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# Resolution 21-154 Testimony

**MISC. COM. 501**

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 20, 2021 4:35 PM  
**Subject:** Parks and Community Services Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name	Andrea
Phone	8439732823
Email	alblackwell7@gmail.com
Meeting Date	07-22-2021
Council/PH Committee	Parks and Community Services
Agenda Item	Haiku stairs
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing Organization	Self
Written Testimony	I believe the haiku stairs should be maintained and open to the public once they are deemed safe.
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement	1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 21, 2021 12:48 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name Richard Marshall  
Phone 8084565103  
Email richsmar@yahoo.com  
Meeting Date 07-20-2021  
Council/PH Council  
Committee  
Agenda Item 21-154  
Your position on the matter Oppose  
Representing Self  
Organization Dummy Company Name

### Written Testimony

Surely the City Of Honolulu can find a way to save & operate Ha'iku Stairs. The proven desire to hike this scenic location which is now known worldwide has overcome years of security to prevent people from gaining access. A reasonable fee for legal access which covered expenses while also avoiding stress on its neighbors & the environment, and even helping cover emergency rescues could be collected. For a City always looking for income, to destroy one of its famous attractions seems counterproductive from all angles. Only in Honolulu.

Appreciate your consideration,  
Richard Marshall  
Pearl City, HI

### Testimony Attachment

Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 21, 2021 6:02 AM  
**Subject:** Housing and the Economy Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name	Richard Nygard
Phone	18087990426
Email	richnygard@hotmail.com
Meeting Date	07-21-2021
Council/PH Committee	Housing and the Economy
Agenda Item	RES21-154
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing Organization	Self
Written Testimony	I support the continued use and repairs for the Ha'iku' Stairs, as I support the continued us of the free and open use of all beaches and trails though out Hawaii...
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement	1

IP: 192.168.200.67



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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 21, 2021 4:59 AM  
**Subject:** Housing and the Economy Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name Laci Elliott  
Phone 2147939308  
Email lamb1434@yahoo.com  
Meeting Date 07-20-2021  
Council/PH Committee Housing and the Economy  
Agenda Item RES21-154  
Your position on the matter Oppose  
Representing Self  
Organization

Written Testimony I had one of the most memorable days of my life on these stairs. It showed me that I can do more and push harder than I thought. This adventure made me a stronger person.

Testimony  
Attachment

Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 21, 2021 12:48 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name Richard Marshall  
Phone 8084565103  
Email richsmar@yahoo.com  
Meeting Date 07-20-2021  
Council/PH Committee Council  
Agenda Item 21-154  
Your position on the matter Oppose  
Representing Self  
Organization Dummy Company Name

Written Testimony Surely the City Of Honolulu can find a way to save & operate Ha'iku Stairs. The proven desire to hike this scenic location which is now known worldwide has overcome years of security to prevent people from gaining access. A reasonable fee for legal access which covered expenses while also avoiding stress on its neighbors & the environment, and even helping cover emergency rescues could be collected. For a City always looking for income, to destroy one of its famous attractions seems counterproductive from all angles. Only in Honolulu.

Appreciate your consideration,  
Richard Marshall  
Pearl City, HI

Testimony  
Attachment

Accept Terms  
and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 20, 2021 10:28 PM  
**Subject:** Housing and the Economy Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name	Toni Serritelli
Phone	(615) 308-3699
Email	serritelli@aol.com
Meeting Date	07-20-2021
Council/PH Committee	Housing and the Economy
Agenda Item	RES21-154
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing	Self
Organization	
Written Testimony	I would love to see the stairs saved and maintained.
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement	1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 20, 2021 9:47 PM  
**Subject:** Housing and the Economy Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name shane jackson  
Phone 9253056950  
Email higwap@gmail.com  
Meeting Date 07-20-2021  
Council/PH Committee Housing and the Economy  
Agenda Item RES21-154  
Your position on the matter Oppose  
Representing Self  
Organization

Hello,  
Written Testimony I oppose this.

Testimony Attachment  
Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 20, 2021 7:52 PM  
**Subject:** Housing and the Economy Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name Kerry OConnor  
Phone 4434336168  
Email KERRY.k.oconnor@gmail.com  
Meeting Date 07-20-2021  
Council/PH Committee Housing and the Economy  
Agenda Item RES21-154  
Your position on the matter Oppose  
Representing Self  
Organization  
Written Testimony I oppose removing Haiku Stairs.  
Testimony Attachment  
Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 20, 2021 5:17 PM  
**Subject:** Housing and the Economy Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name Jason Yoshioka  
Phone 8082205557  
Email funnykine@me.com  
Meeting Date 07-20-2021  
Council/PH Committee Housing and the Economy  
Agenda Item Remove haiku stairs  
Your position on the matter Oppose  
Representing Self  
Organization

Written Testimony This is a one of kind experience that needs to be kept, improved on for future generations. Also a potential revenue generating attraction, like hanauma bay and diamond head hike. Visitors and tourist alike will pay for a worthwhile experience like this,

Testimony Attachment

Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 20, 2021 4:35 PM  
**Subject:** Parks and Community Services Testimony

---

## Written Testimony

Name	Andrea
Phone	8439732823
Email	alblackwell7@gmail.com
Meeting Date	07-22-2021
Council/PH Committee	Parks and Community Services
Agenda Item	Haiku stairs
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing Organization	Self
Written Testimony	I believe the haiku stairs should be maintained and open to the public once they are deemed safe.
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement	1

IP: 192.168.200.67

---

**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 21, 2021 7:59 AM  
**Subject:** Parks and Community Services Testimony

---

## Written Testimony

Name Annette C Tashiro  
Phone 8083848319  
Email actashiro@gmail.com  
Meeting Date 07-22-2021  
Council/PH Committee Parks and Community Services  
Agenda Item Haiku Stairs Removal  
Your position on the matter Support  
Representing Self  
Organization

### Written Testimony

I am a Keiki O Ka'aina and worked for the Department of Parks and Recreation and understand their Kuleana. The removal of the Haiku stairs is a no brainer. Safety and welfare of our citizens and visitors is part of living ALOHA. I enjoy hiking and experiencing nature. I enjoy risk taking activities and I choose to follow rules and risk management protocols. To do the Haiku stairs not only is against rules and protocols of safety but it is not pono to go through people's properties, litter, ruin the landscape and being disrespectful to the aina.

The City and County has a responsibility to the public as a whole. The City should not be liable for the safety and lives of hikers who disobey the law. We must protect the emergency responders who put their lives at stake for those LOLO people.

Testimony Attachment  
Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67



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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 21, 2021 7:59 AM  
**Subject:** Parks and Community Services Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name Annette C Tashiro  
Phone 8083848319  
Email actashiro@gmail.com  
Meeting Date 07-22-2021  
Council/PH Committee Parks and Community Services  
Agenda Item Haiku Stairs Removal  
Your position on the matter Support  
Representing Self  
Organization

### Written Testimony

I am a Keiki O Ka'aina and worked for the Department of Parks and Recreation and understand their Kuleana. The removal of the Haiku stairs is a no brainer. Safety and welfare of our citizens and visitors is part of living ALOHA. I enjoy hiking and experiencing nature. I enjoy risk taking activities and I choose to follow rules and risk management protocols. To do the Haiku stairs not only is against rules and protocols of safety but it is not pono to go through people's properties, litter, ruin the landscape and being disrespectful to the aina.

The City and County has a responsibility to the public as a whole. The City should not be liable for the safety and lives of hikers who disobey the law. We must protect the emergency responders who put their lives at stake for those LOLO people.

### Testimony Attachment

Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 21, 2021 10:16 AM  
**Subject:** Parks and Community Services Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name	Connie Sizemore
Phone	
Email	conniesizemore@hawaiiantel.net
Meeting Date	01-10-201y
Council/PH Committee	Parks and Community Services
Agenda Item	Haiku Stairs
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing Organization	Self
Written Testimony	I oppose removing the stairs as they are of great value to the local community
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement	1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 21, 2021 10:16 AM  
**Subject:** Parks and Community Services Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name	Connie Sizemore
Phone	
Email	conniesizemore@hawaiiantel.net
Meeting Date	01-10-201y
Council/PH Committee	Parks and Community Services
Agenda Item	Haiku Stairs
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing	Self
Organization	
Written Testimony	I oppose removing the stairs as they are of great value to the local community
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement	1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 21, 2021 9:17 AM  
**Subject:** Housing and the Economy Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name	Keith Richmond
Phone	
Email	kailuabungalow@gmail.com
Meeting Date	07-20-2021
Council/PH Committee	Housing and the Economy
Agenda Item	RES21-154
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing Organization	Self
Written Testimony	Please save the Haiku Stairs. They are an inspiration. The vistas are unparalleled and should be kept accessible for residents and also visitors
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement	1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 21, 2021 11:08 AM  
**Subject:** Housing and the Economy Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name	Jana
Phone	
Email	janasallnatural@yahoo.com
Meeting Date	07-20-2021
Council/PH Committee	Housing and the Economy
Agenda Item	Haiku Stairs
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing	Self
Organization	
	We wish to save and preserve the Haiku Stairs.
Written Testimony	July 20th, 2021 Housing and the Economy RES21-154 Oppose
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement 1	

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 21, 2021 11:07 AM  
**Subject:** Housing and the Economy Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name	Robert Adjemian
Phone	
Email	ultra1bob@gmail.com
Meeting Date	07-20-2021
Council/PH Committee	Housing and the Economy
Agenda Item	RES21-154
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing Organization	Self
Written Testimony	Yeah, I know it's not the safest place if you're careless, but the history and view is worth keeping the stairs. Thank you.
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement	1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 21, 2021 12:20 PM  
**Subject:** Housing and the Economy Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name	Chris Husson
Phone	
Email	chusson23@gmail.com
Meeting Date	07-20-2021
Council/PH Committee	Housing and the Economy
Agenda Item	RES21-154
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing	Self
Organization	
	July 20th, 2021
	Housing and the Economy
	RES21-154
Written Testimony	Oppose
	The haiku stairs are far too valuable to destroy and should be preserved at all costs.
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement	1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 21, 2021 1:13 PM  
**Subject:** Housing and the Economy Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name Lindsay Wheeler  
Phone  
Email lindzel89@yahoo.com  
Meeting Date 07-20-2021  
Council/PH Committee Housing and the Economy  
Agenda Item RES21-154  
Your position on the matter Oppose  
Representing Self  
Organization  
Written Testimony The Haiku stairs must remain.  
Testimony Attachment  
Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67



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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 21, 2021 3:10 PM  
**Subject:** Housing and the Economy Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name	Lillian Romano
Phone	
Email	romanor002@hawaii.rr.com
Meeting Date	07-21-2021
Council/PH Committee	Housing and the Economy
Agenda Item	RES21-154
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing	Self
Organization	
Written Testimony	Please do not tear down the stairs!
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement	1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 22, 2021 6:36 AM  
**Subject:** Housing and the Economy Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name Leslie Smith  
Phone  
Email Aloha48hi@gmail.com  
Meeting Date 07-20-2020  
Council/PH Committee Housing and the Economy  
Agenda Item RES21-154  
Your position on the matter Oppose  
Representing Self  
Organization

Written  
Testimony

Council, have you hiked the stairs? If not, go. Obviously the stairs have a drawl that has people fighting for them - fighting to keep something that is an epic experience and could serve as an ambassador for Oahu. If done correctly we could fix the stairs, charge people for a permit to hike them, limit daily use so that it remains secretive, and use the funds to maintain upkeep, provide enforcement, and possibly hire "guides." Waiver required so individuals know once they take the first step, they are on their own. Think long term because your decision has long term impacts, and it could be positive impacts if you elect to invest in keeping the stairs.

Testimony  
Attachment

Accept Terms  
and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 22, 2021 2:19 AM  
**Subject:** Housing and the Economy Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name Roscoe Johnson  
Phone  
Email johnsonr001@hawaiiantel.net  
Meeting Date 07-20-2021  
Council/PH Committee Housing and the Economy  
Agenda Item RES21-154  
Your position on the matter Oppose  
Representing Self  
Organization

Written Testimony These stairs are a nation treasure that should be protected for all as a historic site. It's history is rooted to World War II and the stairs were part of Omega Station. A significant amount of tax dollars were used to fix the stairs before they were closed. To me, this is equivalent to closing beach access because residence do not like having people walk to beach along (their) property. I would like to see our state open stairs up to hiking at own risk with parking allowed at Omega Station.

Testimony Attachment

Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 21, 2021 4:31 PM  
**Subject:** Housing and the Economy Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name Jeanne Ng  
Phone  
Email jeanne7ng@gmail.com  
Meeting Date 07-12-2021  
Council/PH Committee Housing and the Economy  
Agenda Item RES21-154  
Your position on the matter Oppose  
Representing Self  
Organization  
Written Testimony  
Testimony Attachment  
Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 21, 2021 4:21 PM  
**Subject:** Housing and the Economy Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name	Elliot Miles Meijer
Phone	
Email	elliottmeijer@gmail.com
Meeting Date	07-20-2021
Council/PH Committee	Housing and the Economy
Agenda Item	RES21-154
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing	Self
Organization	
Written Testimony	Please save this amazing hike and make it legal.
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement	1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Monday, July 26, 2021 11:40 AM  
**Subject:** Housing and the Economy Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name	douglas rinehart
Phone	
Email	adsaloha2u@gmail.com
Meeting Date	07-20-2021
Council/PH Committee	Housing and the Economy
Agenda Item	RES21-154
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing	Self
Organization	
Written Testimony	Find a win-win for neighborhood security and controlled access to this unique treasure
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement	1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Sunday, July 25, 2021 9:37 AM  
**Subject:** Housing and the Economy Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name Jazmine doi  
Phone  
Email Doijazmine420@gmail.com  
Meeting Date 07-20-2021  
Council/PH Committee Housing and the Economy  
Agenda Item Res21-154  
Your position on the matter Oppose  
Representing Self  
Organization

Written  
Testimony

I oppose this bill because haiku stairs is a landmark to Hawaii and destroying/removing them will greatly affect Hawaii in a negative way. Haiku stairs has such a strong and rich history to Hawaii. Removing the stairs will harm the environment a lot more then it will benefit it. Our islands Aina has already been through so much there is no reason as to why what we should do anything else that will jeopardize hurting the Aina more. The money that would be used to remove the stair could go towards environmental issues instead of removing a beautiful landmark that is now apart of haiku valley would not benefit the Aina or anyone else around it.

Testimony  
Attachment

Accept Terms  
and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 27, 2021 7:25 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name	delaina l sawyers
Phone	
Email	deesawyers@yahoo.com
Meeting Date	07-20-2021
Council/PH Committee	Council
Agenda Item	removal of stairway to heaven stairs
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing Organization	Self
Written Testimony	This can be money making project for managed tourism and part of total trail management. This action is driven by a few neighborhood people
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement	1

IP: 192.168.200.67



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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 2, 2021 7:33 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name Susan Isabel Polanco de Couet  
Phone  
Email sipolanco@gmail.com  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Council  
Committee  
Agenda Item 21-154  
Your position on the matter Support  
Representing Self  
Organization

Written  
Testimony

Aloha, I am writing in support of resolution 21-154, the removal of Ha'ikū Stairs and its accessory structures. The 2.79M dollars targeted for use of this structure is not the real cost to the community, county and state, into the future. How can we quantify the loss of quality of life to the neighbors who have endured the unfortunate location of their homes, to our first responders who are sent out to rescue trespassers, and the unknown but certain liability to CCH and the state should anyone have a mishap while illegally (or potentially in the future legally) using this relic of a facility.

We must also consider the environmental impact to our precious sole source watershed, ohia rot transmission and erosion to this fragile environment.

I ask that you take action to remove this structure and use the remaining 2.79M dollars to protect our over used and impacted natural resources on Oahu.

Aloha,  
Susan Polanco de Couet  
Dr. Heinz Gert de Couet  
Kailua, Oahu, Hawai'i

Testimony  
Attachment

Accept Terms  
and Agreement 1

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 2, 2021 7:58 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

---

## Written Testimony

**Name** Monica  
**Phone**  
**Email** tahitigirl55@yahoo.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-07-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** Haiku Stairs removal  
**Your position on the matter** Support  
**Representing Organization** Self

**Written Testimony**

I have send in numerous letters and also testified. If Haiku stairs is managed the same things that goes on will still continue in fact it will be worse. Right now they play hide and seek from HPD and then call to be rescued by HFD. Costing the taxpayers hundreds and thousands of dollars. They put all of first responders in harm way. Do you think they care or have consideration for anyone. NO. Remove it and there will no problems. People who want these stairs say don't worry we can make toilets, parking it will not stop those who just want to hike it to follow rules. They don't now what makes you think they will if opened. Hikers had done so many illegal activities on the top of the stairs and they think it was fun and funny. Put up a swing, trampoline even someone was having weddings up there. People still camp up there. It will never stop. I vote for the stairs to be removed.

**Testimony Attachment**  
**Accept Terms and Agreement** 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 2, 2021 8:46 PM  
**Subject:** Parks and Community Services Testimony

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## Written Testimony

**Name** lois crozer  
**Phone**  
**Email** lbc@hawaiiantel.net  
**Meeting Date** 09-02-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Parks and Community Services  
**Agenda Item** 21-154  
**Your position on the matter** Oppose  
**Representing Organization** Self

**Written Testimony** By putting your guards at the stairs, it just makes people arrive early and wake up the neighbors. It also puts the hikers at risk by having them sleep deprived. I have always wanted to hike the stairs, waiting for it to be legal. There are very few rescues there as opposed to the Ka'iwa Ridge Trail (pillbox) trail. There is a trail management plan, put it in place and let us hike! What the heck are you doing by trying to close this down? Manage it!!

**Testimony Attachment**

**Accept Terms and Agreement** 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 2, 2021 9:52 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

---

## Written Testimony

**Name** Lani Medeiros  
**Phone**  
**Email** hkehaulani@yahoo.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** Resolution 21-154  
**Your position on the matter** Support  
**Representing Organization** Self

**Written Testimony** The Haiku Stairs were never meant to be a hiking trail. The stairs have fallen into disrepair and are a drain on the City's maintenance budget. They should be removed and the mountainside restored to its natural state.

**Testimony Attachment**  
**Accept Terms and Agreement** 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

---

**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 2, 2021 9:52 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

---

## Written Testimony

**Name** Lani Medeiros  
**Phone**  
**Email** hkehaulani@yahoo.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** Resolution 21-154  
**Your position on the matter** Support  
**Representing Organization** Self

**Written Testimony** The Haiku Stairs were never meant to be a hiking trail. The stairs have fallen into disrepair and are a drain on the City's maintenance budget. They should be removed and the mountainside restored to its natural state.

**Testimony Attachment**

**Accept Terms and Agreement** 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Friday, September 3, 2021 4:52 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

**Name** Michael Lyman  
**Phone**  
**Email** Lymanmd5@gmail.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** 21-154  
**Your position on the matter** Support  
**Representing Organization** Self

**Written Testimony** I strongly support resolution 21-154.  
It is essential that the Haiku stairs be removed at this time.  
Citizens of Haiku Valley have been inundated with the  
nuisance of illegal hikers for much too long.  
Council member Ester Kia'aina's resolution 21-154 address the  
communities concerns regarding why the stairs should be  
removed.

**Testimony Attachment**

**Accept Terms and Agreement** 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Friday, September 3, 2021 5:34 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

**Name** Bette Jo Nakahara  
**Phone**  
**Email** bjknak@gmail.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** Resolution 21-154  
**Your position on the matter** Support  
**Representing Organization** Self

**Written Testimony**

I support the removal of the Haiku stairs.  
I am a former Kaneohe resident. I lived on Pookelaa St. for about 10 years up to last year. I was witness to the trespassers, the hikers' cars taking up street parking, the rescue helicopters going from the top of the mountain down to Kaneohe park. It is illegal to hike the stairs now but people still do. Why would people pay to hike when they can (illegally) do it for free? I cannot see how a company can manage the illegal hikers. If you live in the area you would know that fixing the Haiku stairs is a bad idea. The intent of the stairs was not for outdoor recreation.  
Thank you.

**Testimony Attachment**

**Accept Terms and Agreement** 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Friday, September 3, 2021 7:05 AM  
**Subject:** Housing and the Economy Testimony

---

## Written Testimony

**Name** Norman Wilhoite  
**Phone**  
**Email** nowohana@hawaii.rr.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Housing and the Economy  
**Agenda Item** 21-154  
**Your position on the matter** Oppose  
**Representing Organization** Self

**Written Testimony** The public overwhelmingly supports keeping the stairs operational. Why waste taxpayer money to remove them. 1 million dollars will not come close to cover the cost, it will become another black hole like the rail. Of the many hikes on Oahu it is among the safest. I know, I have done it many times when the Coast Guard managed it. There is no reason the parking and access cant be managed as before and satisfy local residents. You cant allow one small neighborhood group to out voice the majority. If you doubt the overwhelming majority are in favor of keeping the stairs then put it on the ballot. We can make this work for all. Thank you

**Testimony Attachment**

**Accept Terms and Agreement** 1

IP: 192.168.200.67



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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 2, 2021 8:46 PM  
**Subject:** Parks and Community Services Testimony

---

## Written Testimony

Name                lois crozer  
Phone  
Email                lbc@hawaiiantel.net  
Meeting Date       09-02-2021  
Council/PH  
Committee          Parks and Community Services  
Agenda Item        21-154  
Your position on  
the matter          Oppose  
Representing       Self  
Organization

### Written Testimony

By putting your guards at the stairs, it just makes people arrive early and wake up the neighbors. It also puts the hikers at risk by having them sleep deprived. I have always wanted to hike the stairs, waiting for it to be legal. There are very few rescues there as opposed to the Ka'iwa Ridge Trail (pillbox) trail. There is a trail management plan, put it in place and let us hike! What the heck are you doing by trying to close this down? Manage it!!

