



RESOLUTION

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

RESOLUTION

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'āina

DATE OF INTRODUCTION:

March 22, 2021
Honolulu, Hawaii

Councilmembers