we are actively recruiting. You can go through that discussion with the Wastewater section of the Budget on that Chief of Wastewater position that is just starting the recruitment now. If Mr. Fujimoto does choose to apply, as being mentioned, then if he is selected, what would happen is there is a 6-month "return right" window, at which point then, if he chooses to either leave the new position, he can fall back to that, or that position will become vacant. Due to the way the Civil Service system statutes are set up, that would be the case. Again, without presupposing anything, we still have to go through a number of recruitment procedures. Mr. Fujimoto may choose not to apply for the position. At that point, he would fall back to the permanent position. At this point, it is difficult to say for certain what would happen to that position that you are pointing out until the recruitment starts.

Councilmember DeCosta: I appreciate it. My standpoint is not only to just do a Budget analysis and keep you folks accountable for the tax dollar, but also to support you folks. If you are losing a key position like that, Mr. Fujimoto has many years of experience, I want to make sure you folks are going to be okay.

Mr. Dahilig: If that does become a scenario where the incumbent in the position that is in Engineering does move on, then in the May Submittal we would look at proposing an adjustment to reflect the return rights and having that short-funded out of respect to the Council questions.

Councilmember DeCosta: You mentioned a little bit about overtime. I am looking at a scenario like this. If, Mr. Moule, you had to step in and do some kind of project engineering because Mr. Fujimoto is now in Wastewater, and you did use a little bit of overtime because you have your own responsibilities, and now you need to do double responsibilities. That is why we have some of that Budget flexibility on the overtime, correct?

Mr. Moule: Correct. We very rarely use overtime for those situations. We try to avoid it. Most of our overtime is, honestly, when we do public meetings at night, and that sort of thing. It happens occasionally. Just recently, I had one of my staff

members do some overtime to process some of the bids because we have so many vacancies in Project Management. We did overtime to process the bids that came in for the projects so that we can get that out to Construction, because we are short-staffed. That is relatively rare for us. It is something that we sometimes use excess salaries for, as I mentioned earlier, but we try not to. We well understand the calls from the Council and from the Administration to use overtime as little as possible. It is clear to us.

Councilmember DeCosta: Thank you.

Council Chair Rapozo: Councilmember Bulosan

Councilmember Bulosan: Shifting focus real quick. Do you folks have a budget for interns or seasonal interns, not just for Engineering, but overall?

Mr. Tanigawa: There is a program in which HR provides the opportunity for us to apply for interns.

Councilmember Bulosan: Okay, so it does come from HR. I was wondering. That is probably distributed through all departments. Sorry to ask. I did not see the amount. How much was it? Sorry to bring it up, Janine.

Council Chair Rapozo: I thought interns were free.

Councilmember Cowden: Internships are great for recruiting engineers.

Council Chair Rapozo: Yes, I agree.

Ms. Rapozo: In your Budget, I think it is in Wage and Hourly, and I think it is \$30,000. Last summer, I think we hired 12 to 13 interns, spread throughout the different departments.

Council Chair Rapozo: Thank you.

Councilmember DeCosta: It is during the summer, right?

Ms. Rapozo: Yes. We also bring in interns when needed, but primarily during the summer.

Councilmember Bulosan: Thank you. The reason I brought that up is just thinking of streamlining, and upselling. I mean, scanning sounds like an intern's job. I would do that if I was an intern. I was just saying, looking at ways to that we can continue building the workforce from a long-range point of view. In my perspective, \$30,000 for an internship for the entire County sounds very small. It sounds like that would even be perfect for one department, considering the shortfalls that we have. Building qualified people over time, I think that would probably be the best way to do it. Just a thought.

Council Chair Rapozo: Does anyone have any more questions? Thank you. Okay, Buildings. Hello.

LEOLYNNE ESCALONA, Code Enforcement Officer: Good morning, Council Chair, member of the Council. For the record, I am Leolynne Escolona, Code Enforcement Officer for the Building Division.

Council Chair Rapozo: Everyone has their presentation. I know Councilmember Kualii has a question.

Councilmember Kualii: Just going right at the positions again. There were 3 on the vacancy report that I am most interested in. Thankfully, the vacancy report answered 2 of my 3 questions. The position 1525, Civil Engineer V and the position 9048, Project Management Officer. Both of those are 530 days vacant, pending reorganization, which we were talking about earlier. It shows 6-month funding for those positions. The other position, 1528, Administrative Support Assistant. Number 1, I am just wondering how you come up with the amount, because this one only shows a 6.3% increase, and if I remember correctly, all of the other positions across the board was 8.9%. This position was vacant for 2,264 days and then it said, 'No activity. Basically, and maybe HR can help with this again, I want to know where you are at with recruitment and can you get this person hired and started by July 1, 2023?

Ms. Rapozo: What number, again? I am sorry.

Councilmember Kualii: On master page 196, Position No. 1528, the third from the top, Administrative Support Assistant.

Ms. Rapozo: So I think you folks got a plus-minus, or a change from the last Budget to this one. If you look at 1528, I think it was a Senior Buildings Plans Examiner, or something to that effect. They recently reallocated this to an Administrative Support Assistant. The number of days vacant was really as the Examiner, and not as the Assistant, but the way the vacancy report works is the position number itself was vacant all that time. They are actively trying to fill this position as we speak.

Councilmember Kualii: I was wondering, because I would think that this position is not a difficult to fill position.

Council Chair Rapozo: I would like to clarify, because in your narrative you mention an Administrative Support Assistant, SR-16 is included, which I take that as a new position, but that is what you are talking about? Is that 1528?

Ms. Rapozo: Yes. That is what I was talking about, how sometimes divisions will look at their Budgets and figure out what they really need. Rather than ask you for a new position, they reorganize within themselves so that it does not cost more. The change in funding, Councilmember Kualii, is because I think the examiner was an SR-19 or 17, and so now this is a 16.

Councilmember Kualii: Thank you. Thank you, Chair.

Council Chair Rapozo: Councilmember Cowden.

Councilmember Cowden: The Division Head, I think it was Doug Haigh, right? Are you his position replacement now?

Mr. Tanigawa: No. Actually, Doug Haigh was in charge of the Building Division which includes, at that time, a Project Management Section, as well as the Code Enforcement Section, that Leolynne is currently in charge of. Leolynne has remained in her position as that Code Enforcement Officer, still in charge of building inspections and their projects.

Councilmember Cowden: The division position Project Manager, has that been replaced? Who is in the position that Doug used to have?

Mr. Tanigawa: Doug's position and the Project Manager's position are both vacant. Those are the partial funded positions that we plan to transfer over to our new division for Project Management.

Councilmember Cowden: Are you overwhelmed, or are you doing okay?

Ms. Escolona: It is always a challenge with permitting. Obviously, we want to support the construction industry, so our emphasis is in processing permits as quickly, and as efficiently, as possible, doing inspections, and ensure that the community is safe. It is a challenge. We are on continuous recruitment for another Buildings Examiner. It has been a challenge to find qualified applicants.

Councilmember Cowden: Where I see number of days for permits to be approved by Building Division, seeing commercial goes 2020:7 days, 2021: 17.4 days, and then 2022: 10.3 days. I live across the street or kitty-corner across the street from a shopping center in Kilauea. When I look at all the businesses that have not been able to open when they have had the lease for almost 2 years. When I ask them what is happening, it seems to be permitting issues.

Ms. Escalona: The statistics I provide is just for Building Division review. It does not speak for the other reviewing agencies. There might be issues with maybe the Department of Water or Department of Health. I cannot speak for the individual applicants.

Councilmember Cowden: This is not a criticism. I would like to know where we need to help you. I went to the McDonald's blessing in 'Ele'ele and they had rescheduled that very elaborate blessing for the third time and they did it anyway, even though they did not get their permits. Fortunately, they got the permit within about a week. That was in December. It seems like it is a challenge to get everybody's things finished. Last I

remembered it was all online now, right? It is parallel-water, electric-instead of going from one department to the next to the next to the next. Is that correct?

Mr. Tanigawa: That is correct. Also, we listed it as a highlight under the Building Division. They recently completed an upgrade of the system. Before that upgrade, there were problems with uploading certain versions of PDF documents and other versions of software. Now with that update they are able to upload those documents without issues. There are little hiccups here and there, but with our software provider, the Building Division is able to work through those pretty quickly.

Councilmember Cowden: Okay. I think it is good for the Council to know of when they are happening, because we just get the complaints and we do not really understand the barriers that are in place. When we look, and it looks like it is pretty smooth, although we do not have a Project Manager, and we do not have a Division Head, even if they are going to be in a different piece. I am just trying to be aware of what we can do to create those solutions.

Mr. Tanigawa: If you run into anyone with questions or perceived problems, the Building Division has clerical staff that they can call and get the support they need to keep those permits moving.

Council Chair Rapozo: Let me just say that I have not received a complaint. Every comment I have had about your Buildings has been positive. A lot of people complain about everything, including the Council, about us. I just need to say everyone that contacts you from the public that I have been approached by had nothing but good things to say about you.

Ms. Escalona: I must say that I cannot take the credit for myself. I have to thank my staff.

Council Chair Rapozo: That is true, but you are the face. They see you, they do not see them. You, basically, set the tone. That was the good news. Now, I have an ask. We used to get a quarterly permit report from Buildings. Is it possible to get that again?

Ms. Escalona: Sure.

Council Chair Rapozo: The McDonald's in Hanapēpē triggered my brain. Many times, the delays are not caused by the County or the State. Many times they are, but what that report showed me, when we were getting them, were the amount of times that the applicant did not submit a complete application. Maybe the applicant was not accurate in their documents or did not submit on time. That helps us understand where these backlogs are. If we could get that started again, I would really appreciate that.

Ms. Escalona: Certainly.

Council Chair Rapozo: Thank you. Councilmember DeCosta.

Councilmember DeCosta: I want to piggyback off of those positive comments. I almost lost Public Works to Councilmember Kagawa, because he had experience over me, but I could not give up working with you. I just want you to know that. Councilmember Kagawa had to settle for Finance, which Finance Director Reiko Matsuyama is equally as important as you. Leo, I am interested and I want to tell the Council how hard Leo works on the State Building Codes, to adopt it, and the changes to have our County up to Code. There are a lot of things that you folks do not see behind the scenes that I get to see. I got to work with Leo and we had our Analyst assisting Leo, and it is an amazing job what you folks do that our community does not know. I am going to go out on a limb here and say this, I am interested to know if you want to move up in Administration to the vacant positions? Are you interested in taking a step further up? Are you feeling competent enough in take a step further up?

Council Chair Rapozo: You have the right to remain silent, you know. Anything you say can and will be used against you.

Ms. Escalona: We do have the plan for the Department of Public Works to develop a new division, which I think would be a benefit to our community, and I do support that.

Councilmember DeCosta: Thank you for being so politically correct. In the audience, we have one of our Public Works employee, Allison, at Solid Waste. She applied, and that was a perfect fit for her, and I supported her. She grew into this great leader, and I can see you being that great leader.

Ms. Escalona: Well, thank you for that, but I leave that up to the Administration.

Council Chair Rapozo: Are there any other questions? Councilmember Kualii.

Councilmember Kualii: There is only a dollar in the Budget on this, but I am curious. The 9051 Construction Manager says "Contract" and it has \$1. If you do have to use this, how will you pay for it?

Ms. Escalona: Is it 9049?

Councilmember Cowden: Yes, 9049.

Ms. Escalona: I am not from the Construction side. That was my former boss. My understanding is this particular position would be filled if it was under contract.

Councilmember Kualii: Oh, the contract would pay for it?

Ms. Escalona: Right.

Councilmember Kualii: Okay, thank you. The last thing is these positions with "T" in front of them. Are these State-funded positions?

Ms. Escalona: No, these positions would be funded from the Building Division Revolving Fund, so that would be outside of the General Fund.

Councilmember Kualii: But they do work in your Department?

Ms. Escalona: Yes.

Councilmember Kualii: They are paid with similar salaries to the others?

Ms. Escalona: Correct.

Councilmember Kualii: Thank you.

Council Chair Rapozo: Are there any other questions for Buildings? If not, we are moving on.

Ms. Escalona: Thank you.

Council Chair Rapozo: Troy, for Roads Maintenance, do you want to wait for Mr. Izumo to come back? Oh no, this is Roads Maintenance. I am sorry. My mistake.

Councilmember Felicia: What page are we on?

Councilmember Kualii: It is page 199.

Council Chair Rapozo: Roads Maintenance will be on page 200. 199 is the cover sheet.

Mr. Tanigawa: If you folks do not mind, can we start with the 201 account?

Council Chair Rapozo: It is your call, my friend. We are very flexible.

Councilmember Cowden: What page?

Councilmember Kualii: Could you tell us what page?

Mr. Tanigawa: Page 254.

Council Chair Rapozo: Go ahead.

Councilmember Kagawa: I just wanted to announce to the Committee that I had spoken in private to the Auto Maintenance Manager. He had mentioned about his appointment, but also said that his Budget is status quo as the prior year. The only thing that went up was because of the gas prices. Basically, for that one, if you had no problem with last year's Budget, last year's performance under Budget, I think, basically, it is the same.

Council Chair Rapozo: I would think that Troy, you could probably cover that Budget. If we need him here, then we will bring him back. If not, then, obviously, we will not.

Councilmember Kagawa: I would not want to see us come back on Tuesday just for that, when, basically, all you have is the increase in fuel cost.

Council Chair Rapozo: Correct. Good point. Thank you.

Mr. Tanigawa: Beginning on page 254. It starts off with salaries.

Council Chair Rapozo: Okay, go ahead.

Mr. Tanigawa: We have 2 positions there: Highway Maintenance Manager and Administrative Support Assistant. Right now, we have the Manager \$1 funded. Next to me, Bryson, is under a different position under the 201 account, who is serving as the Manager at this time. This is an additional position that we are \$1 funding at this point. As far as the Administrative Support Assistant, we have recruited and we are preparing to hire for the position.

Council Chair Rapozo: Troy, how does this differ from Roads? Is it a separate division?

Mr. Tanigawa: No, it is just separate funding.

Council Chair Rapozo: The funding is the only difference, right?

Mr. Tanigawa: Yes.

Council Chair Rapozo: Okay.

Councilmember Kualii: Can I ask a question?

Council Chair Rapozo: Sure.

Councilmember Kualii: What did you just say? Did you say that the Highway Maintenance Manager position is \$1 funded, because it is not filled, but Bryson is serving that function with another position?

Mr. Tanigawa: We have a separate position currently in the 202 account.

Councilmember Kualii: The 202 account? Why do you have 2 positions, even though it is \$1 funded? Would you not eliminate one position if you do not need the other position?

Mr. Tanigawa: That position will be needed.

Councilmember Kualii: It is just temporarily?

Mr. Tanigawa: Correct.

Councilmember Kualii: For now, the other position has come across to fill this position?

Mr. Tanigawa: Correct.

Councilmember Kualii: Then, when you fill this position, it will go back?

Mr. Tanigawa: We will end up, once we fill the position, the position that Bryson has will probably revert back to where it was.

Councilmember Kualii: Okay. Thank you.

Mr. Dahilig: Just to add my share. Out of all the divisions, Roads is probably the most complicated financially because there are a number of funds that have limitations. In fact, if you look throughout the Budget, you will see situations where departments have to pay back Roads, because we are either pulling stuff either from a Federal Budget, GET, General Fund, those types of things. Where Bryson currently sits is in the 202 accounts, as Troy mentioned. To reemphasize, in order to also attract talents, sometimes we have to make adjustments in the position descriptions and try to be nimble in that aspect. That is where his current incumbent position is a little bit different than what is the EM written description currently, but it is still relatively filling the same type of function as the Manager. As the Engineer is mentioning, there is a hope that once certain minimum qualifications (MQs) are met, that there can be some reallocations down the line to fill that position. That, again, is kind of the plan as we mentioned.

Council Chair Rapozo: So, the funding is all in place?

Mr. Dahilig: Yes, the funding is all in place.

Councilmember Kualii: My only follow-up question is, on the vacancy report it shows this \$1 funded position vacant for 407 days, and no activity, so will you just continue like this or are you working to change it?

Mr. Dahilig: At a certain point, we hope that, because that particular classificational position is something that has to be consistent across the State with respect to what the qualifications, years of experience in a managerial role, those types of things, so we are hoping that we can build within to have somebody qualify for that job to then be able to hold that chief position.

Councilmember Kualii: Thank you. Thank you, Chair.
Council Chair Rapozo: Councilmember Cowden.

Councilmember Cowden: It sounds a little complicated, but, basically, the roads do not know the difference, right? You use the same skills set to pave whatever road, regardless of where the funding source comes from, right? What you are doing does not matter whether it is a 202 or 201. That is just where the money is coming from or is there a difference in the type of road bed? For example, how we do those Federal grants, that has a really big, serious road bed with several patch jobs?

Mr. Tanigawa: There is no difference. For certain projects, like what Engineering gets involved with, there is another funding source for that. As far as Bryson's division and the people in it, they basically maintain roads and also provide support services for other departments. It is budgeted accordingly with the Manager just mentioned. It is complex because we need to make sure there is appropriate funding for the services being provided.

Councilmember Cowden: Thank you, Bryson, for doing what you do. I am curious with the way we set up these positions. It seems it is like a different skill set for fixing roads as it is for managing all the complex accounting. Is that handled with an Administrative position, or how is that set up?

Mr. Tanigawa: There are office functions and office support, and Roads Division operation and that is what we are looking towards, to have that Administrative Assistant support.

Councilmember Cowden: So that is not filled? That seems like that is a real challenge for the Department. I am glad that our roads that. I want to acknowledge that. Those are two key positions that are not quite filled yet. We talked with HR yesterday about internal development. Is that being offered to help build and strengthen our existing force?

Mr. Dahilig: Part of the goal with it, and as you characterized it as an internal development, is also getting requisite years of experience under an individual's work history so that they can qualify for the civil service positions at higher levels. That is some of, as the HR Manager mentioned, the tools that we have to use in order to be able to attract and maintain talent, and compete with what the private sector is paying. That is where one of the approaches that we use is to try to figure out how to build the requisite amount of years of experience in order to meet certain Managerial MQs.

Councilmember Cowden: In our Roads Division, we use contractors, too, right? It seems like the same piece of equipment is out there for State and County jobs. It is the same subcontractors.

Mr. Dahilig: Just like the State Highways Division, we go out and do the normal procurement every cycle. You will see a lot of overlap between the State Highways using the same contractors as we are using simply because of our economies of scale. Typically, you can probably count the number of contractors that can do repaving on your hand. This is throughout the whole State in general. That is where some of the cost efficiencies with having a contractor that is also working on State Highways projects in tandem work with our stuff creates some synergies, but that it does also create some conflicts, as well. I am sure Bryson can talk to those. It is like a brother-brother relationship, or a sister-sister relationship. Sometimes you get along, sometimes you do not.

Councilmember Cowden: What percentage are we thin in our roads because some of it is done with contractors? What percentage of our positions are open and filled? Is it just a handful?

BRYSON VIVAS, Executive Assistant to the Mayor: Good morning Council Chair and members of the Council. Bryson Vivas, Executive Assistant to the Mayor. Right now, we are about 80% staffed.

Councilmember Cowden: 80? So 20% opened?

Mr. Vivas: With the recent movements and hires that we are going through, we will be filling an Administrative Assistant, another Clerk in Kapa'a. We will be close to 90% full with the recent requisitions and recruitments going through right now.

Councilmember Cowden: How about your Contractors? Are they largely full, too? I mean, it seems like, with some things, it takes a long time to get done. No complaint from me, I always am curious how much it is short staff, how much it is from weather. For instance, what we are trying to get different work done and how much is funding?

Mr. Tanigawa: I would say as far as contracted services that Roads Division needs for support for what they do, there are available contractors on the island. As the Managing Director alluded to, at times we are competing for the same contractor, but also the same materials, too. Sometimes there is a lull in supply, but that is just a short period of time and there is recovery after.

Councilmember Cowden: I think the glaringly slow job is not County, it is State, right there in Wailua. It feels like that road has been ready to be done for months and it is hard to know why it is not finished yet. It might be weather, who knows. Are you competing with that same project job for your contractors?

Mr. Tanigawa: Some it involves traffic control that we also sometimes contract out. A lot of it, though, is probably internal to that project. They go through unforeseen conditions just like we do. We do not have much information about what is going on with the State projects, but we also see the same things. Stuff gets delayed, it does not seem like work is happening when the weather is good, contractors able to work. That is only because of certain contract requirements that have to be clarified or changed out or dealt with to make sure the contractor can proceed with their work.

Councilmember Cowden: We had our Roads audit that could have been better. Has there been improvement in that direction?

Mr. Tanigawa: I am sorry. Can you repeat the question?

Councilmember Cowden: We had our Roads audit, maybe last year, that could have had a stronger report. It highlighted some problems. Have we moved forward in addressing some of the weaknesses in that roads audit?

Mr. Tanigawa: We have. There were findings, and from those findings we have developed certain fixes so that we are able to disrupt areas that were identified as weak that we needed to correct. So, yes, we have made corrections.

Council Chair Rapozo: Bryson, yes?

Mr. Vivas: Yes.

Council Chair Rapozo: How are you?

Mr. Vivas: Good.

Council Chair Rapozo: You said you were an Executive Assistant to the Mayor?

Mr. Vivas: Executive Assistant, yes.

Council Chair Rapozo: So, you are out of the Mayor's Office, assigned to Roads?

Mr. Vivas: Roads Division, yes. Correct.

Council Chair Rapozo: That is interesting. We cannot find people. Generally speaking, we come out with a road paving schedule every year. Based on how much time we have left in this year, are we going to meet all of the Roads projects that we set out in last year's plan?

Mr. Vivas: We have another staff person that is handling the island-wide resurfacing that I think you are referring to.

Council Chair Rapozo: Yes.

Mr. Vivas: Island-wide resurfacing is a contract that is let out using GE funds.

Council Chair Rapozo: When should I bring that up? I do not want to waste this time if it will be up in another department.

Mr. Tanigawa: We will be able to cover that a little later on. It comes up in part of the Roads Division Budget anyway. Bryson is more of roads operation and maintenance with using the base yards, and not so much with traffic contractors.

Council Chair Rapozo: Then help me understand. I should know this, too, but I think I forgot. The Roads Division, how is it broken down? Bryson, what is your function?

Mr. Vivas: My function is maintenance and operations.

Council Chair Rapozo: Maintenance and operations of what?

Mr. Vivas: Of roads. Roads and right of ways.

Mr. Dahilig: Of, for instance, the base yards.

Council Chair Rapozo: Okay. You are not tasked with the paving?

Mr. Vivas: Not with the paving side. Not with the paving contracts. More so just operations and maintenance.

Council Chair Rapozo: Alright. We will get to that one later.

Councilmember DeCosta: Who is in charge of paving?

Council Chair Rapozo: Yes, I was just going to ask. Who would be in charge of the island-wide paving?

Mr. Tanigawa: That would be Todd.

Councilmember DeCosta: Todd?

Council Chair Rapozo: Oh. He is here, too. I will catch you later.

Councilmember DeCosta: Is Todd in a division of Public Works, or is he out of the Mayor's Office?

Mr. Tanigawa: Todd is within Public Works administration.

Council Chair Rapozo: Got it. Are there any other questions, as far as maintenance? You do not have to find one. If you do not have one, we can move on.

Councilmember DeCosta: We want you to enjoy your time here.

Council Chair Rapozo: We have Public Works here, so if we have a question later, we can bring them back. Are there any other questions on road maintenance of baseyards? We have all the different base yards.

Councilmember Kualii: Were you going anywhere else because there are more divisions, right? You made us go to page 254. Should we go back to where we were before?

Mr. Tanigawa: Page 254 starts the 201 account. Roads continues with the 202 account, master page 286.

Councilmember Kualii: The GET Fund?

Mr. Tanigawa: No.