### Testimony Attachment

Accept Terms  
and Agreement     1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 2, 2021 9:39 PM  
**Subject:** Housing and the Economy Testimony

---

## Written Testimony

Name Robert E. Anderson  
Phone  
Email kailua5@aol.com  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH  
Committee Housing and the Economy  
Agenda Item Resolution 21-154  
Your position on  
the matter Oppose  
Representing Self  
Organization

### Written Testimony

The City needs to manage resources like Haiku Stairs instead of punishing residents, by closing recreational venues and SPENDING 1 MILLION DOLLARS OF TAXPAYER MONIES TO DO SO. Testimony is always over 90% in favor of saving the stairs, but it is being ignored by this City Council. There are very good solutions to fixing all of the problems associated with the Stairs that have also been ignored. Why? There is a comprehensive access management plan for dealing with those problems which many neighborhoods on this island would be extremely grateful to have in their own neighborhoods to address problems. The State DLNR and State Parks have implemented management plans like this for resources all over the state instead of permanently removing access. Why can't the City do this instead of removing a treasured place like Haiku Stairs. The City needs to test this plan before just tearing down something as important as Haiku Stairs. There is really no solid, legitimate reason to remove Haiku Stairs and doing so violates the Koolau-poko Sustainability Plan, the Motion passed by the Kaneohe Neighborhood Board in favor of keeping the stairs, the Mission Statement of the City Parks and Recreation Department, and the State Historical Preservation standards. There has been no cost analysis basis for this decision and no EIS done by the City Parks and Recreation Department and both need to be done to truly evaluate this proposition to remove Haiku Stairs. The liability issue has been fabricated because we know there have been no lawsuits associated with the Haiku Stairs and zero serious injuries on the Haiku Stairs in over seven decades. This is one of the safest hikes on the island of Oahu. If you are worried about liability, you should think about closing Sandy Beach or the Pali Notches trail. The liability issue has been a fear mongering, false tactic to convince Council Members Haiku Stairs are dangerous. That is just not true. Haiku Stairs and the buildings associated with them are WW II historical artifacts and an historical extraordinary engineering feat. Many educators have taken their students to Haiku Stairs and used the stairs for cultural, environmental, historical and science education and to conduct valuable research studies there. This should be continued and educators, students, and scientists should have access. We know this from the Board of Water Supply FEIS. Rick Barboza of Hui Ku Maoli Ola Native Hawaiian Plant Specialists in Haiku, stated that in order to control invasive plants

on the ridge and summits, Haiku Stairs should be preserved to access these for removal. It is incorrect to assume this Resolution "protects the environment" as it states. The FEIS addresses invasive plants as well as Rick Barboza and both contradict the idea removing the Haiku Stairs protects the environment. Why can't the City actually govern, instead of arresting hikers, punishing people who want to access exceptional outdoor trails and venues like this and manage the Haiku Stairs? Provide parking and a comfort station away from any Haiku neighborhood, restrict entry, reserved entry only, charge fees and provide effective security that actually protects the neighbors who have been impacted by disturbances from hikers. If the City can't get it together, pass this on to a private vendor and use the very comprehensive access management plan created by the Friends of Haiku Stairs. This plan includes 24 hour high tech security, the stairs are constantly monitored, and security and police are called immediately if someone steps on them without permission, hikers will be shuttled to the stairs from a location outside of the Haiku neighborhoods, and they will need to make a reservation first to be taken there. Maintenance of the stairs is included in the plan, monitoring of hikers is included, cultural and environmental education is included and there is absolutely no reason this plan should not be implemented and tested instead of egregiously tearing down the Stairs. Thousands of residents want access to these stairs and there is no reason they shouldn't be able to do that. The problems a few Haiku neighbors have had, which can be completely fixed, are not a legitimate reason to remove these stairs. That is unreasonable and unnecessary. Please read and consider the solutions instead of making a rash, unfounded and unnecessary decision to remove access to this extraordinary landmark and place.

Testimony  
Attachment

Accept Terms  
and Agreement

1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 2, 2021 9:39 PM  
**Subject:** Housing and the Economy Testimony

---

## Written Testimony

Name Robert E. Anderson  
Phone  
Email kailua5@aol.com  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Committee Housing and the Economy  
Agenda Item Resolution 21-154  
Your position on the matter Oppose  
Representing Self  
Organization

### Written Testimony

The City needs to manage resources like Haiku Stairs instead of punishing residents, by closing recreational venues and SPENDING 1 MILLION DOLLARS OF TAXPAYER MONIES TO DO SO. Testimony is always over 90% in favor of saving the stairs, but it is being ignored by this City Council. There are very good solutions to fixing all of the problems associated with the Stairs that have also been ignored. Why? There is a comprehensive access management plan for dealing with those problems which many neighborhoods on this island would be extremely grateful to have in their own neighborhoods to address problems. The State DLNR and State Parks have implemented management plans like this for resources all over the state instead of permanently removing access. Why can't the City do this instead of removing a treasured place like Haiku Stairs. The City needs to test this plan before just tearing down something as important as Haiku Stairs. There is really no solid, legitimate reason to remove Haiku Stairs and doing so violates the Koolau-poko Sustainability Plan, the Motion passed by the Kaneohe Neighborhood Board in favor of keeping the stairs, the Mission Statement of the City Parks and Recreation Department, and the State Historical Preservation standards. There has been no cost analysis basis for this decision and no EIS done by the City Parks and Recreation Department and both need to be done to truly evaluate this proposition to remove Haiku Stairs. The liability issue has been fabricated because we know there have been no lawsuits associated with the Haiku Stairs and zero serious injuries on the Haiku Stairs in over seven decades. This is one of the safest hikes on the island of Oahu. If you are worried about liability, you should think about closing Sandy Beach or the Pali Notches trail. The liability issue has been a fear mongering, false tactic to convince Council Members Haiku Stairs are dangerous. That is just not true. Haiku Stairs and the buildings associated with them are WW II historical artifacts and an historical extraordinary engineering feat. Many educators have taken their students to Haiku Stairs and used the stairs for cultural, environmental, historical and science education and to conduct valuable research studies there. This should be continued and educators, students, and scientists should have access. We know this from the Board of Water Supply FEIS. Rick Barboza of Hui Ku Maoli

Ola Native Hawaiian Plant Specialists in Haiku, stated that in order to control invasive plants on the ridge and summits, Haiku Stairs should be preserved to access these for removal. It is incorrect to assume this Resolution "protects the environment" as it states. The FEIS addresses invasive plants as well as Rick Barboza and both contradict the idea removing the Haiku Stairs protects the environment. Why can't the City actually govern, instead of arresting hikers, punishing people who want to access exceptional outdoor trails and venues like this and manage the Haiku Stairs? Provide parking and a comfort station away from any Haiku neighborhood, restrict entry, reserved entry only, charge fees and provide effective security that actually protects the neighbors who have been impacted by disturbances from hikers. If the City can't get it together, pass this on to a private vendor and use the very comprehensive access management plan created by the Friends of Haiku Stairs. This plan includes 24 hour high tech security, the stairs are constantly monitored, and security and police are called immediately if someone steps on them without permission, hikers will be shuttled to the stairs from a location outside of the Haiku neighborhoods, and they will need to make a reservation first to be taken there. Maintenance of the stairs is included in the plan, monitoring of hikers is included, cultural and environmental education is included and there is absolutely no reason this plan should not be implemented and tested instead of egregiously tearing down the Stairs. Thousands of residents want access to these stairs and there is no reason they shouldn't be able to do that. The problems a few Haiku neighbors have had, which can be completely fixed, are not a legitimate reason to remove these stairs. That is unreasonable and unnecessary. Please read and consider the solutions instead of making a rash, unfounded and unnecessary decision to remove access to this extraordinary landmark and place.

Testimony  
Attachment

Accept Terms  
and Agreement

1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Friday, September 3, 2021 7:05 AM  
**Subject:** Housing and the Economy Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name Norman Wilhoite  
Phone  
Email nowohana@hawaii.rr.com  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Committee Housing and the Economy  
Agenda Item 21-154  
Your position on the matter Oppose  
Representing Self  
Organization

### Written Testimony

The public overwhelmingly supports keeping the stairs operational. Why waste taxpayer money to remove them. 1 million dollars will not come close to cover the cost, it will become another black hole like the rail. Of the many hikes on Oahu it is among the safest. I know, I have done it many times when the Coast Guard managed it. There is no reason the parking and access cant be managed as before and satisfy local residents. You cant allow one small neighborhood group to out voice the majority. If you doubt the overwhelming majority are in favor of keeping the stairs then put it on the ballot. We can make this work for all. Thank you

### Testimony Attachment

Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Friday, September 3, 2021 8:43 AM  
**Subject:** Housing and the Economy Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name Jaymilee McElroy  
Phone  
Email jaymileemcelroy@gmail.com  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Committee Housing and the Economy  
Agenda Item Resolution 21-154  
Your position on the matter Support  
Representing Self  
Organization

As a member of the school community that is located near the hike access, I STRONGLY SUPPORT THE REMOVAL of the Ha'ikū Stairs/Stairway to Heaven.

- Written Testimony
1. Hikers, tourists, and locals access this ILLEGAL hike daily ignoring the no trespassing and private property signs.
  2. Hikers jeopardize the safety of all who are affected by their ignorant actions, especially the lives of our first responders when rescue efforts are needed.
  3. Rescue effort costs are at our expense and not at the trespassing hiker's.
  4. Wandering locals and curious tourists who trespass onto school campus to turn their vehicle around is a safety concern for our students and staff members who walk from building to building.
  5. A number of hikers still access the hike in unsafe weather conditions despite local weather alerts.
  6. The school has experienced property damage.

Testimony Attachment  
Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Friday, September 3, 2021 9:54 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name	Flora Obayashi
Phone	
Email	of8@hawaii.edu
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Council
Agenda Item	CR 212 Res 21-154
Your position on the matter	Support
Representing	Self
Organization	
Written Testimony	
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement 1	

IP: 192.168.200.67



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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Friday, September 3, 2021 10:14 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

**Name** Frank Haas  
**Phone**  
**Email** frankhaas808@gmail.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** Resolution 21-154  
**Your position on the matter** Support  
**Representing** Self  
**Organization** Marketing Management, Inc.  
**Written Testimony** The issue and impacts of the Haiku Stairs have been debated too long. The stairs are a safety issue and a nuisance to the community. Long term management is not realistic or affordable. I support the resolution.  
**Testimony Attachment**  
**Accept Terms and Agreement** 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Friday, September 3, 2021 11:50 AM  
**Subject:** Public Infrastructure and Technology Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name	Carol D'Angelo
Phone	
Email	dangelo@hawaii.edu
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Public Infrastructure and Technology
Agenda Item	Haiku Stairs removal 21-154
Your position on the matter	Comment
Representing Organization	Self
Written Testimony	I live in the neighborhood and the hackers of the stairs are extremely inconsiderate of the parking, the noise levels, the rudeness to the home owners, leaving messes in the area. They arrive and park before morning and make loud noise and make messes. It's time to get rid of the stairs.
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement	1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Friday, September 3, 2021 2:43 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name	Cheryl
Phone	
Email	Piimaunac@yahoo.com
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Council
Agenda Item	21-154
Your position on the matter	Support
Representing	Self
Organization	
Written Testimony	I live in Haiku and support the removal of the Haiku Stairs!!
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement	1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Friday, September 3, 2021 10:57 AM  
**Subject:** Housing and the Economy Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name Donna Luzon  
Phone  
Email 4donna59@gmail.com  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Committee Housing and the Economy  
Agenda Item Resolution 21-154 to Remove Haiku Stairs  
Your position on the matter Oppose  
Representing Self  
Organization  
Written Testimony This is part of Hawaii's history and should NOT be removed. It's a safe and fantastic hike that should be kept and managed.  
Testimony Attachment  
Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 4, 2021 11:28 AM  
**Subject:** Housing and the Economy Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name	Carol Abe
Phone	
Email	nextpage555@gmail.com
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Housing and the Economy
Agenda Item	Res 21-154
Your position on the matter	Support
Representing	Self
Organization	
Written Testimony	I definitely support the REMOVAL of what's called Haiku Stairs.
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement	1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 4, 2021 12:58 PM  
**Subject:** Housing and the Economy Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name Erik Anderson  
Phone  
Email erikdru@gmail.com  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Committee Housing and the Economy  
Agenda Item 21-154  
Your position on the matter Oppose  
Representing Self  
Organization  
Written Testimony I oppose removal of Haiku Stairs.  
Testimony Attachment  
Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 4, 2021 1:03 PM  
**Subject:** Housing and the Economy Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name Eri Anderson  
Phone  
Email Erilien1130@gmail.com  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Committee Housing and the Economy  
Agenda Item Resolution 21-154  
Your position on the matter Oppose  
Representing Self  
Organization  
Written Testimony  
Testimony Attachment  
Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 5, 2021 8:46 AM  
**Subject:** Housing and the Economy Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name	ErnestShih
Phone	
Email	eshih808@gmail.com
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Housing and the Economy
Agenda Item	res21-154
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing Organization	Self
Written Testimony	The Haiku Stairs are irreplaceable. Why wouldn't we want to try a managed solution before doing such a drastic and costly step?
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement	1

IP: 192.168.200.67



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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 5, 2021 9:37 PM  
**Subject:** Housing and the Economy Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name Ka'ohu Cazinha  
Phone  
Email ohul@aol.com  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Committee Housing and the Economy  
Agenda Item Remove Ha'iku Stairs  
Your position on the matter Support  
Representing Self  
Organization

It is of the utmost importance to be in support of removing the stairs in Ha'iikū Valley.

The resolution outlines the reasons beautifully and, as a life long resident of the valley, we just cannot afford to put the natural resources of that valley in jeopardy by allowing this commercialization.

We need to work more toward returning the valley to self-sustainability for this 'ahupua'a and the community who live on it.

### Written Testimony

Please vote to remove the stairs and restore the natural habitat, free of the importation of invasive species brought in by hoardes of tourists as well as restoring preserving the water shed properties there.

The revitalization of this 'āina with the lo'i and auwae is a step in the right direction!

Mahalo for your consideration in supporting this bill to remove the stairs.

Testimony  
Attachment  
Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Monday, September 6, 2021 10:10 AM  
**Subject:** Housing and the Economy Testimony  
**Attachments:** 20210906100947\_Saving\_Haiku\_Stairs\_for\_Cultural\_and\_Environmental\_Education.pdf

## Written Testimony

Name Charles K. Burrows  
Phone  
Email chuckkb@gmail.com  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Committee Housing and the Economy  
Agenda Item Resolution: 21-154  
Your position on the matter Oppose  
Representing Self  
Organization

### Written Testimony

Saving Haiku Stairs for Cultural and Environmental Education

Anyone who has climbed to the top of Ha'ikū Stairs would never advocate tearing them down. The cable house at the summit sits close to the magnificent peak of Pu'ukeahiakahoe. The astounding wonder and glory of Ko'olaupoko surrounds you and commands heightened awareness of your responsibility to respect and care for all that encompasses you.

As a Native Hawaiian cultural practitioner and environmental science educator, I took my Kamehameha Schools high school students up Haiku Stairs forty years ago, to instill this responsibility, teach them about the cultural and environmental history of the area, and guide them in conducting field studies. I was not alone in doing this; in the years the stairs were open, many educators and scientists used the Stairs as an open air classroom and science lab, along with science clubs and conservation organizations. Access to places like Haiku Stairs is critical to enriching the quality of educational experiences and increasing students' absorption of knowledge. But, now the City Council is advocating removal of the Haiku Stairs. Educational research has shown that if students open a book to study the mo'olelo of Haiku, its watershed, geology, or endangered plants they may understand it, but they probably won't care that much about it compared to seeing and learning these things standing on Pu'ukeahiakahoe. If kids can't experience the Haiku watershed and touch, smell, investigate, explore, and connect to it, their knowledge retention and understanding drops exponentially.

Children as well as adults need to experience incredible venues like this in order to build connections that will lead them to invest time and energy into advocating for preservation and conservation of these places throughout their lives. But we are seeing the door closing on access to Haiku Stairs and other areas as we speak.

In the case of Haiku Stairs, we see the City taking ownership of that mountain and forbidding any taxpayer who paid for the acquisition of that land to access it ever again. We, the taxpayers who paid \$1 million in 2002 to repair the Stairs are now being told we will pay \$1 million to tear

down access to a place we should have the right to go to. In addition, the Department of Hawaiian Homelands, is forbidding hikers to cross a sliver of DHHL property to access Haiku Stairs, treating the area like private land, and citing liability concerns.

Can you imagine if we permanently closed down our beach parks like Sandy Beach, Hanauma Bay, or Pipeline because of liability concerns? They remain open despite an average of 65 drownings in the ocean here every year. In seven decades, there has never been anyone seriously injured climbing Haiku Stairs. When asked what expenditures it had made over 20 years to pay for insurance, settlements, or court costs, The Board of Water Supply acknowledged in their EIS, "There have been no claims or settlements regarding the Haiku Stairs."

The City's own Ko'olaupoko Sustainable Communities Plan requires it to "protect scenic views, provide recreation, and promote access to shoreline and mountain areas," and "preserve significant historical features and retain significant vistas with significant archaeological features," yet this is being ignored. Educational opportunities are in jeopardy.

Haiku Stairs is next on the chopping block if we don't fight to save it. There is a brilliant plan created by Friends of Haiku Stairs to protect the area, manage it, and eliminate any disturbances to Haiku neighbors, but instead of implementing it, the City Council has resolved to eradicate access to this historical, recreational, educational, and cultural area forever.

Dr. Charles Pe'ape'a Makawalu Kekuewa Burrows is one of the most influential teachers in the history of Kamehameha Schools and a leader in the effort to save and protect the cultural and environmental resources in the Kailua Ahupua'a and Kane'ohe Ahupua'a for over forty years, His awards for conservation and educational accomplishments are too numerous to mention here. He is the author of articles in Mastery Learning and Hawaiian Conservation Values and Practices. He has served on the executive boards of the Hawaii Science Teachers Association and the Sierra Club High School Hikers Program. He is the co-founder of 'Ahahui Mālama i Ka Lōkahi, an organization of Native Hawaiians for the Protection and Conservation of Hawai'i's Ecosystems, a founding member of Hui Maunawili Kawainui Coalition, and Chairman of the Board of Hui Kawainui Kailua Ka Wai Ola.

Testimony Attachment	20210906100947_Saving_Haiku_Stairs_for_Cultural_and_Environmental_Education.pdf
Accept Terms and Agreement	1

IP: 192.168.200.67

## Saving Haiku Stairs for Cultural and Environmental Education

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Anyone who has climbed to the top of Ha'ikū Stairs would never advocate tearing them down. The cable house at the summit sits close to the magnificent peak of Pu'ukeahiakahoe. The astounding wonder and glory of Ko'olaupoko surrounds you and commands heightened awareness of your responsibility to respect and care for all that encompasses you.

As a Native Hawaiian cultural practitioner and environmental science educator, I took my Kamehameha Schools high school students up Haiku Stairs forty years ago, to instill this responsibility, teach them about the cultural and environmental history of the area, and guide them in conducting field studies. I was not alone in doing this; in the years the stairs were open, many educators and scientists used the Stairs as an open air classroom and science lab, along with science clubs and conservation organizations. Access to places like Haiku Stairs is critical to enriching the quality of educational experiences and increasing students' absorption of knowledge. But, now the City Council is advocating removal of the Haiku Stairs.

Educational research has shown that if students open a book to study the mo'olelo of Haiku, its watershed, geology, or endangered plants they may understand it, but they probably won't care that much about it compared to seeing and learning these things standing on Pu'ukeahiakahoe. If kids can't experience the Haiku watershed and touch, smell, investigate, explore, and connect to it, their knowledge retention and understanding drops exponentially.

Children as well as adults need to experience incredible venues like this in order to build connections that will lead them to invest time and energy into advocating for preservation and conservation of these places throughout their lives. But we are seeing the door closing on access to Haiku Stairs and other areas as we speak.

In the case of Haiku Stairs, we see the City taking ownership of that mountain and forbidding any taxpayer who paid for the acquisition of that land to access it ever again. We, the taxpayers who paid \$1 million in 2002 to repair the Stairs are now being told we will pay \$1 million to tear down access to a place we should have the right to go to. In addition, the Department of Hawaiian Homelands, is forbidding hikers to cross a sliver of DHHL property to access Haiku Stairs, treating the area like private land, and citing liability concerns.

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Dr. Charles Pe'ape'a Makawalu Kekuwa Burrows is one of the most influential teachers in the history of Kamehameha Schools and a leader in the effort to save and protect the cultural and environmental resources in the Kailua Ahupua'a and Kane'ohe Ahupua'a for over forty years. His awards for conservation and educational accomplishments are too numerous to mention here. He is the author of articles in *Mastery Learning* and *Hawaiian Conservation Values and Practices*. He has served on the executive boards of the Hawaii Science Teachers Association and the Sierra Club High School Hikers Program. He is the co-founder of 'Ahahui Mālama i Ka Lōkahi, an organization of Native Hawaiians for the Protection and Conservation of Hawai'i's Ecosystems, a founding member of Hui Maunawili Kawainui Coalition, and Chairman of the Board of Hui Kawainui Kailua Ka Wai Ola.

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Monday, September 6, 2021 12:59 PM  
**Subject:** Housing and the Economy Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name jan L reichelderfer

Phone

Email janr@hawaii.rr.com

Meeting Date 09-08-2021

Council/PH  
Committee Housing and the Economy

Agenda Item 21-154 Haiku Stairs

Your position on  
the matter Oppose

Representing  
Organization Self

Written  
Testimony So much history. An amazing resource and a great hike. Why tear it out -- only for a loud group of neighbors. Those opposed falsely claim it is so unsafe. It is a wonderful opportunity for a public/private partnership. Hawaii needs challenging hikes and outdoor recreation.

Testimony  
Attachment

Accept Terms  
and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Monday, September 6, 2021 1:12 PM  
**Subject:** Housing and the Economy Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name Nona Holmes  
Phone  
Email nonaholmes@hotmail.com  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Committee Housing and the Economy  
Agenda Item Resolution 21-154  
Your position on the matter Support  
Representing Self  
Organization

Written Testimony I support this resolution 21-154 for taking down the Haiku Stairs. I feel for the residents who have this issue in their backyards and have to deal with the daily onslaught of people trying to trespass on their property to get to the stairs, also reducing the liability to the city from people who get injured; the need to be rescued because hikers misjudged their own abilities, and just reducing the impact to the environment. There's enough hiking trails on Oahu where people can access.

Testimony Attachment

Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 8:03 AM  
**Subject:** Housing and the Economy Testimony

---

## Written Testimony

Name Earl Kim  
Phone  
Email etkim3@gmail.com  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Committee Housing and the Economy  
Agenda Item Resolution 21-154  
Your position on the matter Oppose  
Representing Self  
Organization

### Written Testimony

I am an educator and avid hiker who, over the past 50 years, has traversed landforms across East Asia, Southeast Asia, California, Hawai'i and the Appalachians. Haiku Stairs mean more to me than any of these climbs and treks as a "Kane'ohe boy" and current resident of Kailua. For me and for my family, Haiku Stairs is a part of who we are, and we would hate to lose access to it from the Windward side. I understand the concerns of the residents who built their homes near the base of the stairs. Access needs to be better managed. I understand the putative concerns about liability. I understand the concerns of the current landholders, private and public. However, I nonetheless feel that none of the objections are insuperable. We can actually make the neighborhood safer through well managed (limited) entry and hours. We can make the route safer without baby-proofing it and acceptance-of-risk by users. We can compensate landholders, who also have a kuleana to lahui to protect and preserve our 'aina for future generations. I oppose demolition and favor restoration. We can be creative in solving this challenge together. Mahalo for your thoughtful consideration.

### Testimony Attachment

Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67



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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 4:33 AM  
**Subject:** Housing and the Economy Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name William Ridgway, Ph.D.  
Phone  
Email Ridg002@gmail.com  
Meeting Date 09-08-2012  
Council/PH Committee Housing and the Economy  
Agenda Item Resolution to remove Haiku Stairs, 21-154  
Your position on the matter Oppose  
Representing Self  
Organization  
  
Written Testimony Approximately five (5) households in Haiku Valley are vehemently opposed to opening the stairs under any circumstances. If the council sides with those five households instead of with the overwhelming majority of the people who support the opening of the stairs it will be a great miscarriage of legislative responsibility.  
  
Testimony Attachment  
Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 8:04 AM  
**Subject:** Housing and the Economy Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name Wendell Elento  
Phone  
Email elentow@gmail.com  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Committee Housing and the Economy  
Agenda Item Resolution 21-154 Removal of Haiku Stairs  
Your position on the matter Oppose  
Representing Self  
Organization

Written Testimony I understand the concerns of the neighborhood about trespassing and liability to the city, however, those two items can be mitigated with using parking at the former Coast Guard facility and waiver of liability done electronically, online. Rescues will be billable. The access, security, parking, proposed restaurant, gift shop will be run as a concession. Cost for access to hike will be set by the concession, paid in advance via online merchant account set up by concessionaire along with all applicable forms. Concessionaire will be responsible to provide a schedule of Haiku Stairs open hours. Restaurant will be licensed to serve alcohol and be open to the public as needed.

