

## EMC 2025 Policy Priorities – Draft Candidates for Discussion January 29, 2025

### Fund sustainable staffing and operations of DEM

1. Consider enterprise model for Solid Waste and Wastewater operation.
2. Consider countywide environmental fee to support DEM initiatives.

### Solid Waste

Overriding Goals: 1) maintain safe management of wastes (*aka compliance*), 2) preserve capacity at only landfill, 3) operate with a philosophy of resource management and not waste management and 4) leverage public-private partnerships.

2019 Integrated Solid Waste Management Plan (ISWMP) - consensus top 6:

1. Education for all waste generators to reduce, reuse and recycle wastes for sustainable resource management
2. Renegotiate the HER and WM contracts to increase resource recovery
3. Hold more Household Hazardous Waste collection events
4. Allow small businesses to use transfer stations for recyclables
5. Set and measure goals incorporating life cycle impacts
6. Develop county policy and ordinances on source reduction and recycling.
  - a. ban on landfilling recyclable materials
  - b. expand capabilities to recycle materials on island – Compost organics, Construction & Demolition, support Resource Recovery Park
  - c. Support Extended Producer Responsibility state legislation – as a source of sustainable funding for management (collection, processing and resource recovery) of product wastes such as packaging, paints, additional electronics, photovoltaic cells and electronic vehicle batteries, etc.
  - d. implement the Integrated Climate Action Plan<sup>1</sup>, General Plan<sup>2</sup> and ISWMP<sup>3</sup> solid waste recommendations.

### Wastewater

Overriding Goals: 1) maintain safe management of wastewaters (*aka compliance*) to protect people, land and waters of Hawaii Island, 2) expand capabilities that improve wastewater collection and treatment, 3) operate with a philosophy of resource management and not waste management and 4) leverage public-private partnerships.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://hawaiicounty.us13.list-manage.com/track/click?u=e2852ea3b05abcd7aa8a02ace&id=fa79629c7f&e=f9f8a47fb8>

<sup>2</sup> <https://cohplanning.konveio.com/final-recommended-draft-general-plan-2045?document=1>

<sup>3</sup> <https://records.hawaiicounty.gov/weblink/ElectronicFile.aspx?openfile=true&dbid=1&docid=120882> See Executive Summary of ISWMP

1. Comply with federal AOCs. Continue to use the project management and asset management tools to track deadlines and progress.
2. Complete (and continually review and update) the County's Integrated Wastewater Management Plan (IWWMP) using the recommendations provided by EMC<sup>4</sup>
3. Implement IWWMP. Incorporate opportunities for private wastewater treatment services and new cost-effective technologies.
4. Coordinate with state and other county authorities to prevent wastewater contamination and pollution, with clear delineation of responsibilities
5. Maintain strong public communications regarding IWWMP implementation.

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<sup>4</sup> <http://records.hawaiicounty.gov/weblink/DocView.aspx?dbid=1&id=116511> link broken? I have copy of letter to DEM from EMC – Components that should be in IWWMP dated June 22, 2022.