Council Chair Rapozo: It is the Roads Administration.

Councilmember Kualii: Roads Administration, but GET Fund, right?

Councilmember Cowden: I have a base yard question.

Council Chair Rapozo: Let us try to get through the Administration, first. You were referring to the Administration?

Mr. Tanigawa: Yes.

Council Chair Rapozo: Page 286?

Councilmember Kualii: I have a position question.

Council Chair Rapozo: Go ahead.

Councilmember Kualii: Position 9052, Senior Project Manager. It has only been vacant for 134 days. For the dollar amount, on the Budget it shows \$68,556, and on the Vacancy Report it says \$68,136. This does not represent the usual 8.9% increase. What is it off? Is this another reclassification or reallocation?

Mr. Tanigawa: Yes, this position was recently reclassified at this level. We have been recruiting for it. We have found a candidate. We are about to hire.

Councilmember Kualii: Excellent. That answers my question, and I saw Janine already nod regarding reclassification.

Council Chair Rapozo: Are there any other questions on Roads maintenance. We can go through the individual base yards if we follow the Budget sheet. I believe the first on the Budget sheet on page 257 is Hanapēpē. If you have a general question about baseyards, that is fine as well. Just an overall question.

Councilmember Cowden: I was curious about Hanalei base yard. We have been doing a big rebuild on it. Where is it at? Is it functioning?

Mr. Tanigawa: Hanalei baseyard has gone through a renovation. They had really old facilities there. It was not properly raised above grade enough to be able to keep the floors and occupied areas out of the flood zone. Typically, when there was a big storm, the building would flood and they would have to deal with the conditions after that. We were fortunate enough to have sufficient funds so we could start this renovation. It is basically, I would say about 90% complete. The baseyard has been able to function with a temporary office, as well as having their areas for their materials and other spaces to keep their equipment.

Councilmember Cowden: That area is starting to look real crowded. It has got the dust cloth around it, so it is hard to really see what is going on inside. I see they got the playground equipment. It is right there right now, too. Hooray on that. I was curious if it was still fully functional. It sounds like it is.

Mr. Vivas: Yes, we are still fully functional at Hanalei baseyard. They just started putting up the fences and they are pretty close to being complete with this project.

Councilmember Cowden: Thank you.

Councilmember Bulosan: Do you have an estimated time? A couple months, 3 months?

Mr. Vivas: I do not have an estimate.

Councilmember Bulosan: Can we swing back to roads?

Council Chair Rapozo: Which roads?

Councilmember Bulosan: The request for the tree trimming.

Council Chair Rapozo: Go ahead.

Mr. Vivas: Right now, we have a backlog of trees that are outside of what the baseyard folks can normally do. Right now, with the equipment that we

have, we can cut trees up to 30, 35 feet. These trees are extremely large. They are in the County right of way. It is safer for us to create an outside contract for these trees and have an on-call service where we can call a contractor to go and remove these large trees. It is also for the safety of our workers because it is dangerous, as well as for the public, if these trees do fall into the road or damage guardrails or other facilities.

Council Chair Rapozo: It is good to have the experts dealing with it.

Councilmember Bulosan: I know for a lot of people who are driving, the scheduling of the timing is probably the number 1 complaint that we get. "Oh, why Monday at 3 o'clock?" or something like that. In this Budget, what is the communication? Is that coming from here or is it coming from the Mayor's Budget?

Mr. Tanigawa: Pertaining to the trees?

Council Chair Rapozo: I think he might be talking about the hiring. That would be the State. Trust me, we have blown their ear off about that. It is sad because you only get so many days you can cut the trees. They did it on Election Day. On our Primary Election Day they chose to do the tree trimming, so the Westside people were stuck in two, three hours to drive to the one place that they needed to vote. Trust me. I have reached out to the State. Their response is, "We need to cut the trees." On the County level, if I can tack on real quick, there are County roads that trees overhang onto and it becomes dangerous. The tree is on private property. How do we address those? I have one in my head right now, that I will talk to you offline about it. If someone calls and says, "Hey, on this County road someone's tree is overhanging and it is actually low enough that it is touching the cars, so the car has to go around the tree to get around." Is there a process in place that we can go in, cut it, and send them a bill? How does this work?

Mr. Tanigawa: For any obstructions within the County right of way, we have the authority to go in and take it out. Currently, we do not have a mechanism that we can go back and charge anybody.

Council Chair Rapozo: We would go and cut the tree?

Mr. Tanigawa: We would take out the hazard, if there is a hazard.

Council Chair Rapozo: Okay. I will give you the address later.

Mr. Tanigawa: It has to be within the County right of way.

Council Chair Rapozo: It is, definitely. It is blocking the road. I drive past it every day because it is on my road. I was about ready to take my chainsaw. It is coming from a pasture, so there is nobody living there. I was just going to take my chainsaw and cut it, but if you can do it for me, I would appreciate it.

Mr. Tanigawa: If we can get together after the meeting, we will take down the information.

Councilmember DeCosta: I have a follow-up to that. I understand our protocol on trees obstructing the passageway of vehicles on a County road, but what happens if we see a foreseeable problem with the large amount of rain and the tree is on a slope? It is not obstructing, yet, but it is leaning way over. If that tree falls on the private property onto our road, it will cause a lot of havoc. Do we have the ability, and I am not saying to go and cut it, does Bryson have the ability to follow up with the tax map key, follow up with the owner, and give them some constructive information saying, "Hey, take care of your tree because it is a hazard and it could cause a lot of havoc if it takes power lines down on our County road. I have the address, too. I want to fix the problem.

Mr. Vivas: Thanks for that question. What I have been doing on my side, if I know there is a tree or there are trees on private property, I try to go and find the property owners, and try to reach out to them first. If it is a hazard that is coming into the road, we start to plan on how we are going to go ahead and take away this hazard. If it is hanging onto the road?

Council Chair Rapozo: I am thinking we just trim the trees, not remove the folks' trees.

Mr. Vivas: Cut it to make it safe.

Council Chair Rapozo: Yes. Councilmember Cowden.

Councilmember Cowden: I have a follow-up on that. What if the landowner is the State? In, for instance, Hanapēpē Valley and places like that, there are trees and vines all over the power lines. As I have said to somebody in the department recently in a warm-up call for this, "The bus drivers are worried they are going to hit these sagging lines that are filled with growth."

Mr. Vivas: I had recent conversations with the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) trying to address probably the same trees as you are in Hanapēpē Valley. We have to have this communication with us, the County, as well as the State, to try and figure out the best way to address these trees, if it is in their property.

Councilmember Cowden: When it has been a problem for a year, will this take five years or something? It seems that it takes a long time.

Mr. Tanigawa: Sometimes there is some coordination, and this will be done. Especially for trees in the roadway. If there are utility lines, then we have to coordinate with the utilities. We have a really good example that Bryson just completed a few months ago up in Olohena Road. There were massive Albizia trees that had to be cut down. They were in the utility lines, so Bryson's coordination with both Kaua'i Island Utility Cooperative and Hawaiian Telcom, and I think eventually Spectrum, too, property, they were

able to take down all of those trees and remove the problem. We also get assistance from the Engineering Division. They help us send out letters to the owners, and also help us find the owners. Sometimes it works. When it does not work, then we actually have to go in and remove the hazard.

Councilmember Cowden: Thank you.

Council Chair Rapozo: Councilmember Carvalho.

Councilmember Carvalho: Just following up. Is there a program already in place to follow through similar to Olohena? I saw that Olohena Road project, but any for Ka'apuni or any on the west side, or is it just waiting?

Mr. Vivas: With this tree maintenance contract, we will try and get it to a point where we can continue the maintenance. These large trees are outside of the scope of what we normally can do. Once we get these trees, then we can continue down the road and hopefully keep them below 30 feet.

Council Chair Rapozo: Maybe we need to look at the Code and put in a reimbursement mechanism where we send them the certified letter. If they do not cut the tree, we go in and send them the bill.

Mr. Tanigawa: I think a few years ago there was a bill that came up. We have been looking at it. That is something that we can revive and get back up to you folks.

Council Chair Rapozo: I will definitely look at that because I do not think we should wait. You give them a reasonable time, which for me is maybe a week. If they do not have it cut, then we go, and we cut, and we bill, because it is dangerous. I can tell you the one I am talking about is very dangerous because it is approaching the top of a hill, so I cannot see on the other side of the hill. If I need to go around this tree and someone is coming up at a higher rate of speed, we are going to hit. We are going to crash. Councilmember DeCosta.

Councilmember DeCosta: Yes, I had a few questions, and maybe this is...

Council Chair Rapozo: Sorry. Are there any more questions on trees?

Councilmember Bulosan: Yes.

Council Chair Rapozo: Okay. Go ahead.

Councilmember Bulosan: Is there any proactive programming or ways that we can engage the community to take care of their trees ahead of time? Is there any outreach that we do in that sense?

Mr. Tanigawa: Right now, what we are relying on is when there are issues that we do not detect, because we have our Roads people going out and checking out the roads, if something happens between that or something that we did not detect, we take the calls and we address those specific items right now. That is the way we do it now.

Councilmember Bulosan: I guess, where would a community member report a place. We are doing it right here, right now, but if someone else said, "Hey this road here, this County road," do they just call?

Mr. Vivas: They could call Roads. They could call me. We will do an assessment. What we would do is work with Engineering to see if it is within the County right of way or if it is more in private property. There are some times where the tree just hugs the property line and now we need to make a determination on who it belongs to.

Councilmember Cowden: What is the email? Is it roads@kauai.gov? Is there an email?

Mr. Vivas: You can just give me a call. My number is 241-4844.

Councilmember Cowden: 4844.

Mr. Vivas: We are still setting up that email. With the recent turnaround and getting an Administrative Assistant, as well as a Project Manager, once we get that team set up, then we can start setting up these emails.

Council Chair Rapozo: Do you take care of the calls for potholes, too?

Mr. Vivas: Yes.

Council Chair Rapozo: What is typically the turnaround if someone calls in a pothole? We see the complaints. The claims, I should say. We get claims here because somebody's front end got broke or the tire broke. Basically, the rule of thumb for the County Attorney is that if it is a pothole that we had knowledge of, then we have to pay. Often, a pothole may sit there for a few days. If we get multiple claims, then we are subject to paying. However, if I call in right now and say, "Hey, there is a huge pothole on Hauaala Road," what is the process?

Mr. Vivas: With assistance from the Admin staff, who have been helping out a lot because right now it is just me sitting in Roads, we would get these calls and we try to direct it to the District Road Overseers (DROs) or the managers in their districts or their divisions.

Council Chair Rapozo: To the baseyard?

Mr. Vivas: Yes, to the baseyards. From there, we go and check the potholes. If it is a hazard, even if it is late in the day, we try to address those potholes as soon as possible.

Council Chair Rapozo: What would be considered a hazard?

Mr. Vivas: A hazard is something that will cause definite damage.

Council Chair Rapozo: To a vehicle?

Mr. Vivas: Yes.

Council Chair Rapozo: Got it. Thank you. Are there any more questions on trees? If not, Councilmember DeCosta.

Councilmember DeCosta: Yes, I had a couple of questions. Thank you. You are new in our County, but I have only heard good things about you. Thank you for all the work you do for us. You are an impressive person. Bryson, tell me a little bit, or maybe Troy needs to chime in, but, pet-peeve, I am a limbo kind of guy. Roads in limbo. I do not know why we have such a hard time fixing those roads. We go back and forth with the State versus the County, and it is our community members who feel the repercussion and end up with the potholes that we decided we could not fix or did not fix because, maybe it is not our jurisdiction. Maybe it is the State's. How about we just fix it and we send the State the bill, or we fix it and we half the bill with the State? Can we assist you folks in a letter to the State for their Roads Division saying, "Hey, let us fix the roads in limbo because we are still providing services on those roads to our constituents, yet we are not fixing the roads"? I just saw a lady yesterday who brought her claim in. She was excited to get her car fixed, or something. I am glad we fixed their claim. How do we fix this problem: roads in limbo? Let us just fix it. Let us make the decision. Pull the trigger. Fix the road and bill the State half and we pay half. What do we do?

Mr. Dahilig: There have been attempts by the Legislature that have been supported both by our County and the counties and, at the time, the State Highways Administrator, who is not the Director of Transportation, to actually allow for that type of work to be done without any introduction of there being evidence of owning the road or any type of liability. Those bills have failed, and most recently in the last session to have that be put into place. I think, policy-wise, we all agree—Let us just take care of what we need to take care of. However, it goes into deeper liability issues regarding landownership. If a repair is not done to standard or if a pothole that exists was not taken care of, that Legislation would have sorted out who would have been responsible from a liabilities standpoint. Right now, it is an open game that both of us could be culpable for each other's actions. That is why you see this constant stand-off. Policy-wise, I think we are there. We just need the proper liability tools from the State Legislature to do so, and they have just not passed the Legislation in previous sessions.

Councilmember DeCosta: I understand the part about being liable, County or State, touching the road that we are owners of and in case we did not do it to standard, but the standard is not there right now. The community is complaining. They are going to have an accident, a breakage, or something. At that point, who pays the claim? The State or the County? Either way, we have a claim by the community member or we got a claim by the State or County for not following protocol, or how to pave, or the guidelines on how to repave.

Mr. Dahilig: It is a difficult interface with how our tort system works. It is the same situation we are seeing with the State passing a law last year, essentially, taking some Department of Education (DOE) lands and giving it to the County and vice versa, taking lands that are from the County by operation of law. There is actually a number of County facilities that have all of a sudden, by function of a State law, are now under State jurisdiction versus our jurisdiction. When you are a tort attorney, the first thing they look at is who owns this property. That is the culpability element that right now, from a defensive standpoint, we want to be able to say, we have a defense." Whether that is the right policy, I think we all agree, again, that is not what the public cares about. We just need the right tools to be able to properly separate out the liability. The roads in limbo is an item the Legislature still does not want to deal with.

Councilmember DeCosta: Maybe you and I, Councilmember Kagawa, need to work on something for this already. Last one I wanted to ask you folks. This is, again, Councilmember Kagawa's and my home territory. Waimea Valley. I know that you folks have some money allocated for the river mouth. When you go to the old-timers, and I am going to tell you that sometimes we have our Engineering degrees and Finance degree or Economics degree, but the degree of the old-timer who has lived through decades of that flooding and seen the river, they say we need an excavator. Not just opening the mouth but traveling out of that pinnacle and getting further out, where there is an embankment and dredging out there. I know that the County does not have the jurisdiction to be in State waters dredging, but we need to do something. We are fixing the mouth that we have jurisdiction of, and it is a reoccurring expense and a reoccurring situation. Mr. Douglas Dusenberry and, God bless the soul of Carl Dusenberry, who is not here, those two guys specifically put in my ear and everybody else's ear that we need our excavator out on that limb that goes out into State ocean and dredge it farther out. Can we work with the State engineers? Can we work with the Department of Land and Natural Resources? What is the process of getting that place dredged the way it should be so we can alleviate, every time there is a little bit of rain, the river plugs up and we need to go out and spend a whole bunch of money to do something that is going to get plugged up again?

Mr. Tanigawa: The Army Corps would probably have to get involved, too.

Councilmember DeCosta: The same with Hanalei. Do you remember you and I were talking about the Hanalei one? They wanted to dredge because now the boats and stuff cannot really go out the way a small boat can go out, right? We cannot touch that because it is not the County jurisdiction.

Mr. Tanigawa: Yes, and that perhaps might be a future project. We would have to go back and talk about it with those agencies and see what can be the ultimate solution for that.

Councilmember DeCosta: So maybe you and I could meet them? We could get together with the Army Corps of Engineers and solve it or get some kind of legwork started on that dredging of the Waimea area.

Mr. Tanigawa: Definitely, that is something that can be explored as a potential future project.

Mr. Dahilig: Just to also add, that discussion would also have to entail a pretty deep conversation with DLNR.

Councilmember DeCosta: I did mention that.

Mr. Dahilig: The difficulty with some of these estuarian environments is that they are actually considered below the highest wash of the highest wave due to where Office of Conservation & Coastal Lands is currently drawing the lines. If there is evidence of coastal action within the Waimea river mouth, or same as the case in Hanalei, the State jurisdictional boundary goes all the way up that river mouth. It becomes a trilateral agency discussion that would have to ensue.

Councilmember DeCosta: Right, but then, again, who suffers? It is the community. Again, it is the community members who suffer.

Mr. Dahilig: Yes. As the County Engineer mentioned, we are open to that, but just as a suggestion also that we are going to have to engage very heavily with that agency because we do not own the mouth at that point.

Council Chair Rapozo: I think, if it involves the safety of our residents, if whatever the case is where the blockage is creating some problems for our residents, then somebody has got to take action. When a guy gets hurt, or when a girl gets hurt up on the Kalalau trail, which is a State land, we do not own that, but we send our County resources. We go and help save lives. I think that is a discussion we are going to have with the State and Federal governments, or whoever it is. We cannot wait and decide at a conference call they have on Tuesday, because the river is flooding and we need to open up that mouth. This is not a new issue. This is very old. In the old days, they would just call out the excavator operator. I think it was illegal, though, back then, but we did not worry. We just called up the folks and said, "Hey, get somebody out there to open up the river mouth," and they would just go.

Councilmember DeCosta: Chair, it was illegal, but we did not have the complainers that we have today. All you environmental complainers stop complaining, so we can take care of our estuaries.

Council Chair Rapozo: I think it is our laws.

Councilmember DeCosta: Whatever the law is, you can go out there and clean the estuary. I am with you, though. Our community does not benefit when those problems are not taken care of.

Council Chair Rapozo: Right, and at some point, there is a duty of us to make sure we protect our people.

Councilmember Cowden: Yes, and just to follow up on that because I have put a lot of focus on that flooding in that neighborhood. A lot of that is the 'auwai, too. The big problem is one side is private property and/or County, the other side is State, and since there are a lot of different owners, no one takes full *kuleana* to cut the trees or the plants along the 'auwai. We clean some, but just upstream it is choked. That seems to be a big a part of what floods that cul-de-sac and a couple of those areas a little bit further, but it has been doing it pretty badly.

Mr. Dahilig: The difficulty over the past two or three Fiscal Years is that previous leadership at DLNR had made it a point to try to push these maintenance responsibilities over to the County by, essentially, leveraging people's safety. I am freely saying that in the sense that we have had very difficult calls that have had to been made where we just assumed the costs. For example, in Waimea, the State used to pay for that. The State used to be responsible for that, and then they just threw up their hands and walked away. As the Chair is mentioning, we have to just jump in sometimes and say, "Hey, it is our people's safety first," but it does leave, at least from a management standpoint, a little bit of a bitter taste that we get put in a position where people's life and safety are put in play in order to cut cost from ledger. That is not the way we should handle things.

Mr. Tanigawa: I am happy to say that the river mouth situation is something we have been talking about, the solution that you mentioned, that that is possible. We are doing something during the interim. We are taking action on areas that we do control. There is a project now that we will get into later on in the CIP. It involves installation of a pump station, as well as repairs to the levee gate system so that we can better control that flooding situation in that drainage area.

Councilmember DeCosta: Thank you. I have one more to add. It is the last one I was going to add.

Council Chair Rapozo: Go ahead.

Councilmember DeCosta: I hope it is the right department, but we have our Public Works engineer and Michael Moule is in the audience. Crosswalks. How soon can we implement those little blinking light crosswalks if it is a hazard? I believe I brought it to your folks, attention. I know you told me it is in the scope of work. I just wanted to make sure that we get that crosswalk in Waimea town across the Middle School. How fast can we get stuff in? If somebody comes to us with an area that needs a crosswalk to a safe zone area

to a school, what is that quick protocol that we can install the white lines and the blinking lights? What is the procedure so we can understand that? I think, Mike, you are familiar with this because we spoke. I emailed you.

Mr. Moule: For crosswalks, there is not a simple answer to that. If there is an existing crosswalk that has already been approved by County Council Resolution, and we are looking to add flashing beacons, then the process, assuming it is not going through one of our Engineering Division projects, the process would typically be we would get a request, we would evaluate it, we would say, "Yes, this should have flashing beacons," and then we would present a work order to Roads Division for them to install. There is, however, also a purchasing piece of that. A couple of years ago, a few years ago now I think, we did a large purchasing of a number of these types of devices. I think it was the kind of end of year purchase thing we talked about earlier, where they had some budget, not salary, left in their budget for equipment and traffic devices. We used that money to purchase flashing beacons for almost two dozen crosses, almost twenty crosses, I believe.

Council Chair Rapozo: Can I ask how much is one of these?

Mr. Moule: It is about, for a single crosswalk, it is \$10,000. It depends on if there is a median. They are pretty inexpensive. They are not expensive with respect to or compared to things like traffic signals or other kinds of construction. We think they are cost-effective. That is why we use them a lot. They are effective in what they do. It does vary a bit depending on layout. There is that purchasing fee, so we have to make sure there is budget. We can often incorporate that intention to their budget, but it does require purchasing and it has to be shipped here and all that. We had just been talking about trying to restock effectively. I think we are out of stock right now.

Mr. Vivas: We have none right now.

Mr. Moule: So that we can more readily put things in, and we need to have some stock for replacements, anyway. They get damaged from cars or whatever.

Council Chair Rapozo: The question, that I think I heard, was a process for the request and to get approval.

Councilmember DeCosta: A timeline.

Mr. Moule: If it is an existing crosswalk, it can probably be done in a matter of 6 months. If we have to add in the evaluation and a Council Resolution for a new crosswalk, I would say to add another 6 months. We have to go through that process, send it to other departments, send it to you all for approval.

Council Chair Rapozo: We can do a Resolution in less than 6 months.

Mr. Moule: We can, but it has to go through reviews by the County Attorney and by others.

Council Chair Rapozo: Let us say that the review was done by Engineering and by everybody else, and we do the Resolution. Let us say it takes 6 months. From the moment you get the Resolution, how long does it take? Does it take 6 months to get blinking lights on the crosswalk?

Mr. Moule: Again, it depends on whether we have them available or if we have to purchase them. I do not want to over promise on this, right?

Council Chair Rapozo: Yes, I know, and I appreciate that.

Mr. Moule: There is staff time on the evaluation. The other challenge that is really important to note is that we cannot just plunk them out there if there is no accessible way to get to the push button. That is the biggest challenge we have. We get a lot of requests for these things in places we just cannot do without redoing some concrete. That is a whole other issue. That may require hiring a contractor. Sometimes Roads Division can do some minor concrete work, but not major stuff. That is why these things often do not get done quickly, or seemingly not at all, because there is this need to do a physical change like putting in crosswalks. That is why it is a complicated answer.

Council Chair Rapozo: This is important. I appreciate the discussion. The public, and myself included, did not understand that it took that much to get a crosswalk installed. Go ahead.

Councilmember DeCosta: I am going to get a little excited.

Council Chair Rapozo: Relax. Breathe.

Councilmember DeCosta: I, normally, do not get excited. I took off my *lei* because I was getting a pollen reaction. When Councilmember Kagawa got elected, the first thing he and I did, because we are from the westside, was we took a drive out there. Waimea Canyon Middle School is directly across a County project housing next to the West Kaua'i Technology & Visitor Center. We developed that County housing. We have a public school right across the street, yet Councilmember Kagawa and I noticed you have to walk all the way down to the Catholic Church, cross the highway there, then walk all the way back up to the Middle School. These kids are eating Froot Loops. They are running late to school. They are running across the street. Are we going to wait 6 months or a year before a kid gets hit by a car? This is an emergency situation. That crosswalk should be there, and if we need to cut \$10,000 from our Budget, we are going to need to put it there.

Mr. Moule: That particular location is actually stop sign controlled. We would not even use flashing beacons there. It is stop sign controlled, right?

Council Chair Rapozo: Let me just ask. Was a request put in?

Mr. Moule: Yes. We are working on it. I just do not remember where it is right now.