Testimony Attachment

Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Monday, September 6, 2021 8:39 PM  
**Subject:** Housing and the Economy Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name Dino-John Iokepa-Guerrero  
Phone  
Email iokepaguerrero@yahoo.com  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Committee Housing and the Economy  
Agenda Item 21-154  
Your position on the matter Support  
Representing Self  
Organization

Before the Full City Council on September 8, 2021 at 10:00 a.m , Resolution 21-154  
IN STRONG SUPPORT- Resolution 21-154

Aloha,  
I am Dino-John K. Iokepa-Guerrero and I am in STRONG SUPPORT of the removal of the Ha'ikū Stairs. I am a parent at Ke Kula 'o Samuel M. Kamakau and I have seen the negative affects of illegal trespassers both on the the private access road to my child's campus as well as those who trespass onto campus.

Written  
Testimony

I am concerned for my child's safety as well as the safety for the other students that attend Kamakau School. The stairs attracts different types of people and sometimes these people may not be practicing the best of habits when they are in that secluded area. Also, our first responders that may need to rescue people who get hurt while hiking that area, takes resources away from our local people who may need those resources at the same time. That area is very dangerous to hike. Add bad weather to the equation and many things may go wrong. Lastly, back in the valley there are still heiau that still sit there, beneath the overgrowth. Out of respect of the valley and the heiau, we should be respecting that area and going to that area only if we need to be there.

It is for all of these reasons, that I STRONGLY SUPPORT Resolution 21-154 that urges the City & County Administration to remove the Ha'ikū Stairs and to develop a responsible plan for this removal.

Mahalo.

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Monday, September 6, 2021 8:55 PM  
**Subject:** Housing and the Economy Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name Marianne Whiting  
Phone  
Email 747mkw@gmail.com  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Committee Housing and the Economy  
Agenda Item Resolution 21-154 to remove Haiku Stairs  
Your position on the matter Oppose  
Representing Self  
Organization

Written Testimony I am strongly opposed to wasting \$1M taxpayer dollars to tear down a unique WWII historical feature to satisfy a group of angry vocal neighbors before even trying the proposed workable plan to protect the Stairs. It is inconceivable that the Council would spend \$1M rather than protect neighbors, preserve history, and manage the trail access. At the very least the proposed management plan should be given a fair opportunity to be implemented. If it doesn't work then at least the Council members could hold their heads high knowing they did their best.

Do the right thing, do your best and lead Council, not destroy.

Testimony Attachment

Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Friday, September 3, 2021 3:18 PM  
**Subject:** Public Safety Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name Sandra Fujita

Phone

Email yappygrl1@aol.com

Meeting Date 09-08-2021

Council/PH  
Committee Public Safety

Agenda Item Resolution 21-154

Your position on the  
matter Support

Representing Self

Organization

Written Testimony I am in support of removing Ha'ikū Stairs and its accessory structures. They are an attractive nuisance and a potentially costly liability.

Testimony Attachment

Accept Terms and  
Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Friday, September 3, 2021 4:57 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

**Name** Keoni J Kuoha  
**Phone**  
**Email** keoni.kuoha@gmail.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** Reso 21-154  
**Your position on the matter** Support  
**Representing Organization** Self

Aloha kākou,

My name is Keoni Kuoha.

I support removal of the stairs. I was born and raised in Waimānalo, O'ahu. I have also worked at Papahāna Kūa'ōla, a mālama 'āina learning organization based in Ha'ikū Valley, most recently as the former Executive Director.

**Written Testimony**

I have been a hiker since high school, and have hiked most of the mountains across Hawai'i. So, I understand and appreciate the joy and the pleasure individuals take from hiking. Through my experiences, guided by knowledgeable individuals, I have learned how to act within native ecosystems and how to care for native ecosystem resources, all of which are Hawaiian cultural resources. Most hikers who access Ha'ikū Stairs have not been trained to act responsibly within native ecosystems. This is a serious problem for both the native ecosystems, as well as the Hawaiian cultural resources within these ecosystems. The Ha'ikū Stairs pose a threat to the very ecosystems and cultural resources that draw some people to it.

The majority of the Ha'ikū Stairs is located in the wao akua, which should not be entered except by those who have kuleana there. The vast majority of those accessing Ha'ikū Stairs do not have kuleana to be there. Therefore, much of the behavior of these hikers is not right for the wao akua which they are accessing—they enter the space without a kāhea and permission, they relieve themselves without knowledge of how to minimize that impact within wao akua, they

trample on native vegetation, and they conduct themselves without reverence to and observance of the traditional protocols of wao akua.

While at Papahana Kuaola, I also experienced many problems with trespassing hikers at the program's site in Ha'ikū Valley. Their lack of knowledge and observance of protocols extended to this site with significant cultural implications. Ceremonial and otherwise cultural spaces are maintained by Papahana Kuaola and the actions of trespassing hikers negatively impacted these spaces.

I ask the Council to please consider closing and removing Ha'ikū Stairs for good. It is the best way forward for Hawaiian cultural practice and endangered native ecosystems in Ha'ikū Valley.

Me ka 'oia'i'o,

Keoni Kuoha

Testimony  
Attachment  
Accept Terms  
and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 4, 2021 2:56 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

**Name** Paul Mossman  
**Phone**  
**Email** tigertear77@msn.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** Haiku Stairs Removal  
**Your position on the matter** Oppose  
**Representing Organization** Self

**Written Testimony**

The rebuilt Haiku Stairs is a world famous attraction and original engineering feat that was managed to everyone satisfaction when Upper Haiku was controlled by the military. Like so many things in Hawaii that ability went out the door as soon as the City took over. The facilities are in shambles and a ridiculous eyesore and I would like to know who know who is it that now enjoys controls this formerly accessible area? Tearing the stairs down is just another short sided no-can-do way of sweeping a problem under the rug. Upper Haiku should have become a PUBLIC PARK the day after transfer and the stairs an example of innovation, grit and determination that the people of Hawaii wanted to protect and enjoy. Still hoping that day may come for this long suffering and slowly smothering State.

**Testimony Attachment**

**Accept Terms and Agreement** 1

IP: 192.168.200.67



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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 4, 2021 10:19 AM  
**Subject:** Parks and Community Services Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name	lois crozer
Phone	
Email	lbc@hawaiiantel.net
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Parks and Community Services
Agenda Item	resolution 21-54
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing	Self
Organization	
Written Testimony	MANAGE THEM! Use the plan that was already prepared!
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement	1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 4, 2021 2:09 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name Thomas Loomis  
Phone  
Email tploomis@gmail.com  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Committee Council  
Agenda Item Removal of Haiku Stairs  
Your position on the matter Oppose  
Representing Self  
Organization

### Written Testimony

The Haiku Stairway is one of Hawai'i's valuable assets. It should not be removed. This is a safe hiking trail as it stands, and it provides residents of Hawaii and visitors valuable experience with exposure to the beauties of this island. Neighbor complaints have been addressed in a plan that provides for hikers parking and access to the trail. in the 70s and 80s, this trail was managed effectively by the US Coast Guard. It can be managed again. I have hiked the trail a number of times in the past, as have my children. It would be a shame to prevent others from having this valuable experience.

### Testimony Attachment

Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 4, 2021 7:50 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name Jay Silberman  
Phone  
Email PAUCDAWG1@YAHOO.COM  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Council  
Committee  
Agenda Item RESOLUTION 21-154  
Your position on the matter Oppose  
Representing Self  
Organization

Aloha Councilmembers,

I strongly oppose RESOLUTION 21-154 to remove the Ha'ikū Stairs. The resolution is inaccurate and/or misleading in several respects, and would result in a very unfortunate decision.

For example, the resolution strongly implies that reopening the Stairs would cost the City more than \$900,000 in repairs and other improvements – when in fact City Council Resolution 20-323 of last December, which the Council chose to vote down, would have put this burden on the Stairs' private sector operator. Even with these stringent conditions, 14 potential bidders provided detailed plans for operating the Stairs, in response to the City's 2020 Request for Interest. For example, the Friends of Ha'ikū Stairs Concept Plan for managed access is posted on their web site ([https://d35fd6ab-97b3-4733-9c46-a329e025adee.filesusr.com/ugd/e3df2a\\_c273635d8be2451185b406f7a60f7045.pdf](https://d35fd6ab-97b3-4733-9c46-a329e025adee.filesusr.com/ugd/e3df2a_c273635d8be2451185b406f7a60f7045.pdf)). It's a serious plan, for people who are serious about solving this problem.

The resolution also misrepresents the conclusions of the Board of Water Supply (BWS) EIS. BWS went into the EIS process determined to remove them, but by the end, they had concluded that Managed Access [re-opening the Stairs to the public under controlled management and supervision, funded by the operator from hiking fees, and not by BWS water rate payers] was the alternative that best met BWS's objectives – even better than tearing them out.

Managed access would include provisions for parking, entrance fees, comfort facilities, waste management, environmental mitigation, cultural education, safety, liability insurance, maintenance, and the security features discussed below. And managed access would in fact make money for the City, in the form of a percentage

of the revenues. How does spending \$1 million of the taxpayer's money to tear them out make sense?

The Kāne'ohe Neighborhood Board [KNB] passed a resolution in 2017 strongly supporting re-opening the Stairs under managed access ([https://kaneoheneighborhoodboard.blogspot.com/2017/06/text-of-kaneohe-neighborhood-boards.html?fbclid=IwAR0ntCMA44Q52gwoGvCzKC\\_WD9w3V6AVKPm9GjPjAA-YG-EcerCeEpfIFZs](https://kaneoheneighborhoodboard.blogspot.com/2017/06/text-of-kaneohe-neighborhood-boards.html?fbclid=IwAR0ntCMA44Q52gwoGvCzKC_WD9w3V6AVKPm9GjPjAA-YG-EcerCeEpfIFZs)). You should take the time to read the case they made for doing so.

As for the influx of tourists, and their impact on resources: managed access is just that - managed. Hikers would be limited to 80 per day, and would need to get an online permit. The original access to the Omega Station up Ha'ikū Road could be restored with the stroke of a pen by the Governor. An off-site shuttle van could take hikers up to the Transmitter Building. The neighbors would not even see the hikers, much less feel their impact.

In sum, tearing out the Stairs is perhaps the worst option. What would it say about our state and our government if we destroyed a world-class resource because we couldn't figure out how to re-open a facility that used to operate unsupervised, with no trespassing, and no impact on the surrounding neighborhoods?

It might help the City Council to make an informed decision if they understood what prompted 20,000 people a year to hike the Stairs starting in the 1980s, when it was legal to do so [i.e., before it was 'forbidden fruit'] – even before the lure of 24/7 social media. What do these people see that our government does not? Why do people who normally take an elevator to avoid a flight of steps skip sleep and risk fine/arrest to climb 3922 of them, in an ascent that consumes more than 1000 calories?

As the KNB resolution notes, trespassing in the Haiku neighborhood is not acceptable, and must cease. Managed access cannot work unless this intolerable intrusion on people's privacy is eliminated.

There will always be those who do not want to pay a reasonable entrance fee, and attempt to enter illegally. Therefore, an advanced security system with high-tech monitoring equipment is critical from day one for the success of managed access. The operation must include a night-time security presence at the Stairs, in the valley, and within the community to prevent this after-hours trampling of lawns and invasion of privacy. Substantial and effective fencing would need to be installed at the base of the Stairs and several other strategic areas already identified in Ha'ikū Valley. At least one security guard should be on duty 24 hours a day, and a roving guard in the adjoining community would monitor for illegal hikers and report them to the police.

A Security Planning Group, inclusive of neighbors and all other stakeholders, should be set up to help develop and supervise the security operation, and should meet as often as necessary to improve the operation. The Stairs should not be re-opened until a solid solution is developed.

There is a real demand from the public that can't be met any other way. The Stairs are irreplaceable, and future generations should get to see why. The Stairs are an

incredible resource, and everything should be done to make their re-opening a success.

Testimony  
Attachment

Accept  
Terms and 1  
Agreement

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 5, 2021 7:01 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

**Name** Renee Furukawa  
**Phone**  
**Email** K1w175@hotmail.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** 21-154 Removal of Haiku Stairs  
**Your position on the matter** Support  
**Representing Organization** Self

**Written Testimony** I strongly support the removal of the Haiku Stairs. The negative impact to the environment and community will result with more rescues and resources, vandalism and trespassing and increased traffic to the surrounding neighborhood. These are happening with the stairs closed! As shown at other popular sites these have increasingly been a problem and with social media it will only get worse. Please remove the stairs and return the mountain to nature and peace and safety to our community.

**Testimony Attachment**  
**Accept Terms and Agreement** 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 5, 2021 8:25 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name Ming Hu  
Phone  
Email mingsteele@gmail.com  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH  
Committee Council  
Agenda Item Resolution 21-154  
Your position on  
the matter Oppose  
Representing Self  
Organization

Written Testimony I oppose the removal of Haiku Stairs, it is a valuable cultural and natural heritage and should be better managed with the current funding, not removed!

Testimony  
Attachment  
Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 5, 2021 8:26 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name	Mike Lake
Phone	
Email	therealraylake@gmail.com
Meeting Date	09-21-2021
Council/PH Committee	Council
Agenda Item	Resolution 21-154
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing	Self
Organization	
Written Testimony	Strongly oppose the removal of this treasure! Instead reopen it!
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement	1

IP: 192.168.200.67



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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 5, 2021 9:22 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name	Erik Anderson
Phone	
Email	erikdru@gmail.com
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Council
Agenda Item	Res 21-154
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing	Self
Organization	
Written Testimony	
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement 1	

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 5, 2021 9:24 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name	Eri Anderson
Phone	
Email	Erilien1130@gmail.com
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Council
Agenda Item	Res 21-154
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing	Self
Organization	
Written Testimony	
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement 1	

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 5, 2021 9:51 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

**Name** Marie Ching  
**Phone**  
**Email** vernonching@gmail.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** Res 21-154 Removal of Haiku Stairs  
**Your position on the matter** Support  
**Representing Organization** Self

Meeting Date: September 8, 2021  
Council/PH Committee: Council/Public Hearing  
Agenda Item: Resolution 21-154 - Removal of Haiku Stairs  
Your position on the matter: Support (you are supporting the resolution to remove the Stairs)  
Representing: Self (Castle Hills residence)

We support the resolution to Remove the Haiku Stairs.

**Written Testimony**

Safe water and sanitation: Those accessing the Haiku Stairs will not always be accessible, timely, to toilets/latrines. Fecal from defecation and other Human waste of Hikers' enroute to the stairs will contribute to water contamination, causing transmission of disease. We are especially concerned about the quality of water and fecal matter leaking into the water supply underground and the potential of causing contamination which would affect water supply for those living in the windward area. Contamination of water and lack of basic sanitation kill more people each year causing health issues.  
As every individual depends on water for livelihood, we must learn how to keep our limited supply of water pure and away from pollution.

Trespassers: Trespassers are always entering our private road. When asked, "are you planning to hike over here? When confronted, telling them "This is a private road." We are threatened by verbal abuse and some just flick us off. They walk up to our private park where they illegally park their cars. And, again, verbally abuse and flicking

residence off. I'm sure we'll be getting much more trespassers, and homeless people now that we are opening up to tourism in Hawaii. Due to the Pandemic, we taxpayers cannot tolerate trespassers who run into trouble and require rescuing by helicopter, ambulances, police, etc., causing extreme economic hardships as this Pandemic is causing a shift in our economic priorities. Expecting a quick response to 911 rescue is unacceptable, unwarranted, and the City and State cannot place any resources in this endeavor as we face a bleak and uncertain future caused by this Pandemic. Now is the time to dismantle the Haiku Stairs as we are unable to place our economic welfare in jeopardy. We just do not have the finance, staff and resources in this endeavor.

Castle Hills Subdivision is a neighborhood with many young couples and young children. Groups of 10-12 out of state hikers always head into Castle Hills accessing our private Property and our Castle Hills Private Park. Many know the controversy of the Haiku Stairs and intentionally do their best to create problems to the residence of Castle Hills subdivision. On several occasions we observed hikers who, after completing their hike, actually sleeping in the middle of the road on Pookela Street and entrance to Anchor Church, Castle Hills Subdivision.

Illegal dumping: People toss their rubbish (cans, cups, condoms, needles, etc.) everywhere. Hikers are disgusting. We are tired of all the people with no class dumping trash on Pookela Street entrance to Castle Hills Subdivision as well as our private park.

We are always tolerating rude trespassers which may cause not only verbal abuses, but assaults. if we tolerate unruly hikers who are illegally accessing Castle Hills Subdivision to access Haiku Stairs. They are a bad influence on our young children and should not be tolerated.

The Hawaiian word mālama means to "take care," and aina means land. So please take care of the land. But malama is not just for the land; it's for the people. People are precious, and each deserves our care, especially the people and community of Castle Hills Subdivision.

Testimony  
Attachment  
Accept Terms  
and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 5, 2021 10:32 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name Sam King  
Phone  
Email kingsam2@gmail.com  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Committee Council  
Agenda Item Res 21-154  
Your position on the matter Oppose  
Representing Self  
Organization

Taking down Haiku Stairs is a mistake. This is the wrong decision. The managed access plan has not even been given a chance. In 30 years no one even tried. The City has already started the bid process for managed access. Just finish it! If you do not like the current bids, you can set up a new bid that is an even bigger win-win for everyone, including taxpayers.

There is money to be made from tourists. Tell the bidders they some amount of years to make to profit from the stairs, say 5. Make the bidders pay all the expenses for repairs, rescues, lawsuits, maintenance and insurance. Force the bidders to buy a \$1M performance bond for taking down the stairs if council decides to do that at end of 5 years.

Written  
Testimony

If the council decides after 5 years to take down the stairs, then you can force the bidder to take the stairs down for free, saving the city \$1M.

If managed access *\*does\** work, then the city can come back in and start taking rent money right off the top of the operator's profits! Now your *\*making\** \$1M instead of spending it. This is totally doable.

Dont take the stairs down. Those stairs are a local treasure that I want my sons to enjoy. Taking them down is a terrible, expensive, and irreversible mistake. Just give managed access a *\*chance\**. You lose nothing.

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 5, 2021 11:30 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name Dexter Doi  
Phone  
Email 2d@lava.net  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Council  
Committee  
Agenda Item Resolution 21-154  
Your position on the matter Support  
Representing Self  
Organization Doi and D'Angelo Artworks

Written  
Testimony

I support the removal of the Haiku stairs. I believe there is no way any private or public entity can insure that there would be no trespassers to the stairs. I reside in the Haiku Village neighborhood and have witnessed numerous disturbances from hikers at all times of the day. Even there would be a private company in charge of the stairs, there is no provision to address the people that will attempt to trespass by bypassing their security. The only sure way is the removal of the stairs. The stairs were built after the houses were developed and the majority of the people in favor of keeping the stairs do not live here. Outside interests should not decide whether a commercial business has priority over the residents in our area. Thank you for your consideration.

Testimony  
Attachment

Accept Terms  
and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 5, 2021 12:20 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name	Scott Dahlquist
Phone	
Email	Scottyd8080@gmail.com
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Council
Agenda Item	Resolution 21-154
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing Organization	Self
Written Testimony	I strongly oppose your decision to remove these stairs. These stairs are a famous landmark and trail for natives and locals alike
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement	1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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Gerald Kinro  
Kaneohe, Hawaii  
[gyzmo1183@gmail.com](mailto:gyzmo1183@gmail.com)

Testimony  
For The Removal of The Haiku Stairs

I can speak with familiarity and knowledge of some of the main issues regarding the Haiku Stairs (Stairway). As a hiker, I had the opportunity to use the stairway while it was operated by the United States Coast Guard. As an advocate of hiking, I volunteered at several of Oahu's trails. I enjoyed a forty plus year career as an agriculturist that included time in the private sector and later, with the Hawaii State Department of Agriculture as chief of Pesticide Registration and Applicator Certification. Since retiring from the Department of Agriculture, I have worked as an agricultural and environmental consultant. My tenure has given me experience in vegetation management, integrated pest management, alien species, endangered species, the impacts of pesticides on other resources. As a nearly fifty-year resident of Haiku Village, I witnessed first-hand some of the impacts of illegal hikers have on the abutting communities of the stairway. Furthermore, I authored a piece on the Stairway that appeared in a national magazine (*Ford*



*Times*). For this project, my research included resources from the library and actual interviews with the Coast Guard personnel who were stationed at the Omega Station who had responsibility for the management of and its access to the public.

## PAST PRACTICES.

Like the Ala Wai Canal, the Stairway was never built for recreational uses. It was constructed during World War II to be a communications station to maintain contact with ships in the Pacific Ocean. Technicians used the stairs to service the station. Subsequently, the site transitioned into a U.S. Coast Guard navigation station for the Omega system one of about a dozen in the world.

2

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During their tenancy, the Coast Guard allowed public access to the stairs for recreational use and managed its access efficiently and effectively.

1. Hikers were limited to 50 per day, distributed out to various hours during daylight hours only.
2. Prior reservations for date and time of the hike were required.
3. Entrance was through an electrically operated gate at the end of Haiku Road.

4. The Coast Guard could cancel access during bad weather or any other reason that would compromise safety.

5. Before making the climb, hikers had to sign in with proper identification. By the same token, they had to sign out when done.

There was minimal impact to the community because of the relatively small number of hikers spread out throughout the day. When Omega was replaced by newer technology, the Coast Guard vacated the property. This led us to where we are today.

## CURRENT IMPACTS ON ABUTTING COMMUNITIES

3

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For several years now, trespassing hikers have been going through the residential areas of Haiku Valley. The infrastructure of these communities cannot handle the additional traffic. Speeding vehicles at all hours, including night time, make it hazardous for residents. Hikers often speak loudly during the early hours of the morning, disturbing residents. Many hikers use the stairs at night.

They park on streets, blocking access to refuse collection. Often, they leave their doors open for long periods of time, blocking traffic. On occasion, they have encroached onto private driveways, making it difficult for residents to exit and enter properties.

They have, without permission, utilized residents' carports (including mine) for shelter and water for cleaning, leaving mud and litter on sidewalks and yards. One resident was physically assaulted by trespassing hikers.

## POTENTIAL IMPACTS OF UNLIMITED FREE ACCESS TO THE STAIRWAY

Free uncontrolled access cannot help but affect residential communities and the institutions and businesses that abut the Stairway property. There must be limits as to the number of hikers permitted, just as the Coast Guard did. Today, without police presence, there are much more than the fifty per day of the past. Often, this number has exceeded 10 times as much. The current impacts to the residential and institutional communities are likely to continue with the stairway in place.

There are also the effects of unlimited access on the Hawaiian biota to consider. When I climbed the Stairway some thirty years ago, I identified several native plant and avian species. Some are listed as endangered by the U.S Fish and Wildlife Service under provisions of the Endangered Species Act (ESA). My observation was in passing and cursory. There are more. In fact, Hui Ku Maoli Ola, acting as a consultant, identified several others. This puts legal responsibility and liability on the

landowner(s) involved who must comply with the ESA as well as state laws that protect listed fauna and flora. In this case, it is the City and County of Honolulu. In other words, any damage or loss and the reporting of these losses and the legal penalty will fall on the shoulders of the City.

