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From: Rob Parsons [Rob.Parsons@co.maui.hi.us]
Sent: Monday, February 27, 2006 4:58 PM
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Cc: Don Couch; Stuart.Funke-d'Egnuff@rcdnet.net
Subject: Revised Ma`alaea Pump-out memo and Press Release



2nd Pump-out
nemo.doc (87 KB)

Aloha kakou,

I am pleased to announce additional support will be available for Mayor Arakawa's Ma`alaea Harbor Pump-out Program. Please review the press release below and the attached memo (also pasted in below). Should you have any specific questions, feel free to contact me. Mahalo, ROB

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February 27, 2006

--PRESS RELEASE--

Commercial boaters at Ma`alaea Harbor are now eligible for added assistance, Mayor Alan Arakawa announced today. The expanded plan for the County of Maui's "Ma`alaea Harbor Sewage Pump-out Program" would reimburse boaters for the cost of a second weekly pump-out, per vessel.

The increased support is now available because the County has successfully acquired additional funds from multiple sources.

Begun with \$30,000 in County funds, the program has grown to \$160,000 in promised funding, sufficient to increase the benefit level provided to boaters. Funding has been acquired through grants from the Hawaii Tourism Authority Natural Resources Program (\$60,000), Tri-Isle Resource, Conservation, & Development (\$30,000), Department of Land and Natural Resources (\$30,000), and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, through their Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary program (\$10,000).

"I am gratified by the response from our partner agencies," said Mayor Arakawa. "Their financial support allows us to provide even greater incentive for boaters to utilize the on-shore pump-out services, thereby helping to keep our marine environment and beaches clean."

Forty percent of boaters contacted to date have participated in the pump-out service.

"It is our hope that this new level of support will encourage the remaining boaters to change their current practices, and to properly respect our marine ecosystems," said Rob Parsons, Maui County Environmental Coordinator. Parsons also noted that current laws permit wastewater discharge beyond state waters, which extend three miles out from all shores. "Without this financial help," he said, "it's uncertain that the remaining vessels will get on board with the program."

The County's pump-out program was first announced two months ago, in December, 2005. DLNR engineers have projected February 2009 as the completion date for a permanent arterial pump-out facility at Ma`alaea Harbor. DLNR is seeking \$2.6 million in the current legislative budget to fund construction of the pump-out system.

"We extend our thanks to the County Council, concerned citizens, funding agencies, and responsible boaters for contributing to the success of this program," Arakawa said. "It goes to show what can be accomplished when different entities are willing to work cooperatively towards a common goal."

A memo from Mayor Arakawa to commercial boat owners at Ma`alaea Harbor announcing the expanded service was sent out today. [A copy is attached for media information.]

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Feb. 27, 2006

MEMORANDUM

FROM: COUNTY OF MAUI, OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

TO: ALL COMMERCIAL BOATERS AT MA`ALAEA HARBOR;
WASTEWATER PUMPING/ HAULING COMPANIES

RE: UPDATE TO COUNTY OF MAUI'S "MA`ALAEA HARBOR SEWAGE
PUMP-OUT PROGRAM"

WHAT IS IT?
County funding of \$30,000 was initially secured to assist in the interim pump-out costs for commercial vessels at Ma`alaea Harbor. In the past two months, an additional \$130,000 in funding has been promised to support these efforts. It is understood that a temporary solution of wastewater pump-out trucks is necessary, as a permanent facility as proposed by the state DLNR/ DOBOR is probably at least three years away.

HOW DOES IT WORK?

With additional funds promised, the County program is now expanding to cover costs for two pump-outs per week, per vessel (at \$35/ discharge, estimated cost). Should individual vessels require additional weekly pumping, boat owners would be responsible for these costs.

WHOM DO I CONTACT?

Vessel owners may contact any pump-out service they choose. This company shall then contact Tri-Isle RC&D (244-3100), a 501-(c)(3) non-profit, to whom the County funds were granted for administrative purposes. Tri-Isle RC&D will make arrangements to reimburse the pump-out truckers for twice weekly services.

Should you have specific questions, please contact:

Stuart Funke-d'Egnuff, Tri-Isle RC&D-----244-3100, ext. 120 Rob
Parsons, Environmental Coordinator-----270-7960

MAHALO NUI LOA FOR HELPING TO KEEP OUR OCEAN ECOSYSTEM CLEAN!