Council Chair Rapozo: Okay. We will get an update in writing. I am actually surprised, but I do understand now. It is clear to me, so thank you. Councilmember Kagawa.

Councilmember Carvalho: Are we good now?

Council Chair Rapozo: Yes, we are good.

Councilmember Carvalho: I wanted to get back to the pothole. In addition to the pothole, just so we are clear, I have had calls on people's driveway, partly. They say it is because of how the road is devised. Is that something that is also included in some of the areas where you will help alleviate some of that flooding?

Mr. Tanigawa: It depends on the road. I am not sure if the road that you are referring to getting calls about is Mailihuna Road or somewhere where a project is ongoing. The Roads Division can typically do some grading or regrading. Sometimes, after a storm, you get settlement that piles up in areas that did not exist before and then you get drainage in other areas that normally would not have, that it did not before. I would suggest that if anyone has that kind of condition, give Roads Division a call and they can go out and evaluate.

Council Chair Rapozo: Does anyone else have questions? Councilmember Bulosan.

Councilmember Bulosan: I am going to shift because I have a clarifying question. Regarding the high school and elementary school bus stops. Sometimes, they are on a County road. There usually is not a sign and it stops randomly, wherever. Is that a State responsibility to make that area safe or is that us? I know some of it is on the County right of way. An example would be Umi Street, right here. There is one right across my house and there are kids running and sometimes it is super dangerous.

Mr. Tanigawa: Where a County road intersects a State highway, typically, the State highway right-of-way is actually in further, into the County road intersection. Typically, the State will control the signage. The different factors control mechanism that there are at that intersection. If there is a problem at a certain intersection, the call can still come to us, then we can coordinate with the State agency to make sure they understand what the issue is there.

Council Chair Rapozo: Are there any other questions? Thank you.

Mr. Tanigawa: Thanks.

Council Chair Rapozo: Thank you very much. Next is Auto Maintenance. We have about 5 minutes before we need to take a caption break. Let us do the Auto Maintenance really quick. I think you heard Mr. Kagawa.

Councilmember Cowden: What page does it start on?

Mr. Tanigawa: You are looking at master page 275.

Council Chair Rapozo: Do you have some issues or questions?

Councilmember Kualii: Yes, we did not go through any of the bas yards.
Is that part of Auto Maintenance?

Council Chair Rapozo: No. Baseyards are all Roads Division. Do you have questions on it?

Councilmember Kualii: Yes.

Council Chair Rapozo: Okay. Let us take a 10-minute caption break and resume with the baseyards.

There being no objections, the Committee recessed at 10:56 a.m.

The meeting reconvened at 11:16 a.m., and proceeded as follows:

Council Chair Rapozo: We are...

Councilmember Kualii: 257.

Council Chair Rapozo: Yes, we are in Roads Maintenance. We have signs, we have baseyards, we have all of the different functions of Roads, if anyone has any questions. Let us start off with Hanapēpē, which is page 256. Does anyone have any questions. Yes, go ahead.

Councilmember Kualii: For Hanapēpē baseyard, on page 257, the positions, I see six vacant positions. Most of them are mostly clarified for me with the information on the Vacancy Report. However, I want to know on position 860, Equipment Operator IV, and position 890, Equipment Operator II, and position 891, Equipment Operator II, also, that a couple of them have been opened 195 days, another 272 days, the other one only 27 days, but it all said, and maybe Janine can help with this also, "Recruitment closes on 3/24," so what does that mean? Does that mean you made an offer? Are you about to bring somebody on?

Mr. Vivas: I can answer that. For position 860, recruitment closes on March 29, 2023. We are going to start testing mid-April, so for that position we are going to try and do our best to get it filled as soon as possible (ASAP). The other positions 890 and 891 are the same thing. The recruitment closes on March 29, 2023, and also the testing will occur mid-April.

Councilmember Kualii: The other position I wanted to ask about 851, Tractor Mower Operator, which increased. I did see the increase. It is in line with the 8.9% that all have been done at. This one has been open 287 days, and is showing "No activity." What are the plans? Again, what I am looking for is assurance that you are at a place in the recruitment where you can get the person hired and started, including whatever onboard process you have, on July 1, 2023. That is 851, Tractor Mower Operator.

Mr. Vivas: For 851, we started the requisition process. We are going to move to sending out recruitment for that position.

Councilmember Kualii: Sending out recruitment. Typically, how long does that take from this point?

Ms. Rapozo: Since it is a little higher position than your entry level laborer, it is going to be intra. We will be promoting from within, so it will be very quick.

Councilmember Kualii: Okay, good. This one, the interesting thing about it is it is open 36 days, the 872 Equipment Operator III. It became vacant on February 7, 2023, but it is listing "No activity. If it was vacant on February 7, 2023, as of March 15, 2023, we have not even started recruitment. Is there a delay in recruitment, maybe because a retired incumbent is still using that position number? Is that what it is?

Mr. Vivas: For that position, we are working with our baseyards. We are doing training to get our current workers certified on specific pieces of equipment so we can go ahead and fill that position.

Councilmember Kualii: Based on what you have to accomplish with that training and get to the point of promoting someone from within, can you get that done between now for that person to start on July 1, 2023?

Mr. Vivas: I believe so. We can get it done. I know this position requires a Commercial Driver's License (CDL), so we are reaching out to our applicants to make sure they are licensed to move into this position, as well as certified on the equipment necessary to be in this position.

Councilmember Kualii: Last one. Position 838, Equipment Operator I. \$55,800 showing in the Budget. On the Vacancy Report, it is showing \$38,430. That is an increase of 45%, so obviously something is going on here. I do not know if it is some kind of different position that is moving over. Explain to me what is happening with this position and its recruitment. It has been open for 392 days, and it is showing a status of "No activity."

Council Chair Rapozo: Which page is that on?

Councilmember Kualii: On master page 257, in the middle of the positions. Position number 838, Equipment Operator I.

Ms. Rapozo: I do not have the Budget in front of me, but I am wondering if it was short-funded in the current year.

Councilmember Kualii: In the prior year, do you think it was short-funded?

Ms. Rapozo: Possibly, yes.

Councilmember Kualii: Let me just throw this all out there and to everybody else from the other departments listening in. When I go through all of these positions, I am looking for the irregularities. If all those positions are the 8.9% increase, which is expected, because that is what the formula that you threw in for all the positions, that is fine. When something is increasing by 45%, however, then you should put it in your narrative as something unusual and you should also put it in your summary when you come before us and tell us about it. There are not a lot of them, and I know from years back, we have already come a long with HR's work on the vacancy report to provide us most of the answers, but HR is just doing the best that they can. You, as the Division or Department Manager, know better than anybody else what your staffing situation is. How it is changing. If there is anything really unusual, and I include in that any vacancies that have been there for a significant amount of time, it is reasonable, maybe recruitment will take 3 to 6 months, but beyond 6 months, and definitely beyond a year or 2 years, put it up front already. Explain what is going on with those positions. There are not a lot of them. Across the County, there are a lot. It probably represents a lot of money, but in each department, just come forward and tell us about it. With this particular position, what is going on?

Mr. Vivas: With this particular position, we are actually working on the requisition process and working to fill this position, as well. So, that process has been initiated.

Councilmember Kualii: So, Janine, you will have to go back and check for us on why this salary is increased 45%.

Ms. Rapozo: Yes. I am checking on the current year's Budget for position 838. It is showing 9-month funding. That is why it was listed at \$38,000 plus change.

Councilmember Kualii: Last year, it was 9-month funding and now it is up to 12-month funding.

Ms. Rapozo: Yes.

Councilmember Kualii: Okay. That answered that. Thank you.

Councilmember Cowden: May I ask a small follow-up question?

Council Chair Rapozo: Go ahead.

Councilmember Cowden: When we have these openings or if we have sicknesses or anything like that, do workers from one baseyard go and help in another baseyard? Do they move around if you are understaffed in one place, and shift?

Mr. Vivas: They do not normally shift between baseyards. The only thing that we could do is if there are special projects, other baseyards would come and assist. For the most part, the baseyards work with each other and with the staff that they have.

Councilmember Cowden: Okay, if you have a big cold that runs through the place, you will just be lightly staffed.

Mr. Vivas: We make adjustments to the schedule if there are staffing issues, but we still continue with the operations.

Councilmember Cowden: Can you not do the 89-day hire if we have too much, or are the temporary people that we utilize from time to time if it is too light? If we cannot fill. When I looked at it, there was one that was about 2,700, or one of these is a really long amount, almost 7 years. 2,264 days. Some of these are a really long period of time. It is 5, 6, 7 years. If we are funding it for that many years, it seems like they might not need that position.

Council Chair Rapozo: As a follow-up on the staffing issues at the baseyards, I notice in the overtime there is a \$50,000 line. This is just one baseyard.

Councilmember Kualif'i: On what page?

Council Chair Rapozo: This is page 257. We are still on the Hanapēpē baseyard. Year -to -date, you folks have already expended \$76,000. That, even my Kaua'i High School math, tells me that we are going way over. What do you anticipate? We will jump to the other baseyards later, but even at that \$33,000, with a Budget of \$30,000, it seems like Hanapēpē baseyard has been expending a lot of overtime. I am assuming staffing.

Mr. Vivas: Staffing is correct. They also go out for emergencies. If there is a tree that falls, or if there is a situation that happens at night, they are the first ones out there to go ahead and cut that tree down or fix the guardrail and make the road safe to use again. A lot of their overtime right now is because of these emergency call outs.

Council Chair Rapozo: So, not so much working on their day off to cover somebody that is out?

Mr. Vivas: Not so much that way. There were some situations where we had to play catch up because of all the complaints and all the situations that we had to address to make the road safe again. Not so much on that situation.

Council Chair Rapozo: How much do we expect to spend this year?

Mr. Vivas: On overtime?

Council Chair Rapozo: Yes, if we have already spent \$76,000 as of March 9, 2023.

Mr. Vivas: I do not have that answer for you right now.

Council Chair Rapozo: Was there anything unusual that created such an increase in overtime, like a storm? Was this normal? I do not have the years prior, so I have nothing to compare with it.

Mr. Vivas: In the time that I have been here, just last night, the workers went out to Wāwae Road to remove a large tree that fell down. Another baseyard went to Kaehulua to remove some trees and assist Kaua'i Island Utility Cooperative (KIUC). We cannot predict when these situations for call outs are going to happen. For overtime reasons, I would say that was probably the most—emergency callouts.

Council Chair Rapozo: My concern is we have you budgeted for \$50,000. You have already spent \$76,000. This says it was not because of staffing. This is because of trees. I do not want to short-fund an account just as much as I do not want to over-fund an account.

Councilmember DeCosta: May I chime in, Chair?

Council Chair Rapozo: Let me see what they will say.

Mr. Tanigawa: Roads Division actually, when other agencies need assistance, for example Solid Waste, it is a 7-day operation, we have calling requirements that have to be met, whether it is mobilizing equipment or whether it is hauling materials. At times, it is something that needs to be done on the weekends, on their normal day off.

Council Chair Rapozo: Troy, I am not questioning the overtime. I am not questioning at all the legitimacy of the overtime. I am not. I am questioning the funding, making sure we have enough in there.

Mr. Tanigawa: What I am getting to is the overtime hours for other agencies are actually paid by those agencies. For example, Solid Waste and whatnot. We do not have the answer to your question about that overtime cost compared to what is budgeted at this point. We can certainly look into it and get back to you.

Council Chair Rapozo: Okay. As I read this Budget, this line item, the overtime line here, these are the funds that came out of this Budget. Is there another influx or inflow from other departments reimbursing your department?

Mr. Tanigawa: The Roads Division people who actually perform for services for those divisions, they do actually reimburse.

Council Chair Rapozo: If your worker goes with Solid Waste, you are paying them out of your Budget, not the Solid Waste Budget?

Mr. Tanigawa: This is a number that we would have to look into to find out what the charges were for. This is just to clarify that the Roads Division does actually work on an overtime basis, but when that happens for purposes of servicing another division, that division will end up reimbursing the Roads Division.

Council Chair Rapozo: Okay, that was the question. There in your Budget, in the revenue or income side, there should be some kind of line item that shows interagency transfer.

Mr. Tanigawa: In the Solid Waste, there is.

Council Chair Rapozo: There is?

Mr. Tanigawa: There is something.

Council Chair Rapozo: Okay. Thank you. Councilmember DeCosta.

Councilmember DeCosta: Yes, and I apologize, Chair, if I asked to jump in right away. Again, I am not trying to side for Roads or Bryson, but I am understanding that this might be your go-to crew. This might be the crew when we have a natural disaster, we just had some strong winds, we just had some serious rain for 3 weeks straight that Earth became very unstable and natural happen that you cannot predict in the Budget. I am glad the Chair clarified he is not attacking the overtime. He wants to not short fund you folks. I do not expect you folks to answer, Bryson, when you need to use the overtime. I just want you to know that we support you, if you are telling us this group or this Roads Division of yours is the go-to gang to help the rest of the divisions in the County. Right? Is that it?

Mr. Vivas: Yes, that is it.

Councilmember DeCosta: Okay. Done. I am good. Let us just leave it at that. That is all I wanted. "Yes, it is." Leave it at that. Perfect.

Council Chair Rapozo: Are there any questions regarding Hanapēpē base yard? If not, let us move on to Kapa'a.

Councilmember DeCosta: Councilmember Carvalho might want Kapa'a to be the go-to gang. I can feel it now, but he can ask that question.

Council Chair Rapozo: Councilmember Kualii.

Councilmember Kualii: Just one quick one. I should have asked this when we were at HR yesterday regarding the Vacancy Report, in general. The 928 Laborer II position. It has only been opened now for 27 days. The budgeted amount is 8.9%. The status says, "Registration list established." What does that mean, what point in the recruitment are we, and do we have enough time to get this position in place started with onboarding and everything by July 1, 2023?

Mr. Vivas: 928 is a recent vacancy. We are going to start the requisition process and hire soon for that position. We have a labor list established that we can start pulling laborers for that position.

Councilmember Kualii: You can go through the complete process that you have to go through and get the person onboard and working on July 1, 2023.

Mr. Vivas: Yes.

Councilmember Kualii: Thank you.

Ms. Rapozo: Councilmember Kualii, just for clarification on the entry level positions, like Laborer, Park Caretaker, Janitor, Golf Course Groundskeeper, Groundskeeper, all of those Landfill positions, we have a labor registration list. We always have an eligible list for those positions, so we do not have to go out. Once they put out the requisition, we are going to refer the names to them, and then they can hire off of that.

Councilmember Kualii: Okay. You are not doing the normal recruitment, so this should go faster?

Ms. Rapozo: Right now, we do that every 6 months, so we always have people on that list.

Councilmember Kualii: Okay, thank you. Thank you for that.

Council Chair Rapozo: Are there any other questions. If not, then Hanalei base yard, page 265. Go ahead, Councilmember Bulosan.

Councilmember Bulosan: I just want to comment. Getting that timeline would be helpful. I know the community has asked about the completion, the expectation of it, because they want to do more collective community gatherings in that area. It would be good to get a timeline at some point.

Mr. Vivas: The timeline for the completion is estimated to be May.

Councilmember Bulosan:

Fantastic. Great news. Thank you.

Council Chair Rapozo:

Councilmember Cowden.

Councilmember Cowden:

I have, for Roads, a simple question, so forgive me.

I know that there is a base yard behind the Latter-Day Saints (LDS) Church, right? Then there is the one near Bryan J. Baptiste Park. Which one are we talking about? There is a base yard right there on that road behind the church, right? On the mountain side.

Mr. Tanigawa:

Behind the church, next to the canal. Is that the

one you are talking about?

Councilmember Cowden:

Yes.

Mr. Tanigawa:

That used to be a park baseyard. I think it is still

Parks.

Councilmember Cowden:

Oh, it is Parks. Okay. I was not sure which spot.

So, the base yard where we did have the police in it at some point, right, where we put the garbage trucks and things? That looks like it needs a little work. How is that whole building, that whole area doing?

Mr. Tanigawa:

We work with Building Maintenance to do

repairs. If there are more major repairs, then that is another potential CIP project. That is what happens.

Councilmember Cowden:

The police had been in there before they moved to

the armory. What is in that area where the police were? What do we use that building for?

Mr. Tanigawa:

Currently, one side is Parks and the opposite side

is Roads. I am not sure which side you are referring to.

Councilmember Cowden:

I guess the police were more on the north side of

it, but that whole building area is what we are calling the baseyard, right?

Mr. Tanigawa:

Yes.

Councilmember Cowden:

Okay because that has got more than Hanapēpē

does, right? It has a lot of garages and structures.

Mr. Tanigawa:

That is right.

Councilmember Cowden:

I would assume it would have more employees.

but maybe not.

Mr. Tanigawa:

I believe Kapa'a might have a few more.

Councilmember Cowden: Just a few more? Okay. I have not walked through that property in a few years. I always try to go and look and see what is going on. I see you got the garages there for little bit, and it looked like they needed a little love and care, but they are doing fine?

Mr. Tanigawa: I believe so. As I mentioned, when there are repair needs, the employees are aware of the work order process. They will get that in, and it will be addressed.

Councilmember Cowden: Is this your job, Bryson? You are looking after all the building elements of it. I know we are really upgrading Hanalei. I am just wondering if every place gets attention, or if it goes "round robin" on how we end up getting to them.

Mr. Vivas: I think the immediate repairs would fall under me. If there are bigger improvements to the baseyards, we will work with the Administration and try to come up with a project to try and approve the baseyards.

Councilmember Cowden: Thank you.

Council Chair Rapozo: Councilmember DeCosta.

Councilmember DeCosta: I have a question on the Hanalei baseyard. Just picking your brain. How is our green waste in that area compared to the rest of the green waste across the island? Do we have more green waste in the North Shore area because of the amount of rain and flooding we have? I am talking about logs and debris that could possibly be burned.

Mr. Tanigawa: We will be able to get into green waste more when we talk about Solid Waste.

Councilmember DeCosta: Okay. Thank you for the clarification. My mind, my lightbulb is going right now.

Council Chair Rapozo: 1,000 watts.

Councilmember DeCosta: 1,001.

Council Chair Rapozo: Are there any other questions for Hanalei? If not, we are moving on to the Signs Division.

Councilmember DeCosta: Signs and Crosswalks?

Council Chair Rapozo: Crosswalks is finished.

Councilmember Kualii: Signs and Roads Marking.

Council Chair Rapozo: Yes. That is on page 269. Go ahead
Councilmember Kualii.

Councilmember Kualii: I see we have two positions here that have the registration list established. Obviously, that tells me you can go to this list, you can get them hired pretty quickly, but for position 1007, Laborer I, \$48,228. It has the regular 8.9% increase and Budgeted amount, it was vacant for 333 days and now the status is showing as "Registration list established." That tells me you can hire for it fairly quickly. Why has it been vacant for so long? Was that a choice?

Mr. Vivas: Speaking with crew, this crew specifically has one supervisor and 5 workers working under them. They only had one truck. We recently got their truck last month, so now with the right tools we will start filling these positions as soon as possible.

Councilmember Kualii: Alright. That was 1007, Laborer I. The other one 843, Laborer I, \$48,228 in the Budget, Vacancy Report \$33,219. That is a whopping 45% increase. Vacant for 1,276 days and it shows the same thing about registration list established. Again, it seems like it would be easy to fill, but it was not for all that time. What happened with this one? Janine, you could possibly help. Was it partially funded in the prior year?

Ms. Rapozo: Yes. When I am looking at it, again, 834 is 9-month funded.

Councilmember Kualii: In the prior year, 9-month funded?

Ms. Rapozo: In the current year, yes.

Councilmember Kualii: Obviously, it was not filled at all at any point during the year. So, probably last year somebody came before us and said they would be able to fill it and start by October 1, 2022, but that was not true.

Mr. Vivas: This is that same position as the other one. We will get this one filled as soon as possible as well.

Councilmember Kualii: You will and I will not see this next year?

Mr. Vivas: I will try my best.

Council Chair Rapozo: It is not malicious. That is why I made the point that I made. You know better than us what the difficulties are in filling these positions. I was trying to tell Councilmember DeCosta, when you look at the vacancies list and see you these positions that are 1,000 or 2,000 days, or 300 or 400 days, this is the year for us to say, "Okay, folks we cannot fill that position, so we need to start being real." That is all I am trying to say. These positions, as Councilmember Kualii said, last year we were told, "Yes, we are going to get it filled," and that is why it is funded, but it was not filled. No fault of the

department. We just do not have human beings that are supplying or not qualified to get these jobs. In the military, we call it “the limiting factors of today’s world”, and it is unfortunate, but it is real.

Councilmember Kualii: The last position is 856, Equipment Logistics Crew Operator. \$69,000, it has the 8.9% increase. It has only been vacant for 90 days, so 3 months. It shows status as, “No activity.” I was thinking if it is a relatively new vacancy from 3 months ago, would you not have at least started recruitment? It just says, “No activity.” Let us know what the recruitment status is and if it is on hold for some reason. If you have a retiree or something, then let us know that as well. What is the status of position 856?

Mr. Vivas: For this position here, Logistics Crew Operator, we are actually working to get the workers trained and certified on equipment. You need two pieces of equipment to be certified for this position. We are trying to work on the best way to get these individuals certified and allow them the opportunity to apply for this position. I am working with HR on their scheduling on training and certification. Once we get them trained and certified, soon after we can fill it.

Councilmember Kualii: It is like you told me earlier, and I will ask again. This, what you are doing, the training, you can get that accomplished and get somebody certified and ready to go on July 1, 2023? If so, then that is why you have full funding. Otherwise, you maybe make it 9-month funding again.

Mr. Vivas: I think we can fill it by July 1, 2023. It is getting the individuals trained up.

Council Chair Rapozo: You would be filling that position with an existing position?

Councilmember Kualii: Yes, but he needs to do the training and certification.

Mr. Vivas: Yes, with an existing position.

Council Chair Rapozo: This is, Kauaʻi High School, again, so I am not as bright.

Mr. Vivas: Not a new position.

Council Chair Rapozo: You have position A, which is fully funded. That position is occupied by someone that you would like to move to position B. I love the idea that we are in-house training these workers. That is awesome. Once that employee gets their qualifications and certifications, and you move them into position B, this new position that we are trying to decide if we will fully fund, that person will move into that position. Now, position A becomes vacant, right? Now you need to hire somebody for that position, but

in that position, you have funding for the whole year, so that will free up funding that would transfer to pay the employee that took the new position. Right?

Mr. Vivas: That is correct.

Council Chair Rapozo: That is what I am trying to say. You fund two positions full-time, but at some point one will be vacant, one will be full. To fill two positions knowing that you will have a vacancy going forward is overfunding the position. That is what I am trying to say. How long before this employee gets qualified, certified, and everything else and gets the B position?

Mr. Vivas: Now, we just need to work with the trainers to see if we can train them.

Council Chair Rapozo: Yes. I mean, is it 3 months, 6 months? I have no idea what kind of training they need to get.

Mr. Vivas: I do not know how long it will take for certification. If there is a big interest, which it sounds like for this position, there is a big interest for this position, it may take a little bit longer than the normal training that goes on with applying for a Equipment Operator (EO) I position or EO II position.

Council Chair Rapozo: Yes, and I have no clue what difference is between field 1 and field 2.

Mr. Vivas: Equipment Operator and lower Equipment Operator position.

Council Chair Rapozo: All I am thinking is if I ask Jade, "How long will it take our Clerk I to get to a Clerk II, or how long would it take to us to train a Council Services Assistant up to an Analyst, or whatever?" She could tell me, "Well, Mel, possibly between a year and 18 months." That is what I am asking. You are taking this person that you folks want to move up to another elevated position. I have no clue what the training is, but you do. How long will the training take? That is all I am asking.

Mr. Vivas: That right now, I do not have that answer. I can get back to you.

Council Chair Rapozo: Okay.

Councilmember Kualifi: Thank you, Chair.