Furthermore, major threats to the native biota are pathogens: insects, weed seeds and spores, fungi, bacteria, and viruses.

Prime examples are the decimation of the ohia forests on Hawaii Island by the *Ceratocystis* fungus and the spread of *Miconia* on Maui. A major pathway of pathogen dispersal is through human foot traffic. The sheer number of hikers on the Stairway poses a great threat as chances of pathogen dispersal increase. I mentioned two examples above. The loss of native species often has a domino effect—the loss of habitat, loss of species, and greater erosion. Many invasive flora cannot hold the soil as well as the native ones.

## CAN A MANAGEMENT PLAN WORK?

Proponents of keeping the Stairway have proposed a management plan, but can it work? In a perfect world, one with everyone following rules, respecting others and one where no one touches monk seals on the beach, yes. Again, referring to the past, hikers for the most part, followed rules, probably because the Coast Guard maintained a 24-hour presence on site. Also, with an organization such as the Coast Guard

involved, there is a perception of enforcement and consequences.

However, I believe that such a plan will not work today. Much has changed, the presence of social media, for one. Many people are willing to trespass, litter, vandalize, and assault residents, and this indicates that they will break any law or guideline a management plan can propose. There are bold signs saying that the Stairs are closed. Yet, companies bring trespassing hikers to the neighborhood. Others drive in and park on residential streets.

We are also seeing the results in Waikiki, Hana, Maui; northside Kauai, Maunawili, and Oahu's Northshore. We need only to learn from experiences of other areas to see what the result would be. It is not Hanauma Bay with only one access to the beach. A 24-hour presence? Strong enforcement? Is all of this realistically possible? The City and County of Honolulu, the current managers of the stairs have done a reasonably good job in maintaining police presence, cutting down the number of hikers. However, hikers still find a way around to get to the stairs. How long can they continue and at what cost? What about the residential communities?

To add further, recent gatherings in the middle of the covid pandemic took place, violating an emergency mandate in place

that prohibits such activity. In a nutshell, there are enough people who do not care.

## IT MUST BE DISMANTLED

I can attest to the enjoyment one can have by negotiating the Stairway. I must weigh all factors, however. Removal of the stairway can have adverse environmental impacts. However, I feel it is still a less invasive option, for there is more control over the process of dismantlement and will involve less people than the number of hikers. Safeguards for contractors can be put in before the operation, and the process is a short term one, not forever. With this, the management of resources and the endangered species can be more easily managed, sans outside negative influences. Again, I must stress that I am not confident that hikers will follow any guidelines or plan.

While the view of the island the Stairway provides is indeed spectacular, it is not the only option on the island for hikers. Other sanctioned trails, lead to the summits of the Koolau Range and provide equally spectacular and panoramic views of the island. With this I favor the dismantling of the stairs as the only option that will work. I cannot favor subordinating human well-being and the loss of precious natural resources to satisfy recreational desires, especially when there are many other options available.

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 5, 2021 12:37 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

**Name** Lee S Motteler  
**Phone**  
**Email** leemotteler@gmial.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** Resolution 21-154  
**Your position on the matter** Oppose  
**Representing Organization** Self

**Written Testimony** I have done Haiku Stairs both ways, ascending and descending. Once, with a group of colleagues from Bishop Museum, we came up through Moanalua Valley and descended the stairs, counting them on the way down. The views are out of this world. There is nothing like this anywhere else in Hawai'i. Please vote no on demolishing them!

**Testimony Attachment**

**Accept Terms and Agreement** 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 5, 2021 12:50 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name Kathleen Anzai  
Phone  
Email kathyhawaii22@yahoo.com  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Council  
Committee  
Agenda Item 21-154  
Your position on the matter Support  
Representing Self  
Organization  
Written Testimony I support removal of the Haiku Stairs for public safety reasons and disturbance to the surrounding neighborhoods.  
Testimony Attachment  
Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67



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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 5, 2021 12:57 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name	Carson Davis
Phone	
Email	ckd252@nyu.edu
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Council
Agenda Item	Resolution 21-154
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing	Self
Organization	
Written Testimony	
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement 1	

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 5, 2021 12:59 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name	Dylan Glickel
Phone	
Email	dylanglickel@gmail.com
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Council
Agenda Item	Resolution 21-154
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing	Self
Organization	
Written Testimony	
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement 1	

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 5, 2021 3:05 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name James Pushaw  
Phone  
Email jrpshaw@hotmail.com  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Committee Council  
Agenda Item Resolution 21-154  
Your position on the matter Oppose  
Representing Self  
Organization

It's absolutely absurd that ANYONE would consider taking down something as HISTORICAL as the Haiku Stairs! Maybe you should also consider blowing up the USS Arizona and the USS Missouri! Why are they so treasured?

I have been in the adjacent, UNUSED portion of the Haiku valley, which is a huge area, and which could easily be transformed into a world-class Visitor Center for the Haiku Stairs.

Written  
Testimony

For convenience, a road is there, the "open space" is there! Come on ! Build it! Perhaps put someone like the "Friends" in charge. But don't you dare tear it all down!

Would YOU want to be the ones, for ALL remaining HISTORY, to be remembered for doing the removal and destruction?

It is an amazing, once only, in all of our world's history, construction! Don't be so lazy and call for its destruction! Shame on you for even considering it! Imagine how difficult it was to actually build first, a wooden version, and then one to replace it - built of ships' ladders?

PLEASE DON'T EVER DESTROY IT!

Testimony  
Attachment

Accept Terms  
and Agreement 1

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 5, 2021 3:13 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name Alex Pacheco  
Phone  
Email pachecoa002@gmail.com  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Council  
Committee  
Agenda Item 21-154  
Your position on the matter Oppose  
Representing Self  
Organization  
Written Testimony Please dont remove the stairs. Give to a private company to administer, charge and develop a place for parking. Its a historical spot well located. I'm sure the tourist will be willing to pay to hike the stairs. Plus the local residents.  
Testimony Attachment  
Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

## WHAT ARE THE HA'IKŪ STAIRS?

The Ha'ikū Stairs are metal stairs that ascend the Pu'u Keahiakahoe ["Kahoe's Fire"] peak near Kaneohe, Oahu. Starting from an elevation of 500 feet and climbing to more than 2,800 feet, they are comprised of 3,922 metal steps with handrails.

The Ha'ikū Stairs are more than a World War II artifact of historical significance, or a strenuous workout for those who like high places. The Stairs provide a unique experience of nature on the Windward Pali. No other site among the Hawaiian Islands packs the richness of geology, folklore, climate, botany, ethnobotany, entomology, and ornithology in such a short distance. The stairs ascend into a rich assemblage of native trees, shrubs, vines, herbs, and ferns, where more than 50 native and rare plant species can be found.

## WHY WERE THEY BUILT?

Immediately after the attack on Pearl Harbor in 1941, the U.S. Navy began planning a top-secret facility capable of communicating with the entire Pacific Fleet. In order to broadcast such a powerful signal, the Navy employed highly experimental technology with an antenna of unprecedented proportions with Ha'ikū Valley selected as the perfect site. The Navy stretched four 7'000-foot cables comprising the antennae across the top of Ha'ikū Valley, and in order to gain access to these ridges, the Navy built the Ha'ikū Stairs, otherwise known as the "Stairway to Heaven."

## WHY ARE THEY CLOSED?

In 1987 the Coast Guard closed the Stairs to the public for repairs but were never reopened. After being turned over to the city, \$950,000 was spent in 2002 to repair them, however access issues prevented their reopening. In 2020, the Board of Water Supply turned the Stairs over to the City and County of Honolulu, yet the City is concerned about liability and is not set up to manage them independently.

## ARE THEY DANGEROUS?

Although it is widely (and mistakenly) believed that the Stairs are dangerously unsafe, there are no documented reports of anyone suffering a serious injury on the Stairs. Indeed, the Stair's handrails and metal treads make them much safer than Hawaii's notoriously slick and eroding muddy clay trails, some of which are used to access the stairs from other valleys.

## ARE THEY WORTH PRESERVING?

Would you want to tear down an architectural and engineering wonder unmatched in all the world, with fabulous views, that doubles as a climb through the clouds in a Hawaiian rainforest? The City and County of Honolulu has proposed just that.

Due to the importance, uniqueness and difficulty of the engineering and construction methods required to build the Stairs, they are eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. A historic preservation survey report stated, "the stairway endures as a manifest symbol of the innovative and rare design that enabled the U.S. military to send

messages around the world and assisted in saving countless lives during World War II." The Stairs are truly a unique treasure! The Historic Hawai'i Foundation listed the Ha'ikū Stair as one of Hawaii's most endangered historic places.

The Stairs are world famous, having been recognized by countless influencers and organizations including the BBC and the L.A. Times. National Geographic, called the Stairs one of the ten most endangered hikes in the world.

Although it is widely (and mistakenly) believed that the Stairs are dangerously unsafe, there are no documented reports of anyone suffering a serious injury on the Stairs. Indeed, the Stair's handrails and metal treads make them much safer than Hawaii's notoriously slick and eroding muddy clay trails, some of which are used to access the stairs from other valleys.

#### IS THERE A SOLUTION?

Yes! The solution we are proposing is the Concept Plan for Managed Use of the Ha'ikū Stairs. It effectively addresses all the valid concerns that have been raised

including security, access, trespassing, safety and liability. Managed Access can be implemented at ZERO cost to taxpayers. Start up costs - repairs, fencing, access trails, signage etc. will be covered and once the operation is up and running it will be cost neutral. The "Ha'ikū Stairs Experience" will be an educational and cultural experience and not just a recreational experience.

Opened and properly managed, the Stairway to Heaven would be a huge source of pride for the people of Hawaii, providing the opportunity to experience the awe of climbing through many micro- climates. No theme parks, no rides, no zip lines - just the climber and nature.

#### WHY NOW?

The City Council will vote to assign \$1,000,000 in next year's budget to remove the Stairs. This has been done despite the conclusion in the Ha'ikū Stairs EIS that, when compared to removal of the Stairs, the best option was to reopen the Stairs under managed access. In addition, there were 14 responses to a Request For Interest (RFI) last year. Isn't the next logical step to go ahead and send out a Request for Bids and not just remove the Stairs?!

Currently the stairs are illegal and without a managed program thousands of people a year climb the stairs trespassing on government and personal property. This has created a hardship for the Kaneohe community surrounding the stairs. We must find ways to end the intolerable trespassing on neighbors' property.

We have lost so much of the quality of life that made Hawaii a paradise. Now we have a rare opportunity to bring some of it back. Our economy could also benefit in the process.

Edwin F Lesperance  
[hinacat@icloud.com](mailto:hinacat@icloud.com)

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 5, 2021 4:33 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name	Elizabeth A Brown
Phone	
Email	vljbrown@gmail.com
Meeting Date	09-09-2021
Council/PH Committee	Council
Agenda Item	Haiku Reso #21-154
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing	Self
Organization	
Written Testimony	No commercialization. Keep it closed
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement 1	

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 5, 2021 4:45 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

**Name** Cynthia Hottendorf  
**Phone**  
**Email** amahcyn@gmail.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-18-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** Haiku Resolution 21-154  
**Your position on the matter** Oppose  
**Representing Organization** Self

**Written Testimony**

The hikers and traffic had gotten worse lately. Thank goodness the police has been enforcing no entry to the stairs. This has disrupted our quiet neighborhood leaving us unsafe with unwanted trespassers.  
PLEASE CLOSE DOWN THE STAIRS. NOT WANTED IN HAIKU VILLAGE.

**Testimony Attachment**

**Accept Terms and Agreement** 1

IP: 192.168.200.67



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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 5, 2021 5:54 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

**Name** Beth Anderson  
**Phone**  
**Email** kawainuied@gmail.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** remove Haiku Stairs 21-154  
**Your position on the matter** Oppose  
**Representing Organization** Self

**Written Testimony**

Please save Haiku Stairs in order to access important cultural, environmental, historical education, and research there. This is too valuable of an area to take away from students and scientists. Save it to protect the environment. FEIS clearly states only the Stairs provide the access needed to control invasive species.

Save hiking trails and precious resources. Manage them, don't eradicate them. The State is doing needed management plans and they work. Taking away, closing trails is a bad precedent and not governing. What's next?

This Resolution violates The Koolaupoko Sustainability Plan which requires the City "to protect scenic views, provide recreation, and promote access to shoreline and mountain areas, and "preserve significant historical features and retain significant vistas with significant archaeological features."

This Resolution violates the mission of the City Parks and Recreation Department, owner of the land. That mission is to enhance quality of life for the people of O'ahu through active and passive recreational activities." That doesn't mean destroy hiking trails and access to recreation.

This Resolution falsely states the City will pay \$900,000 to assist with a management plan. No. The City has thrown the whole management plan out the window and washed their hands of it. A private company will have to take on all expenses to serve the public and do the job the City should be doing.

This Resolution proposes wasting more taxpayer money in 2022 for ineffective management and security of Haiku Stairs. The City has wasted millions of dollars on an ineffective day time security guard at the Haiku Stairs. The neighbors are still suffering and the City's

security is ineffectual. Millions have been wasted on inadequate security.

Social media is causing problems everywhere in the islands, including neighborhoods near trailheads and beach accesses. Government needs to manage our resources and actually govern, not throw their hands up and permanently close trails and recreational venues. The State is managing areas very effectively. Haiku Stairs is one of the safest and most spectacular hikes in our islands. Why would you take this treasure away from thousands and destroy it forever? Removing the stairs is unnecessary, egregious to destroy something like this, and a failure of government. Thank you for considering my views. I'm attaching an Op-ed by an esteemed, very wise, highly respected local educator who I know well. He has taught me many things and is someone I look up to. His awards for conservation efforts, Native Hawaiian cultural and historical education, and environmental activism are too numerous to mention here (they fill pages). You should listen to him. Mahalo.

Testimony  
Attachment

Accept Terms  
and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 5, 2021 6:03 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

**Name** Abigail Rose Elliott  
**Phone**  
**Email** Abigail@ywamhouston.org  
**Meeting Date** 02-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** Resolution 21-154  
**Your position on the matter** Oppose  
**Representing Organization** Self

**Written Testimony** Please do not remove the Haiku Stairs! They should be a treasured and preserved part of Oahu for generations to come. The stairs can be saved and paid for through a managed access plan. The Friends of Haiku Stairs, a community group, has created one such plan. Please take an alternative approach outside of destroying something so beloved.

**Testimony Attachment**

**Accept Terms and Agreement** 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 5, 2021 6:29 PM  
**Subject:** Parks and Community Services Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name	Kirsten
Phone	
Email	Kirstenf@hawaii.rr.com
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Parks and Community Services
Agenda Item	Haiku Stairs
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing Organization	Self
Written Testimony	Tired of my tax dollars going to rescuing people illegally attempting to hike Haiku Stairs. No no no on allowing private enterprise or anyone running it as a business. Remove the stairs once and for all.
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement	1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 5, 2021 6:48 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

**Name** BIANCA ISAKI  
**Phone**  
**Email** BIANCA@KAHEA.ORG  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** Haiku stairs 21-154  
**Your position on the matter** Support  
**Representing Organization** Self

**Written Testimony**

I am live on Kumoo Loop just before the stairs. I absolutely SUPPORT the resolution. The city needs to be proactive in protecting our watersheds and preventing the spread of invasive species. This is not the place for more commercial activity. Many trespassers have used the stairs while they are closed, even going so far to promote a huge trampoline that they assembled up there via social media. Please pass the resolution.  
Bianca Isaki, Kane'ohe

**Testimony Attachment**

**Accept Terms and Agreement** 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 5, 2021 7:15 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

**Name** Rodney Honeychurch  
**Phone**  
**Email** rodneyhoneychurch@yahoo.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** Resolution 21-154  
**Your position on the matter** Oppose  
**Representing Organization** Self

**Written Testimony** The stairway to heaven is a true treasure of the windward side of Oahu . I have taken four of my children to top and back in the afternoon in the early 2000's it was truly breathtaking memories I will never forget.I think it should remain open for people to enjoy at their own risk with a caution that it is not for the faint at heart.

**Testimony Attachment**

**Accept Terms and Agreement** 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 5, 2021 7:28 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

**Name** Joann Kumashiro  
**Phone**  
**Email** Jmkumashiro@gmail.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-05-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** Haiku stairs  
**Your position on the matter** Comment  
**Representing Organization** Self

**Written Testimony** I want the city and BOW to REMOVE the haiku stairs completely. That is my neighborhood and we are sick and tired of disrespectful hikers coming into our quiet neighborhood and waking up our kids in the middle of the night!!! No more stairs no more trespassing hiker! We also but our Fire Dept helicopters and men in danger to search and rescue them. Thank you

**Testimony Attachment**  
**Accept Terms and Agreement** 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 5, 2021 7:43 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

**Name** Ryan Tatsumoto  
**Phone**  
**Email** ryan.tatsumoto@hawaiiantel.net  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** 21-154  
**Your position on the matter** Support  
**Representing Organization** Self

**Written Testimony** I support Resolution 21-154 to remove the Haiku Stairs as the City and County of Honolulu has no excess funds to maintain the structure, manage access to the stairs and to shoulder any lawsuits in the future if it becomes a sanctioned trail. These financial considerations don't even address the impact of the surrounding neighborhood and people living in close proximity to the stairs. The Haiku Stairs are a luxury we simply cannot afford!

**Testimony Attachment**  
**Accept Terms and Agreement** 1

IP: 192.168.200.67



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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 5, 2021 7:48 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name Karen Fujimoto  
Phone  
Email Skyy@hawaii.rr.com  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Council  
Committee  
Agenda Item REMOVE Haiku Stairs  
Your position on the matter Support  
Representing Self  
Organization

Written Testimony Haiku stairs is just a potential for lawsuits. Hikers trespassing and showing no respect for the community. Damage to the land. It is a nuisance and is not needed or wanted.

Testimony  
Attachment  
Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 5, 2021 7:48 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

**Name** Meg Blaser  
**Phone**  
**Email** megblaser@hotmail.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** Resolution 21-154  
**Your position on the matter** Oppose  
**Representing Organization** Self

**Written Testimony** The Haiku stairs are part of our heritage, our culture here on Oahu. People are willing to care for this and to keep it up safely. Taking it down is not supported by most of Hawaii.

**Testimony Attachment**  
**Accept Terms and Agreement** 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 5, 2021 8:04 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name Gay shinbara  
Phone  
Email David\_shinbara@hotmail.com  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Council  
Committee  
Agenda Item haiku stairs  
Your position on the matter Support  
Representing Self  
Organization

Written Testimony I support removal of Haiku Stairs. We cannot allow this intrusion of the neighborhoods through peoples homes in order to take selfies on the stairs. It's a danger to the community and to the people hiking the stairs and the first responders who have to rescue people. I personally see the rescue helicopters too often from my home. We do not want any access to the stairs through our Castle Hills neighborhood or any Kaneohe neighborhood.

Testimony Attachment  
Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 5, 2021 8:11 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

**Name** Hana Rupnow  
**Phone**  
**Email** hanakrupnow@gmail.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** Resolution 21-154  
**Your position on the matter** Oppose  
**Representing Organization** Self

**Written Testimony** Do not spend tax payer money on removal of stairs. Keep our budget towards keeping roads safe and functional. We are living through a climate crisis and need better infrastructure to combat sea level rise, more hurricanes/storms, and increased humidity! We need to focus on survival. We need to listen to the science. If the environmental study encourages us to leave the stairs THEN LISTEN TO THE SCIENCE.

**Testimony Attachment**  
**Accept Terms and Agreement** 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 5, 2021 8:21 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name Anne Moniz  
Phone  
Email Annymoniz@gmail.com  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Committee Council  
Agenda Item Resolution 21-154  
Your position on the matter Support  
Representing Self  
Organization

Written  
Testimony

As someone who was born and raised in this neighborhood, I strongly support the removal of the haiku stairs. I have had hikers sitting on my wall in the middle of the night making my dog bark and waking up my baby. There are always emergency vehicles and helicopters flying around. Enough money has been spent on rescues. Kaneohe is already over run with tourist. Please don't turn my neighborhood into another Lankai. Please think about all the residents of Kaneohe that this will greatly affect and the Aina that is being disrespected. Everyone I know who opposes this is NOT from Hawai'i. There are enough tourist attractions and more than enough tourists.

Testimony  
Attachment

Accept Terms  
and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 5, 2021 8:27 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name Marco Montano  
Phone  
Email Lanas1@hotmail.com  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH  
Committee Council  
Agenda Item Resolution 21-154  
Your position on  
the matter Support  
Representing Self  
Organization

Written  
Testimony

I strongly support the removal of the haiku stairs. I live in the neighborhood that people trespass to access them. I have had people illegally on my property in the middle of the night going up to see the sunrise. They are inconsiderate and rude. We don't need any more tour buses driving through Kaneohe. Please think about the people who live and raise their families here not the tourists.

Testimony  
Attachment

Accept Terms  
and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 5, 2021 8:30 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name Richard Wainscoat  
Phone  
Email wainscoat@me.com  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Council  
Committee  
Agenda Item 21-154  
Your position on the matter Oppose  
Representing Self  
Organization

I believe that the Haiku Stairs should be preserved, and that the city should move forward with a managed access program. The managed access should prioritize access to local residents. It is appropriate that access involve payment of a fee.

I have lived in Hawaii for over 30 years, and have not had an opportunity to climb the stairs since access has not been legal during that time.

### Written Testimony

I strongly believe that council members who have not climbed the stairs should abstain from voting on this measure. I recommend that all council members that are capable of climbing the stairs do a field trip to experience first hand what is under discussion. Those council members who are not able to climb the stairs should send a staff member to report to them.

I strongly believe that climbing the stairs will make it clear to all who do it that they must be preserved and made accessible to residents and visitors in a managed manner.

### Testimony Attachment

Accept Terms and Agreement 1

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 5, 2021 8:46 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name Victor Groves  
Phone  
Email vcgroves@yahoo.com  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Council  
Committee  
Agenda Item Resolution 21-154  
Your position on the matter Oppose  
Representing Self  
Organization

Written Testimony Why waste needed tax dollars dismantling Haiku Stairs? Covid has already financially affecting the economy and we are going to waste time and money dismantling the Stairs? Because a few people foolishly and carelessly harm themselves going up the stairs, why do we ruin it for all the rest who want to use the stairs responsibly??? Save the stairs and save our precious taxpayer money!!!

Testimony Attachment

Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67



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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 5, 2021 8:54 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name Kris arakaki  
Phone  
Email K8infinity@gmail.com  
Meeting Date 09-08-201y  
Council/PH Committee Council  
Agenda Item 21-154  
Your position on the matter Support  
Representing Self  
Organization

### Written Testimony

The stairs needs to be removed. The impact on the Kaneohe community is not for sale. Please consider the people who have to deal with intruders every day. There are many other hikes (places) that they can enjoy.

People talk about managed tourism, let's start here by removing the stairs. Let the Aina heal.

### Testimony Attachment

Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 5, 2021 9:17 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name Randall Kennedy  
Phone  
Email Rkennedy52@hawaii.rr.com  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Committee Council  
Agenda Item Resolution 21-154  
Your position on the matter Oppose  
Representing Self  
Organization

Myself, like many many Windward residents, have supported savings and reopening Haiku Stairs for decades and submitted testimony multiple times. I have already submitted testimony on this measure as well as calling and writing all of the Council members, including volunteering to help solve this access issue.

