

To: Environmental Management Commission
From: Linda Damas, Hilo
Re: Federal funding for Recycling infrastructure
Date: Sept 26, 2022

I strongly encourage the Environmental Management Commission (EMC) to apply for “an historic grant opportunity” to provide funding to improve the County’s recycling infrastructure.

To me, recycling should be an essential part of any city or county’s waste reduction stream. Especially for our Island community, it’s important to encourage people to recycle, and to provide adequate facilities so the public can recycle items more efficiently. The County also needs to research end markets for valuable plastics such as PETE#1 and PP#5. Plastics recycling on the Big Island has been put on hold for several years now; thus, plastics are just being dumped creating mountains of waste and congestion in our land fills.

An opportunity has arisen; NOW is the time to act and take advantage of the Government’s offering of funds through the EPA to improve recycling on the Big Island.

Respectfully submitted.

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