Council Chair Rapozo: Alright. Are there any other questions for Signs and Roads Markings Division?

Councilmember Cowden: I have a little one.

Council Chair Rapozo: Okay.

Councilmember Cowden: Do you sit on these signs? Not to bring it too close to a project, but we did some work for Puhi Road. I know that is going to get started. We have these “No Parking” signs. When you get these signs, do you just repaint the tops of them, or do you order them all painted up? When we need to place signs for a special purpose, we make a Resolution. How long does that take? Do we have blank signs sitting in backstock?

Mr. Vivas: Yes, we do have blank signs where we can print new signs. For the regulatory signs, like stop signs, we go ahead and purchase those, but if it is a more unique sign, we have a printer that can print these “No parking” signs.

Councilmember Cowden: So, it is pretty quick?

Mr. Vivas: It is pretty quick, yes.

Councilmember Cowden: Alright.

Mr. Vivas: As long as we have the material, we can print these signs fairly quickly.

Councilmember Cowden: Okay. Thank you.

Council Chair Rapozo: Are there any more questions on signs? If not, are there any other questions for Roads? I have a question. For road maintenance on Rice Street and Hardy Street, who is responsible? Is it Parks Beautification or it is Roads?

Mr. Tanigawa: Is this for the landscaping?

Council Chair Rapozo: Yes.

Mr. Tanigawa: That is the Beautification crew. As far as the pavement and any kind of road construction, potholes, that would be Roads.

Council Chair Rapozo: The actual landscaping. All of that, the shoulders, as long as it is landscaping, it is Parks Beautification?

Mr. Tanigawa: I believe so.

Council Chair Rapozo: Thank you. Are there any other questions? If not, are there any other questions for Public Works before we send them back to their chairs?

Councilmember Kualii: I just had one quick question.

Council Chair Rapozo: Okay. Go ahead.

Councilmember Kualiti: On master page 294, I was thinking this is sitting out somewhere else and not in the different divisions. I guess, because of GET Funding, it is a line item that says "Tractors and other heavy equipment," \$605,000. These are tractors and equipment. You have a breakdown here, but where is it for? Also, is it replacing existing equipment or is it new equipment for a new area?

Mr. Vivas: Two of these pieces of equipment are going to be replacing existing equipment that we have. It is going to be used for our special construction crew. That is the Track Loader and the Tractor Rig.

Councilmember Kualiti: Do you know where?

Mr. Vivas: The Logistics Crew is where.
Councilmember Kualiti: Oh, they go everywhere?

Mr. Vivas: Logistics is island-wide. The rig and tractor are used to move all the equipment and all the materials. We also help other departments and other divisions with mobilizing machines and equipment. That tractor is a 2006 Peterbilt, and it is one of our heavily used tractors to move our stuff around.

Councilmember Kualiti: The last two items is, in the breakdown, Kubota U35 Excavator.

Mr. Vivas: Yes, so the Kubota 35 Excavator, right now this excavator is being rented. It is actually being used between our Logistics team, as well as our Bridge Maintenance team. It is actually working out really well where they both share this piece of equipment. It is used in ditches, where you need a pretty experienced operator, but it is tighter and smaller. It can fit in these small ditches. It can be utilized up tight roads to do some assistance. For example, Fire needed assistance with one of their buildings, and this small excavator was used to pull some of that material away so they could access the building. It was just because it was on a tight road. We are able to move these smaller excavators quicker. Also, for projects. Our other Bridge Maintenance crews use this small excavator for concrete pours or demolitions. It is working out well where they both share this machine. That is the idea for this piece of equipment. Since it is being rented and it is being heavily utilized, we figured we want to go ahead and purchase this piece of equipment.

Council Chair Rapozo: You are currently renting this excavator, which we will not need to rent anymore?

Mr. Vivas: Once we purchase this one here, yes.

Councilmember Kualiti: The last item on the list is \$200,000 for something called "Skytrac." What is that?

Mr. Vivas: The Skytrac is a lift, like a forklift. It is being used mainly at Honsador for moving equipment. Our Logistics team would be material to our Honsador location, where we then would move these big bags of patch material or buckets onto our baseyard trucks. This forklift is used for that purpose. Also, right now we are working on disposing of all the vehicles at Honsador. This is well utilized in loading up their lowboys and trailers and moving all these junk vehicles. It is a well utilized machine, and it is also being rented as well.

Council Chair Rapozo: I need to ask, because in all my years, I have seen us buy equipment and not use the equipment. I have seen equipment get purchased and parked until it becomes old and unusable. I just want to make sure that when we purchase these, especially this kind of expensive equipment, that there is a use. There is a need. That we are not going to it every 2 or 3 months. More importantly, and I will refer to my military experience, is that all the vehicles need to be maintained. All of them. Even if we are not using them, somebody still needs to start it up. Our program for these types of things needs to be topnotch because this is not cheap. You folks all know this, whether you are a mechanic or not, which I am not, but if you let something sit for a while, like my lawnmower, when you go to start it, it will not start. I am just saying, when we invest in these types of equipment, our employees need to be trained and the policy needs to be established that someone has to be responsible for making sure these pieces of equipment do not just rot away because we are not using it enough. I do not even need a response, because I think you already know this. I, personally, have seen too many pieces of our County equipment get purchased and parked, and then we do not use it. That was a comment, really, more than a question. Councilmember DeCosta.

Councilmember Kualii: I was not done.

Council Chair Rapozo: I am sorry. Councilmember DeCosta, was that a follow up?

Councilmember DeCosta: To yours, it is a follow-up.

Council Chair Rapozo: Okay, go ahead.

Councilmember DeCosta: I brought this concern, I believe, to Parks. The machine operators themselves told me that they would rather drive the lawnmower that was assigned to them than to change lawnmowers to different personnel, because normally when you drive your own lawnmower and it is yours, you take better care of it. You will service it better and you will not rough it up because you will drive it tomorrow. However, if you know it went from John to Fred to Marylou, and back to Becky, they do not take as much care. That is not our machine. That is not even Public Works' machine. Do you know who owns those machines? It is the taxpayers. It is their money. It is their machines. We owe it to our taxpayers to take care of the equipment. If you have a back a backhoe and an excavator, or whatever you are going to do, if you have an assigned group of men and women that drive it, I think keeping them as those operators on those machines might give them more sense of ownership. That is just my own three cents. Thank you.

Council Chair Rapozo: Councilmember Kualii, I am sorry I forgot that I left you hanging.

Councilmember Kualii: Do not worry. The last question on page 297. Another piece of equipment—Tractor Mower EQ826. \$156,500. Is that for the Logistics Crew, as well, island-wide, or is that for a particular baseyard? Also, is that for the purchase of a tractor mower?

Mr. Vivas: Yes, for this tractor mower here, the idea for purchasing a new tractor mower is when our mowers go down or when they go in for service, the operation takes a hit, a little bit. Having, we will call this, our “float” mower, where it will be checked out by either myself or the shop, the base yards can come in and check out this mower when theirs go in for service. Even if they need to pick up the pace on the road that they are working on, they can check out this mower. There are times when the mower is in the shop for two weeks, and we cannot cut grass. Having this mower available for the crew will allow them to continue with the cutting, without stopping their operations.

Councilmember Kualii: Thank you. Thank you, Chair.

Council Chair Rapozo: Councilmember Cowden.

Councilmember Cowden: I have a simple question. I am slightly confused because you are in the Mayor’s Office, but you went over to Public Works. Are you on equipment also? Do you go out and operate the equipment?

Mr. Vivas: No, I do not.

Councilmember Cowden: Where is your office located? Is it in that building or do you float around the island?

Mr. Vivas: No. It is next to the Public Works Fiscal office.

Councilmember Cowden: Okay. I just appreciate all this stuff. That is a lot of money for a mower. How big is that mower? Is it more of a tractor?

Mr. Vivas: It is the bigger tractor mowers that are used. You probably see them on the sides of the roads. Right now, there are times, like I said, when it goes down, and the workers ask me or the shop when will the machine come out. We really are put on hold to continue with operations because we do not have the machine. Also, even when it goes in for service, they cannot continue.

Councilmember Cowden: Last year, I think we got a complaint, that the mowers were the wrong size. Somewhere, we got a complaint that the mower is too big. You cannot actually use it. It makes it hard to mow the side of the road. How are we on that one?

Mr. Vivas: When putting this together, we have discussions with the field crew to make sure that we are purchasing the equipment that works best for the roads that they work on. With that complaint that came in about the wrong size of equipment, definitely, we are keeping them in the loop. We are getting their thoughts on what equipment should be purchased, as well as working within the Budget and working with the shop to see what works best for all of us.

Councilmember Cowden: I think that is really important across all departments. All the people who are answering the phones have a say in what phones they get or whoever is using the machines has some input on it. It is disappointing when we spend money, and it is a lot of money, on a big piece of equipment, like a fancy mower, if you cannot actually fit on the side of the road. Can this fit on the side of the road?

Mr. Vivas: Yes. We are going to work on purchasing the correct equipment going forward with the Budget that we have.

Councilmember Cowden: Okay. How many wrong pieces of equipment are we still sitting on? Have we fixed that with the mowers?

Mr. Vivas: We have been working with the equipment that we have that was considered "wrong." We just need to change our approach with how we cut the road. Let us say we have to get traffic control or we need to close the road in order to fit the equipment on the road. We have still been using them. We just need to be creative with how we use it.

Councilmember Cowden: This one we are buying now, is it the same as the others, or is it considered "right"?

Mr. Vivas: Yes, correct.

Council Chair Rapozo: Okay, I need to ask. I was not here last year, so I do not know about that complaint. We bought a machine that is too big for what we need it for?

Councilmember Cowden: We bought a handful of them, right?

Mr. Vivas: A couple of our machines were just a little too wide for the lanes.

Council Chair Rapozo: A little bit may as well be plenty. If it is too big and you cannot use it, then you cannot use it. Are we not using that machine as often as we should be?

Mr. Vivas: We do. Those machines are being used, like I said.

Council Chair Rapozo: You just need to close the road now.

Mr. Vivas: We either need to do that or we put traffic control and make sure the cars go slow around the machines.

Council Chair Rapozo: No mechanism to be able to sell that truck or tractor? I come from the belief that we need to provide our workers with the proper tools and the proper equipment.

Mr. Vivas: I agree.

Council Chair Rapozo: If we screw up and we buy the wrong equipment, then we make that right. You make that right by selling this thing off or trading it in. Why would we not trade that in for a smaller mower? I do not know the County mechanism for doing that, but I think to force this wrong tool or wrong equipment on the employee and now we have to come up with all these solutions, is not right. Now we do traffic control. It is more expense. It is manpower that we need to use. We are already short on manpower. I am not trying to be a bonehead, but if we order something wrong, if we order the wrong printer ink, you cannot expect the employee to use that wrong printer ink and configure it, so it works. I was not aware of that situation, but somebody needs to be on top of it. If the machine comes in, and oops, it is the wrong size, then at that moment we should be thinking about how we make it right. We make it right by sending it back, we trade it in, we put it up for auction or whatever. I do not know how we do it. I am not trying to be critical. I have seen that. Troy, you probably remember that machine we bought that was supposed to sweep the bike path. I do not know if you were around. I got a call one day, "Hey, Mel, go check at the stadium field." This was probably 8 to 10 years ago. "There is this machine." Councilmember Kagawa, I think you were with me. I do not know if we went to look at it together. The sweeper that we had purchased was too big for the bike path, so they parked it over there. They parked it. It was the ugliest new piece of equipment that I had ever seen in my life. It was not used, but it was there. It was subject to the rain, and the wind, and the salt, and everything else. It just rotted right there. All I could think about was that was a pile of money, that we put out of sight, out of mind. Honestly, if I was the Mayor, somebody would have gotten fired. Seriously. Sorry, Councilmember Carvalho, but I would have fired them. Why would you do that? It is not the Mayor's fault. It is the Department Head. The Mayor probably had no idea it was parked over there until right now. Now he is mad. You get my point, right? When these things happen, we address them. Go ahead, Councilmember DeCosta.

Councilmember DeCosta: In defense of my friend, Councilmember Carvalho, when we hire personnel, a lot of the time they look book smart. We look at all the degrees that they come with. That is more of a common-sense decision, so maybe whoever gets hired for that position needs to have a little more common sense. When you measure the bike path, you know that your sweeper needs to be 36 inches, because the bike path is only 40 inches, instead of getting a sweeper that is 48 inches and it hangs over the bike path. It is not Councilmember Carvalho's fault.

Council Chair Rapozo: I know. Just as I said, he did not know.

Councilmember DeCosta: It is not HR, either. It is the person applying for the job who did not write down "I have no common sense on how to measure bike paths."

Council Chair Rapozo: Are there any other questions for Roads? If not, thank you. We will do Auto Maintenance because, again, like Councilmember Kagawa said, the only change really in Auto Maintenance is fuel. I am sure Councilmember Kualii has some personnel questions.

Councilmember Cowden: Which page it is on?

Council Chair Rapozo: It is on page 275. Does everyone have the presentation or the narrative?

Councilmember DeCosta: What page are we on, Chair?

Council Chair Rapozo: We are on page 275.

Councilmember Cowden: I go from 273 to 285.

JENELLE AGAS, Council Legal Analyst: There is an Auto Maintenance tab. That is what we were trying to tell you.

Councilmember Cowden: Okay. Alright. I see.

Council Chair Rapozo: Councilmember Kualii.

Councilmember Kualii: Positions-wise, starting at the top of page 275, 1344, Auto Mechanic II, \$71,000 with the 8.9% increase, vacant 1,170 days, recruitment status "Continuous." What more can you tell us as far as actually filling that position?

Mr. Tanigawa: Troy Tanigawa, County Engineer. The Auto Maintenance shop has run into difficult times recruiting mechanics, more so with the Supervising Mechanic level. We have had staff TA-ing on an as needed basis. This is a continuing effort that we have to try and fill these positions, more so the heavy equipment mechanic series. That is where we had difficulty filling both the mechanic and supervising positions.

Councilmember Kualii: When you tell me, because there are four positions here, one of them that I just mentioned was the auto mechanic, the other three is in that, what you just mentioned, heavy vehicle and construction equipment, one of them is a Mechanic II, and the other two are Mechanic Is. Both the Mechanic I's are listed as "Continuous", so the same thing as what we just talked about with position 1344. Then the other one, the Mechanic II, position 1332, it says "List referred," 257 days open, list referred. Does that mean you actually have a list of people that you are going to pick from and hire, and will they be in place by July 1, 2023?

Mr. Tanigawa: With the referral, we have qualified candidates that we can select from. The recruitments have their selection committees all determined already who is going to be sitting on there. It is just a matter of going through the process, having the selection committee conduct interviews, and then making the selection.

Councilmember Kualifi: The position has been open for 8 months. You did not start recruitment when it first opened? Why has it not been filled already?

Mr. Tanigawa: From what I recall, there were multiple recruitments. There were no responses, so we would go out and re-recruit. Eventually, we get respondents to apply. That is when we start the actual selection process.

Councilmember Kualifi: In this case, 1 of these 4 positions, it sounds like it is hopeful. You will get somebody hired because you actually have this list, right? With the other three positions, 1,170 days vacant, 1,109 days vacant, and the other one is only 200 days vacant, but continuous, having a really difficult time, what is actually going to happen? Why would you fully fund it if you are not able to fill it?

Mr. Tanigawa: We have asked for the positions to be fully funded, because we do that with the hope that we will have candidates finally apply. There could be changes that we have seen in the past happen in the marketplace. We are actually competing with the private sector, again, with this trade. Changes could happen there in which candidates become available. We cannot forecast it. We are hopeful. We will continue recruiting for it. We will interview candidates when we have a pool to select from.

Councilmember Kualifi: I would just say that for at least two of these positions that have been vacant for 1,000 days, you should consider partially funding. The other thing I wanted to know is if any of these monies actually end up getting spent to pay a lower ranked position to serve, I guess they call it TA, up into these positions, because obviously they have needs? They are jobs that need to be done, right?

Mr. Tanigawa: Yes. We continually encourage the lower-level staff to step up to the plate and serve in a leadership role. There is reluctance a lot of times. We will continue to encourage them and give them training and tools to boost their confidence so they can eventually step up one day.

Councilmember Kualifi: Thank you. Thank you, Chair.

Council Chair Rapozo: Councilmember DeCosta.

Councilmember DeCosta: I have a follow-up to Councilmember Kualifi. I may go to bat for the Maintenance Department here. It is not that easy, folks. You can get someone, a weed eater, not come to work, you can grab someone else and put them on a weed eater. To be a mechanic, you need to know what you are doing. You cannot just have someone step up and say, "Grab a wrench, go change out some spark plugs, and go change out a timing belt, and drop some head on an engine." It is a tough one. Troy, and I believe Mr. Tresler,

you are involved, and Mr. Gayagas, thank you for managing a very difficult piece of operation there. I am a little concerned about those positions, Troy. The 1,000 something days is going on to three years that we have not filled it, right? Is there a way? We have to talk to the Union maybe, to see if our pay scale can be equivalent to the private sector. It seems that is why we do not get qualified mechanics. They can make more money at Allied Machinery or Caterpillar, or at the dealerships, like Ford or Chevy. Is that where we lose a lot of our certified mechanics?

Mr. Tanigawa: We have lost them to private sector opportunities.

Councilmember DeCosta: Maybe it is time we revisit that with HR and the Union. That is a specialized industry, Mechanic.

Mr. Tanigawa: We will look into that. Thank you.
Council Chair Rapozo: Councilmember Cowden.

Councilmember Cowden: I have somewhat of a question, but really a follow-up comment.

Council Chair Rapozo: Okay, then let me ask a question first. That will make it a question, and you can follow up with the comment. On the position Machinist. I see that it is being transferred to Solid Waste. Does the shop not need a Machinist?

Mr. Tanigawa: Actually, nowadays, the parts can be sourced. The Machinist was really useful in prior year because we did have machinery that it might have been difficult to source the parts, but we got input from our Superintendent. We were also looking at the vacancy period. It was decided that that position there, as far as the Machinist, is something that might have become outdated and better served by sourcing the parts.

Council Chair Rapozo: I know we will get to Solid Waste later, but obviously there will not be a Machinist at Solid Waste.

Mr. Tanigawa: The position was reallocated to one of the transfer station positions.

Council Chair Rapozo: One of the what?

Mr. Tanigawa: A position at the refuse transfer station (RTS). I believe Solid Waste Worker I.

Councilmember DeCosta: I have a comment to that.

Council Chair Rapozo: Go ahead.

Councilmember DeCosta: I do not know if I think this is a good idea. We are taking away a highly skilled position to make it into a, I do not want to say "average worker,"

but that is what it seems like it, right? Machinists are hard to come by. You need to go to college for that stuff. If we lose this position or that status, how easy can we get back a Machinist position in the mechanic shop? Yes, I know we can source out the parts today and you can buy it almost anywhere, but I think you have an employee in the mechanic shop. I think Machado is his name. I think he knows how to machine any type of bolt, equipment, carburetor, jets. Whatever you need, he can do it. That is part of being a Machinist. I do not want to see us lose that position because we cannot fill it. How easy is it to put it back in there, if next year you have a qualified person coming out of college or technical school in the machinist fabrication area?

Mr. Tanigawa: I would suggest that how we reallocated the position out, if a great need arose and there were qualified candidates that would better serve the shop, then we could similarly recreate that position.

Councilmember DeCosta: Why do we not just \$1 fund that position and add another position onto the landfill? That will not cost any more money, right? We will have the \$1. If we do not put any money toward that position, the position remains there for the future. We will just fund another labor position at the landfill.

Mr. Dahilig: That is a good question, Councilmember DeCosta. The difficulty, again, this is where the interplay with the private sector does start come into the difficulty in actually recruiting for the Machinist. It is classified, statewide, as a BC-8 position. If you are looking at the general salary, that is something within the \$50,000 to \$60,000 range. If you are looking at the skills that you are talking about, that is well in excess of what we are able to pay because of the way that that position is classified. That was a judgement call that, unfortunately, because of the way that that position is paid for out of the civil service system, it does not compete already with what somebody with that skill set would be able to obtain in the private sector. The need for the parts and how to be able to get them in a timely fashion really is at the crux of why we are sourcing it, rather than having them done in house. We can no longer compete because of that classification with the private sector.

Councilmember DeCosta: Once we lose this category or position, how easily can we put it back? Also, where is the need for that individual coming out of Kaua'i Community College (KCC) or who went to Arizona Tech School to be a Machinist? Where is that incentive because there are no positions available to come back to Kaua'i and work?

Mr. Dahilig: That is the challenge with the civil service system, again, is that they will get that job. If they go to the mainland and they want to come back, the job that is paying more, at the higher salary with the skill set, is not with the State or the County government systems. It is something the Mayor has asked, as I mentioned in the presentation yesterday, that there are certain categories of certain jobs that we have to work with the other four counties in the State to bring those classifications up because they no longer meet the right BC or SR classification. This is a prime example of what that is.

Council Chair Rapozo: Mike, I am hearing two different things. What I heard from Troy was that position is outdated. We do not have any use for a Machinist. That is what I heard from Troy that the Superintendent told him. What I am hearing from you is about qualifications, and pay, and competing. That is apples and oranges. You are saying we do not need a Machinist. That is like saying we do not need a dentist in the Council Services, so we are not going to put in the dollar-funded budget. Mike is saying that the pay is too competitive with the civil service. Do we need a Machinist or not, is the real question. Is there enough work at that shop to warrant us funding and going out and trying to hire a Machinist? That is the question.

Mr. Dahilig: Troy can also answer, but I would not want to raise expectations that if it is funded, that we would be able to recruit at that class.

Council Chair Rapozo: Again, you are missing my point. My point is, as Councilmember DeCosta is saying, you are taking out the Machinist because we cannot fill it. If we do that with all the positions in all departments, we will have a very small Budget. We will have a very small personnel count. If the Machinist is needed and we cannot fill it, then, like Councilmember DeCosta said, we put a \$1 in it. You are saying, Troy, that like an old-fashioned typewriter mechanic, we have absolutely no use for that, so there would be no reason to put that in the Budget. If we have use for this Machinist at our auto shop, then we can go out and actively promote and try to recruit. We can work with the State and work with the Counties in trying to boost the level. We can do whatever it takes. The question is: Does the County of Kaua'i need a Machinist at the auto shop? That is the true question.

Mr. Tanigawa: I cannot give you specifics of how the Machinist position that would be filled or could be filled would be able to better serve the County or would be in the County's best interest. What I can say is that we have not been able to fill the position and the County has grown beyond that to be able to function efficiently and repair equipment adequately without the position. That is a really valiant way of thinking. We would like to see if we can boost the wage board to make it more competitive with the private sector, but until then we still need the equipment to be repaired and replaced. We still need positions in other areas of Public Works that really need the manpower, and there are available staff that can fill those positions. That is what we are trying to do here.

Council Chair Rapozo: Councilmember Cowden.

Councilmember Cowden: This is all related. This size of our mechanic shop, has that increased in the last 50 years? It is over there between Kawamura's and Kaua'i Economic Opportunity (KEO). Has that gotten any bigger?

Mr. Tanigawa: The repair shop property boundaries have not expanded.

Councilmember Cowden: Even four years ago, I thought it was not an adequate size. My understanding when I went to speak to them was that for our Solid Waste

machinery, they had to fly people in to work on it. It was more of being fixed at the landfill. Is that correct? Where is the Solid Waste machinery being fixed?

Mr. Tanigawa: For the big equipment, if we can fix it onsite, that is typically what we do to save on mobilization and [indiscernible] costs.

Councilmember Cowden: In Kekaha?

Mr. Tanigawa: Correct.

Councilmember Cowden: Which mechanics are working on it? Are they from the auto shop or contracted with the companies where we buy the machinery?