Written Testimony Presently many of Hawaii's leading conservationists, including myself, are in France to help, among other things, develop better methods and strategies to manage World Heritage sites. Meanwhile in my home town, the City Council are proposing tearing down a site that would easily qualify as a World Heritage site.  
That is just WRONG on so many levels!!  
Please OPPOSE this measure and work to save and reopen Haiku Stairs and Valley.

Testimony Attachment  
Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 5, 2021 9:45 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name	Bryson Kumashiro
Phone	
Email	Bryson.kumashiro@gmail.com
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Council
Agenda Item	Haiku stairs removal
Your position on the matter	Comment
Representing Organization	Self
Written Testimony	I want the City of honolulu to remove the Haiku stairs immediately!!! I want the stairs torn down.
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement	1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 5, 2021 10:13 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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# Written Testimony

Name	James Blevins
Phone	
Email	mmjab33@gmail.com
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Council
Agenda Item	21-154
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing	Self
Organization	
Written Testimony	
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement 1	

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 5, 2021 10:20 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

**Name** Jarai Blevins  
**Phone**  
**Email** Djaraib@aol.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** 21-154  
**Your position on the matter** Oppose  
**Representing Organization** Self

**Written Testimony** Tearing down this historical landmark would be a tragedy. Tearing down the stairs won't keep people from hiking this trail. It will only create more dangerous situations, more rescue calls and more deaths. Open them up so people can enjoy them legally. Charge a fee to help maintain the trail and pay for access that keeps people from trespassing! Tearing them down is the wrong answer. It will only cause more problems for the city.

**Testimony Attachment**

**Accept Terms and Agreement** 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 5, 2021 10:22 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

**Name** Jarai Blevins

**Phone**

**Email** Djaraib@aol.com

**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021

**Council/PH  
Committee** Council

**Agenda Item** 21-154

**Your position on  
the matter** Oppose

**Representing** Self

**Organization**

**Written  
Testimony**

Tearing down this historical landmark would be a tragedy. Tearing down the stairs won't keep people from hiking this trail. It will only create more dangerous situations, more rescue calls and more deaths. Open them up so people can enjoy them legally. Charge a fee to help maintain the trail and pay for access that keeps people from trespassing! Tearing them down is the wrong answer. It will only cause more problems for the city.

**Testimony  
Attachment**

**Accept Terms  
and Agreement** 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 5, 2021 10:27 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name	Garrett Mandich
Phone	
Email	garrettoneyou@gmail.com
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Council
Agenda Item	Resolution 21-154
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing Organization	Self
Written Testimony	Please do not needlessly destroy the stairs. Please manage the stairs responsibly.
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement	1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Monday, September 6, 2021 1:01 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name Keith Richmond  
Phone  
Email Kailuabungalow@gmail.com  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Council  
Committee  
Agenda Item Haiku Stairs  
Your position on the matter Oppose  
Representing Self  
Organization  
Written Testimony Please leave the Haiku Stairs intact. They are truly a treasure and a gift. Future generations should be allowed to enjoy their unsurpassed beauty. No other place on earth has their equal. Surely, some remedy can be found to preserve them and make them accessible?  
Testimony Attachment  
Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67



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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Monday, September 6, 2021 7:31 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name	Jeffrey King
Phone	
Email	jrking5783@gmail.com
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Council
Agenda Item	Resolution 21-154
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing	Self
Organization	
Written Testimony	Should be maintained and preserved.
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement 1	

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Monday, September 6, 2021 7:54 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name	Ron Matayoshi
Phone	
Email	ron.matayoshi@gmail.com
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Council
Agenda Item	Resolution 21-154
Your position on the matter	Support
Representing Organization	Self
Written Testimony	REMOVE HAIKU STAIRS NOW !!! Let the AINA heal after much abuse. Let the COMMUNITY recover. Thank you. Voter.
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement	1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Monday, September 6, 2021 9:33 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

**Name** Kehau Glassco  
**Phone**  
**Email** kehauglassco@hotmail.com  
**Meeting Date** 08-07-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** 21-154 Removal of Ha'ikū stairs  
**Your position on the matter** Support  
**Representing Organization** Self

**Written Testimony** My 'ohana and I support this resolution. My keiki attend Ke Kula 'o Kamakau and we are constantly seeing hikers walk up their school road heading towards the stairs.  
1 - they are trespassing on the school road  
2 - there are no sidewalks therefore they are walking on the road and many hikers do not move to the side for parents dropping off their keiki  
3 - I've seen hikers get lost on the road and come on the school campus. This concerns me as a parent, the safety of the Kamakau students  
4 - Many hikers get lost or hurt, our students and 'ohana see the helicopters all the time looking for hikers. We (the school and parents of students) even helped with the search of one hiker many years ago, who was never found.  
We support this resolution for the safety of not only our keiki who attend the school but also for the hikers.

**Testimony Attachment**  
**Accept Terms and Agreement** 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Monday, September 6, 2021 10:05 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

**Name** Dagmar Kau  
**Phone**  
**Email** Kaudagmar@yahoo.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** Haiku stairs  
**Your position on the matter** Oppose  
**Representing Organization** Self

**Written Testimony**

We have these wonderful and historically significant haiku stairs that should be preserved forever. It is something no other country has. Why would you wish to destroy such a treasure. Let's keep haiku stairs and make them accessible for those who wish and need to climb them. There has never been an accident on these stairs and they are a lot safer than many of the open trails on Oahu. Come on now, do something right for a change. Do something for the benefit of our island people.

**Testimony Attachment**

**Accept Terms and Agreement** 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Monday, September 6, 2021 10:23 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name Kelli Bullock Hergert  
Phone  
Email kellibullock808@gmail.com  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Committee Council  
Agenda Item Resolution 21-154  
Your position on the matter Oppose  
Representing Self  
Organization

### Written Testimony

Stairway to Heaven is a marvel of engineering of historical importance. The Greatest Generation built this in a time of great need, and we should honor their commitment and sacrifice. ALSO, Hawaii as a state too often shuts down hikes and outdoor areas over land rights and liability issues. If this continues to happen, we will have no outdoor areas to enjoy and appreciate. Responsible management CAN happen, and wants to be managed by able bodied and capable minded people with the community's best interest at heart. The neighborhood can be satisfied with the proper management of the access points, foot traffic and parking, as well as generated revenue to maintain said measures. The stairs and the ridgeline area are magnificent and reminders that we must CARE for, PROTECT and APPRECIATE our surroundings and our communities. The "dangers" discussed by many members who have NEVER experienced the stairs in person, are no greater (and frankly are LESS THAN) the areas of China Walls, Koko Head stairs/trail, Lanikai Pillboxes and Maunawili Falls. THESE ARE ALL AREAS THAT SHOULD HAVE MANAGEMENT AND PERMITTING BUT THE STATE/DLNR/C&C HAVE FAILED TO protect those communities and tax payer dollars. The amount of rescues, first responder calls and tax payer dollars that go to these areas each month are ridiculous! BUT, if the state/C&C start closing all these areas, the tourist and local alike will be pushed to go to even more dangerous KAPU areas just to get outside and enjoy HAWAII NEI. PROPER MANAGEMENT is the only way to proceed, and we can start with STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN and protecting access to the glorious and wonderful views and ridge of Puukeahiakahoe. ALLOW these stairs to remain, and set a PRECEDENT, a LEGACY for future generations, of safe, proper and

caring maintenance of our beautiful 'aina on Oahu. Mahalo Nui for  
your concern and OPPOSITION of this measure.

Testimony  
Attachment

Accept Terms  
and Agreement 1

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IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Monday, September 6, 2021 10:47 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

**Name** Joni Kamiya  
**Phone**  
**Email** jonikamiya@gmail.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** Haiku Stairs  
**Your position on the matter** Support  
**Representing Organization** Self

**Written Testimony** I am a long time Kaneohe resident who served on the neighborhood board years ago. I heard testimony of what the community there have had to deal with regarding the stairs and it is about time that this be removed to stop the infringement of the residents by too many who have no respect for Kaneohe.

**Testimony Attachment**

**Accept Terms and Agreement** 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Monday, September 6, 2021 11:23 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name	gary furukawa
Phone	
Email	k1w1@hawaii.rr.com
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Council
Agenda Item	Resolution 21-154 - Removal of Haiku Stairs
Your position on the matter	Support
Representing Organization	Self
Written Testimony	I'm in favor of the removal of the Haiku stairs to minimize future expenses and possible liabilities.
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement	1

IP: 192.168.200.67



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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Monday, September 6, 2021 11:35 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name Leina'ala Riela-Enoka  
Phone  
Email leina\_ala@yahoo.com  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Council  
Committee  
Agenda Item 21-154 Haiku Stairs  
Your position on the matter Support  
Representing Self  
Organization

Written Testimony With a heavy heart I support the closure of Haiku Stairs due most in part with the relentless flow of disrespectful hikers fueled by toxicity of social media.  
Give the residents the right of quiet enjoyment of their island homes again.

Testimony  
Attachment  
Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Monday, September 6, 2021 12:46 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name	Constance Perry
Phone	
Email	Conniealoha@gmail.com
Meeting Date	0m-dd-yyyy
Council/PH Committee	Council
Agenda Item	Haiku stairs
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing Organization	Self
Written Testimony	This is a historic landmark that we should save, preserve and protect. I'm sure it can pay for itself if managed properly.
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement	1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Monday, September 6, 2021 12:50 PM  
**Subject:** Parks and Community Services Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name	Margaret Foley
Phone	
Email	Mfoley623@gmail.com
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Parks and Community Services
Agenda Item	Haiku Stairs Removal
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing	Self
Organization	
Written Testimony	
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement 1	

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Monday, September 6, 2021 1:10 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

**Name** Lorrie Ann Santos  
**Phone**  
**Email** lorriesantos78@gmail.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** Resolution 21-154  
**Your position on the matter** Support  
**Representing Organization** Self

Members of the Honolulu City Council, as a resident of Ha'iku Village, I strongly support and ask for your support of Resolution 21-154 Urging the City Administration to remove Ha'iku Stairs and its accessory structures to stop trespassing, reduce disturbances to local neighborhoods, increase public safety, remove potential liability to the City, and protect the environment.

Ha'iku Stairs was never intended for public access.

The stairs was built in 1942 during World War II for the purpose of reaching antennae and transmission facilities atop the Ko'olau ridge to send signals from the secret U.S. Naval radio station commissioned in Ha'iku Valley. Access was limited to military personnel.

**Written  
Testimony**

In 1950, the decommissioned Naval radio station became the U.S. Coast Guard Omega (navigation) Station, until it was decommissioned in 1997; officially ending the stairs military purpose and structural need.

There is no compelling reason to keep the stairs, but every reason to remove the stairs.

1. Closed access over the past decades has not been successful; despite government-erected fences, locked gates, law enforcement presence, and trespassing fines.
2. For public safety issues, particularly for first responders, who are already stretched thin with COVID-19 and rescues at far less strenuous and dangerous hiking trails.

3. For practical issues, e.g., attempts at managed access have been ineffective, especially with multiple points of access AND in the past 20 years, the city still has not figured out access.
4. For liability issues, such as the individual who traveled across several U.S. states to Hawaii to hike the stairs, knowing it was closed and there was a fine of \$1,000; then threatening on Hawaii News Now to sue when he was injured as he attempted to trespass through a homeowner's property.
5. Just read about the mitigation efforts to Koko Head Trail, Maunawili Falls, and Sacred Falls, as well as their closures that have lasted for weeks, to years and forever.
6. The government has never been successful in protecting the environment; we are locally, nationally and globally in a climate change crisis.

The city has \$1 million budgeted to remove the stairs. Partial removal of the lower half of the stairs would cost less than \$1 million and stop public access. Similarly, partnership with a 2nd party interested in acquiring the stairs would also cost less than \$1 million and stop public access.

We don't need to keep the stairs to provide cultural, environmental and historical education. The former Omega station can still be converted into a museum as proposed by the Friends of Ha'iku Stairs and the Ko'olau Foundation (many whom serve on the Kaneohe Neighborhood Board) to provide education. These two entities can also take on a land stewardship role to preserve and protect native species, instead of trying to mitigate damage from access, which they have not been able to do to date.

In addition, during this COVID crisis, government and elected leaders have made the realization that the community's best interest must be considered now more than ever, with the promise and recognition that tourism must be downsized. Keeping the stairs would be counter to this collective narrative.

I hope the City Council is bold enough to rule in favor of the impacted community over special interests by supporting Resolution 21-154 to remove Ha'iku Stairs.

Testimony  
Attachment  
Accept Terms  
and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Monday, September 6, 2021 1:39 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

**Name** Max Mooney  
**Phone**  
**Email** maxmooney@hotmail.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** 21-154  
**Your position on the matter** Oppose  
**Representing Organization** Self

**Written Testimony** One of the most amazing things I ever did while living on O'ahu was climbing the Stairs for a friend's birthday. I believe they should be preserved for others to experience that awe-inspiring view and feeling of accomplishment. I never felt unsafe but, if that is an issue, I believe the community would do what it could to make whatever changes necessary. The Stairs are one more thing that preserve the history and add to the beauty that is the Hawaiian Islands.

**Testimony Attachment**

**Accept Terms and Agreement** 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Monday, September 6, 2021 1:48 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

**Name** Ardis Eschenberg  
**Phone**  
**Email** ardisrachel@hotmail.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** Resolution 21-154  
**Your position on the matter** Support  
**Representing Organization** Self

**Written Testimony**

The stairs are dangerous and cause numerous rescues regularly due to this. My child attends Ke Kula o SM Kamakau. Hikers have walked through grounds and classroom buildings smoking illegal substances. They fail to yield to traffic when walking down the road which is also access to the school, apparently entitle to walk 5-6 abreast across the road while vehicles must slow and wait for them. The education of our children and safety of the community, as well as our first responders who must often perform aerial rescues of hikers, should be prioritized, as this resolution provides for.

**Testimony Attachment**

**Accept Terms and Agreement** 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Monday, September 6, 2021 3:13 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

**Name** Sarah Tatsumoto  
**Phone**  
**Email** statsumoto.st@gmail.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** 21-154  
**Your position on the matter** Support  
**Representing Organization** Self

**Written Testimony**

As a member of the Kaneohe community, I support this resolution to remove the Haiku stairs and its accessory structures. Removal of the stairs will prevent those who choose to use the stairs to sue the City and County of Honolulu, trespass onto private property to gain access to the stairs, congestion of neighborhood traffic, and prevent physical/verbal confrontations in said neighborhood and thereby further involvement of the police department. In addition, with its removal, there would be no need to allocate funds to refurbish and maintain its upkeep and the upkeep of the entire trail or police its use by either the HPD or a private company. Finally, in light of the impact to the Kaneohe community and the economic impact to the citizens of the City and County of Honolulu, consideration should be given to those who would be impacted the most, those who live here.

**Testimony Attachment**

**Accept Terms and Agreement** 1

IP: 192.168.200.67



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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Monday, September 6, 2021 4:37 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name Douglas Wallace  
Phone  
Email wallaced358@aol.com  
Meeting Date 06-08-2021  
Council/PH Committee Council  
Agenda Item Resolution 21-154, removal of Haiku stairs  
Your position on the matter Support  
Representing Self  
Organization  
Written Testimony  
Testimony Attachment  
Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Monday, September 6, 2021 4:39 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name Momoevi Tawake  
Phone  
Email pythonc21@hotmail.com  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Committee Council  
Agenda Item Haiku Stairs  
Your position on the matter Oppose  
Representing Self  
Organization

Written  
Testimony

The Haiku Stairs (Stairway to Heaven) are an iconic site that should be properly managed and maintained rather than shut down. They offer a magical and healthy way to enjoy our wonderful Aina. We should be seeking ways to preserve and protect such hikes rather than closing them and denying access to what may be the single most breathtaking hike in the state. I urge you to find some compromise or opportunity to work with homeowners, land and resources and the city and county to keep the Haiku stairs safe, and available for our current and future generations in the years to come.

Testimony  
Attachment

Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Monday, September 6, 2021 5:00 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

**Name** Brett Kulbis  
**Phone**  
**Email** bkulbis@reagan.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** 21-154  
**Your position on the matter** Oppose  
**Representing Organization** Self

I oppose resolution 21-154. I quote a recent article by Charles Burrows:

Save Haiku Stairs for cultural, environmental education!

Anyone who has climbed to the top of Haiku Stairs would never advocate tearing them down.

The cable house at the summit sits close to the magnificent peak of Puukeahiakahoe. The astounding wonder and glory of Koolaupoko surrounds you and commands heightened awareness of of your responsibility to respect and care for all that encompasses you.

**Written Testimony** As a Native Hawaiian cultural practitioner and environmental science educator, I took my Kamehameha Schools high school students up Haiku Stairs 40 years ago, to instill this responsibility, teach them about the cultural and environmental history of the area, and guide them in conducting field studies. I was not alone in doing this; in the years the stairs were open, many educators and scientists used the stairs as an open-air classroom and science lab, along with science clubs and conservation organizations. Access to places like Haiku Stairs is critical to enriching the quality of educational experiences and increasing students' absorption of knowledge. But now the City Council is advocating removal of the Haiku Stairs.

Educational research has shown that if students open a book to study the mo'olelo of Haiku, its watershed, geology or endangered plants, they may understand it, but they probably won't care that much about

it compared to seeing and learning these things standing on Puukeahiakahoe. If kids can't experience the Haiku watershed and touch, smell, investigate, explore and connect to it, their knowledge retention and understanding drops exponentially.

Children as well as adults need to experience incredible venues like this in order to build connections that will lead them to invest time and energy into advocating for preservation and conservation of these places throughout their lives. But we are seeing the door closing on access to Haiku Stairs and other areas as we speak.

In the case of Haiku Stairs, we see the city taking ownership of that mountain and forbidding any taxpayer who paid for the acquisition of that land to access it ever again. We, the taxpayers who paid \$1 million in 2002 to repair the stairs, are now being told we will pay \$1 million to tear down access to a place we should have the right to access. In addition, the Department of Hawaiian Homelands is forbidding hikers to cross a sliver of DHHL property to access Haiku Stairs, treating the area like private land and citing liability concerns.

Can you imagine if we permanently closed down our beach parks like Sandy Beach, Hanauma Bay or Pipeline because of liability concerns? They remain open despite an average of 65 drownings in the ocean here every year. In seven decades, there has never been anyone seriously injured climbing Haiku Stairs. When asked what expenditures it had made over 20 years to pay for insurance, settlements or court costs, the Board of Water Supply acknowledged in its environmental impact statement, "There have been no claims or settlements regarding the Haiku Stairs."

The city's own Koolaupoko Sustainable Communities Plan requires it to "protect scenic views, provide recreation, and promote access to shoreline and mountain areas," and "preserve significant historical features and retain significant vistas with significant archaeological features." Yet this is being ignored. Educational opportunities are in jeopardy.

Haiku Stairs is next on the chopping block, if we don't fight to save it. There is a brilliant plan created by Friends of Haiku Stairs to protect the area, manage it and eliminate any disturbances to Haiku neighbors, but instead of implementing it, the Council has resolved to eradicate access to this historical, recreational, educational and cultural area forever.

Vote no on 21-154, don't let the Haiku Stairs be victim of the cancel culture.

Testimony  
Attachment  
Accept Terms  
and Agreement

1

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Monday, September 6, 2021 5:21 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name S. Wallace  
Phone  
Email Weilepps@aol.com  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Council  
Committee  
Agenda Item 21-154  
Your position on the matter Support  
Representing Self  
Organization

### Written Testimony

As an impacted resident, I am in support of this bill and grateful for its introduction!

The burden on the residents in this area has always been high but has become unbearable in the last few years due to relentless promotion on social media. Trash, parking issues, noise and privacy intrusions are daily and nightly occurrences along with a sharp increase in helicopter tours that make the stairs, and with this our entire residential neighborhood, part of their tour package.

The existing proposals of groups who claim to be able to 'manage' the stairs will still negatively impact our neighborhood, if one reads the proposals carefully.

Additionally none of these proposals are proven to be effective and the outcome is murky. There are liability issues, safety concerns and possibly endless expenses for the City to consider.

Removing the stairs on the other hand, is giving us a clear solution, not just financially (considering the inclusion of monies for removal in the budget) but also finally for the long impacted residents.

We should ask ourselves if creating another tourist attraction in an otherwise peaceful and quiet part of O'ahu where residents still love to live and work, is still relevant in times were we now understand (partially due to the ongoing pandemic) that our resources are precious and finite. It is time to take another direction for once and think about what we leave for the next generation instead of what is good for tourism.

For those who claim that the stairs are historic I would argue that these replacement stairs are not the original set, and if they need to be preserved they will surely find a home in a designated tourist attraction, similar to Kualoa Ranch.

By removing the stairs we all would make a step in the right direction, refraining from introducing more and more tourism in our neighborhoods and preserving the precious few, functioning eco systems for generations to come.

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Testimony

Attachment

Accept Terms  
and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Monday, September 6, 2021 5:28 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

---

## Written Testimony

Name Gretchen  
Phone  
Email gretchen.gould@stanfordalumni.org  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Council  
Committee  
Agenda Item Reso 21-154  
Your position on the matter Oppose  
Representing Self  
Organization

Written Testimony Spending \$1 MILLION dollars to take down a public treasure is a travesty. The Haiku Stairs are a part of the historic legacy of the WW coast. They are safe & they keep people on an enclosed course. Access can be worked out so that nearby neighbors are not inconvenienced. Let us not rush into taking them down! This is premature and expensive & the community wants to keep them! Think and then vote NO to this ridiculous knee jerk idea. Mahalo.  
Gretchen Gould, Kaneohe

Testimony Attachment  
Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Monday, September 6, 2021 6:28 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony  
**Attachments:** 20210906182744\_Ouray\_2020OIPiWaiverReleaseForm\_Press\_Media.pdf

---

## Written Testimony

Name Robert Gould  
Phone  
Email bob.gould@stanfordalumni.org  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Council  
Committee  
Agenda Item Resolution no. 21-154, to remove Haiku Stairs  
Your position Oppose  
on the matter  
Representing Self  
Organization

### Written Testimony

Esther Kiaaina is misrepresenting reality when she says managed access will make things worse for the community. It is just the opposite. If people have a way to get to the beginning of the Haiku Stairs legally and conveniently, they will have no need or reason to trespass in the community to reach that access. It is the LACK of proper access that causes all the trespassing problems.

DO NOT remove the Haiku stairs!!! We (my wife and I) oppose this! Instead provide controlled access via Haiku Valley as in the old days when the Omega station was there. All problems will then be solved! I climbed the stairs when they were legally open and it was very straightforward. I went to the Omega station, signed in and signed a liability waiver, then drove to the bottom of the stairs and went up. NO trespassing, no bother to neighbors, easy peasy. We recently spent nearly \$1 million to fix the stairs up. Spending \$1 million to tear them down is a waste of our taxes and an insult to the world just to satisfy a local group of justifiably upset residents whose complaints would disappear if there was proper and controlled access to the stairs as there was when I climbed them. Liability waivers would take care of any such issues. I have attached an example from Colorado.

