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## COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY OF MAUI  
200 S. HIGH STREET  
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793  
[www.MauiCounty.us](http://www.MauiCounty.us)

April 9, 2024

TO: The Honorable Luke A. Evslin, Chair, and  
Members of the Committee on Housing

FROM: Alice L. Lee  
Council Chair

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Alice L. Lee".

SUBJECT: **HEARING OF APRIL 10, 2024; TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SCR217,  
URGING THE FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY TO  
UTILIZE FUNDS FOR NON-CONGREGATE HOUSING FOR  
INFRASTRUCTURE AND DEVELOPMENT NEEDS FOR AFFORDABLE  
RENTAL HOUSING**

I **support** this measure to urge FEMA to fund housing infrastructure and development.

I am providing this testimony in my capacity as an individual member of the Maui County Council.

I support this measure for the following reasons:

1. Rebuilding costs after the August 2023 Maui wildfires is estimated to be billions of dollars. Collaboration among and funding from all levels of government is needed to address this immense rebuilding task.
2. A large percentage of residents displaced by the wildfire are renters who wish to remain in West Maui, requiring interim housing solutions needing infrastructure and development for affordable rental housing.
3. The costs to keep displaced residents in non-congregate housing such as hotels is staggering. To move to the next stage of recovery, funds need to be allocated to infrastructure rebuilding and development at the earliest opportunity.
4. Having a decision tree for federal-support actions will increase efficiency, public transparency, and facilitate coordinated recovery efforts.
5. FEMA's ongoing support for and long-term commitment to Maui's housing recovery will continue to be critical in working toward efficient, unified, streamlined, and coordinated efforts.

Thank you for your consideration.