Mr. Tanigawa: At this point, it is a mix. With equipment that are still under warranty, we call the manufacturer to come out and provide mechanics to do that. We also have specialized equipment that we do not have the proper diagnostic equipment to properly troubleshoot the machines. Then, again, we bring the vendor out to take care of those repairs.

Councilmember Cowden: Is it possible that Solid Waste needed somebody with this kind of skill set to go out there? A machinist or a mechanic to be out there? Maybe that is one of the reasons we move somebody. We have so much equipment out there that needs repair. That would be something that would occur to me why we might move that person, or the person might need to move.

Council Chair Rapozo: We know that the position is being moved. It is just not being moved as a mechanic. This is what you are suggesting.

Councilmember Cowden: Right, but I have gotten into some of those problems. Something that I would like to make comment on, but it is related to the questions for this topic. It is why I was already asking about mechanics. That seems to be a big and urgent need when we are identifying problems. When I flew back from the National Association of Counties (NACo), sitting next to me was a lobbyist for the mechanics and auto manufacturers that cannot find anybody to work on them. They are trying really hard to figure out all different ways to solve these problems and making those diagnostic tools that just swap a tool in and out, instead of fixing the pieces in the cars. You get these diagnostic tools because they do not have anyone to fix the vehicles. I think it is bigger than just the pay range. It is very difficult, seemingly. Heavy equipment or small. I have talked to these trucking companies here and the mechanics here. They all have gray hair. I do not see any young people doing this work. In our auto mechanic positions, are they up and coming or are they very experienced?

Mr. Tanigawa: There are different levels. They are certified mechanics.

Councilmember Cowden: Do you have young ones, is what I am asking. Are they young?

Mr. Tanigawa: Not right out of school. Not that young, but they are all certified mechanics.

Councilmember Cowden: I am trying to identify where we might be running into an issue. That was something that really strongly got my attention. It is hard in a emerging generation to even bring people into that product area or that skill set. That is why they have had to change. They are not even fixing things, they are just replacing things, is what I was hearing.

Mr. Dahilig: I think, given just the general topic of this Machinist and what it is leading to in the conversation, if it is something that we can go back to Russell and say, "Let us look at this again and if this is a position that you think is needed, we can give another crack at it, "then we can certainly in the May Submittal look at having it remain as a dollar- funded position with that evaluation." Since he is not here, it is probably best that we ask his opinion on what that would serve and how would that function within the shop. It would get you one clear answer, Chair and Councilmembers, on what that would mean for the overall operation.

Council Chair Rapozo: It is a very simple answer. Look at your records for the last few years. How much did we spend on a Machinist? I am assuming a Machinist is the one that will be doing the heads and whatever a Machinist does. Then we look at how much a Machinist costs the County, not just the salary, but all the benefits. Then it is very simple. Maybe we only use the Machinist two or three times, or six times, or ten times, and it is much more efficient to contract out the Machinist's job. That is all I am asking. If you folks feel that the Machinist is no longer required, then that is fine. I was just trying to address the concerns that Councilmember DeCosta had. What I heard Troy say, "it is basically an obsolete position now because we source the parts. It is cheaper, like computers. Before you would need to go in and fix the part, now you just change the part.

Councilmember DeCosta: I will just go back to the plantation days. I think the reason why the plantation had the Machinist was because the parts were not easy to come by and were not replaceable, so they needed to build the part. Maybe, today, I understand it is easier to just buy the part. I am comparing our Engineering department to this Machinist. A Machinist is like a hands-on Engineer. When you folks cannot find an Engineer, you do not just give away the position to another department and categorize it as Laborer. You folks take that Engineer position, make it a Project Manager, and keep them in that same division. I am wondering why you folks would give away a position in the mechanic shop when you folks are already understaffed. Would you not want a Mechanic, maybe Mechanic/ Machinist, that when he or she is not milling parts, they can jump in with a wrench and assist the Mechanics? That way, they have more use than just sitting on the Lay Machine, which is what they call a Machinist hands-on piece of equipment, where they can mill a piece of item into a working tool or working item.

Council Chair Rapozo: I think we got your point. Go ahead.

Councilmember Carvalho: I have a quick question on the repair maintenance of the auto shop. How is that working out? At the auto shop, you are doing (inaudible) there, but is there any need for it as far as the shop itself here? Is that functioning well and whatnot?

Mr. Tanigawa: It is functioning okay. We work with the Roads Division to make sure the auto shop area is cleared. They help with bringing out old equipment, unusable parts, when there is heavy loading and whatnot. We try to utilize the space and make it an efficient place as possible.

Councilmember Carvalho: It is sufficient? You are all good over there?

Mr. Tanigawa: In the past, I think a couple years ago, a mezzanine was built. That would allow us to store stuff under the roof and be protected from the elements in an area and space that was not utilized before. We are looking at different ways to make the most efficient use of that space, as possible. Right now, it is serving the needs. Eventually, as the County's fleet grows, we will need to keep in mind that the repair shop may need to be relocated.

Councilmember Carvalho: That is why I was asking. I remember having those discussions before and look forward to more discussions. I think we should start talking about that, because that is where everything is housed and maintained. I just wanted to bring it up because it is in the Budget.

Council Chair Rapozo: Are there any more questions for Auto Shop? We will take a lunchbreak right after Auto Shop, then continue on. Are there any other questions? No? Okay. With that, thank you Troy. We will take a lunch break until 1:45 p.m.

There being no objections, the Committee recessed at 12:31 p.m.

The meeting reconvened at 1:44 p.m., and proceeded as follows:

Council Chair Rapozo: This meeting is called back to order. We are now going on to Wastewater.

Mr. Tanigawa: That is on master page 353, starting off with salaries.

Council Chair Rapozo: Would you like to start off with, maybe, a little overview of any kind of challenges? We have your report, but it would be nice to hear if there are any challenges or obstacles or what we can expect in the next Fiscal Year.

DONALD FUJIMOTO, Acting Chief of Wastewater: For the Wastewater Division, the Budget reflects our current challenges in keeping up with the aged facilities.

We are in the middle of trying to upgrade and repair a lot of the facilities. As our Budget will reflect, there is still a lot of work that needs to be done. In a nutshell, that is basically what our Budget reflects.

Council Chair Rapozo: Go ahead, Councilmember Cowden.

Councilmember Cowden: This \$100,000,000 bond that we are doing, that we discussed at length, are we seeing it here anywhere? I understood from yesterday we have not actually gotten to be able to source that money, yet. What is that timeline?

Mr. Fujimoto: It is actually ongoing, and the current Budget reflects that.

Councilmember Cowden: Okay.

Council Chair Rapozo: Councilmember DeCosta.

Councilmember DeCosta: Donald, are we moving towards putting the west side, Waimea and Kekaha, on sewer? Also, what is the forecast for upgrading our system out in Waimea 400 to accommodate the homes that are on the west side for sewer?

Mr. Fujimoto: I guess the best way to put that is my philosophy has always been you need to be able to crawl before you walk and walk before you run. I think what we are looking at is trying to run. Right now, we are still trying to get out of the crawling stage and trying to stabilize our existing services areas.

Councilmember DeCosta: Donald, we are forcing the people that are crawling to buy a motorized walker that they cannot afford, which is an upgrade from cesspool to septic.

Mr. Fujimoto: Right.

Councilmember DeCosta: Are we going to charge our customers on the west side to put a new septic in? It is going to cost them \$35,000, which a lot of them do not have. A lot of those homes are really old. They are owned by our elders, our *kūpuna*, and if they know they are going to have sewer come in the next five or seven years, maybe we cannot have them upgrade, so they can save that \$35,000. That is the only reason why I am not making it difficult for your department. I just want to know, can we give our people a little bit of vision, so they have an idea of what is coming up?

Mr. Tanigawa: Councilmember DeCosta, I think I can speak to that. What Donald has mentioned is that we are trying to address all the deferred maintenance and get the facility that we currently have operating so that we can handle the additional volume. Yes, Kekaha is a potential expansion area. We just need to make sure we do the appropriate planning and studies, so that we identify all the costs. Then, when it is time to propose anything to you folks or to this body here, we will have the information that would be needed for the right decision.

Councilmember DeCosta: Perfect. I like that answer.

Council Chair Rapozo: Is there a plan somewhere that has a timeline? Wailua House Lots, for example, has a sewer pump station down below. When can we realistically expect some of these neighborhoods to be sewerred?

DONN KAKUDA, Civil Engineer VI: Donn Kakuda, Civil Engineer VI. I know we will talk about CIP later, but in the CIP Budget, we have our money for the Facility Plan for Wailua and part of that is to study that and figure out how much that is going to cost and what the timeline is. It is in this year's Budget. It is the same thing for Waimea. There is money in there to do a Waimea Facility Plan to address the same issues. You folks will see that in the CIP.

Council Chair Rapozo: Councilmember Kualii.

Councilmember Kualii: On the positions on master page 353, starting from the top, 829, Civil Engineer VII. The \$101,640 is only a 6.1% increase from what was shown in the vacancy report, so the prior salary. It is vacant for 637 days, which is almost a couple of years, and the status is shown as, "List expired; re-recruit." What is happening with this position?

Mr. Tanigawa: Currently, the position is out for recruitment. The dollar value you see there is, I believe, an estimate. What happens is when we have candidate that we are going to make an offer to, there will be a calculation that takes place. Based on the specifics relating to the particular individual, for example if this individual is someone who is already a County employee that would be coming to this position, you will come out with a different dollar value, as opposed to somebody who is totally new to the County coming into the position. As it sits right now, once we close recruitment and have an eligible list, then we go ahead and go through the selection process.

Councilmember Kualii: Then for position 1079, at about the middle of the page, Sewer Maintenance Helper, the Budget is showing \$53,652, but on the vacancy report it is shown higher at \$61,632. Most of the positions have been given that 8.9% increase, whether it be collective bargaining or the upward raise, this one is being lowered. It has been vacant for 134 days, and its status is "Interviews schedule," so I assume you are getting it paid. What is the discrepancy with the salary?

Mr. Kakuda: I am not 100% sure. The employee who was hired was at a higher level and the position we put it is at a lower level.

Ms. Rapozo: Good afternoon. It was a reallocation downward. That is why there is a discrepancy in the number.

Councilmember Kualii: Okay. Then the last position, near to the bottom, 'Ele'ele Wastewater Treatment Plant, 1483, Wastewater Plant Working Supervisor. It is 74

days vacant, so a little over two months, and the recruitment status is saying, "No activity." Does that mean you have not even begun to fill this position? What is the status?

Mr. Kakuda: The reason behind that is because one of our other Supervisors is interested in moving to that position, but if he does that we will be really short in one of the plants. I talked to him and asked if he would let me hire the Assistant Wastewater Plant Operator first, get that person trained a bit, then I would transfer him over to that position.

Councilmember Kualii: Is this the kind of situation where if you move the person from within, then that position becomes vacant, right? Are you anticipating moving that person, with whatever training or adjustments are required, into this position and have them start on July 1, 2023?

Mr. Kakuda: I think so. It depends on how fast I can get that Assistant Plant Operator hired. It would be around that time, though. It would be very close to that.

Councilmember Kualii: Okay. Thank you.

Council Chair Rapozo: This is March, already.

Mr. Kakuda: I have the interviews scheduled for the Assistant Operator during the first two weeks of April.

Council Chair Rapozo: Is that the last phase, the interview?

Mr. Kakuda: Yes.

Councilmember Kualii: We are not talking about that position. We are talking about the Wastewater Plant Working Supervisor.

Mr. Kakuda: I am trying to backfill at that employee's plant.

Councilmember Kualii: I see. In order to move him, you have to backfill.

Mr. Kakuda: I asked him if he would be willing to do that. He said, "Okay."

Council Chair Rapozo: Yes, so we need to get that person hired first.

Mr. Kakuda: I try to hire below, then transfer the individual over.

Councilmember Kualii: Okay. Thank you. Thank you, Chair.

Council Chair Rapozo: Councilmember DeCosta.

Councilmember DeCosta: I had a follow-up on that same page, I believe, 353, or the page before. I am looking at that 1936 and 1918, the Plant Electrician/Electronic Repair. I noticed in the last Budget, you put in to hire a second person because you folks said that if there is only one Electrician and you folks have a callout, then there is nobody at the plant. How is that working out? How is the hiring of the second Electrician balancing out the workload? Is it very efficient at our plant?

Mr. Kakuda: The truth is it is very nice that we have the second person onboard. He has been with us for, I think, almost two years now, and obviously the Plant Operators are happy that we have coverage. In the past, they were not required to come out, but now that they are on the call of pay, they need to come out. The Plant Operators feel much better when an emergency happens.

Councilmember DeCosta: We always hear people talking about how we can cut or expect you folks to explain your addition, but I would like the community to know that this is a very precise decision to make the operation run smoothly, so thank you for that.

Mr. Kakuda: Thank you.

Council Chair Rapozo: Could you explain the overtime on page 354? I see regular overtime is \$140,000, standby pay for a callout is \$275,000, standby Electrician is \$50,000. The total requested is \$465,000 for overtime. So far, this Fiscal Year, we have spent \$174,000. Is there a reason why we expect to spend more than the amount we have already spent?

Mr. Kakuda: Historically, we have always been under that \$400,000 number. Callouts are very random, and sometimes when we have big emergencies, then it really adds to it. We held that number in the past and have not increased it.

Council Chair Rapozo: You have not increased it?
Mr. Kakuda: Correct.

Council Chair Rapozo: I am not asking about increasing it. I am asking about decreasing. You are not going to spend \$465,000. This is March, you have THREE more months.

Mr. Kakuda: We do our best to manage it. We could ask people if they would like to work more overtime, but we just try to hold it in case there is an emergency. A real emergency where we need to pay them.

Council Chair Rapozo: Again, like with Public Works earlier, I am not criticizing or questioning the overtime. I am saying in 9 months, you spent \$173,000 or \$174,000, and we have 3 months left, but you are asking for \$465,000. This goes back to what I said earlier about overfunding line items. Just as much as I think it is important is making sure we do not underfund. I am asking is there a reason why you are asking for more than

it appears you need. I do not know what the trend is. I guess we could find out what were the overtime expenses for the last 5 years, and come up with a number. With that much overtime, I am thinking is it not cheaper to hire people or put more positions.? That is a lot of money for overtime.

Mr. Fujimoto: What is happening is that this reflects the amount of work that we have based on the people we have. I think our employees are starting to burn out. They used to work overtime to catch up and to keep up. Right now, they are no longer accepting overtime work, so we are actually falling behind on some of these repair items and maintenance.

Council Chair Rapozo: Again, is it because of staffing shortages?

Mr. Fujimoto: It just could be because of the situation with families or whatever they have. My guess is that at some point they will want to work overtime again and catch up.

Council Chair Rapozo: Donald, if we need the work to be done and we do not have the workers to do it, are you asking for more people or more positions?

Mr. Fujimoto: I believe we are adding one more Mechanic.

Council Chair Rapozo: This overtime is not for Mechanics, right?

Mr. Fujimoto: It is for Mechanics or for whatever we need for people to be called out.

Council Chair Rapozo: Is the bulk of this overtime that we are spending from the Mechanic?

Mr. Fujimoto: It is from the Line Crew and the Mechanics.

Council Chair Rapozo: It is from where?

Mr. Fujimoto: It is from the Line Crew.

Council Chair Rapozo: The majority of it comes from where?

Mr. Kakuda: From the Line Crew. They do most of the line cleaning.

Council Chair Rapozo: Yes, but we are not asking for Line Crew people, we are asking for a Mechanic. What I am saying is, if we are paying \$465,000 in overtime, and you are telling me that we do not have bodies to backfill and they do not want to work overtime, and I do not blame them, I know what it is like to be burnt out, but then I would expect we would be looking for more people.

Mr. Fujimoto: That reflects standby time, too. We are a 24 hour a day, 7 days a week operation, so we need that standby pay. Overtime is \$140,000.

Council Chair Rapozo: You have spent \$173,000 so far, this year. In 9 months.

Mr. Fujimoto: For standby and overtime.

Council Chair Rapozo: For everything. You are asking more for standby than you paid for everything in 9 months. That is what I am trying to get to. You are at \$174,000 now and you have 3 months left. You will not come anywhere near \$465,000. Nowhere near \$465,000.

Mr. Tanigawa: If, by chance, it continues at this rate, burning \$173,000 over 9 months, in the additional 3 months we would probably burn up to another third. In that span of time, there could be another event that would require the crews and more people to come out to respond where you could burn through a lot of that pretty quickly. I guess the scenario here is we probably had a good year and we did not have that many emergency callouts and spills where we could need to have people come out and work overtime. We are working with the aging system. An aged system. Also, equipment that is steadily being replaced, but we still have a lot of outdated equipment, old equipment. Should any of the equipment in those Plants, and we have the 4 Plants, should any go down, we will need to have the overtime account readily available so we can have the staff come out and work the hours. We can go back and look at the numbers again. We can discuss it with the Administration and see if a revised proposal is in order here.

Council Chair Rapozo: Okay. Go ahead.

Councilmember DeCosta: I did a number crunch for you folks. Actually, Troy you would need about \$59,000 to finish out the year. When we did the calculation on the \$173,923 in the 9 month period, the extra 3 months before Budget is over is \$59,000. If you take the \$59,000 and add the \$173,923, you get about \$233,846 as your Budgeted and approximate use of overtime standbys. That is an overbudget of \$231,000. That is quite a bit of overbudgeting. Maybe we can cut a little bit of that and put it towards someplace else. That looks like you could hire, possibly, three full-time employees with benefits for that price, depending on if they are a Plant Operator or whatever they may be.

Council Chair Rapozo: I know overtime is hard, especially with your job because you do not know when things will break. When it breaks, you need to call out. Again, I think Management needs to look at what is an acceptable cushion. That is a lot, unless for some reason we had an amazingly good year. To me, I expect the overtime to get more. As we get more aging equipment, then you will have more maintenance costs. However, if we have been at \$465,000, I would be interested to see what the overtime cost was over the last 5 years or so. We can get that from the Budget. It is no big issue. Go ahead, Councilmember Cowden.

Councilmember Cowden: How are you, Donald Fujimoto? I know we sort of lost Jason because he did not have a life. Are you doing a lot of overtime?

Mr. Fujimoto: Personally, no.

Councilmember Cowden: Okay. I confirmed that. How about you, Donn?

Mr. Kakuda: I was thinking about working overtime this weekend. We need to burn some of this up, right, since it is a problem?

Councilmember Cowden: You both are doing okay? Alright.

Council Chair Rapozo: Councilmember DeCosta.

Councilmember DeCosta: I had a question about the overtime and if we do have some kind of emergency callout. I know we are dealing with hazardous waste, actually. Is there a portion of this that we need on hand to address the problem right way or we could face some serious fines? If that is the case, then I am going to say you should warrant this overtime, because I think the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) fines would really be much higher than the overtime we Budget, correct?

Mr. Fujimoto: Yes, and this Budget line item is for that. In case we do have a callout, then we need to send the people out.

Council Chair Rapozo: Go ahead, Councilmember Kualii.

Councilmember Kualii: I have a question about the new position. Actually, in your bullet point, it says the division is looking to reinstate a Maintenance Mechanic. When I look at the different positions, I see Maintenance Mechanic I, three positions, and Maintenance Mechanic II, one position, so there are four different positions. Are you saying one of these positions was \$1 funded last year and now you are fully funding it so you can reinstate it? If so, which position is that? This is still on page 353, the middle of the page. The positions are 1482, 9046, 1003, and 1024.

Mr. Fujimoto: I am not sure which one is the new position, but this position, from my understanding, replaces the dollar funded position.

Councilmember Kualii: Okay, that was my question. It does replace the dollar funded position from last year.

Council Chair Rapozo: Are there any other questions for Wastewater? If not, thank you.

Councilmember Cowden: Thank you.

Council Chair Rapozo: Alright, next is Solid Waste.

Councilmember DeCosta: Allison, bring your team. You have a nice team, Allison.

Council Chair Rapozo: I know we recently had some updates by Solid Waste on the landfill, but Allison, if you want to go over some of the highlights of your Budget Submittal, challenges, or any significant increases or reductions.

ALLISON FRALEY, Acting Environmental Services Manager: Good afternoon, Council. Allison Fraley for the record, Solid Waste Division. Some of the major changes in the Budget are we are requesting three new automated refuse trucks, two of which are to replace aging fleet, and one would be a new truck. This would increase the redundancies and reduce breakdowns. That is where we have overtime when it comes to the collections. For the refuse transfer station, we are also requesting some replacement equipment: a loader and two leak-proof trailers to transfer the waste to the landfill, as well as a new backhoe for Hanalei transfer station. Again, having this new equipment will reduce overtime. We are asking for a CAT D6 Bulldozer. That would be a backup to the bulldozer at the landfill. We have a D8 right now, but when that gets maintained or if there are any breakdowns, then we need a backup all the time. That, again, will reduce overtime. We also are asking for a truck to haul dirt in Kekaha for cover soil. There is a request for \$500,000 in the Solid Waste area, but this is actually for diversion. That would be to pilot a Construction and Demolition Debris (C&D) program. That is a big amount of waste that goes into the landfill, so we are hoping to tackle that with this pilot. We are also asking for an increase in our Budget for our refuse collection carts. This is for our service to the public. We service 20,000 homes with refuse collection and the carts are aging, so we are going to be replacing with those carts. We are now, as they break down and not just to throw them away, but to use them their full useful life and replace them when we need to. We are going to do a multi-term purchase for these carts so that we could replace over a period of time on a consistent basis, and not keep rebidding that work. Our financial assurance to close the landfill has decreased a bit and that is because we just recalculated that calculation of the set-aside. We had more funding than we thought, so we are able to reduce this year. We have a request in for grant-in-aid again this year. This is consistent with the integrated Solid Waste Management plan. They did say that we should do innovations, smaller programs, do recycling here on Kaua'i instead of shipping plastic out, do composting here on Kaua'i. This would be our opportunity to work with the for-profit sector. Right now, we are granting to nonprofits, and we have some new grants that we are issuing right now. That covers the changes, the big changes.

Council Chair Rapozo: I am looking at page 10 and noticing you skipped a couple of items. Could you go over the \$110,000 for disaster debris management plan, the \$160,000 for the fencing and camera system, the \$500,000 for C&D diversion, the new contract for Kaua'i Recycles, which you are anticipating a price increase of 20% which is quite significant? If you could start on page 10. The other one was the Solid Waste worker, but that was the position that is the Machinist. We do not want to talk about that further.

Ms. Fraley: So, starting at \$210,000?

Council Chair Rapozo: The \$110,000 for the disaster debris management plan and that entire bullet point.

Ms. Fraley: Oh, that is where it is. Sorry about that.

Councilmember Kualii: We were looking on the other papers.

Council Chair Rapozo: I know the feeling. We have stacks everywhere.

Ms. Fraley: There are too many papers.

Council Chair Rapozo: That is \$110,000 for the disaster debris management plan and \$160,000 for the construction of fencing and camera system upgrade for the Lihue RTS.

Ms. Fraley: For disaster debris management, of course, we have been having disasters. We have a plan. We have a skeleton plan that we have never really fleshed out. This would allow us to hire a consultant to work with us to get that plan ready to roll when there is a disaster. This would also allow us to have contracts that are ready so that we are not making calls like, "Hey, come pick up this waste for private." We would be able to have those ready to roll. That is the disaster debris management. For the Kaua'i Resource Center and the Lihue Transfer Station, there has been vandalism at the station overnight. There was an internal report where there were recommendations made for how we can keep the site safe, both for our workers and the vandals that are coming in overnight. This would be a camera system, fencing, and security of that sort that would help us to minimize those problems.

Council Chair Rapozo: Would this be including the resource center, and not just the transfer station site? Is this for the whole parcel?

Ms. Fraley: Yes, the whole parcel.

Council Chair Rapozo: Okay.

Ms. Fraley: Did I miss something else? My apologies.

Council Chair Rapozo: You have RTS on this.