Testimony Attachment 20210906182744\_Ouray\_2020OIPiWaiverReleaseForm\_Press\_Media.pdf  
Accept  
Terms and Agreement 1



# 2020 OURAY ICE PARK

## LIABILITY RELEASE, WAIVER AND INDEMNIFICATION AND EXPRESS ASSUMPTION OF RISK

### ALL PRESS and MEDIA

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**THIS IS A LEGALLY BINDING RELEASE, WAIVER, INDEMNIFICATION OF LIABILITY, AND EXPRESS ASSUMPTION OF RISK.** Please read it carefully, fill in all blanks and initial each paragraph before signing.

#### Releasor

\_\_\_\_ 1. I, \_\_\_\_\_ (“Releasor”) hereby affirm that I have read this document in its entirety. By my signature below and by initialing each paragraph, I agree to each and every term and condition of this document.

#### Released Parties

\_\_\_\_ 2. “Released Parties” refers to the Competition, Competition (both as defined below), Ouray Ice Park, Inc. (“OIP”), the City of Ouray, Ouray County, Eric R. Jacobson, the United States Forest Service and/or the United States (collectively, “Released Parties”), and any of their affiliates, agents, employees, independent contractors, officers, directors, shareholders, agents, insurers, attorneys, heirs, predecessors, successors, administrators, assigns, and any other person or entity in any way associated with any of the Released Parties or the Competition or Competition.

#### Competition and Festival

\_\_\_\_ 3. Competition means the Ouray Ice Festival Competition, to be held (January 23-26, 2020) in the Ouray Ice Park, Ouray, Colorado (the “Competition”), including all preparation, rigging, and construction for the Competition and/or all other activities at the Ouray Ice Festival (“Festival”), both before and after the Competition, which are related in any way with the Competition or the Festival.

#### Risks of Participation

\_\_\_\_ 4. I am aware that participating in the activities associated with the Festival and the Competition involve substantial risks which are inherent in an outdoor climbing environment. These risks include all risks inherent in any climbing activity, including the potential breaking or collapse of ice and rock surfaces, the partial or complete failure of protection devices, and the negligence of persons assisting with or participating in the Festival and Competition. The activities associated with the Competition and the Festival (the “Activity”) are extremely strenuous and physically demanding. I am unaware of any physical or mental condition that would (a) prevent me from participating safely in the Activity or (b) endanger my health or safety, or the health and safety of others, due to my participation in the Activity. I attest that I am physically fit and competent to participate in the Activity, and that all of my questions regarding the Activity have been answered to my satisfaction.

\_\_\_\_ 5. I understand the risks and hazards of the Activity, which include but are not limited to, THE RISK OF SERIOUS PERSONAL INJURIES, PARALYSIS, AND DEATH. I understand that the hazards and

risks of the Activity include, but are not limited to: the breaking or collapse of ice and rock surfaces and the partial or complete failure of protection devices; the failure of man-made structures built for the Activity; head injuries; sprained or broken bones; equipment failure; injury due to the negligence of myself and/or others; and exposure to extreme cold, rain or snow, thunderstorms or lightning. I understand that the aforementioned hazards and risks are described by way of example only, and that there are numerous other hazards and risks inherent in the Activity to which I may be exposed.

## **Release and Consideration**

         6. AS LAWFUL CONSIDERATION FOR MY BEING ALLOWED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE ACTIVITY:

         a. I, on behalf of myself, my family, heirs, successors, assigns, and anyone claiming any interest through me, hereby KNOWINGLY, INTENTIONALLY AND VOLUNTARILY WAIVE, RELEASE, INDEMNIFY AND AGREE TO HOLD HARMLESS THE RELEASED PARTIES FROM ANY AND ALL ACTIONS, SUITS, CLAIMS, DAMAGES, AND LIABILITY (INCLUDING ATTORNEYS' FEES AND COSTS), THAT I, my family, heirs, successors, assigns, and anyone claiming any interest through me, MAY HAVE FOR ANY DAMAGE, INJURY, PARALYSIS, LOSS, OR DEATH TO MYSELF OR ANY OTHER PERSON OR PROPERTY ARISING OUT OF MY PARTICIPATION IN THE ACTIVITY, whether such damage, injury, paralysis, loss, or death results from NEGLIGENCE of any of the Released Parties or from some other cause. I hereby specifically release any and all claims my heirs, descendants, or others claiming through me may have for wrongful death, whether brought pursuant to C.R.S. § 13-21-202, or otherwise. I hereby assert that my participation in the Activity is voluntary and I knowingly assume all risks.

         b. I understand and agree the Released Parties may NOT be held liable or responsible in any way to me or my family, heirs, successors, assigns, or anyone claiming any interest through me, for any injury, death, or other damage that may occur as a result of my participation in the Activity or as a result of the negligence of any participant or party, including the Released Parties, whether passive or active. By requiring the right to indemnification, none of the Released Parties are in any way waiving or intending to waive the limitations on liability which are provided to some of the Released Parties and their officials or employees under the Colorado Governmental Immunity Act, C.R.S. 24-10-101, et seq., as amended.

         c. I hereby personally assume all risks, whether foreseen or unforeseen, in connection with the Activity, for any harm, injury or damage that may befall me while I participate in the Activity, including the risk of negligence of any party or participant, including the Released Parties.

         d. I hereby accept full responsibility for and waive all claims and causes of action for any and all damage, injury, paralysis, or death arising out of my participation in the Activity. I understand and explicitly agree that neither I, my family, heirs, successors, assigns, or anyone claiming any interest through me, will bring any legal action whatsoever against the Released Parties as a result of any such damage, injury, paralysis, loss, or death to myself or any other person or property that arises out of my participation in the Activity. I hereby agree to hold harmless and indemnify the Released Parties for any and all claims, including attorneys' fees and costs, which may be brought against the Released Parties by anyone claiming to have been injured as a result of any injury, including death, to me or my property which may occur as a result of my participation in the Activity.

         e. By signing this document, it is my intent to release, waive, hold harmless, and indemnify all of the Released Parties from all liability, claims or causes of action connected with my participation in the Activity (including, but not limited to the negligence of the Released Parties, whether passive or active), and to personally assume all risk of injury or death. I UNDERSTAND THAT THE TERMS OF THIS DOCUMENT ARE CONTRACTUAL AND NOT A MERE RECITAL AND UNDERSTAND THAT I WOULD NOT BE

PERMITTED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE ACTIVITY WITHOUT ENTERING THIS AGREEMENT. I HAVE SIGNED THIS DOCUMENT VOLUNTARILY AND OF MY OWN FREE WILL.

### **Consent to and Financial Responsibility for Medical Treatment**

\_\_\_\_ 7. I hereby consent to any hospital care or medical or surgical diagnosis or treatment which may be necessary as a result of my participation in the Activity. I am solely responsible for all applicable charges for such medical diagnosis or treatment, including evacuation and/or rescue costs, and represent that I either have insurance coverage adequate to cover any such expenses or am financially capable of paying for any such expenses.

### **Model Release**

\_\_\_\_ 8. I understand that my participation in the Activity may be photographed and promoted by the Festival, OIPI, and OIF and in consideration for permission to participate in the Activity, I hereby give permission to the Released Parties to use my likeness for any purpose whatsoever.

### **Jurisdiction, Venue, and Governing Law**

\_\_\_\_ 9. This document shall be governed by and interpreted under the laws of Colorado, without regard to conflict of laws provisions. If any lawsuit or claim is brought arising from or regarding my participation in the Activity, I agree that the exclusive jurisdiction and venue for such suit shall be the Ouray County District Court in and for the State of Colorado, and I hereby irrevocably waive any other jurisdiction or venue to which I or my estate might otherwise be entitled.

### **Severability/Construction**

\_\_\_\_ 10. If any provision of this document is held to be invalid or unenforceable, in whole or in part, by any court of competent jurisdiction, such provision shall be deemed amended to conform to the requirements of the law so as to be valid and enforceable, or if it cannot be amended without materially altering the intention of the parties, it shall be stricken and the remainder of the Agreement shall remain in full force and effect. It is the intent and purpose of this document to provide the broadest possible release of claims and causes of action in favor of the Released Parties, and any ambiguity shall be construed in light of this purpose.

### **Entire Agreement**

\_\_\_\_ 11. I understand that this is the entire agreement between myself and OIPI [and any others] their agents or employees, and that it cannot be modified or changed in any way by the representations or statements of any employee or agent of OIPI [or others] or by me.”

### **Voluntary Execution/Review by Legal Counsel**

\_\_\_\_ 12. I have read and understand this liability release and express assumption of risk, and I am voluntarily signing this document on behalf of myself and my heirs. I understand that by signing this document I am waiving important legal rights on my behalf and on behalf of my family and heirs. I understand and agree that this agreement will have the effect of releasing, discharging, waiving and forever giving up my right to bring any and all lawsuits or other actions or demands against the Released Parties that I may have. I understand that this document relates to important legal rights which I have and that it is recommended that I have this agreement reviewed by legal counsel of my choice before signing this document.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name, Address & Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**FOR MINORS:**

I am the parent or legal guardian of \_\_\_\_\_, a minor child and I have read and fully understand the limits of liability provided to the Released Parties for allowing my child's participation in the Activity and I have read and understand the foregoing Liability Release, Waiver and Indemnification and Express Assumption of Risk.

Having read all of the above, I hereby consent to my child's participation in the Activity and the assumption of the risk inherent to the Activity.

Signature of Parent or Legal Guardian \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Print Full Name and Child's Full Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Monday, September 6, 2021 6:45 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

**Name** Jan Kuniyoshi  
**Phone**  
**Email** kuniyoshj001@hawaii.rr.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** Resolution 21-154 Removal of Haiku Stairs  
**Your position on the matter** Support  
**Representing Organization** Self

### Written Testimony

The Haiku Stairs has long been a bane of our community and needs to be removed. Having a contractor or the city repair and maintain the stairs only exasperates and extends the liability issues for the taxpayers. The stairs, even if repaired are dangerous and rescue efforts can only be made via helicopter. That expense is cost prohibitive. There is no control on who may enter (Don't think we could control it even if there were rules) and the trail is inherently dangerous by virtue of location and almost vertical climb. The liability issues should anyone get hurt and sue the city for lack of repair/maintenance or general neglect is also a long term consideration for taxpayers.

The hikers have proven to be oblivious to private property rights and have trespassed into our neighborhoods, used our water to clean up and leave their trash along the way. No one polices them and when called the police only say that they have no jurisdiction on private property and are reluctant to track down the trespassers. The problem has been that access is not limited to a central point and can be accessed via unauthorized hikes through neighborhoods and back trails. The problem cannot be controlled.

Repairing and maintaining the stairs will be a long term cost to taxpayers. Unlike other hiking venues; i.e., Koko Head and Diamond Head, this trail is dangerous and needs to be removed. Let's not wait until someone gets killed to tear it down.

Jan Kuniyoshi  
Kaneohe Resident

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Monday, September 6, 2021 7:12 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

**Name** Justyn Ochocinska  
**Phone**  
**Email** justynaoccho@yahoo.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** Resolution 21-154  
**Your position on the matter** Oppose  
**Representing Organization** Self

### Written Testimony

Please save the Stairs!  
The hike to "stairway to heaven" was most memorable highlight of my two month long vacation in Oahu. The peak it's the island's Mt. Everest.  
Please give people the chance to experience this amazing hike, if needed charge an admission to enter. (\$50-\$100). Funds from entry ticket can be used for maintenance of the stairs, staff, etc.  
I am planing to return to HI with my sons and I want to take them on this particular hike.  
Please save the stairs they are a masterpiece, authentic, unforgettable. Think of the people who built them, how much work, planning and funds went to this project.  
#SAVE THE STAIRS!!!!

**Testimony Attachment**  
**Accept Terms and Agreement** 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Monday, September 6, 2021 7:18 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

**Name** Melvin Ah Ching  
**Phone**  
**Email** ppbzxtmwbfrqfbsyc@zqrni.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** RES21-154  
**Your position on the matter** Support  
**Representing Organization** Self

**Written Testimony** Too many lawless people trespassing through private property; potential of injury or death is great going up or down the stairs; enforcement of current ban not working; city and taxpayers liable for this if someone gets injured; cost of rescue is great in terms of risk to personnel and use of resources. Enough is enough. A pretty picture and selfie from the top is not worth. Smart people will probably use a drone or something less risky. Tear down the stairs.

**Testimony Attachment**  
**Accept Terms and Agreement** <sup>1</sup>

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Monday, September 6, 2021 7:55 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

**Name** Elizabeth Kieskowski  
**Phone**  
**Email** Ekieszkowski@gmail.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** Resolution 21-154  
**Your position on the matter** Oppose  
**Representing Organization** Self

**Written Testimony** Stairway to Heaven is a well-engineered feature of historical importance. It has been repaired at significant cost, and should be made available for islanders to appreciate. Hawaii as a state needs to make hikes and outdoor areas more, not less, accessible, while preserving the aina. Responsible management is called for, with the community's best interest at heart. Please establish proper management of the access points, foot traffic and parking; this can generate revenue to maintain the site.

**Testimony Attachment**

**Accept Terms and Agreement** 1

IP: 192.168.200.67



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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Monday, September 6, 2021 8:35 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name Ryan C. Tinajero  
Phone  
Email ryan.c.tinajero@gmail.com  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Committee Council  
Agenda Item Resolution 21-154  
Your position on the matter Oppose  
Representing Self  
Organization

See Attachment.

*No attachment*

Written Testimony

[Attachment 1]: Opposition to Resolution 21-154  
[Final].pdf

Testimony Attachment

Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67



Testimony of Sylvia M. Hussey Ed.D.  
Ka Pouhana, Chief Executive Officer

Honolulu City Council

**Resolution 21-154**

URGING THE CITY ADMINISTRATION TO REMOVE THE HA'IKŪ STAIRS AND ITS ACCESSORY STRUCTURES TO STOP TRESPASSING, REDUCE DISTURBANCES TO LOCAL NEIGHBORHOODS, INCREASE PUBLIC SAFETY, REMOVE POTENTIAL LIABILITY TO THE CITY, AND PROTECT THE ENVIRONMENT

September 8, 2021

10:00 a.m.

Council Chamber

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) **SUPPORTS** the intent of Resolution 21-154, to finally address the overwhelming and long-standing impacts that the Ha'ikū Stairs have had on adjacent Native Hawaiian efforts to perpetuate native species and associated, constitutionally protected Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices, and to normalize 'Ōlelo Hawai'i through a culturally and linguistically enriched learning environment.

**As an initial matter, OHA emphasizes that the unjust loss of lands and governance has resulted in particular and unique harms to the Native Hawaiian community, which continue to manifest in numerous ways today.** The state and federal governments have recognized these harms, as well as the need to continuously seek reconciliation with the Native Hawaiian people by addressing the impacts and restoring the losses that have arisen from these harms. Notably, the state constitution – as repeatedly confirmed by the Hawai'i Supreme Court – specifically recognizes the affirmative constitutional obligations of the state and its political subdivisions to protect and enforce Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices, and further places an affirmative obligation on the state to facilitate the normalization of 'Ōlelo Hawai'i after generations of suppression and neglect.<sup>1</sup>

Unfortunately, government action and inaction has continued to fall far short of the vision and promises of reconciliation underlying these commitments and legal obligations. **In the case of the Ha'ikū Stairs, the government's inability to manage the hundreds of daily visitors drawn to this attractive nuisance has, for over a decade, significantly impacted adjacent Native Hawaiian efforts to propagate and restore highly endangered native plant species – critical to the perpetuation of constitutionally protected Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices – and to normalize 'Ōlelo Hawai'i through a Hawaiian immersion education public charter school.** Unfortunately, despite repeatedly voiced concerns regarding trespassing, frequent and highly disruptive rescue operations, littering, criminal activity, and

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<sup>1</sup> HAW. CONST. ART. XII SEC. 7; HAW. CONST. ART. X SEC. 4; *see, e.g., Ka Pa'akai o ka 'Āina v. Land Use Commission*, 94 Hawai'i 31 (2000); *Clarabal v. Dep't of Education*, 145 Hawai'i 69 (2019).

the general loss of cultural integrity and physical security resulting from this unmanaged influx of individuals and groups, meaningful action to address these problems has yet to be taken – notwithstanding numerous promises by various entities to seek some form of “managed access” made throughout the years.

Accordingly, OHA appreciates and supports this resolution’s call for timely and decisive action to finally address the numerous impacts of the Ha’ikū Stairs on adjacent areas, including and in particular the Native Hawaiian spaces hosting critical efforts to restore and propagate native species necessary for the perpetuation of Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices, and to revive and normalize ‘Ōlelo Hawai’i. **Indeed, for the reasons described above, OHA strongly believes that affirmative Council action on this measure may in fact be necessary to help our state and county governments fulfill their constitutional obligations as well as the repeated commitments made to seek reconciliation with, and restorative justice for, the Native Hawaiian community.**

Therefore, OHA urges the City Council to **ADOPT** Resolution 21-154. Mahalo nui loa for the opportunity to testify on this matter.

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Monday, September 6, 2021 9:37 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name	Young Schlack
Phone	
Email	Youngschlack@yahoo.cok
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Council
Agenda Item	Resolution No. 21-154, to remove Haiku Stairs
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing Organization	Self
Written Testimony	This historical place should be saved for public and future generations to enjoy the beauty of Hawaii.
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement	1

IP: 192.168.200.67



## Ke Kula 'o Samuel M. Kamakau Laboratory Public Charter School

46-500 Kūneki St. Kāne'ohe, Hawai'i 96744 \*Kelepona: 808.235.9175 \*Kelepa'i: 808.235.9173  
E mālama 'ia ana ka mauli ola o kākou mai kēlā hanauna a i kēia hanauna.

Before the City Council Regular Meeting  
CR-212, Resolution 21-154, Ha'ikū Stairs

September 8, 2021, 10:00 a.m.

### **IN STRONG SUPPORT**

Ke Kula 'o Samuel M. Kamakau, Laboratory Public Charter School is a PreK-12 Hawaiian Medium school that sits at the base of the Stairway to Heaven. We **STRONGLY SUPPORT the Adoption of Resolution 21-154, which urges the City Administration to REMOVE the Ha'ikū Stairs.**

The safety of our students, staff and families are at-risk as long as the stairs continue to exist, even under the alternatives that continue to be proposed for the following reasons-

- Trespassers consistently come onto the school campus, at times threatening and harassing students and staff. Our students experienced hikers who stumbled on campus smoking marijuana.
- Trespassers park alongside the state access road accessible from Ha'ikū Road and Kūneki Street, regardless of the numerous posted signs at the entry.
- Trespassers have damaged the entry gate when this gate is locked after hours.
- The school has experienced property damage (cutting of fences) in order to get to the stairs.
- Our families have been in numerous confrontations with trespassers after kindly asking them to leave the private property.
- The School has experienced repetitive unsanitary conditions including litter, human fecal matter left directly outside of our school gate and other biohazards left by trespassers.

The burden continuously falls on the school to address trespassers and the damage they cause on a regular basis. The school spends staff time and thousands of dollars a year to address these issues, which ultimately takes away from the educational needs of students. Secondly, it poses an unnecessary liability for our school and our non-profit organization who holds the license on this property. This is completely unacceptable.

We were involved in the stakeholder feedback draft process of the Draft BWS Environment Impact Statement and again to provide comments upon the completion of the draft. We strongly supported the BWS proposed action to completely remove the Ha'ikū Stairs then and now for the following reasons-

- The absence of viable solution to keeping and managing the stairs; while years have been devoted to this study, there has been little progress in identifying "managed access" and land owners have not agreed to usage of access roads (eg Ha'ikū Rd, Kūneki St)
- The previously proposed alternatives do not sufficiently address the safety risks posed to our students, families and staff

We ask you to please ADOPT Resolution 21-154 and the Removal of the Ha'ikū Stairs. We thank you for placing a high consideration on the feedback being shared by our Hawai'i residents, especially those who are affected daily.

Mahalo,

Ivy K. Kelling, Ed.D.  
Kahu, Director

[meahilahila@kamakau.com](mailto:meahilahila@kamakau.com)

**IN STRONG SUPPORT- Resolution 21-154**

Aloha mai kākou,

My name is Davin Kānanaikawaiola Kelling and I am a resident of the He'eia community, as well as an 9th grader at Ke Kula 'o Samuel M. Kamakau, the Hawaiian Medium Charter School at the base of the Ha'ikū stairs. I cannot understand how hikers find it okay to trespass and illegally hike the stairs. I am amazed at the amount of hikers who continue to trespass on my school campus, with a sense of entitlement to park on our public school grounds to hike this illegal trail. This disrespect that I and others on campus witness and experience is our daily reality and it is unacceptable!

Random strangers wondering on our campus cause fear amongst the students, especially our younger pōki'i in the elementary grades. There have been instances where we were forced inside for lockdowns due to aggressive strangers entering our school property.

The thrill of the Ha'ikū Stairs as shared in social media has resulted in the increase of thrill-seekers, traveling to the valley for an illegal hike, as we'll probably hear from many of them today. I would also recommend that the City & County make it clear on such social media sites that this is an illegal trail.

It is for all of these reasons, that I **STRONGLY SUPPORT** Resolution 21-154 that urges the City Administration to **remove the Ha'ikū Stairs** as it has served its purpose in World War 2 and now it's time to heal the mountain, Keahiakahoe. Mahalo i ka ho'olohe 'ana mai i kēia haumāna aloha 'āina.

Me ke aloha,

*D. Kānana Kelling*

Kamakau, Class of 2025

Davin K Kelling  
[meahilahila@kamakau.com](mailto:meahilahila@kamakau.com)

Before the Regular City Council, CR-212 Resolution 21-154

September 8, 2021 10:00 a.m.

**IN STRONG SUPPORT**

Aloha mai kākou,

My name is Kalehuakea Kelling and I am a resident of the He'eia community, as well as a graduate of Ke Kula 'o Samuel M. Kamakau who sits directly below Ha'ikū stairs. As a kama'āina to this place I hold dear, I am in STRONG SUPPORT of the removal of these very stairs. I ask that you take these reasons into consideration:

- First and foremost, the name known to this area, "Ha'ikū stairs" actively erases the traditional names given to this sacred space. Stewards and community members alike have familiarized themselves with this mountain as Keahiakahoe by mo'olelo and oral histories told through generations that originated long before the construction of the stairs.
- Secondly, the stairs were built during the time of World War II and no longer serves a purpose other than a hike with a scenic view used to entice tourists and hikers into a place they do not belong. Through mo'olelo, we also know that in this realm dwells a guardian deity, Kameha'ikana, who is a physical manifestation of Haumea. As kanaka, these are realms we do not belong in as it could be dangerous, especially to those unfamiliar to the area and to those who do not know how to act properly in the presence of said deities.
- Third, hikers who invite themselves to this area, pose a threat to the well-being of the students at Ke Kula 'o Samuel M. Kamakau. During my time as a student there, I have encountered various hikers who were not understanding when asked to leave as they set foot onto private property where there were children present. Not only do they harass students, they also damage school property in an attempt to cut gates and locks in order to access the stairs. Following the damage, the school is then responsible for replacing the items that were cut - which becomes an inconvenience for the school who funds many of its own facilities by means of their own funding.

It is for these reasons that I STRONGLY SUPPORT Adoption of Resolution 21-154, to remove Ha'ikū stairs in order to ensure the safety of students, as well as beginning the restoration process for this 'āina to heal.

