

## **Introduction**

The West Maui Charter Working Group is a group of residents of the West Maui community from diverse professional, political and social backgrounds that came together to review the charter to determine if changes to the Charter of the County of Maui would be beneficial to the West Maui community and, if changes would be beneficial, to propose specific changes. The Working Group received funding and technical assistance from the North Beach West Maui Benefit Fund. The Working Group, after determining that changes would be beneficial, met over the course of a year. The Working Group members spent the time between meetings engaging in independent research and discussions with members of the West Maui community and of the broader Maui Nui community.

The Working Group developed and found consensus with the following proposals with a brief overview of their rationale and some history regarding the particular ideas involved in the proposal. The text of the amendments appear after the overview of each proposals rationale and history.

Proposal No. 1 was submitted to the Maui County Council, through Lahaina Councilwoman JoAnne Johnson in April. The Working Group also conducted a scientific telephone poll at the same time regarding Proposal No. 1. Sixty five percent of Maui residents support district voting while seventeen percent do not. The Council voted to refer the matter to next Charter Review Commission.

The Working Group would like to acknowledge the assistance of attorney and political scientist Lance D. Collins who served as a non-voting reporter of the group's decisions and the group's secretary.