Councilmember Cowden: Allison, for several Budgets now I have asked about fencing around the security at the Kapa'a Transfer Station. Have we addressed that yet? It had broken fencing and problems with people in there for a long time. Has that been resolved?

Ms. Fraley: We have not fenced that yet.

Councilmember Cowden: Do you have more detail on that, on why we have not done it? It has been four years at least.

Mr. Tanigawa: So far, there has been repairs at the site, but there is no new fencing that has been erected.

Councilmember Cowden: Are people still getting in there, defecating around the toilet at night, and breaking the equipment?

Mr. Tanigawa: We get reports that people do break in. Like in the past, they cut the fencing. If we put new fencing up, they will still cut it.

Councilmember Cowden: They will just cut new fencing.

Mr. Tanigawa: We are trying to repair what we have. We are trying to coordinate with Kaua'i Police Department (KPD) to see if we can curb some of that after hour behavior.

Councilmember Cowden: How about the heavy equipment vandalism? Have we parked it, maybe, in the baseyard, or is the excavator still parked up there and getting vandalized.

Mr. Tanigawa: I do not know if we have had that kind of equipment vandalism recently.

RICK RENAUD, Solid Waste Operations Supervisor: Rick Renaud, Solid Waste Operations Supervisor. Yes, we have not had any vandalism with our equipment lately. We have moved our trucks to the baseyard.

Councilmember Cowden: Okay. Thank you.

Council Chair Rapozo: Go ahead.

Councilmember DeCosta: I will follow up with the new dozer that you wanted.

Council Chair Rapozo: Let us finish the bullet points first.

Councilmember DeCosta: That is part of the bullet points. It says, "Requested a new CAT D6 Bulldozer."

Council Chair Rapozo: Yes, but I want her to finish what was on here that she did not cover. After that we will open up questions on the bullet points.

Councilmember DeCosta: I am sorry, Chair.

Council Chair Rapozo: It is no problem.

Ms. Fraley: My apologies for skipping some. The Kaua'i Recycles Residential Drop Bin Program, that is where we have the eight drop bins for household recyclables, that contract has been in place for five years. During that time, there has been an extreme downturn in the market, while the cost of running the program has increased significantly. This is a sole source contract, so we began, knowing that we are coming to Budget, talking to the vendor to see what we can expect next Fiscal Year and moving forward. From now on, we think we will probably be doing an escalation on that contract because the price of these services continues to rise. We are talking about trucking, maintaining bins, and processing recyclables.

Council Chair Rapozo: Okay. I will let you finish, but I will ask a question on that later.

Ms. Fraley: On that bullet point, conversely, we have actually seen savings in our green waste program. We put them out competitively and we also changed over all of the programs at all the different locations where we drop the green waste. It is weighed when we drop it, instead of being done by volume, which was an estimate in the past. Now it is a more accurate system of being able to measure what we are taking into those composting facilities, so the price has gone down.

Council Chair Rapozo: You mentioned that with green waste the price went down when changing to competitive bids. On the recycles, you are saying we went sole source. Is there an opportunity to do a competitive bid on the recycles?

Ms. Fraley: No. We used to. The issue is that to mobilize for that is a huge cost. They operate the facility, it has a solid waste permit, and they also learn all the equipment that goes with it. We rent all the bins that are out there. That is a lot of equipment. We have, in the past, gone out, and we have never gotten any competition.

Council Chair Rapozo: Okay. Got it. Thank you. Next bullet point is the \$500,000 C&D diversion.

Ms. Fraley: Yes, that would be a pilot program. We would go out for a Request for Proposal (RFP) to see how it could be managed by the private sector. We feel there is competition there. There are a bunch of different ways that it could be done. That is going to be an exciting program to start the process of having a place for our construction companies to take their C&D waste. At the moment, everything goes to the landfill.

Council Chair Rapozo: The last one is pretty much self-explanatory. The home composters.

Ms. Fraley: Yes, so we only buy those every couple of years. That program is running strongly. We have enough right now. We just got more in stock.

Council Chair Rapozo: That is a good thing.

Ms. Fraley: Thank you.

Council Chair Rapozo: Okay. Are there any questions on the bullet points on pages 10 and 11? Councilmember DeCosta.

Councilmember DeCosta: Thank you. Yes, I want to jump right into this. Let us go with the dozer. Do we have two dozers out in Kekaha right now, or just one dozer?

Ms. Fraley: Just 1.

Councilmember DeCosta: I thought we had an old Caterpillar that was broken, that we were going to fix? Do we not have one?

Ms. Fraley: No, we did not fix it. We auctioned it off.

Councilmember DeCosta: We auctioned it. This would be a replacement dozer, to have . In case something happened we have our spare one up and ready, right?

Ms. Fraley: That is correct.

Councilmember DeCosta: For our maintenance plan on that, I think it was the Chair mentioned that very important expenditures cost a lot of money, our employees should know about relative maintenance, right? Grease nipples, oil check, water check, hydraulic hoses, and whatnot. Number two, on the C&D \$500,000 project, it is a pet-peeve of mine to have that air burner in it to burn trash and convert high heat to energy. Some of these machines can actually produce electricity and it is EPA-certified. This Grant-In-Aid that you folks are doing with the recycling, I noticed that we have done it in the past. How many of those Grant-In-Aid projects, recycling bottles and aluminum cans, have materialized into a full-blown business? What I want to see done is I think we should put our money more into the C&D pilot program and have 2 of these projects going on-1 on the west and one on the central or east. The traveling between areas of the construction debris, C&D, the transportation time will kill these companies. If you have 1 on the west, a \$500,000 one, and one on the east, then you would cut in half the time of construction where the north shore and east need to bring C&D, and the Lihu'e area to west need to bring their C&D. How much of the grant-in-aid are you putting towards the recycling program versus the \$500,000 we are putting towards the C&D program? I would like to know the number difference.

Ms. Fraley: This year, it is not called Grant In Aid. It is called Innovative Recycling. \$80,000 is what we have budgeted for that. That goes along with the integrated Solid Waste Management Plan.

Councilmember DeCosta: How much of those little grant programs have materialized into a business that can be self-sufficient? If we are just paying people to come

up with these new little ideas to put plastic bottles someplace else, it seems like we are giving away money that does not materialize into fixing our problems.

Ms. Fraley: We have given away smaller grants in the past, and sometimes we did not even have a grant program. This year, the grants we are giving out we think will materialize into businesses. We are in the process of signing those now.

Councilmember DeCosta: I have one last question toward this C&D and air burner. What transfer station has the most green waste and would the County consider putting one of these air burners at our transfer station to burn clean wood? Would we consider that? How much would that help our green waste from making it mulching and taking it to the landfill versus burning it? I think we have been on the Zoom call with Chair, the County Engineer, and I think you were with us.

Ms. Fraley: Yes.

Councilmember DeCosta: That made us all excited. It seems like it is EPA certified, we can burn all the clean wood, we can take all our storm debris, like at Lydgate Park, we can actually trailer this thing. Is the County also thinking about also participating in one of those air burner machines?

Ms. Fraley: First of all, Kapa'a has the most green waste. Air burners are the most efficient when they are burning just wood and not the green parts. That is their maximum efficiency. We did see that there could be a place for the air burners in the C&D solution. That is why when we go out to bid for the RFP for the C&D, if it is permissible, we still need to check into that, we would put that in as something that would have higher points on the evaluation for that program.

Councilmember DeCosta: That is correct and I support that idea and that program, but we can do a small program ourselves with one of those air burners at the Kapa'a Transfer Station, right? If we can find \$200,000 or whatever the median cost of it, and I think they were around between \$75,000 to \$300,000, and I think it is \$100,000, \$200,000, and \$300,000 for the maximum, would we consider that, Troy, or is that something we did not talk about with the Administration?

Mr. Tanigawa: That is something we would want to go back and take a look at with the Administration.

Councilmember DeCosta: Okay. The last thing is about the customized trucks we are getting. Do we have the reverse cameras on these trucks?

Mr. Tanigawa. Yes.

Councilmember DeCosta: Okay. Thank you.

Council Chair Rapozo: Are there any further questions on the bullet points? One of the topics that I think has changed quite drastically over the years is recycling and the cost, as you mentioned because the demand for the product is not what it was a decade ago. In other words, in the old days we had people purchasing and they would recycle the plastics, but now it is becoming more difficult. Therefore the handling of these items becomes more expensive, like you mentioned a 20% increase. Could you give us a very brief overview of the recycling landscape right now, as it relates to plastics and aluminum cans? The Mayor and myself mentioned alternative technologies and a lot of people fly up and down and said that we just need to recycle, but that is not as easy as it sounds. "Just go ahead and recycle. You will be able to recycle yourself out of this mess." Could you give us the current landscape of recycling with those products?

Ms. Fraley: In 2018, China refused to take the waste of the United States. They called it waste, but it was recycling. Ours is pretty clean actually compared to recyclables that come through a Minimum Efficiency Reporting Value (MERV) and that is how most municipalities collect in a curbside recycling program. They were getting a lot of contamination and they refused to take it. That was the biggest world market for recycling. Since that time, many programs throughout the U.S. have changed, or failed because they were not able to market the material to the market that they had before. We were lucky. At the time that we were in negotiation with our contractor, Garden Isle Disposal, we knew the market was diminishing in China and that we would have to find markets. We did have a contract that did compensate our recycler for being able to do that work to find those markets and market the material. Our program stayed relatively intact, but it is true that the payment that the Recyclers get for the material has declined a lot since we did our Materials Recovery Facility MERV study back in 2016. That is why are going to be doing an update. That was in last year's CIP Budget. We are funding it now to look at what is going to be the real cost of having curbside recycling and doing a MERV. The markets are slowly recovering. They have always been extremely volatile. If you ask any recycling facility, they will tell you they are very volatile. It is a tough business and that is why it costs a lot to do the recycling.

Council Chair Rapozo: Yes, I just wanted the public to understand. Even at the cost that we are proposing, it is still better for us to contract that service out than try to do it in-house, right?

Ms. Fraley: Yes. We have never done that service in-house.

Councilmember Cowden: I have a follow-up on that.
Council Chair Rapozo: Go ahead.

Councilmember Cowden: How about the shipping on it? Is that becoming more difficult? I have heard that especially shipping metals off-island has gotten more expensive than the price for getting the metals. How is that?

Ms. Fraley: Yes, so that is part of the reason why the cost increase is required. It is because of the shipping going up. They all go to different markets-

South East Asia, Korea, some go to the mainland U.S. They are going all over. They are finding the markets, but there is the cost to get there.

Councilmember Cowden: When we look at long-term, I know Councilmember Carvalho and I are going to a meeting soon, when there is more effort towards green energy, I continue to be concerned about batteries. Do we have a way to recycle solar panels, right now? What happens to solar panels that come out of usage?

Ms. Fraley: Solar panels are a problem material, right now.

Council Chair Rapozo: Does anyone else have questions on the bullet points? The next, the number 2, a couple of bullet points I think one that I am extremely interested in, I think you folks know, is the equipment breakdowns. That is one that I honestly do not know how to explain to the constituents when they call because it is happening so frequently. In fact, I think this last week Kapa'a was down due to equipment issues. It is probably the same scenario as the Wastewater Division with overtime costs. I do not want to "beat that dead horse." as the cowboys say it, but let us start with the equipment breakdowns and what it is. Is there anything in the Budget that will address that so we can to keep that place open more for the people?

Ms. Fraley: As I said, we did Budget for replacement equipment for the refuse trucks, for instance, 2 replacements and 1 new truck. We also have trucks that are coming. That will be good. They have been taking a long time, though, because of the supply chain issues. Also, we have the equipment that is coming for the transfer stations-the replacement of the trailers the backhoe, and the loader.

Council Chair Rapozo: With what is in this Budget and what is coming from the existing Budget that has not arrived, yet, are you comfortable that with, once all that is in place, you should be able to perform and have that place open and not needing to shut down? That makes me nervous, Allison.

Mr. Tanigawa: That equipment will definitely help. It will help reduce the frequency we believe once we get it. What is also coming is one of the projects that we will get into during CIP. We are going to be having a construction project to upgrade the refuse transfer stations. At this point, three of our transfer stations are very outdated. We have equipment that was built and installed in the 1970s. We have tried to jerry-rig, and we have had our County electricians, we have hired electricians and folks to help us update what we have. They have had some success to a certain degree, but the modernization upgrades that we are looking at with this coming construction project will bring us closer to what we have at Lihu'e Transfer Station, which is doing away with all that highly-mechanized compactor type equipment to a top-load system. That will reduce the amount of mechanical parts and mechanisms at the stations, so we are more in tune with modern technology and equipment that is more redundant and what we are using is pretty much across the board with Lihu'e Transfer Station. We will have more redundancies at that point at least from an equipment standpoint. There should be less instances of equipment causing a closure or temporary suspension of operations once we have that construction done.

Council Chair Rapozo: That is not in here or in the CIP. Is all of that in our Fiscal Year Budget this year, whether Operations or CIP?

Mr. Tanigawa: Yes. CIP, together with our Operating Budget, will help us get there.

Council Chair Rapozo: Councilmember Cowden.

Councilmember Cowden: Related to that, we have a Notice of Violation and Order (NOVO) on our transfer stations, correct?

Mr. Tanigawa: We have had one in the past. We have not had any since.

Councilmember Cowden: Does that mean we fixed it?

Mr. Tanigawa: We have been able to retrofit our operations, reorganize, and we have stormwater control plans and National Pollutant Discharge Elimination Systems (NPDES) permits that we have been able to comply with regulations so far. That is only temporary. The regulators understand that we are going to be upgrading our facilities to what I just mentioned, and we are on-track to do that.

Councilmember Cowden: There is the leachate element in certainly Princeville and I believe Kapa'a and Hanapēpē. Have we managed to contain our leachate getting into the streams?

Ms. Fraley: That is what the upgrades will give us. Leachate containment systems will be installed at all of those transfer stations.

Councilmember Cowden: So, we do not have them now?

Mr. Tanigawa: We did install curbing and concrete. We have also improved the cover over our containment area for leachate at the Hanalei transfer station, so we do not see any instances of leachate leaving the site and going into the stream.

Councilmember Cowden: Was it Act 73? I know I am always forgetting. Act 73 that talks about the perimeter around any of our Solid Waste. Does that apply to our transfer stations or does it not?

Ms. Fraley: No.

Councilmember Cowden: It looked like it did.

Ms. Fraley: It is just for the landfill. We thought it would.

Councilmember Cowden: It is just for the landfill. When I read the statute, it looks like it does, but it does not.

Ms. Fraley: It does not.

Council Chair Rapozo: Are there any other questions? I do not know if I have ever been on a Council with the benefit of this much money. It is thanks to many factors-market, TAT, GET. As I hear you speak about the issues, solid waste is one of the bigger necessities on the island because everyone needs to get their trash out. I get a little concerned when this gets us closer, but not where we need to be as far as keeping our facilities open. I know, as we had a discussion, sometimes it is staffing, but I think you were saying that the majority of the time it is equipment. We really need to get this equipment up to speed. I would hope that, and this is really for the Administration as well, we can do more to get us where we need to be. I know I talked about paying down debt. I talked about it is better to purchase outright than to lease because we save money long-term. But this, your function at Solid Waste, is of such an importance that I would rather see more money put towards getting us to where we need to be so we can ensure that place is open and maybe using the funds that we are using now to pay down debt or buy out leases, because this has been going on for a long time. This has been going on for a long time where people have not been able to get their trash out. Again, like we talked about the other day, where the west tends to go to the landfill, we tend to go to the transfer stations. A lot of people get off one week and that is their day. They drive out there, they do not have email, they do not get press releases, and they are not listening to KONG. They get to the landfill or the transfer station and it is closed. It is closed because of an equipment issue. For me, we need to get past that. Staffing, you cannot do much about. People get sick, people get hurt, people take off, but we need to be at a point where our machines and our equipment are working. I would rather see this year, because of the financial situation we are in, that we would get there. This is more for Mike Dahilig, in the back, and the Mayor. This is more an Administrative thing because there are things that they wanted to accomplish and they did. I agree with what they are trying to do, but at the same time I think solid waste and the health and safety of our people are important. I just wanted to make that comment.

Mr. Tanigawa: I would like to add Chair if I may. One thing that I did not mention is that I believe the construction and the Transfer Station facility upgrades that we will be working on soon, will help us to achieve having less shutdowns and inconveniences that occur because of weather. For example, Kapa'a Transfer Station, Hanapēpē Transfer Station, and Līhu'e Transfer Station are stations that shut down because of weather. Līhu'e transfer station has a much better area for receiving green waste because a lot of it is paved road and people discharge off of the paved road. Kapa'a transfer station and Hanalei are two facilities that I think this new construction will really help shut down the frequency, or at least put a stop to the frequency of shutdowns from weather because we will be going to a different system where we are less dependent on not being able to safely allow people to deposit their waste due to muddy conditions and that kind of stuff. I would point out that this construction is getting us actually closer to where we need to be.

Council Chair Rapozo: That is good to hear. Councilmember Cowden.

Councilmember Cowden: He has not gone yet, and he has not gone yet. I have one, but I can wait until others get their chance.

Council Chair Rapozo: I do not want you to get mad at me. If I skip you, you will get mad. Okay, so you are passing your chance. Councilmember DeCosta had one before.

Councilmember DeCosta: Do you folks want to go? We will be kind.

Council Chair Rapozo: Okay. Councilmember Bulosan. I will not be nice anymore.

Councilmember Bulosan: I found it here that construction will be starting in the summer. Is that right?

Mr. Tanigawa: It is our projected start, yes.

Councilmember Bulosan: Is there an estimated time of completion for each transfer station?

Ms. Fraley: It will be a two year project. We do have some long lead items that we have to order. Those will take some time, initially. I was looking at the schedule, and most of the transfer stations will incur a 100-day shutdown. We will probably do one at a time.

Council Chair Rapozo: We hope you do one at a time, yes.

Ms. Fraley: Well, we were thinking of doing two, but that would be hard. Līhu'e has less work, so it will be a shorter shutdown period. The total timeline for that project is two years of construction.

Councilmember Bulosan: Thank you.

Council Chair Rapozo: Okay. Are there any more questions on the Operating Budget? I know you folks are digging into the CIP. If we have any more questions on the Operating portion, I would like to address those first. Councilmember Carvalho.

Councilmember Carvalho: Following up on that, along with the actual shutdowns and for the community in part. Is the renovation existing or is it, like for Kapa'a, going to open up the whole other area, or is it pretty much the same footprint?

Ms. Fraley: It is the same footprint.

Councilmember Carvalho: Everything is the same and we are just upgrading everything?

Ms. Fraley: Yes. The point of it is to keep leachate from forming by the covering spaces so that we do not create leachate, to collect leachate in more modern systems, and keep the rainwater separate and stormwater separate and make sure that goes to swales so that it is kept clean. That is the point of it.

Councilmember Carvalho: Like you said, the flooding or the rainwater seems to be the big issue.

Council Chair Rapozo: Councilmember DeCosta.

Councilmember DeCosta: Two questions. one, why do we not let Hanapēpē accept mattresses? Why do people need to go all the way to Kekaha to dump mattresses? I know you folks will say that the trash compactor cannot stop the mattress, that it will get stuck. Can you not put a trash bin out there that we people can dump the mattress inside? Out at the landfill, they have trash bins that you put the mattress inside in Kekaha.

Mr. Tanigawa: The additional collection would increase our costs for operating.

Councilmember DeCosta: That is a far drive, you know, for people coming from Kalāheo. To dump a mattress, they have to go all the way to Kekaha landfill.

Mr. Tanigawa: That is something that we have had to think about and wrestle with, as far as what materials we can accept. We just do not have the equipment on hand right now to do that. To get the additional equipment, it would include additional costs including potentially another Operator to operate the truck. We already fully utilize the existing roll off system and the operators running the existing programs.

Councilmember DeCosta: The other question I had was regarding the shutdown time. 3:15 p.m. is our shutdown time, but most folks finish around 3:30 p.m. or 4:00 p.m. Have we ever thought about making one day a week an offset, open 9:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. or 6:00 p.m.? Folks who work in construction finish work at 4:30 p.m. and will catch the traffic going to the westside. If you try to get from Puhi to the west side, you will not get home until 5:30 p.m., maybe 5:00 p.m. They will miss the transfer. They work overtime on Saturdays. Have we thought about making one off day, maybe the Wednesday, a little bit later? I am just trying to see how we can solve that late bird, not the early bird, traffic dumper person.

Mr. Tanigawa: We actually had a schedule before that started late and finished, I believe, at 5:00 p.m. There was a call to switch it to the earlier time. If we had to do that, we would go back to the union again and have another consultation. We would have to go through the process.

Councilmember DeCosta: How did that work, though, Troy, when you had that late bird? Did it work out alright? What are the comments you received?

Mr. Tanigawa: The overall feeling by employees there was they preferred the early schedule.

Councilmember DeCosta: I know the employees would feel that way. Every employee would like to go home early. I was asking about our constituents. Was there any feedback by the constituents saying, "Hey, I am able to go home now and put my trash on my truck and head to the landfill or the transfer station to make a dump run"? Did we get any reviews from them?

Mr. Tanigawa: When the change was made, there was a portion of the community that was unhappy with the change. To answer your question, people like that schedule, also.

Councilmember DeCosta: Thank you, Troy.

Council Chair Rapozo: Councilmember Cowden.

Councilmember Cowden: I would like to go back to the recycling for a minute. Allison, can you tell us a little bit about solar panels? When I look at the amount of solar panels we have on the island, if we had a big storm that threw some trees around, we would have a bunch of trashed solar panels. I know on a small home system, it is difficult to get somebody to fix a component. They want you to replace the whole thing. I had a tiny problem for three years. I cannot get anybody to fix the small problem. They only want to replace the whole thing. They say, "Just do it." It is easier. It is cheaper for them. It is better for financing. They say your panels will be over with in another five years. What I am seeing is that we are going to end up having all these tossed panels and it is not going to be such a green solution. Do we have plans right now of how we will be handling unwanted solar panels?

Ms. Fraley: We are working on that now. It is a problem statewide, and it is a problem that, like you said, is just about to hit us. It has not hit us yet. I do not have the information, right now, but I can certainly get it to you. It is a problem material and a statewide problem.

Councilmember Cowden: Are we stocking them anywhere or are we putting them in the landfill currently?

Ms. Fraley: I believe they are being landfilled, right now.

Councilmember Cowden: For people who are really on the green agenda, I think that is an important thing for them to look at. I know everything from windmill blades, which we do not have, to solar panels and batteries, there is no place to put them. There is statewide pressure to move completely to that. We need to be looking at the backend of it. We have so much investment. It seems that needs to be on our sheet of figuring out.

Ms. Fraley: Yes, and I would definitely like to get back to you.
I am sorry I do not have all that information.

Councilmember Cowden: It is no problem. I wanted to at least put it out there and out to the public that that green solution is not 100% green, yet.

Council Chair Rapozo: Councilmember DeCosta.

Councilmember DeCosta: I will try to make it quick.

Council Chair Rapozo: I am so sorry. Councilmember Kuali'i. I have my chart here. I do not want to upset anyone.

Councilmember Kuali'i: I am fine. On your narrative, you have as one of your top Operational Highlights, the filling in November 2022 of the Division Chief position and the movement of the Solid Waste Program Coordinator as the means for how it was filled. Then you say the Recycling Coordinator fills that position. When I am looking at the list of positions, I do not see a Recycling Coordinator position.

Ms. Fraley: Yes.

Councilmember Kuali'i: I see a vacancy of a Senior Project Manager.

Ms. Fraley: That is correct.

Councilmember Kuali'i: Is that the same position?

Ms. Fraley: No, it is not. The Recycling Coordinator position has been filled and the new hire will start May 1, 2023. We are excited about that.

Councilmember Kuali'i: Is it that title, though?

Ms. Fraley: No.