Me ke aloha 'āina,

Kaley Kalehuakea Kelling

[kkelling@hawaii.edu](mailto:kkelling@hawaii.edu)

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 12:16 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

**Name** David and Frances Kitabayashi  
**Phone**  
**Email** fkitabayashi@yahoo.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** Removal of Haiku Stairs  
**Your position on the matter** Support  
**Representing Organization** Organization  
Honolulu City Council District

**Written Testimony**

My husband David Kitabayashi and myself Frances Kitabayashi strongly support the removal of Haiku Stairs. We would like to have it dismantled and taken down completely due to the constant trespassing of hikers trying to climb the stairs illegally. We have been residents of Haiku Village for around 46 years and we love it here and would like for it to stay that way as a lovely, quiet, peaceful and safe place to live. our bedroom is located overlooking Kuneki Street and it is very irritating and annoying when the trespassers park their cars at around 2:30 or 3:00 a.m. and make so much noise with their car doors and talking so loud with their friends before going up to the stairs. They also leave their trash on the curbside and everywhere. Someone even left an empty 6 pack of beer under my mailbox that we had to dispose of. We are also concerned about the safety of our neighborhood due to the hikers. I have encountered a few hikers trying to open my neighbors chain link fence door. I asked them what they were doing and that person replied that they were trying to find a way down to get to Kuneki Street. I told him that they should not trespass through someone else's property and besides that neighbor has a dog too. With the way crime is escalating here in the Islands, I sure don't want anyone in my back yard too. I have grandchildren and I don't want to have cars traveling up and down Kuneki Street trying to find parking. Parking too would be another issue that we will have to put up with. It scares us also to think what kind of individuals that we will have to contend with. It is not only the locals that go hiking up the stairs but we will be having a lot of tourists from all over that will be hiking the stairs too. It's a scary thought to even let our youngsters go out to play without extreme supervision. I wonder if the Friends of Haiku Stairs would welcome the problems if they were confronted with



this issues. on behalf of the residents of Haiku Village who support the removal of Haiku Stairs I hope that their voices too will be heard with this testimony . once again, my husband and I would like to voice our support and our request and hope that it will be heard that we would like the Haiku Stairs removed completely. We would like to thank you all our City Council Representative Scot Z. Matayoshi, Esther Kia'aina and the others who support us in the removal of the Haiku Stairs. We appreciate your hard work and concerns with trying to keep Haiku Village and our surrounding areas in Kaneohe a safe and better place to live in.

Mahalo,  
David and Frances Kitabayashi

Testimony  
Attachment  
Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

Aloha,

I strongly support the removal of the Ha'iku Stairway. I am a parent and community member who has witnessed the irresponsibility, recklessness, and natural destruction of the stairway and its foundation.

The stairway is near my daughter's school, Ke kula o Samuel MK Kamakau. On many of our drives to and from the campus, I have witness several inexperienced hikers trying to locate the entrance. They disregard private property, laws, and safety of not only themselves, but my child, her classmates, the staff, and our first responders.

Some hikers have become irate and disruptive when asked to turn around considering the grounds are illegal to access. 9 out of 10 visitors (whether local or not) ignore our requests and continue on their journey. They go on to the campus to speak to our children which is an endangerment to them and the staff. They have left their trash and personal excrements at the entrance to her campus. They have invaded the homes of the residents located within the residential area and they continue to disregard the safety of our first responders who will be tasked to rescue them when nature decides to reroute their journey.

Additionally, there are financial implications to fixing, maintaining, and long term management of such a location. What would be a cost for us at this time would be minimal to the financial budgetary needs to completely restore the stairs and then to assign management of such area as well as its continued maintenance for an area known for heavy rains and run-off. Regardless if this is handled by an outside source, the land would still be the sole responsibility of this council in its entirety. An outside entity wouldn't have jurisdiction over the public/residential areas which would still be a concern of many.

The idea of keeping the stairs boils down to selfish individuals who care less about the wellbeing, safety, and security of the people and its land because it's a great photo and "feelings" opportunity. This location brings nothing but cost to our tax payers and community members.

Please approve and move forward to have the stairway permanently removed.

Mahalo,

Nikki Kepoo

[nkepoo@hawaiiirg.com](mailto:nkepoo@hawaiiirg.com)

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 10:34 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name Keoni Fox  
Phone  
Email foxw001@hawaii.rr.com  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Committee Council  
Agenda Item Resolution 21-154  
Your position on the matter Oppose  
Representing Self  
Organization

Written  
Testimony

I strongly oppose removal of the Haiku Stairs. This is an asset for our City which should be used to support outdoor recreation and the appreciation of our island's natural beauty. The City should be working with the community and supporters of the stairs to create a management and stewardship plan. Has there been an earnest attempt to work together on a solution which preserves the stairs and respects the neighborhood? I believe that there is a path forward but both sides need to make an effort. The City should take the first step to create that opportunity and space for dialogue. Removal of the stairs should not be considered until all other options have been exhausted. Mahalo.

Testimony  
Attachment

Accept Terms  
and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

## **HAIKU STAIRS REMOVAL TESTIMONY**

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I have lived on the cul-de-sac at the end of Puoni Place (below Haiku Stairs) for about 20 years and problems with the stairs were present when I moved here and persist today. All attempts to come to resolution on the issues have been persistently delayed. In the meantime, the problems have become more severe with the advent of social media and increased access to the internet. The local hikers have been far surpassed by international and domestic tourist and military hikers in number.

Delays are costing more money as continued patrolling by the HPD becomes necessary and rescues become more plentiful.

Issuing citations is a waste of time and money because the majority of the cases get thrown out because the Prosecutor's Office will not take the time to pursue these. Rescues, at present, are not billed to the hikers, requiring the service, and are paid for by the City.

Kudos to HPD for their efforts in enforcement with the large electronic sign on Kahuhipa Street and their increased presence in the area with multiple officers and UTVs. A significant reduction in illegal hikers has been realized with these actions.

### **RESCUES**

Rescues in the area have become more frequent and often involve the HFD rescue helicopter in addition to HFD engines and EMS. The crews required in these rescues are huge. I imagine the cost of these rescues has increased significantly in the last 5 years. It's ironic that if you fall off your roof and need ambulance service, there will be a hefty bill waiting, the City will not foot the bill and yet, illegal hikers get rescued for free.

### **TOUR HELICOPTER TRAFFIC**

The tour helicopter traffic in the area has been and is a worsening nuisance. Although hiking traffic has been reduced by enforcement, the tour helicopter fleet is not affected and is increasing significantly. Flights over the Haiku Stairs is a regular feature with these helicopters. I have witnessed up to 3 tour helicopters hovering in the area waiting for their run at the stairs. Depending on atmospheric conditions, rotor, transmission and engine noise can be bad enough to prevent normal conversation. There is no way to reduce this nuisance except by removing the stairs. It is interesting that helicopter tours through National Parks has been restricted due to noise, but not tour flights over residences. We, as residents, are not here for a couple of days of sightseeing, we live here and have no choice but to endure the noise on a daily basis throughout the year.

We also have other helicopters that fly the area. The Hawaiian Electric inspection teams inspecting power lines, Honolulu Police Dept. monitoring traffic on H-3 or looking for fugitives, filming companies shooting movie footage, military overflights to the Marine Base in Kaneohe, occasional construction flights and the increasing rescue flights. These flights I would consider necessary and are much smaller in number than recreational tour flights.

## LEGALIZED AND MANAGED ACCESS

I sincerely doubt that the efforts to “manage” the hikers will be viable. Unless 24 hour security is provided, there will always be people skirting the rules resulting in continued trespassing on government and private property and continued patrolling. I also doubt that the effort would be financially viable.

Sincerely,

George Tai See

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 10:38 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name Jesse C Syverson  
Phone  
Email hawaiiancool@gmail.com  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Council  
Committee  
Agenda Item Resolution 21-154  
Your position on the matter Oppose  
Representing Self  
Organization

Written Testimony Stop trying to take down the stairs! Do something productive with the office you were elected to and represent the people that elected you....

Testimony  
Attachment  
Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 10:42 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

**Name** Noel J. Kent  
**Phone**  
**Email** NOELK@HAWAII.EDU  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** Haiku Stairs  
**Your position on the matter** Oppose  
**Representing Organization** Self

**Written Testimony** The stairs must be maintained to provide access to people providing environmental protections to the lands around it. Otherwise, there will be deterioration and loss.  
Noel Kent UH Manoa Emeritus

**Testimony Attachment**  
**Accept Terms and Agreement** 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 10:47 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name	Angela Britten
Phone	
Email	angela.britten@gmail.com
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Council
Agenda Item	Resolution 21-154
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing Organization	Self
Written Testimony	Tearing down the stairs is a short-sighted plan. I 100% oppose using my tax dollars for tearing down a valuable community resource. Hand over management to a nonprofit, and gain tax dollars.
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement	1

IP: 192.168.200.67



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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 10:50 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name	Katherine Huson Finch
Phone	
Email	finch.katherine@gmail.com
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Council
Agenda Item	21-151 Remove haiku stairs
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing	Self
Organization	
Written Testimony	Leave the stairs in place Allow supervision of managed hikes
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement 1	

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 10:51 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name Shiyana Thenabadu  
Phone  
Email shiyanat@gmail.com  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Committee Council  
Agenda Item Resolution 21-154  
Your position on the matter Oppose  
Representing Self  
Organization

Written  
Testimony

I am strongly opposed to Resolution 21-154 to permanently destroy the Haiku Stairs. This is a foolish effort to appease a handful of Haiku residents who live near the Stairs. The Stairs are a historical structure and bucket list hike that should be managed and preserved for future generations. Give management over to a third party such as the Friends of Haiku Stairs. Limit the number of hikers with an online reservation system. Charge hikers \$100/person or more and do guided educational hikes only to stop a few idiots from going off trail. Provide a parking lot and legal access to the trail. Hike fees can be used to fund maintenance and personnel. The back way to the top of the Haiku Stairs is extremely dangerous and arduous. It is not an option for many of us. My friends who have climbed the Stairs told me it's one of the safest and most beautiful hikes they have ever done. To use a million dollars to destroy our beloved Stairs is beyond foolish. Managed access is the way to go. Don't bend to a vocal minority and one City Council member who seem to believe that those few people's voices are more important than the majority. Our community came out in thousands to oppose tearing down the Stairs less than two years ago. Yet, this newly elected councilwoman has conveniently forgotten that the community spoke loud and clear that we want the Haiku Stairs saved and unkept for future generations. Save the Haiku Stairs!

Testimony  
Attachment  
Accept Terms  
and Agreement 1

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 10:51 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

---

## Written Testimony

**Name** Nicholas Smith  
**Phone**  
**Email** nickdsmith1@gmail.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** Resolution 21-154  
**Your position on the matter** Oppose  
**Representing Organization** Self

**Written Testimony**

The Haiku Stairs are a beautiful piece culture and scenery on Oahu. Since the stairs were built, the stairs have provided a safe and incredible experience for tens of thousands of local and tourist hikers. The hike itself gives you some of the most amazing views of the island, and some of the most amazing views you will ever see. For the same cost of tearing the stairs down, we can easily renovate the stairs to make them even safer than they already are, and could easily find a solution to provide public access to the stairs without disturbing residents of Haiku Village.

**Testimony Attachment**

**Accept Terms and Agreement** 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 10:55 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name Dane Anderson  
Phone  
Email da96734@gmail.com  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Council  
Committee  
Agenda Item Resolution no. 21-154, to remove Haiku Stairs  
Your position on the matter Oppose  
Representing Self  
Organization  
  
Written Testimony I oppose removal of the Haiku Stairs because it can be properly managed in order to provide safe access while addressing the concerns of the surrounding neighborhood. The City should be maintaining and managing public access to outdoor spaces, such as beaches and trails, including Haiku stairs. Thank you.  
  
Testimony Attachment  
Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR  
STATE OF HAWAII



TYLER I. GOMES  
DEPUTY TO THE CHAIRMAN

JOSH GREEN  
LT. GOVERNOR  
STATE OF HAWAII

**STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS**

P. O. BOX 1879  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96805

**TESTIMONY OF WILLIAM J. AILA, JR, CHAIRMAN  
HAWAIIAN HOMES COMMISSION  
BEFORE THE CITY COUNCIL  
MEETING ON SEPTEMBER 8, 2021 AT 10:00 AM**

**RESOLUTION 21-154**

Aloha Chair Waters, Vice Chair Kia'aina, and Members of the City Council:

The Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL) submits testimony in support of this resolution. As an adjacent landowner, DHHL shares the community's concern that property rights be respected and landowners not be exposed to undue liability. Like many of the property owners in this area, DHHL has experienced problems with trespassing and vandalism since obtaining title to approximately 140 acres of land in Haiku Valley. DHHL's intent in accepting these lands was to develop residential homestead for our beneficiaries. However, based on the development cost to upgrade the existing infrastructure and the impact that such development would potentially cause to the surrounding community, we have determined that our limited resources could be better used to develop other lands at this time. While we recognize the unique experience, panoramic views, and the sense of achievement that attracts hikers to the Haiku Stairs, safety and liability concerns and the risk to the Department is far too great for consideration; therefore prudent management dictates that DHHL support this resolution.

Thank you for your consideration of our testimony.

Lehua Kinilau-Cano  
[nicole.l.kinilau-cano@hawaii.gov](mailto:nicole.l.kinilau-cano@hawaii.gov)

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 10:57 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name	Todd Madden
Phone	
Email	toddmadden@gmail.com
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Council
Agenda Item	Resolution 21-154
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing	Self
Organization	
Written Testimony	The stairs are a treasure. Please do not remove them.
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement 1	

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 10:57 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

**Name** Toby Kravet  
**Phone**  
**Email** toby.kravet@hawaiiantel.net  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** Resolution 21-154  
**Your position on the matter** Oppose  
**Representing Organization** Self

**Written Testimony** I am against tearing down the Haiku Stairs inasmuch as they are a treasure to the State and County, afford an unequal, spectacular view, are much safer than the Moanalua Middle Ridge Trail which is the alternate way to climb to the top, and there exist reasonable proposals to access the stairs without burdening the homeowners whose complaints have triggered this resolution. Also, I have been waiting for the hike to become legal so that I can do it myself before the years catch up with me.

**Testimony Attachment**  
**Accept Terms and Agreement** 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 10:58 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name Scott Palma  
Phone  
Email capoeira79@aol.com  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Committee Council  
Agenda Item Resolution 21-154  
Your position on the matter Oppose  
Representing Self  
Organization

I oppose demolishing the Haiku Stairs on the basis of:

Written  
Testimony

1) It's recreational value (it's a small island, so more things to do for friends and family is important)  
2) It's historical significance (World War II history)  
3) It's worldly recognition (A friend from Malaysia asked me about the stairs the other day, I was surprised they had heard of it. The Haiku stairs are a treasure for the world)  
4) It's increased safety and decreased neighborhood impact under a cost-neutral management plan. (Can become more safe with some repairs. Look at the amazing work being done at Kokohead. Can cover the cost through a fee. In Costa Rica many hikes are on private land and there is an entrance fee anywhere from \$20-\$60 and tourists gladly pay it)

Do not destroy this local and world treasure when there are still other options!

Sincerely,  
Scott Palma

Testimony  
Attachment

Accept Terms  
and Agreement 1



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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 11:00 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name	JEFFREY GASKELL
Phone	
Email	jpg@50-50.com
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Council
Agenda Item	Resolution 21-154
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing	Self
Organization	
Written Testimony	Please find a way to save this historic stairway.
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement 1	

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 11:01 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

---

## Written Testimony

**Name** Andrew Rizer  
**Phone**  
**Email** andrewgrizer@gmail.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** Resolution 21-154  
**Your position on the matter** Oppose  
**Representing Organization** Self

**Written Testimony**

 We have been gifted an immense responsibility to perpetuate this historic and striking hike, one that has given locals joy for years, and has brought people from around the world to experience its beauty. I understand that not everyone can be made happy, but I also fear that a motivation to rid ourselves of the frustration of the stairs is a rushed attempt to take something hard off our plates. Let us please not, in the name of what is easy, destroy these stairs when we can instead opt for doing what is hard, and perpetuate a great jewel of our island. Please rise up as the great public servants you are and dedicate yourselves to working with the community to find a solution, of which I have heard many that I feel both respect the neighborhood while also continuing the use of the stairs: pay to play, limited hike days, permit only, transportation into neighborhood required. We can even use a portion of the funds to go directly to the care of the Haiku Village neighborhood.  Please, do not rip out these stairs, do not be the ones responsible for destroying something so historical, striking, and awe inducing. The care and responsibility for anything great is rife with challenge and reward, please rise up with the strength and perseverance needed to preserve this beautiful hike.

**Testimony Attachment**  
**Accept Terms and Agreement** 1

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 11:01 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

**Name** Rosemary Fazio  
**Phone**  
**Email** rfazio@awlaw.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** Resolution 21-154  
**Your position on the matter** Oppose  
**Representing** Self  
**Organization** Ashford & Wriston

**Written Testimony** Instead of destroying the Haiku Stairs, please manage the hike as was done during the days of the Coast Guard. Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony.

**Testimony Attachment**  
**Accept Terms and Agreement** 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 11:03 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name	Jeff Snyder
Phone	
Email	jeffsnyder@hawaii.rr.com
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Council
Agenda Item	Resolution 21-154
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing Organization	Self
Written Testimony	I oppose the removal of the stairs. More healthy activities need to be preserved and supported in Hawaii.
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement	1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 11:03 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name Beth Sepp  
Phone  
Email easepp@gmail.com  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH  
Committee Council  
Agenda Item Resolution 21-154  
Your position on  
the matter Oppose  
Representing Self  
Organization

Written Testimony The Haiku stairs are valuable. Solutions to the existing problems do exist. Please develop those solutions rather than tear down the stairs. They are not only a piece of history, but one of the most beautiful hikes on the island.

Testimony  
Attachment

Accept Terms  
and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 11:04 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name Beth Sepp  
Phone  
Email easepp@gmail.com  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH  
Committee Council  
Agenda Item Resolution 21-154  
Your position on  
the matter Oppose  
Representing Self  
Organization

Written Testimony The Haiku stairs are valuable. Solutions to the existing problems do exist. Please develop those solutions rather than tear down the stairs. They are not only a piece of history, but one of the most beautiful hikes on the island.

Testimony  
Attachment

Accept Terms  
and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 11:05 AM  
**Subject:** Parks and Community Services Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name Stephen Harris  
Phone  
Email sharris@eas-hawaii.com  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Committee Parks and Community Services  
Agenda Item Haiku Stairs  
Your position on the matter Oppose  
Representing Organization  
Organization Friends of Haiku Stairs

Written Testimony I write today to oppose the resolution to tear down the bottom of the Haiku Stairs. This si a world cloass hike and it should be preserved and responsibly managed. It can be a money marker and a profit center for the City. Please look at the options and Save the Stairs.

Testimony Attachment

Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 11:05 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name	Kris Corliss
Phone	
Email	corlissk001@gmail.com
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Council
Agenda Item	Resolution 21-154
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing Organization	Self
Written Testimony	Have traveled all over on hiking vacations. People from all corners ask me about "The Stairway to Heaven". Haiku Stairs are a treasure known the world over. Please don't destroy this wonder.
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement	1

IP: 192.168.200.67



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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 10:50 AM  
**Subject:** Budget Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name	Sandra Nicholl
Phone	
Email	slhnicoll@yahoo.com
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Budget
Agenda Item	Resolution 21-154
Your position on the matter	Support
Representing	Self
Organization	
Written Testimony	
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement 1	

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 11:10 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

---

## Written Testimony

Name	Allison Baird
Phone	
Email	lost_in_autumn@yahoo.com
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Council
Agenda Item	Resolution 21-154
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing Organization	Self
Written Testimony	The Haiku Stairs are historic; they should be managed as a capacity restricted destination with an eye to ecosystem and historic preservation.
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement	1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 11:12 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name	Annette Lancaster
Phone	
Email	netter000@gmail.com
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Council
Agenda Item	Resolution 21-154
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing Organization	Self
Written Testimony	Do not remove the stairs! Open for all to enjoy via managed access! GONE MEANS FOREVER!
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement	1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 11:13 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

---

## Written Testimony

Name Thomas Randle  
Phone  
Email thomrandle44@hawaii.rr.com  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Committee Council  
Agenda Item Resolution 21-154  
Your position on the matter Oppose  
Representing Self  
Organization

Written  
Testimony

Please listen to the PEOPLE. Save the stairs. Removal is the short-sighted and easy way out and will destroy a valued and treasured landmark. Make it safe, with no liability for State/ county and require reservations and charge fee to climb at own risk. There are many, many much more important items for Council to spend time on. Please focus on new job opportunities, reducing homelessness, creating food independence for Hawaii. WHY has so much time and energy been expended on trying to remove the stairs? PLEASE LISTEN TO THE PEOPLE. MAHALO, THOM

Testimony  
Attachment

Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 11:13 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

**Name** Stephen Porter  
**Phone**  
**Email** grandizer52@gmail.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** Resolution 21-154  
**Your position on the matter** Support  
**Representing Organization** Self

**Written Testimony**

Aloha,  
Family served the Haiku valley from 41-92, the whole property was supposed to be preserved as military history. with the overwhelming amount of tax dollars wasted, it's time to remove the stairs. There is no public or private venture capable of safely operating and maintaining the property in a dignified manner. It's a great shame to the veterans how the building have been vandalized. The stairs must come down, it's not fair to property owners having to shoulder the constant harassment and trespassing, city and county of Honolulu has had decades to take ownership and produce, but like so many public works projects (the rail) board of water. Take the stairs down. let it live on in the memories.

**Testimony Attachment**  
**Accept Terms and Agreement** 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 11:15 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name	Chris Shively
Phone	
Email	chris.shively@kelleher.com
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Council
Agenda Item	Resolution 21-154
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing Organization	Self
Written Testimony	The Managed Access Plan addresses ALL objections to opening the stairs. OPEN THE STAIRS ALREADY!
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement	1

IP: 192.168.200.67

---

**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 11:15 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name Richard Nettell  
Phone  
Email nettell@hawaii.edu  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Council  
Committee  
Agenda Item Resolution 21-154 Haiku Stairs  
Your position on the matter Oppose  
Representing Self  
Organization

Written Testimony I have received so many emails from people from all over the world expressing their absolute disbelief that the City of Honolulu could even be considering tearing down such a famous landmark treasure. People, locals and tourists, would be willing to pay substantial amounts to access the Stairs in a safe and community friendly way, and there are sensible proposals to achieve this alternative. PLEASE FIRST try reasonable and controlled access BEFORE simply removing such a unique asset.

Testimony Attachment

Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 11:18 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

**Name** Yvonne Lancaster  
**Phone**  
**Email** netter000@gmail.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** Resolution 21-154  
**Your position on the matter** Oppose  
**Representing Organization** Self

**Written Testimony** Removing the stairs is wrong in so many ways and very short-sided. The needs of the many outweigh the needs of the few. Open the Haiku Stairs!

