

# REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING AND THE ECONOMY

## Voting Members

Esther Kia'āina, Chair; Calvin Say, Vice-Chair;  
Radiant Cordero, Augie Tulba, Andria Tupola

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Committee Meeting Held  
April 20, 2021

Honorable Tommy Waters  
Chair, City Council  
City and County of Honolulu

Mr. Chair:

Your Committee on Housing and the Economy, which considered Resolution 21-79 entitled:

"RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE MAYOR TO ESTABLISH A GRANT PROGRAM TO SUPPORT LOCAL AGRICULTURE THROUGH THE OFFICE OF ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION,"

introduced on March 22, 2021, reports as follows:

The purpose of Resolution 21-79 is to request the Mayor to establish a grant program to support local agriculture through the Office of Economic Revitalization.

Deputy Director En Young of the Office of Economic Revitalization and Director Sarah Allen of the Department of Community Services testified in support of the Resolution.

Your Committee has prepared a CD1 version of the Resolution that makes the following amendments:

A. Amends the Resolution's title to:

1. Change the reference to "Mayor" to a reference to "City Administration";  
and

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**CITY COUNCIL**  
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU  
HONOLULU, HAWAII

ADOPTED ON

**MAY 5 2021**

COMMITTEE REPORT NO.

**123**

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2. Insert "and expend funds for" after "to establish."

The revised Resolution title reads: "URGING THE CITY ADMINISTRATION TO ESTABLISH AND EXPEND FUNDS FOR A GRANT PROGRAM TO SUPPORT LOCAL AGRICULTURE THROUGH THE OFFICE OF ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION."

- B. Adds a ninth WHEREAS clause to reflect that, at the April 14, 2021 Council meeting, the Executive Operating Budget and Program for Fiscal Year 2022 was amended on second reading to include funding for a grant program to support local agriculture to be administered by the Office of Economic Revitalization.
- C. Amends the BE IT RESOLVED clause, consistent with the Resolution's title amendment, to urge the City Administration to establish and expend the funds for a grant program to support local agriculture through the Office of Economic Revitalization should such funds be included in the Executive Operating Budget and Program ordinance for Fiscal Year 2022.
- D. Deletes the BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED clause.
- E. Makes miscellaneous technical and nonsubstantive amendments.

Written testimony in support was received from Hawai'i Investment Ready; Kāpili Like Inc.; Hawai'i Department of Agriculture; Agribusiness Development Corporation; East O'ahu County Farm Bureau; Kamehameha Schools; Ko'olau 'Āina Aloha; Hawai'i Agricultural Foundation; Farm Link Hawai'i; Ko'olau Foundation; Ulupono Initiative; Pacific Gateway Center; Plant Plant llc; Smart Yields; and 13 individuals.

## CITY COUNCIL

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU  
HONOLULU, HAWAII

ADOPTED ON **MAY 5 2021**

COMMITTEE REPORT NO. **123**

# REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING AND THE ECONOMY

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No oral testimony was received on the Resolution.

Your Committee on Housing and the Economy is in accord with the intent and purpose of Resolution 21-79, as amended herein, and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto as Resolution 21-79, CD1. (Ayes: Cordero, Kia'aina, Say, Tulba, Tupola – 5; Noes: None.)

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Committee Chair

At the 5/5/21 Council meeting, the Resolution was further amended and subsequently adopted as Resolution 21-79, CD1, FD1.

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**CITY COUNCIL**  
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU  
HONOLULU, HAWAII

ADOPTED ON MAY 5 2021

COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 123



## RESOLUTION

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URGING THE CITY ADMINISTRATION TO ESTABLISH AND EXPEND FUNDS FOR A GRANT PROGRAM TO SUPPORT LOCAL AGRICULTURE THROUGH THE OFFICE OF ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION.

WHEREAS, agriculture has played a critical role throughout Hawaii's history in feeding the local population and sustaining the local economy; and

WHEREAS, agriculture on Oahu, while eclipsed by other economic sectors, endures as an essential component of the local economy; and

WHEREAS, the proposed revised Oahu General Plan attached to Resolution 21-23, which is currently under consideration by the City Council ("Council"), includes an economic objective (Economy, Objective C) to ensure the long-term viability and continued productivity of agriculture on Oahu, and includes policies aimed at diversification, sustainability, and affordability; and

WHEREAS, continued development of local agriculture is an integral part of revitalizing and diversifying Oahu's economy; and

WHEREAS, Resolution 20-197, FD1, which was approved by the Council on October 7, 2020, created the Office of Economic Revitalization, which, among other things, is tasked generally with promoting economic development and revitalization, as well as with overseeing, coordinating, and directing the City's response to and recovery from economic disruptions; and

WHEREAS, the Office of Economic Revitalization is also charged with overseeing, coordinating, and directing economic support for sustainable agriculture in Honolulu; and

WHEREAS, the Office of Economic Revitalization employs a Food Security and Sustainability Program Manager, and is developing programs supporting local food production by working with local farms on food systems development and food security; and

WHEREAS, the Council believes that a grant program to support local agriculture should be implemented with goals including the promotion of new crops, facilitation of innovations in farming methods, and acquisition of farm equipment to increase efficiency; and



**CITY COUNCIL**  
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU  
HONOLULU, HAWAII

No. 21-79, CD1

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**RESOLUTION**

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WHEREAS, at the April 14, 2021 Council Meeting, the Executive Operating Budget and Program for Fiscal Year 2022 was amended on second reading to include funding for a grant program to support local agriculture to be administered by the Office of Economic Revitalization; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City and County of Honolulu that the City Administration is urged to establish and expend funds for a grant program to support local agriculture through the Office of Economic Revitalization should such funds be included in the enacted Executive Operating Budget and Program ordinance for Fiscal Year 2022; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Mayor, the Managing Director, and the Executive Director of the Office of Economic Revitalization.

INTRODUCED BY:

Esther Kia'aina

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DATE OF INTRODUCTION:

March 22, 2021  
Honolulu, Hawaii

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Councilmembers