Councilmember Kuali'i: I do not see it in the list of the positions.

Ms. Fraley: It is not a vacancy.

Councilmember Kuali'i: I mean on the Budget, not the Vacancy Report.

Mr. Fraley: It should be under the recycling Budget, actually.
We have three different sections of the Budget.

Mr. Tanigawa: You can look at master page 332.

Councilmember Kualifii: Did the movement happen across the divisions for the filling of the vacancies?

Mr. Tanigawa: Yes, they were internal.

Ms. Fraley: The Recycling Coordinator is a new hire.

Mr. Tanigawa: Yes.

Councilmember Kualifii: Is the vacancy in this Solid Waste Division for the Senior Project Manager, position 827?

Ms. Fraley: Yes.

Councilmember Kualifii: \$68,556 is noted in the Budget, and \$51,024 in the Vacancy Report. That represents a 34% increase, which is more than the 8.9%. It has been vacant for 1,733 days and its status is "List referred." What is happening with this position?

Mr. Tanigawa: That position was formally a Civil Engineer position, which has since then been reallocated. The new classification, I believe the difference there is the salary amount that was reflected last year.

Ms. Fraley: Yes. The last time, it was an SR-20. Now it is an SR-24. That is the difference there.

Councilmember Kualifii: The position is being filled and will start by July 1, 2023?

Ms. Fraley: That is the Recycling Coordinator. This position is still vacant, but we are recruiting. This position, as Troy said, is a Civil Engineer position that has been vacant for many years. We have taken action to interview, but could not find anybody, so reallocated down. We started off at a Civil Engineer V, then we took it down to IV, then we took it to a III, then we took it to a II. I have all the dates. We have been working hard to try to fill the position. Since we have not been able to, we decided if we cannot get an Engineer, then let us get a Project Manager in here because we have a lot of Solid Waste projects that we earlier mentioned and that will really help. We did a very short recruitment and got a couple of people that we were able to interview. Now we are doing a long-term recruitment. It is out for recruitment, now, long-term.

Councilmember Kualifii: I am a little bit confused. Is this not the same as an eligible list? What is "list referred"? The status of the recruitment for the vacant 827, Senior Project Manager position is "list referred." I am wondering if you have people already and you can just reinterview them and hire them, or if this is like starting recruitment all over.

Mr. Tanigawa: The interviews that Allison just mentioned, it just happened. I believe that at the time the report was generated and the activity you see there was based on the referred list that they were interviewed from recently.

Councilmember Kualii: The interviews for this position happened?

Ms. Fraley: Yes.

Councilmember Kualii: Will you have them hired and in place by July 1, 2023?

Mr. Tanigawa: They were not able to select anybody, so they will go out for another long-term recruitment.

Councilmember Kualii: Now, you need to really think about how long will that take to fill. If you cannot fill it and they start on July 1, 2023, then you should partially fund it.

Mr. Tanigawa: We know of candidates that did not apply last time that, I believe, will be responding during this recruitment.

Councilmember Kualii: Are you more than hopeful that you will have it filled?

Mr. Tanigawa: Yes.

Councilmember Kualii: Thank you.

Council Chair Rapozo: Councilmember DeCosta.

Councilmember DeCosta: Yes. Back to the bullet points. I noticed you did not talk about lithium batteries and where we put all these electric car batteries that are no longer in use. Is there a place in the State of Hawai'i that takes our used old lithium batteries that can no longer be used? Hawai'i is supposed to be going electric by 2050, totally converted, I believe, by 2030, maybe.

Councilmember Cowden: 2035, I think.

Councilmember DeCosta: We did not talk about a place in our Solid Waste that accepted lithium batteries.

Ms. Fraley: Specifically, you are talking about car batteries, correct?

Councilmember DeCosta: Yes.

Councilmember Cowden: Lithium.

Ms. Fraley: Yes, lithium, obviously. They are supposed to be sent back to the manufacturer. We do not manage that under our program.

Councilmember DeCosta: If people want to throw away their car battery, do we have a place for them to throw it away right now?

Ms. Fraley: We do not accept batteries for disposal.

Councilmember DeCosta: Okay. I am not a big fan of lithium, too, by the way. Next one. How about “the jaws of trash”? Have you ever seen that? In Third World countries they have these big jaws that almost look like those sugar cane wheels with big metal teeth. They just crush metal and make it into a small little slab. Have you ever seen that? It is amazing. It is really cheap. I think it runs by diesel, though. Fossil fuel. It does combine and compact your trash really tightly. Have you ever seen that?

Ms. Fraley: No, I have not seen it.

Councilmember DeCosta: I can get that to you. A lot of the Third World countries are using it. It is a very cheap way to consolidate your trash, it takes only one person to move the machine, and the moving parts are just two giant barrels that look like a compactor that you are running on the road. It looks like two big compactor disks that grind all the hard trash. I will get that information to you. We have been doing some research in my department.

Ms. Fraley: Thank you.

Councilmember DeCosta: We will have Paka in charge of that. By the way, Paka, thank you for stepping up and taking a bigger role as a local *kamaʻāina* leadership role.

PAKA BROWN, Solid Waste Worksite Supervisor: Thank you.

Councilmember DeCosta: We are really appreciative. Councilmember Carvalho and I have pushed for that and we saw that you stepped up to the plate and we appreciate you. Thank you.

Mr. Brown: Thank you.

Council Chair Rapozo: Councilmember Carvalho and Paka could do the same thing that we were talking about. They could probably do the same thing.

Councilmember Cowden: What is your last name, Paka?

Mr. Brown: Brown.

Councilmember Cowden: Pardon?

Mr. Brown: Brown.

Councilmember DeCosta: I am feeling a little offended now just because they are bigger than me. I am thinking that small people like me can do the same thing. We can do the same thing, right, Ken? We just need to deal with smaller trash.

Council Chair Rapozo: Okay. You folks will do the paper, and they will do the metal. Are there any more questions on Solid Waste Operating? The bulk of your Budget will be CIP. I think that is where most of the discussion will be at. Councilmember Kagawa? No? Thank you. You will be here for CIP, right?

Ms. Fraley: Yes.

Council Chair Rapozo: Alright. Next is Public Works CIP. We will go straight through to 4:00 p.m. and we will end at 4:00 p.m. Is that okay? Does anybody need a break? Do you folks not need a break? Let us do five minutes. If you do not need to use the restroom, stay in place.

There being no objections, the Committee recessed at 2:56 p.m.

The meeting reconvened at 3:06 p.m., and proceeded as follows:

Council Chair Rapozo: This meeting is called back to order. Councilmembers, you can take out your CIP sheet. It does not fit on the screen, unfortunately. We are going to go down page 1. If you go right below the Auto Shop bolded, about 1/3 of the way down, you will see "Islandwide Bike/Pedestrian Path." That is where we will start. With that, Troy.

Mr. Tanigawa: Thank you, Chair. This section is largely Engineering Division projects. Michael Moule is here to answer any questions you folks may have. Starting off with this island-wide bike and pedestrian path project, right now we have an appropriation request of \$2,007.

Council Chair Rapozo: Members, if you could just go down the list. I think we all understand the CIP. A lot of these projects are not new projects. We will get to some new projects. Let us look at page 1. Are any questions on any of the projects on page 1? I will take that as a, "No."

Councilmember Cowden: I am looking.

Councilmember Kualii: One thing I might suggest is that as we are going through it, if you want to give us highlights of the big items, like \$396,000 or \$250,000. For smaller amounts, like \$2,000, I do not need the details on that.

Councilmember Cowden: I am looking at the \$250,000 for the emergency generator. Do we have one right now? It is the fourth item down, IT Infrastructure Improvements.

Council Chair Bulosan: Sorry, we are starting at Auto Shop.

Councilmember Cowden: Oh, okay. Nevermind.

Council Chair Rapozo: For Public Works or for the Administration in general, after this process we get together, we do decision-making. If there is an opportunity or Councilmembers decide they will reduce the Budget or reduce CIP, I would highly suggest that, as Councilmember Kuali'i was saying, you should highlight the ones that are very important to you.

Councilmember Kuali'i: Tell us what is important.

Council Chair Rapozo: I know they are all important, but maybe you want to highlight the bigger projects, the more important projects, projects that affect public health and safety.

Mr. Tanigawa: I would say that the projects that are at the top of the list, we will want to come back to those later on. Starting with where we identified island-wide bike and pedestrian path.

Councilmember Kuali'i: Dollar amount?

Mr. Tanigawa: Below that. The dollar amount for that project, the appropriation request is \$2,007. We will just go as suggested by the Council Chair. We will look at the critical ones.

Council Chair Rapozo: The second to the last column is really where that is new money.

Councilmember Kuali'i: Oh, okay.

Council Chair Rapozo: Looking at the proposed Budget Ordinance, if it is \$0, there is no new money. It is money that is already in there from the prior year. Is that not right? Please correct me if I am wrong, but that is how I think I remember.

Mr. Tanigawa: Correct. That is Proposed Ordinance to add to.

Council Chair Rapozo: On page 1 of 10, there is really no new money. Okay, we will go to page 2.

Mr. Tanigawa: Council Chair, if we may.

Council Chair Rapozo: Absolutely.

Mr. Tanigawa: Todd can say a few words about the formatting so that we acclimate everyone.

Council Chair Rapozo: Thank you.

TODD OZAKI, Executive Assistant to the Mayor Councilmembers, thank you for having us. What you have in front of you, our spreadsheet for CIP, I want to give you the general gist and how we reached it and why. In the fourth column, under Managing Agency, that is the order in which these projects are organized. Starting under Auto Shop, where we just spoke, we will have a few pages of Public Works Engineering, followed up by the rest of Public Works by each division, and then move on to other agencies. Second to the last column, that is the proposed Ordinance, so any money that is added will show up in that one. The furthest right is the final appropriation. If I am understanding you correctly, we can touch on high dollar items like you mentioned, if you would like or we can focus on anything that have new monies that we are asking for.

Council Chair Rapozo: Yes, I think for the members and for the public, unlike the General Fund Budget, that money ends at the end of the Budget year, it does not carry over, in CIP, those funds stay and they get carried over. The second to the last column, again, that is if Administration is asking for additional funds for the specific CIP project. With that, all of these projects have been approved. They have been funded. For me, all I need to know is if any of that is no longer, I would assume it is not on this list, but if it is no longer valid, you are not moving forward, or it is something that can be done later and can be removed. Other than that, I would assume everything on this list is something that you folks are still working on.

Mr. Ozaki: Yes.

Councilmember Kualii: Can I ask a process question, too?

Council Chair Rapozo: Sure.

Councilmember Kualii: It is also then that if the last column has the dollar amount in it and then the second to the last column, which is new money, is zero, then you are saying that the money that we have in place already is enough to complete that project or to complete what you expect to do in the next year, and that is why you are not asking for any more money for this year?

Mr. Ozaki: In general, yes. I cannot say that as a blanket statement. Some projects that have zero in the new money, but still have a balance, there is some work to do. Not to say we could not come back the following year to ask for more, but as far as how it will take us through the next Fiscal Year, we are fairly set on those. Going back to the earlier question. There may be some balances that show in the far-right column that the projects are closed, and it will be noted in the notes. We can skip over those because it will be relatively small amounts of money that will be reappropriated later.

Councilmember Kualifi: I am only interested in the new money, because that is part of this Budget.

Council Chair Rapozo: Let us go to page 2.

Councilmember Carvalho: Did you say page 2?

Council Chair Rapozo: Yes unless you have a question.

Councilmember Carvalho: No, I do not.

Council Chair Rapozo: We are looking at \$200,000 new money for 'Anini Bridge, \$700,000 for Kamalu Road. Those are the only two projects on page 2 if you folks want to touch on that.

Mr. Moule: Good afternoon, Chair and members of the Council. Michael Moule, Chief of Engineering for the record. 'Anini Bridge Number 2 replacement. This is the bridge by 'Anini Road that maybe about six years ago we replaced with a temporary bridge. We have added to the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program a project to replace it permanently. The old bridge is under the temporary bridge supporting itself. At some point, not soon we do not think, but at some point, the old bridge could potentially collapse and then we would need to move quickly to fix it, so we want to get a project ready, a shovel-ready project, to replace it with Federal-Aid Funds. It is a Federal-Aid bridge. We want to get the project shovel-ready. These funds are additional funds for the design of the project. We plan to procure a design consultant next Fiscal Year as part of the Purchasing Division, which does an annual professional services procurement. We are adding this project to that effort to procure a consultant for next year to get this project shovel ready for construction, probably, 3 or 4 years down the road.

Council Chair Rapozo: Thank you. And for Kamalu?

Mr. Moule: Kamalu Road is actually a very similar situation. It is a road project to add paved shoulders to, similar situation, the temporary bridge we just replaced last year, we are going to replace it with a permanent bridge. This one is probably a little more important just because the road improvements are also included. We are trying to at least add paved shoulders to that road. We get a lot of complaints about speeding on that road, a lot of concerns from people walking on the road not having much space. We want to at least add paved shoulders to that rural road as we have done to a few other similar roads in the past. It is the same thing. We are looking for funds to design that project next Fiscal Year for construction probably within 3 years in that case.

Council Chair Rapozo: These 2 projects are pretty much planning design money, not construction?

Mr. Moule: Yes. That is exactly right.

Council Chair Rapozo: Councilmember Kualii.

Councilmember Kualii: Just the fact that you are talking about bridges, then I think... No, I can wait until the next page.

Council Chair Rapozo: Okay. Are there any other questions on page 2? Alright. Page 3. This one has a whole bunch of new money, so let us start at the top. Let us just do this by project.

Councilmember Cowden: Kolo Road.

Council Chair Rapozo: Yes, Kilauea/Kolo Road, resurfacing.

Mr. Moule: This project is a Federal-aid project that is in design right now. It is an interesting one. It is not just our typical Federal-aid project because this road provides access to Kilauea lighthouse, which is a federal property. It has the special Federal Lands Access Program funding, which means the project is actually being designed and managed by Federal Housing Administration, with us serving to review and work on the project. They are actually hiring the consultants for design, and we will be hiring the contractors. It is kind of an odd situation for us. The monies that are shown in here are for the County match to the Federal funds, 20% County match. In fact, in this case, the County cost overall will be less than 20% because of that Federal Lands Access Program. For the numbers, there is not an exact percentage in this case. I cannot say it is exactly 15% or something like that because it is 20% of the portion that is not part of the Federal Lands Access Program, if that makes sense.

Council Chair Rapozo: Yes.

Mr. Moule: Anyway, so that is what this is for. We are adding a little more money based on the most recent estimate. We are in the 70% plans stage right now, 90% plans will be developed over the next few months with bidding anticipated by, hopefully, the end of the year with construction starting next summer.

Councilmember Cowden: I was going to say when. What is good on that is the potholes have gotten deep and we keep talking about our town does putting in a sewer line, but that certainly cannot happen by next summer. That is one of those issues that is the chicken and the egg, right?

Mr. Moule: Yes. We struggle with that a lot with sewer-line projects and waterline projects, trying to not do our road projects before those projects go in. With no date for a sewer line construction out there, even though I know it is being discussed with respect to trying to add some affordable housing in the area, we think we should move forward with this project. It needs to be paved.

Councilmember Cowden: When we make a design, is there any way that there can be right next to the sidewalk a place where there is an area designed to be popped out to put a pipe in? Just a little bit of forward thinking so we do not put all this effort in then dig it up.

Mr. Moule: Let me put it this way. In this particular project, there are corridors, let us say, within the right of way that will not have asphalt for a road or concrete for a sidewalk. They will have grass swale between the two, the sidewalk and road. On the other side of the road there is some space. There are other utilities. There are water lines and things. We have to avoid those. Without the ability to do an actual sewer design now, I can say that there are some areas within that right of way that could allow a sewer line to be built without tearing out the road and the sidewalk. At least in some portions. We have not looked at that closely at all.

Councilmember Cowden: Just hold that in your mind because we probably almost certainly are going to need one and then the community talks like, "If everybody pitched in \$15,000, instead of \$30,000 to put septic in, we can have matching funds for the County." It is an active conversation because we are mostly cesspools.

Council Chair Rapozo: Let me roll this right back into the CIP project.

Councilmember Cowden: Yes.

Council Chair Rapozo: I want to get through the CIP.

Councilmember Cowden: I am sorry.

Council Chair Rapozo: No, it is no problem. That is a discussion that we need to have at some point. Līhu'e Culvert Repairs. Is this just a generic pot of money or do you have culverts that you have identified? It is not specific. It is just culvert repairs. If you do not know, then it is an easy one for us.

Mr. Ozaki: Actually, the Līhu'e Culvert Repairs is open, however, there are areas in Līhu'e we have identified that are in need of culvert. It is actually a true statement for pretty much the entire island. There are several. Many that we have not even discovered yet that we will soon.

Council Chair Rapozo: Are we going to see more culvert repairs for different parts of the island?

Mr. Ozaki: Yes, and more generally.

Council Chair Rapozo: Okay. Minor bridge repairs to bridges as a result of inspections. We all know that we have a bunch.

Councilmember Kualī'i: I have a question on that.

Council Chair Rapozo: On which one? On the culvert?

Councilmember Kuali'i: The third one. You are moving to the third one, right?

Council Chair Rapozo: Okay. Yes, this is a big one. \$6,250,000 more, islandwide. Go ahead.

Mr. Moule: This is a big one. You are absolutely right. This is about two years ago now. For the first time in a long time, the County inspected all the minor bridges. The bridges that are not 20 feet long. Although, during those inspections, we found that some were just over 20 feet and now they are going to be Federal-Aid. There are three bridges that were identified as needing replacement fairly soon, and they are relatively long within that less than 20-foot range. There is the Akulikuli Bridge Number 2, which is a bridge on Kahuna Road, pretty far *mauka* over a small stream. There is what was called the Puhi Ditch Bridge. We are renaming because it turns out the stream that goes under that bridge is not Puhi ditch. It is down the road a bit. We are going to rename that structure, but it is a bridge near the intersection of Kawaihau Road and Waiākea Road. Then there is the Anahola Bridge on Anahola Road, near the beach park. I think that is the one we hear the most concerns about because it is the one that was closed right away, and it has been closed since that time. We now have a consultant on board working on planning and environmental work for all 3 of those projects. Unfortunately, the Anahola Bridge is going to take the longest because it has the most environmental effects. The existing structure is a steel culvert, speaking of culverts, with concrete around it. It is in the stream. Literally half the culvert is under water. It is going to require in-stream work, which means the environmental review takes longer. We have got to get the Army Corps permits, in addition to the Historic Research permits, in addition to the special Endangered Species permits. There are just more permits associated with that one, but we do have a consultant onboard, and we are actively working on developing those 3 bridge projects right now.

Council Chair Rapozo: The \$6,250,000 is, again, not construction, but rather just planning?

Mr. Moule: This is for construction. We have the contract for the construction, the design is already in place and funded. This is for construction. There may be a remnant of the design funds that are still in there, not spent, but this is mainly for construction.

Council Chair Rapozo: Okay. Councilmember Kuali'i.

Councilmember Kuali'i: I think I missed the basic understanding of what Todd said earlier. The final column is the amount of money that was already in there, and the second to the last column is the amount that is being added to that or does it bring it to that new total?

Mr. Ozaki: The final column is the total number after the new money.

Councilmember Kualii: After the new money. So, it was only \$700,000 or whatever and you are adding \$6,250,000. When you shared that detail, Mike, were you saying that the reason for adding that \$6,250,000 is to address those three bridges because they are the top priority?

Mr. Moule: I believe that in this case the \$700,000 was for the design which we have the contract in place now. The additional amount is for the actual construction. We do think that the other two bridges can get to construction relatively soon because they are fairly simple environmentally, so we need that money fairly soon. We want to have at least one of them, maybe two, under construction this year. Anahola will probably be at least next year before we can start construction. At least, unfortunately.

Councilmember Kualii: You are at least saying that you are doing it?

Mr. Moule: We are doing it. We have the consultant onboard.

Councilmember Kualii: It has been closed for a while, right?

Mr. Moule: It has been closed for a while, yes.

Councilmember Kualii: You are doing it and it is a priority. Actually, it is the top priority because it is the only bridge that is actually closed?

Mr. Ozaki: Yes.

Councilmember Kualii: It is, however, the most difficult because of all this additional stuff?

Mr. Moule: Right. It will be the last of the three to get under reconstruction just because it takes longer because of the environment.

Councilmember Kualii: Do you have all the money here?

Mr. Moule: Yes.

Councilmember Kualii: It includes all what you need to do-the environmental review, the additional permits required, and you will move as fast as you can based on the responses you get from the bodies that you have to go through, the state and what have you?

Mr. Moule: That is right.

Councilmember Kualii: Thank you.

Mr. Moule: We have biweekly meetings with our consultant on this one to keep things moving.

Councilmember Kualii: If anywhere along the way it gets clogged and delayed, and you need letters or calls, then let us know.

Mr. Moule: Thank you. I will keep that in mind.

Council Chair Rapozo: Councilmember Carvalho.

Councilmember Carvalho: I just want to clarify that these bridges qualify because they are under 20 feet.

Mr. Moule: They are not qualified for Federal-Aid funding.

Councilmember Carvalho: Okay, so that is what it is.

Council Chair Rapozo: Real quick on the Anahola Bridge. Is there anything that the County can do to temporarily open it? I know we have done it in the past with Kapaia, when that road washed out. Is there anything or are we pretty much restricted from touching that?

Mr. Moule: We could do a similar project, theoretically, from an engineering point of view. It is possible to do a similar project as was done to Yasutake Bridge on Kamalu Road to what I had mentioned.

Council Chair Rapozo: Is Yasutake Bridge the one with the Evil Knievel ramps on the side?

Mr. Tanigawa: Yes, that is the one.

Council Chair Rapozo: We do not need to do that. We may as well keep it closed.

Mr. Moule: The ramps do not necessarily need to be that high in this case. The point is that it is theoretically possible to do that. We are opting not to do that because we think that because you can access both ends even though it is an inconvenience for some people who want to get through. I had a call today, in fact, from a resident on Kukuiahale Road who said, "If I want to go to the Village Park, I need to go down the highway." We get it, but because you can access both sides; it is not as critical. We do not think it is fiscally responsible, honestly, to put in a temporary bridge. It will cost a fair amount of money to do. Then come back and replace it in a few years with a permanent one.

Council Chair Rapozo: Best-case scenario, going through the process that you just discussed for the permanent fix, what are we looking at?

Mr. Moule: I do not think we have a schedule for this one, yet.

Council Chair Rapozo: I mean in your experience.

Mr. Moule: At the earliest, mid to late next year, 2024. I am hoping we can move it up, but these processes are lengthy, unfortunately.

Council Chair Rapozo: No. I thought it would have been longer.

Councilmember Bulosan: Do you mean starting the project would be mid to late next year?

Mr. Moule: Yes, starting construction.

Council Chair Rapozo: Oh, starting.

Councilmember Kualii: A year and a half to start construction?

Mr. Moule: Yes.

Council Chair Rapozo: How long will construction take?

Councilmember Kualii: It will take 5 days.

Mr. Moule: This should not take more than 6 months to build up.

Council Chair Rapozo: We are talking two years now. Okay. We will let the Anahola representative explain that to the public. Alright.

Councilmember Kualii: We will have them call the Chair or call the mayor.

Council Chair Rapozo: Are there any more questions on the Bridge projects? Okay. Shared use path, \$75,000 added, with a total of \$275,000. This is the research for Waimea to Kekaha. I think these are self-explanatory.

Councilmember DeCosta: I have a question.

Council Chair Rapozo: Go ahead.

Councilmember DeCosta: I noticed it says "Pedestrian/bike path," but for the Waimea to Kekaha one, did we not talk a little further about including the equestrian path, also? Is it separate from this path? I thought it would run simultaneously. One would be concrete, the other limestone gravel. Are we still going with that idea or not?

Mr. Moule: The Waimea to Kekaha shared use path which is planned to connect between the Waimea Athletic Field there in Waimea town to Kekaha

Road, at the east end of Kekaha town, within the *makai* most portion of the Waimea 400 property.

Councilmember DeCosta: What side of the road is this? Is this the highway side or the inside of our property?

Mr. Moule: It is on the *mauka* side of the highway, but within the *makai* part of the Waimea 400 parcel. It would be in County property with what we are looking at now. In theory, it could include a hard surface bike and pedestrian path as well as an equestrian path. We are in the beginning of the planning effort for that now. The discussion of how that looks in cross-section would come out of the public meetings we are looking to have in the near future for that.

Councilmember DeCosta: There are some of the meetings we went to before I was on the Council. I went as a community member. Equestrian was quite a large cry.

Mr. Moule: Right, and that came out of the West Kaua'i Community Plan and the Waimea 400 planning effort.

Councilmember DeCosta: Correct.

Mr. Moule: We are building on those two efforts with this project. Yes, that is something that can be included and should be included based on, I just saw the map of, the equestrian lines on the Waimea 400 properties.

Council Chair Rapozo: Next is Culvert Assessment. Again, you got repair to culverts for Līhu'e above and that is at \$428,000. Inspect and evaluate culverts, again, islandwide is another \$800,000, so we are at \$1,200,000 so far. It is scattered all over the place or is it possible to put them in one line item? Is it different funding sources?

Mr. Ozaki: Exactly. That is a challenge with when we arrange it, what order we go. We could go by funding sources, then we have different agencies coming up at different times, or multiple times, I should say.

Council Chair Rapozo: Okay. I got it. Halekō Road is the next item. What is the plan for Halekō Road?

Mr. Moule: Haleko Road is the road that is right here. It connects basically the Civic Center to Kukui Grove.

Council Chair Rapozo: Yes, that is my favorite road. It is. I use that road.

Councilmember Kualī'i: It is the cheat road.

Mr. Moule: It is a little shortcut, right? I just used it today to go over to pick up a prescription at lunchtime. That project is a project to improve that road

to provide several things. One, we are looking at potential intersection improvements at Pua Loke, where the new housing has been built. That intersection. Constructing potentially a roundabout there. A lot of the rest of it is to connect pedestrian connections from town to town. You have Līhu'e town core here, then you have Kukui Grove and the new town essentially, effectively and the new housing there with no easy way to walk back and forth. I use that road almost daily and I see people walking it almost daily. That is a big part of that project. This is another Federal-aid project that is on the same timeline as 'Anini Bridge and Kamalu Road. We plan to do the procurement of the consultant next County Fiscal Year to prepare for construction within, hopefully, around three years for the Federal-Aid project.

Council Chair Rapozo: That will still be a road for vehicles, right?

Mr. Moule: Absolutely.

Council Chair Rapozo: Okay.

Mr. Moule: We want to make sure everyone can use it.

Council Chair Rapozo: If not for that road, the traffic, because you would have to go all the way through Kukui Grove, then turn in. That is a pain in the 'ōkole already. Halekō is a great road. Thank you. Are there any other questions on Halekō? Hanalei District Culvert Upgrades, again culverts. Another \$200,000. I am just going to read. Please stop me, if anybody has any questions. Okay? I will not be looking up. Ho'olākō Street is \$1,750,000. This looks like it is a new project. 1,000 feet of concrete-lined channel with chainlink fence replacing unlined channel that is eroding.

Councilmember Cowden: I have a quick question on that.

Council Chair Rapozo: Go ahead.

Councilmember Cowden: Is that just down the street here?

Mr. Tanigawa: Yes.

Councilmember Cowden: Is it near where Dani's Restaurant was?

Mr. Tanigawa: Is it next to the stadium. It is next to Vidinha Stadium parking lot by Ace Hardware.

Councilmember Cowden: Vidinha Stadium street. What is wrong there? What are we fixing?

Mr. Tanigawa: There is a lot of erosion. The bank on the industrial side of that channel is eroding. It is already undercutting some property fencing, so that needs to be addressed.

Councilmember Cowden: Okay. Thank you.

Council Chair Rapozo: Is that County property?

Mr. Tanigawa: Yes. It is part of the County drainage system.

Council Chair Rapozo: This is planning and design? This is not construction?

Mr. Moule: I think that is wrong actually.

Council Chair Rapozo: I am looking at the comments. It says, "Planning and design."

Mr. Moule: I think that was a mistake. This is for construction as well.

Council Chair Rapozo: Okay, please because if you are telling me 1,000 feet of fence with cement to plan and design that is \$1,750,000, and you will need more money to construct, then I volunteer.

Mr. Tanigawa: That is a text edit that we will address.

Council Chair Rapozo: What was that?

Mr. Tanigawa: We will address that text edit.

Council Chair Rapozo: Yes, please. Staff, if you could make note of that.

Mr. Moule: That definitely includes the construction. My office, even though it may not be managed by my office, we did the estimate.

Council Chair Rapozo: That is the whole job?

Mr. Moule: It is the whole job.

Council Chair Rapozo: Okay.

Councilmember DeCosta: I had a follow-up.

Council Chair Rapozo: Go ahead.

Councilmember DeCosta: I had a follow-up to Chair's comment. You said you volunteer to put up fence?

Council Chair Rapozo: For \$1,750,000.

Councilmember DeCosta: You told me you have a hard time sweeping the mango leaves in your yard.

Council Chair Rapozo: Listen. I know I am Portuguese, but I would take that \$1,750,000, hire somebody for \$1,500,000, and I would make \$250,000 without getting dirty. I would probably hire you, Councilmember DeCosta.

Councilmember Kualii: For \$1,500,000, I hope you are hiring me.

Council Chair Rapozo: Kawaihau District Culver, again culvert upgrades. Again, I will just go down. Everybody stop me if needed. Kawaihau Road Improvements. Pedestrian improvements from Kapahi Park to St. Catherine's School. That is a new project. Again, planning and design. This is a walkway up Kapahi Park all the way down to St. Catherine's?

Mr. Moule: Yes.

Council Chair Rapozo: Okay. That is good. Kekaha Road and Akialoa Road, pedestrian improvements and paving again. Planning and design. Kīpū Bridge Repairs. This will go out to bid this year. That is a good sign. You are telling me this is construction money?

Mr. Moule: Yes.

Council Chair Rapozo: Okay. Koloa District Culvert, again. Moi Road. Okay, this is the one I had some questions on, Moi Road. We started that walkway years, and years, and years ago. How far up are we planning to go up on Moi?

Mr. Moule: There are actually two projects on Moi Road listed here. The first one, I believe that is this one, is from Hanapēpē Road to the first street, it is Kane Road, I believe. It is just up the hill and will stop at that location. This one was going to be a County-funded only project. We are still planning it. It has been delayed a fair amount. Largely delayed due to staffing challenges to get that thing almost ready to go. We lost a staff member who was doing design inhouse in AutoCAD. I had no more staff that can do design in AutoCAD right after that. We tried to pick it up later, but we were having problems with the AutoCAD files. We are working on it now to get that moving again so we can finish those plans and get that out to construction. We hope we can do that this year, although I might be pointing at the wrong one. Sorry.

Council Chair Rapozo: I am on, again, page 3.

Mr. Moule: Yes. I am sorry.

Council Chair Rapozo: This is an Engineering project, GET funded. Anticipating final plans this year. It is on the STIP.

Mr. Moule: I think the notes on this, yes, we do not do the same for both. We just met about this earlier in the week. I think we did not communicate that very well.

Council Chair Rapozo: I am just trying to determine if this is planning money or construction money.

Mr. Moule: Anyway, there are two Moi Road sidewalk projects. One is not Federal-Aid and the funds are for construction. The other one is Federal-Aid, and it is a much bigger project to take the sidewalk further up into the Hanapēpē Heights and also include paved shoulders on the road and resurfacing. That one is for planning and design money. It is a much more complicated project.

Council Chair Rapozo: What about the existing sidewalk that is there now, the walkway on Moi Road?

Mr. Moule: There really is not any now.

Mr. Tanigawa: There is a short piece.

Council Chair Rapozo: There is a very short piece. I could never understand why, and I know the County did that.

Mr. Moule: That is right. At the top there is one little, short piece. Yes, that is right. That little piece by the guardrail, right? The first project plan was to connect that piece down to Hanapēpē Road and up to Kane Road. That we had mostly designed, and it fell by the wayside, and we lost it.

Council Chair Rapozo: Basically, we are going to have a new path going up?

Mr. Moule: We will connect it to that existing walkway.

Council Chair Rapozo: You will use that existing walkway?

Mr. Moule: Then we will connect each road on each end.

Council Chair Rapozo: Got it.

Mr. Moule: The other larger Federal-Aid project would be planning and design funds for the larger project to keep going up.

Council Chair Rapozo: Yes. People have been asking for that for a long time. A long time. Okay, moving on. Po'ipū Road Safety and Mobility Project, roundabouts, left turn improvements, bus stops sidewalks along Po'ipū Road. That is a RAISE Grant. Is this our match?

Mr. Moule: This is a portion of the match.

Council Chair Rapozo: Okay. Go ahead.

Councilmember Kualifi: The \$25,000,000 is to be spent over what period again?

Mr. Moule: The full construction cost on this one is about \$30,000,000 to \$31,000,000. It is a very large project and once we start construction, we plan to finish, I think, in about a year and a half. It would come with the funds right up front and we would spend it during construction for the next year and a half or so that it takes to build that project. We anticipate starting that project next summer.

Councilmember Kualifi: This is Federal dollars, right? It just came for the project. It does not matter how quick or how long we take to get it done?

Mr. Moule: It does matter. All Federal dollars come with strings attached. We need to spend it.

Councilmember Kualifi: That is what I was asking.

Mr. Moule: Once we got that grant, we get even more scrutiny from the State and the Federal government. We are well aware that we have to keep this moving and get it going. We just had a conversation Wednesday with our consultant to get the 90% plans that are anticipated next week. We confirmed that yesterday or Wednesday with them. We have a Fields visit with the Federal Highway Administration coming up next month. We are actively on this one and getting everything ready as fast as we can to be able to build it next summer.

Councilmember Kualifi: My Budget question is the \$1,900,000 that you have here, is that one time or do we have to do it next year as well?

Mr. Moule: It is one time. I believe this is one of the ones that I think is in here more than once.

Mr. Tanigawa: There are multiple sources that are going to contribute to the full amount of matching funds.

Councilmember Kualifi: Whatever we are Budgeting in the multiple sources this year, completes the match and we do not see it next year?

Mr. Moule: There are some developer funds that are in here already and will be added later. There are some developer contributions that were part of developer agreements that have already been paid that are in here, and some that have not been paid that are not in here yet. This is the amount we expect to need out of the GE Funds

to match that project, in addition to the other match, some of which are in here in other places.

Council Chair Rapozo: It says the project includes roundabouts. Is that more than one?

Mr. Moule: Three roundabouts.

Council Chair Rapozo: Where are we talking about?

Mr. Moule: Of the three new roundabouts, two are normal, full-sized roundabouts. One is at the intersection of Po'ipū Road and Ala Kinoiki, the original bypass road over by the Hyatt, one at the Kiahuna Plantation Drive, which is right next to Keoki's Paradise, and one is at the very north end of the project, at the intersection of Kōloa Road and Po'ipū Road. That is a small, what we call mini roundabout, where the whole center is mountable. That is one that actually came in part out of a request from this body. The Council asked for it a few years ago. We were already thinking about adding it, but we did at that point.

Council Chair Rapozo: Are there any more questions on Po'ipū? If not, we are moving on to Waimea District, again, Culvert. We have plenty money for culverts.

Mr. Tanigawa: Each district.

Council Chair Rapozo: Yes. Hanapēpē Bridge Reconstruction. It is a Federal-Aid project. Hanapēpē Road Resurfacing. The rest of the projects on this page have no new money. I probably should not even have to ask, but all of these projects are still active and moving? Page 4.

Councilmember Cowden: I have a quick question on Olohena Road. I see we are not putting any new money, but it will be very exciting. When is that starting?

Mr. Moule: We opened bids last week. Bids came in over-budget on that one. Under-budget on Puhi Road this week. We are going to be working with the Federal Highway Administration and Hawai'i Department of Transportation (HDOT) to get more Federal funds for that so we can award that project and we hope to start by June.

Councilmember Cowden: Okay.

Council Chair Rapozo: Thank goodness.

Mr. Moule: Yes.

Councilmember Kualii: Which one are we on?

Council Chair Rapozo: Olohena Road. We are just going down. The first new money is the Host Community Benefits (HCB) for Kekaha. Go ahead.

Councilmember Kualii: The amount in here with your comments in the second column, you are saying that is how to determine what it is?

Mr. Ozaki: I am sorry. Could you repeat that?

Councilmember Kualii: For Host Community Benefits, in the second column it says, "\$2.38 per ton times 84,444, Fiscal Year 2020 tonnage." I am just wondering if that correlates to how you came up with the figure in the second to the last column of \$305,015.

Council Chair Rapozo: The \$305,015 is new money?

Councilmember Kualii: New money, yes.

Council Chair Rapozo: The balance right now, if you see the \$286,613.

Councilmember Kualii: The \$591,828?

Council Chair Rapozo: No, the \$286,813. That is what is in the fund right now. Right here. That is what is in the fund right now.

Councilmember Kualii: Right.

Council Chair Rapozo: As of February 22, 2023. This is new money.

Councilmember Kualii: To go into the fund?

Council Chair Rapozo: Yes.

Councilmember Kualii: Okay. This is money in an account that we use to pay the Host Community Benefits program. What is that formula in the second column?

Ms. Fraley: That is the per-ton cost, for every ton of waste we put into the landfill.

Councilmember Kualii: How do you calculate what money you put in the account? That is the formula you use?

Councilmember Cowden: That is what they earned.

Ms. Fraley: Yes.

Councilmember Kualii: To put the money in the account, but that is not the formula to determine how much you give the community, right?

Mr. Tanigawa: I think the community determines the projects.

Councilmember Kualii: I am just asking about the dollar amount.

Mr. Tanigawa: As far as the dollar amount, it does not match that actual calculation. I think the decision was to give them a little bit more.

Councilmember Kualii: Yes, I would think so.

Mr. Tanigawa: If you look at the straight calculation using the numbers there in the second column, it is about a \$100,000 and change less that what is shown there.

Councilmember Kualii: Who is responsible for that? Where is that going to show up in the Budget? The expenditure of the Host Community Benefits. I see that you are responsible in Public Works-Solid Waste to create the fund and to have the money in that account to pay the Benefit. Where will it show up how much you are paying each year?

Council Chair Rapozo: There is the Citizen's Committee that determines what projects are used and this is the available funds. I guess the question, on this comment you have \$2.38 a ton times 84,444 tons for Fiscal Year 2020, is, are we using the 2020 tonnage? Should that not be changed every year?

Ms. Fraley: Yes. It is. We base it on the prior years.

Council Chair Rapozo: The prior year, right? I think that is how we set it up. It will be based on the prior year's tonnage.

Ms. Fraley: We said 90,000.

Council Chair Rapozo: I do not know if we can simply just add more money. I think it was set up by tonnage. They increased the per-ton cost? In here it is showing it is up to \$3.38 now. We went up \$1 a ton. So, we upped it \$1 a ton.

Councilmember Kualii: This is just where the money is coming from?

Council Chair Rapozo: Right.

Councilmember Kualii: I will ask in another point in the Budget.

Mr. Ozaki: My apologies. It looks like there was a typo on my end for the spreadsheet you received. In the Budget Ordinance it is accurate.

Council Chair Rapozo: Right, and I am going off the sheet, not the Ordinance.

Mr. Ozaki:

Correct. That is my mistake.

Council Chair Rapozo: How is that determined? How much we pay per ton. Is it an Ordinance? Is there a Resolution? I am not sure. How is that determined

Mr. Tanigawa: As far as this HCB amount, I think there was deliberation a long time ago. Since that time, when it came Budget time and they looked at what was available, they decided to either give the HCB account more or less. They would adjust that dollar amount. This year, what happened was they adjusted it \$1 more to \$3.38 and the tonnage, based on last year's tonnage, was just over 90,000 tons. When you multiply it, it comes out to that amount.

Council Chair Rapozo: I understand that. I am just trying to figure it out because I cannot remember how we established that account and how the number per ton would be determined. Was it by Resolution? Was it by Ordinance? "The Boss" said it was arbitrary. So the Administration basically sets it. Go ahead.

Councilmember DeCosta: Thank you for coming over. We see Janine always coming over to you guys. We have our own Janine over here. Women rock. Troy, I am kind of concerned. We got \$3.38 per tonnage for the Host Benefit, but remember now we have a C&D project which will go in and possibly take away some of that debris and tonnage at the landfill. The Host Community Benefits might not get that large pot of money like they think they might because they are not going to get that high tonnage. Instead of that 90,000, it might be down to 64,000. They might lose 30,000 tons, right? The C&D project is to keep stuff out of the landfill.

Mr. Tanigawa: The amount that is determined by that calculation is in this year's CIP Proposal. If we have a successful project and the tonnage goes down, there will be another opportunity next year using the actual tonnage from this coming year to determine what the amount is again. At least for this year, that funding that was intended to increase the account will be going into that account and be available to the community.

Councilmember DeCosta: This is the last question I would like to ask you. You know how we always have this grant-in-aid where people need to apply and we give it out, right? Since the Host Community Benefits was designed, we have had a few more non-profits surface out in that west side area. Now, do they all have an opportunity to bid for this Host Community Benefits Funding, or is it still going to that one entity? How do we justify the equity and equality of that?

Mr. Tanigawa: The community determines that. They have a body that determines how the funding will be used, so it is primarily up to them which projects they prioritize and want to push forward and make it available to contractors to bid.

Council Chair Rapozo: It is called the Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) that is elected. I think they still elect them, right? I know they got elected to get in there. All of the applications come to this community body. One of the things that we really

wanted to try to do with the HCB was to keep the government out of it and leave it for the community to decide what they wanted. I used to joke all the time that if they wanted a statue of Jose Bulatao, they got the statue of Jose Bulatao even if it was a \$1,000,000 statue. That was the purpose of this fund. It was to get the community to utilize and it was not necessarily for non-profits. Maybe an organization wanted to do an art fair, a little pickleball clinic, or whatever, and they could tap these funds. At the end of the day, that CAC will make the determination. They will vote and that is how projects get approved. It is a good process. It is just that it is up to that community. Councilmember Kuali'i, and then Councilmember Carvalho.

Councilmember Kuali'i: I was just going to go back to that formula and try to separate it. The formula is to determine how much the County puts in this fund, but how much the community gets to get each year is determined by the community based on projects they submit? There must be a minimum amount that they are awarded each year, regardless of what the tonnage is and what we collect or whatever that is their benefit. Then we increase that every year, I would assume.

Mr. Tanigawa: I think the idea is to give the community a certain amount of dollars, and we validate that number by the calculation.

Councilmember Kuali'i: When you say, "Give them a certain amount of dollars," it is actually you just have money in a pot and the only way they can access that money is if they put projects forward? If they do not put projects forward, then the money just sits in the pot?

Mr. Tanigawa: I believe it does.

Councilmember Kuali'i: Okay.

Council Chair Rapozo: Understand that this formula was just to figure out a way we could get some funds in the account. I remember I wanted to put \$1,000,000 into this account, but I could never get the votes. We actually, I think, got it up to \$700,000 at one point.

Councilmember Kuali'i: That is not bad.

Council Chair Rapozo: This is just a formula that gives them adequate funds that they have access to. If they do not spend it, they do not lose it. It sits there until they do spend it. Councilmember Carvalho.

Councilmember Carvalho: Just to add. Having been there and created this fund with all of us and understanding the need. For the community, the big deal was they hosted a landfill in their community. That was a big deal.

Councilmember Kuali'i: They still do.

Councilmember Carvalho: How do we work it and balance it out through all the numerous community meetings that we had with them? This was a way to offer them an opportunity to come together and do things within the community. They have to create this team and the team would be the one to manage it. It worked well with the community, letting them handle that. As the tonnage went up, you would get a little bit more, but that was a way of really working with the community. I think it is a good thing, overall, and managing it and all of that. As we continue to discuss it, I think community benefits maybe can be duplicated in other places. That is what happened. Now we talking landfill and all, but we did not get in the specifics of that, but that was the whole purpose because the community had the landfill right in their backyard and how do we help them as we continue to do what we need to do as government to work it and do a better job there.

Council Chair Rapozo: There is a direct correlation to the amount of money you give a host community and their acceptance to a project, like a landfill. The more money you give, the less the opposition. That is how this was originally used. It is not a bad thing. The community should be compensated. Now, real quick. I know we are almost at 4:00 p.m. It is still run with the facilitator? We still have a facilitator that runs the meetings and so forth for the Host Community Benefits, the CAC?

Mr. Tanigawa: I cannot say. I have not been to those lately.

Council Chair Rapozo: Okay.
Councilmember DeCosta: I think, Chair, that falls under the Office of Economic Development (OED).

Ms. Fraley: It does fall under OED.

Council Chair Rapozo: It is.

Ms. Fraley: I understand that the next meeting is in May, so they have a meeting coming up.

Councilmember DeCosta: Yes. We will talk to OED on that.

Council Chair Rapozo: Okay.

Ms. Fraley: Yes.

Council Chair Rapozo: The next is the Interest. Self-explanatory. You get all the way down to the Landfill Development. \$2,000,000 added to the \$600,000, so we have \$2,600,000. Is that something you want to start discussing today or do you want to wait until Tuesday?

Ms. Fraley: It is up to you.

Council Chair Rapozo: Tuesday? Councilmember Carvalho said, "Tuesday."

Councilmember Cowden: I have a short question on it.

Council Chair Rapozo: Sure.

Councilmember Cowden: My memory from the last time we did it is we spent \$400,000. Does that sound right? We spent \$400,000 for Ma'alo, so \$2,000,000. The price has gone up, though for everything the price has gone up.

Ms. Fraley: This is for the EIS, too, though. That was compared with the Ma'alo cost to this. This is what we think we need to the next phase of this project.

Councilmember Cowden: Okay. I am not complaining. It is just that \$2,000,000 seems staggering, but I think that \$400,000 started 10 years ago or more, right?

Council Chair Rapozo: Yes. Go ahead.

Councilmember DeCosta: This \$2,000,000, I am looking at the development and engineering of the new landfill. We spoke of the birds, the last time, that follow the landfill. We spoke about the Federal Airport that we have in a closer proximity to the new landfill versus the old landfill site that Mayor Carvalho folks looked at. Is some of this money going to go towards diving into that informational piece to see if actually those birds are going to interrupt the Federal government's Pacific Missile Range Facility (PMRF) airstrip out there?

Ms. Fraley: Yes.

Councilmember DeCosta: Thank you for that.

Council Chair Rapozo: I think what we will do on Tuesday, Allison, maybe we will take all of the landfill CIP items.

Ms. Fraley: Okay.

Council Chair Rapozo: We will start with that.

Ms. Fraley: Okay.

Council Chair Rapozo: I see there is a bunch in different areas. We will get that out of the way on Tuesday morning at 6:45 a.m.

Ms. Fraley: Okay.

Council Chair Rapozo: At 9:00 a.m.

Councilmember DeCosta: Bring your team with you, Allison.

Council Chair Rapozo: Folks, thank you very much.

Councilmember Cowden: Mike is providing the meal this time. Instead of Councilmember DeCosta, Mike Dahilig is doing the lunch for Tuesday.

Council Chair Rapozo: Oh, Mike you are cooking on Tuesday? Thank you everyone for being here. Ms. Jordan, thank you for being here. I appreciate it. I love when the public comes in, but now you need to come back on Tuesday. Tuesday, 9:00 a.m. We are at recess.

There being no objections, the Committee recessed at 3:58 p.m.