**Testimony Attachment**  
**Accept Terms and Agreement** 1

IP: 192.168.200.67



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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 11:18 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

---

## Written Testimony

Name	Kepa Lyman
Phone	
Email	klyman@hawaii.edu
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Council
Agenda Item	Resolution 21-154
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing	Self
Organization	
Written Testimony	I OPPOSE removing the Haiku Stairs.
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement 1	

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 11:19 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name                      clayton kong  
Phone  
Email                      claytonkong@hotmail.com  
Meeting Date            09-08-2021  
Council/PH  
Committee                Council  
Agenda Item              Resolution 21-154  
Your position on  
the matter                Oppose  
Representing            Self  
Organization  
  
Written                    haiku stairs is a historic history of haiku valley. i vehemently oppose  
Testimony                tearing it down. i doesnt make sense why would you spend hundreds  
                                  of thousands of dollars to fix it and then spend a million to tear it  
                                  down  
  
Testimony  
Attachment  
Accept Terms            1  
and Agreement

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 11:21 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

**Name** Romelle  
**Phone**  
**Email** romver01@yahoo.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** Resolution 21-154  
**Your position on the matter** Oppose  
**Representing Organization** Self

**Written Testimony** Haiku stairs is a Hawaii treasure. One of kind, unique in all the World! Besides Military, Tourism is our #1 for helping to sustain our economy. A solution for a company to manage & operate the tour of Haiku Stairs Resolve the issues. Please preserve the Haiku Stairs & help our economy & the tourists to have a life time memorable experience in Oahu! It will do wonders for our image to the world & to our economy. Mahalo!

**Testimony Attachment**

**Accept Terms and Agreement** 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 11:23 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

# Written Testimony

Name Yong Mei  
Phone  
Email nell.yong.mei@gmail.com  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Committee Council  
Agenda Item Resolution 21-154  
Your position on the matter Oppose  
Representing Self  
Organization  
Written Testimony  
Testimony Attachment  
Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 11:25 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

**Name** Sterling Wong  
**Phone**  
**Email** sterlingkiniwong@gmail.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** Resolution 21-154  
**Your position on the matter** Support  
**Representing Organization** Self

Aloha. My name is Sterling Wong, and I am testifying in my personal capacity as a parent of three students who attend Kamakau Charter School. I strongly SUPPORT Resolution 21-154 because the Haiku Stairs present safety challenges and concerns for my family. Kamakau is located at the base of the mountain in a forest; it's remote, with just one long gravel road for access and spotty cell reception. The stairs invite unnecessary traffic to this secluded area.

**Written Testimony**

I regularly see random people trespass onto the Kamakau campus because they are lost and trying to find the access to the stairs. Every time I see these lost trespassers on the kula grounds, wandering around near the playground and cafeteria, I worry about the safety of our children in general but especially at such an isolated location.

Moreover, the hikers create traffic problems for the neighborhood and also present safety issues for traffic on the narrow road leading up to the gate of the Kamakau campus. The road is barely wide enough to handle ingoing and outgoing traffic at the same time; forcing cars driving in the opposite directions on such a narrow road to also navigate around groups of hikers is dangerous.

In closing, please pass this resolution and remove the Haiku Stairs.

**Testimony Attachment**  
**Accept Terms and Agreement** 1

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 11:27 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name Marie Lancaster  
Phone  
Email rere11@comcast.net  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Committee Council  
Agenda Item Resolution 21-154  
Your position on the matter Oppose  
Representing Self  
Organization

Written Testimony This is a one-of-a-kind treasure in the world.  
Once it's gone, it's gone forever.  
Save Haiku Stairs!!!!

Testimony Attachment  
Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 11:30 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name Justin Cunningham  
Phone  
Email xrayjustin@comcast.net  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Committee Council  
Agenda Item Resolution 21-154  
Your position on the matter Oppose  
Representing Self  
Organization  
Written Testimony  
Testimony Attachment  
Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 11:36 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name	Christian Lyck Hansen
Phone	
Email	chrlyck@gmail.com
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Council
Agenda Item	Resolution 21-154
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing	Self
Organization	
Written Testimony	A historical Hawaiian treasure to be honored and not removed.
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement	1

IP: 192.168.200.67



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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 11:36 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

**Name** Terese Kane  
**Phone**  
**Email** sailpacific80@gmail.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** Resolution 21-154  
**Your position on the matter** Oppose  
**Representing Organization** Self

**Written Testimony** Growing up in Haiku Valley "da stairs" as we called them was part of my childhood. Please do not destroy such a valuable entity for others to experience the beauty of my home.

**Testimony Attachment**  
**Accept Terms and Agreement** 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 11:37 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name Leslie Barber  
Phone  
Email leslie@massagechef.com.au  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Committee Council  
Agenda Item Resolution 21-154  
Your position on the matter Oppose  
Representing Organization  
Organization  
Written Testimony  
Testimony Attachment  
Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 11:42 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name Teiji Chiba  
Phone  
Email teiji@gmx.com  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Council  
Committee  
Agenda Item 21-154  
Your position on the matter Oppose  
Representing Self  
Organization

### Written Testimony

I strongly oppose the removal of the Haiku Stairs. The problem of trespassers will be resolved by allowing a legal access route to the stairs. If the stairs are removed, a historical treasure will be gone forever. Nothing like it exists elsewhere in the world.

As was made apparent in multiple hearings, people are overwhelmingly in favor of preserving the stairs and opening it up for managed access.

Preserving the stairs is the best option environmentally.

Managed access will bring in revenue for the city, improve the safety of the hike, reduce crime, and allow future generations to appreciate a unique historical and environmental experience.

### Testimony Attachment

Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 11:42 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name Brenda Dew  
Phone  
Email northshorephotographics@comcast.net  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Council  
Committee  
Agenda Item Resolution 21-154  
Your position on the matter Oppose  
Representing Self  
Organization  
Written Testimony Using tax dollars to remove the stairs is unthinkable when our children's schools need much improvement, citizens are homeless and hungry. Think about the people the tax dollars are to assist!  
Testimony Attachment  
Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 11:45 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

**Name** Bill Hicks  
**Phone**  
**Email** billandbarb1976@gmail.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2002  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** Resolution 21-154  
**Your position on the matter** Oppose  
**Representing Organization** Self

**Written Testimony**

I STRONGLY OPPOSE Resolution 21-154 that seeks to remove the Haiku Stairs.

(1) The Haiku Stairs are an important and unique Hawaii treasure.

(2) The Haiku Stairs did not cause inconvenience to the neighborhood when managed by the USCG.

(3) Resolution Topic: Stop Trespassing and Reduce Disturbances to Local Neighborhoods: The Managed Access Plan eliminates problems in the neighborhood and eliminates trespassing from the windward side. It is the lack of managed access that has caused the problems.

(4) Resolution Topic: Increase Public Safety and Remove Potential Liability to the City: The Haiku Stairs have an impeccable 7-decade history of safety, with almost no serious injuries. They are absolutely the safest way for climbers to access the ridge. Deliberate removal of the Haiku Stairs by the city will directly cause more hikers to use the much more hazardous Moanalua Valley Trail, directly causing more serious injuries and possibly deaths.

(5) Resolution Topic: Protect the Environment: The Environmental Impact Statement commissioned by the Board of Water Supply found the alternative to convey the stairs to the Department of Parks and Recreation for managed access scored the highest – much higher than removal of the stairs. Managed access brings with it education and appreciation for the cultural and environmental well-being of the mountainside. Hikers cause more environmental damage climbing the dirt Moanalua Valley Trail than stepping on the steel steps of the Haiku Stairs.

(6) To address the concerns raised by this resolution, the best solution is managed access and not removal.

On April 27, 2020 the Board of Water Supply, which at the time owned

the property containing the Haiku Stairs, considered the removal of the Haiku Stairs. The Board of Water Supply conducted an impressive on-line public hearing on the topic that elicited 4,489 pieces of written testimony and many hours of oral testimony. The testimony was an overwhelming 90% in favor of keeping the Haiku Stairs while implementing a management plan to control access, and only about 10% in favor of removing the Haiku Stairs.

The Board of Water Supply decided upon a course of action favored by Mayor Kirk Caldwell that would transfer ownership of the affected property to the City's Department of Parks & Recreation. This was a sound decision. The Environmental Impact Statement commissioned by the Board of Water Supply found the alternative to convey the stairs to the Department of Parks and Recreation for managed access scored the highest. The Haiku Stairs are exceedingly safe, and removal of the stairs would have led to more hikers climbing from the much more hazardous Moanalua Valley Trail, causing more serious injuries and possibly deaths.

The property transfer was completed on July 1, 2020 and the City started to develop proposals for management of the Haiku Stairs to include control of access, limitations on the numbers, transportation of hikers to the stairs, security, and liability. These measures are designed to protect the environment and the peace and quiet of the nearby neighborhood. The City received 14 qualified bids and proposed a 12-year concession agreement for a managed access plan and guided hikes at the Haiku Stairs which the City Council recommitted to the Committee on Economic Assistance and Revitalization.

The rationale for the City spending about \$1M for restoring those stairs nearly 20 years ago was sound. With solid steps and handrails, they provide the safest access for many people to enjoy both the exercise and the spectacular views from the ridge. That rationale remains valid.

The stairs were made as good as new but the failure of various government agencies to implement a fair agreement for access to the stairs was irresponsible. For example, in 2004 the City and the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands worked out a responsible agreement to exchange 53 acres of the City's undeveloped land at Varona Village for 65 acres of DHHL land in Haiku Valley, but in September 2004 the City Council put the deal on hold pending more information about the city's plans and costs for the Haiku Valley. City Managing Director Ben Lee was reportedly frustrated by the postponement of what he called a "win-win" situation. It is the lack of legal access that has subjected the surrounding neighborhood to abuse over the years.

The Friends of Haiku Stairs has developed a Concept Plan for Managed Use of Haiku Stairs that comprehensively addresses all of the concerns that have been raised. The plan is sustainable, including an environmentally sound and sustainable business plan, limiting use to 80 hikers per day, using vans to transport hikers from an off-site staging area to the trailhead eliminating neighborhood contact, utilizing staff members and the use of color coded RFID wristbands to manage

hikers, and measures to eliminate trespassing including effective fencing, security cameras with night vision capability, the use of off-duty HPD officers to issue trespassing citations, 24/7 security including use of a second guard placed on the stairs above the point where any trespassers would join the stairs (such as the 1st platform), and a Security Planning Group composed of neighbors, HPD, private security, the operator, and FHS to implement and supervise the security operation. The key is to issue a \$1,000 trespassing citation 24/7 to any unauthorized person on the stairs by checking the RFID or issuing the citation at the first platform (or other location above section 60) that would catch 100% of people coming up from various paths from the Kaneohe side.

The Kaneohe Neighborhood Board unanimously took a position SUPPORTING REOPENING THE HAIKU STAIRS TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC UNDER A CONTROLLED AND MANAGED ACCESS PLAN.

Substantial progress was made in the last 6 months of 2020 toward resolving remaining issues and creating a safe, legal, managed, environmentally sound plan that would not impact the nearby neighborhood. The City now has the ability to safely and responsibly bring the recreational potential of the stairs to fruition. Now is the time to apply skill and expertise to finally resolve this long-standing issue by concluding a fair agreement for managed access to the stairs, and not the time to suddenly reverse course and remove the stairs.

Testimony  
Attachment  
Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 11:49 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name Barry Beck  
Phone  
Email liberte28@comcast.net  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Committee Council  
Agenda Item : Resolution 21-154  
Your position on the matter Oppose  
Representing Self  
Organization  
Written Testimony Totally Oppose the removal.  
Testimony Attachment  
Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67



September 3, 2021

To Whom it May Concern,

I am writing this letter in support of the complete removal of the Haiku Stairs.

When I moved into the Hokulele subdivision in 1999, I had no idea I would be moving into a living hell due to the constant and egregious trespassing from hikers trying to access the Haiku Stairs. Over the span of 20 years and with the proliferation of social media, there has been a monstrous amount of hikers disrespectfully traversing through our neighborhoods and through our properties for this hike. It has come to a point where that number is between four to five thousand a year and that's only the ones we have documented, reported, or that the police have turned away. To say that this problem has negatively impacted the quality of life for my family and my neighbors is an understatement. I personally have had hikers walk within 10 feet of my bedroom window disrupting our sleep between 1:00am-4:00am too many times to count. Hikers have consistently blocked our driveways to such an extent that before special duty officers were acquired, we have had our trash left as is because the garbage truck couldn't access it. That's not even the worst of it. We have been yelled at, threatened, and blatantly ignored on a regular basis when telling hikers to get out of our properties.

When special duty officers were hired, it helped a little, but because very few citations were issued, hikers continued to find ways to get around them. The lack of enforcement efficacy, the unmanageable nature of multiple access points, the overwhelming negative effects on residents' quality of life, and the constant rescues that put our first responders at risk make the stairs a significant liability and an absolute nuisance.

I strongly support the removal of the stairs and believe there is no other alternative. There is overwhelming evidence that indicates that a managed access plan will not work. If hikers are not respecting the laws and restrictions in place currently, they will never do so. The pleas of the community have fallen on deaf ears for way too long. While we are deeply grateful for the efforts of the special duty officers, opening the stairs will never work, and we unequivocally believe that will only make the trespassing worse. Please support the removal of the stairs. In doing so, you are ensuring that the health, safety, and well being of the Haiku residents is valued more than hikers (majority of whom are not residents of Hawaii) willing to break the law for that once in a lifetime selfie. Thank you for considering my testimony.

Sincerely,



Carleen Yokotake

45-500 Lolii Street

Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744

Email: hokulele5500@gmail.com

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 11:52 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

**Name** David Herrmann  
**Phone**  
**Email** davidherrmann@msn.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** Resolution 21-154  
**Your position on the matter** Oppose  
**Representing Organization** Self

**Written Testimony**

The Ha'iku Stairs can be an awesome attraction for both residents and tourist! I am asking the City Council to please work with a responsible organization (Friends of Haiku Stairs, Hiking Clubs, etc). who can provide people a wonderful hiking opportunity while maintaining a piece of Hawaii which people want to see. This can be done respectfully within the community without increased traffic.  
Mahalo!

**Testimony Attachment**

**Accept Terms and Agreement** 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 11:53 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name Richard M. Tuggle  
Phone  
Email tuggle@hawaiiantel.net  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Committee Council  
Agenda Item Resolution 21-154  
Your position on the matter Oppose  
Representing Self  
Organization

I earnestly encourage that the Haiku Stairs be preserved and not dismantled.

The Stairs are a priceless historical, cultural and recreational asset to the Islands.

To remove them is wasteful of the resources already expended in building and maintaining them.

Written  
Testimony

The Neighborhoods' expressed grief of trespassing and vandalism is largely the product of these Neighborhoods' moves to shut off all access routes to the Stairs. These routes have included public roads, easements over State-/privately-owned property, drainage ditches and such.

At the same time, private organizations, and now City & County, have offered to be involved in a managed access plan. Now is not the time to turn them down.

Please support the Stairs; please save the Stairs.

Thank you.

-Richard M. Tuggle-  
Kaneohe

Testimony  
Attachment

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 11:54 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name	Estelle Sumimoto
Phone	
Email	kkdnr5@hawaiiantel.net
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Council
Agenda Item	21-154 to remove Haiku Stairs
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing Organization	Self
Written Testimony	Haiku Stairs should be saved for the Educators, and future students and scientists.
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement	1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 11:56 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

**Name** Suzan Danforth  
**Phone**  
**Email** aloha\_over\_easy@yahoo.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** Res 21-154  
**Your position on the matter** Oppose  
**Representing Organization** Self

**Written Testimony** Please DO NOT tear down the Haiku Stairs!  
Have any of you every hiked them??  
That location is a historic gem of Oahu and should be preserved  
for the enjoyment of generations to come.

**Testimony Attachment**  
**Accept Terms and Agreement** 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 12:06 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

**Name** Rocky Riddell  
**Phone**  
**Email** Ahisailor@gmail.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** Resolution 21-154  
**Your position on the matter** Oppose  
**Representing Organization** Self

**Written Testimony**

I am writing this testimony in opposition to Resolution 21-154. Hawaii has been my home for over 30 years now and since Hawaii is my home I am deeply concerned for the welfare of my community. Therefore, I can appreciate the impact unregulated hikers may have on the residents who live near the trailhead. The associated problems are well documented. We have similar problems in my neighborhood with the Maunawili Falls trailhead.

I consider the inability of our political representatives to achieve a solution to the great opportunity to allow residents and visitors to enjoy the hike known as the Ha'iku Stairs, aka, The Stairway to Heaven, as a dismal failure. Much time, money and effort has been focused on resolving this issue to no avail.

A program to manage access to the hike could be instituted. This program could pay for itself. An online portal could allow applicants to register, sign a waiver and pay for admission. A parking area/ drop off location could be arranged somewhere outside of the neighborhood where a mandatory shuttle could ferry hikers to the trailhead.

Naturally, the number of allowed hikers could be regulated. In the spirit of goodwill and mutual cooperation this is possible for the good of our island community. Respect and consideration to neighborhood residents can be the hallmark of a well instituted program.

Sincerely,  
Rocky Riddell

**Testimony Attachment**

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 12:08 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name Mazen Abbas  
Phone  
Email abbasdo@yahoo.com  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Committee Council  
Agenda Item Resolution 21-154  
Your position on the matter Oppose  
Representing Self  
Organization

### Written Testimony

I'm writing to oppose the resolution to remove the Haiku stairs. The stairs are a major attraction to the windward side of Oahu and bring joy and amazement to a large community of visitors. The stairs have been mismanaged for too many years and require development not demolishment. I believe that the City would benefit enormously by having the stairs be management similar to Diamond Head and to have parking and access make from the public hospital down the road. I believe that generations of Hawaii residents and visitors would lose out on a gem that could be on par with any attractions you find in New Zealand, Australia or Europe. Mahalo for your support to develop the stairs.

Dr. Mazen Abbas  
Gastroenterologist, Kailua

### Testimony Attachment

Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 12:10 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

**Name** JoAnn Takamiyashiro  
**Phone**  
**Email** jhthawaii@gmail.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** Resolution 21-154 - Removal of Haiku Stairs  
**Your position on the matter** Support  
**Representing Organization** Self

**Written Testimony** I am in favor of this bill removing the Haiku Stairs. There are greater needs in the state for resources than those that will be dedicated to the Haiku stairs should we keep it open. Housing, jobs, unemployment just to name a few. This is also one way to help minimize tourism on our beautiful island. Not to mention the neighboring community that has to deal with all the unwanted traffic. Thank you for your consideration.

**Testimony Attachment**

**Accept Terms and Agreement** 1

IP: 192.168.200.67



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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 12:10 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name Raylene Choy  
Phone  
Email Tkleme@gmail.com  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Committee Council  
Agenda Item 21-154  
Your position on the matter Oppose  
Representing Self  
Organization

Written Testimony Meeting date: September 8, 2021  
Council/PH Committee: Council/Public Hearing  
Agenda Item: Resolution 21-154  
Your Position on the matter: Oppose

Testimony Attachment  
Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

Dear Councilmembers,

The people of Oahu are once again writing in mass to express our opposition to the destruction of the Haiku Stairs. Forget about the massive amount of testimony surrounding how sacred or "magical" of an experience climbing the stairs are. Although those reasons matter too, I am sure you prefer to look at logical solutions to problems and not get tied up in emotions. Keep in mind the individuals in favor of demolition are also voicing opinions from an emotional standpoint. They fail to see logical facts surround the issue. They want the stairs gone, and plug their ears and refuse to hear any testimony describing how a managed access plan will alleviate the problems the Haiku neighborhood experiences. Your decision should come down to simple reasoning: destroying the stairs will lead to more negatives; managing the stairs will lead to more positives.

The decision to move forward with the stairs' removal goes against the C&C's own Environmental Impact Statement findings. In the 2020 EIS, reopening of the stairs under a managed access plan was the best solution. A managed access plan that avoids the Haiku neighborhood is very feasible and has been described. This is the better solution for the environment. Although the Haiku neighborhood has valid concerns, many people live in neighborhoods with popular trailheads. Potential problems are mitigated with signage telling people where to park and how to access the trail without trespassing. The fact that managed access plans for Haiku Stairs completely remove the neighborhood altogether should alleviate these concerns.

Closing the stairs will only increase traffic through the much eroded and difficult Moanalua Valley trail, leading to more injuries and need for rescue. People only attempt this hike because the stairs are off-limits, with this route often described as "the legal way." Removing the stairs won't stop this, as people are doing it for the panoramic views, not because of some weird widespread love of stairs! Meanwhile, climbing the actual stairs is safe, and I have not yet heard a single story of a rescue needing to occur on the stairs themselves. How many people need to be rescued from Diamondhead every month?

Managing the stairs is outright the most fiscally responsible thing to do. Invest in this landmark, charge entrance fees to pay for maintenance, and generate excess funds for other departments. The same EIS mentioned above pointed out the city would be \$2.1 million better off under a managed plan vs. removal. And that's assuming removal stays within the \$1 million budget. We all know this isn't likely, with \$1 million simply being a placeholder for future budget overruns. We have all seen how wildly popular the site can be. Why not make tourists pay? The money raised can easily make a profit for our cash-strapped city. Money that can go towards roads, schools, and conservation efforts. Spending \$1 million (+) to remove is just that: spending. Worse is that it's money we don't have, and can never come back. Once its spent it's gone, along with a precious landmark and a revenue generating opportunity.

Please do the right thing. Listen to the will of the people instead of a few politically connected individuals lobbying for removal. Listen to the city's own EIS. Listen to logic.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris Graham", written over a horizontal line.

Chris Graham

[chris.r.graham504@gmail.com](mailto:chris.r.graham504@gmail.com)

---

**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 12:18 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

**Name** Jason J Chin  
**Phone**  
**Email** jchinsaxophone@gmail.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** Resolution 21-154  
**Your position on the matter** Support  
**Representing Organization** Self

**Written Testimony**

The Haiku stairs have long outlived their usefulness and have become the center of a public health and safety concern, as well as a concern for community welfare for those who live in the Haiku community. There is no reason that the public should have access to the stairs, which pose a danger to hikers. We have had too many unnecessary, and costly rescues due to these people who are trespassing, not just on the stairs themselves but also through public and private property to get to the trailhead. I do not believe that the City has interest in promoting or supporting people's incessant and narcissistic need to post on social media and the colonizer attitude of people trampling over lands that should be left to nature.

I implore the City Council to vote to pass this resolution, in the name of public safety and the preservation of natural resources. Do not let the voices of the malihini and non-Haiku residents to drown out the calls to address this need, which is to eliminate what has become a public menace.

**Testimony Attachment**  
**Accept Terms and Agreement** <sup>1</sup>

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 12:19 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name Carole McBride Iacovelli  
Phone  
Email carole.iacovelli@gmail.com  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Council  
Committee  
Agenda Item Resolution 21-154  
Your position on the matter Oppose  
Representing Self  
Organization

Written Testimony You have hear so much testimony to keep the Stairs. Please work with community to find a way to preserve this unique aspect of Hawaii.

Testimony  
Attachment  
Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 12:20 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

**Name** Bruce G.S. Lum  
**Phone**  
**Email** brlum@mac.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** Resolution 21-154  
**Your position on the matter** Support  
**Representing** Self  
**Organization** N/A

In strong support of Resolution 21-154 as follows:

URGING THE CITY ADMINISTRATION TO REMOVE THE HAIKU STAIRS AND ITS ACCESSORY STRUCTURES TO STOP TRESPASSING, REDUCE DISTURBANCES TO LOCAL NEIGHBORHOODS, INCREASE PUBLIC SAFETY, REMOVE POTENTIAL LIABILITY TO THE CITY, AND PROTECT THE ENVIRONMENT.

**Written Testimony**

I think that this grace period, that government and the set-upon communities surrounding the entrance for the Haiku stairs, and the long leeway that the overly-tolerant public has been extending to the supporters wanting to keep the Haiku stairs open forever needs to STOP NOW.

Enough of kicking this political can down the road towards insanity and for once listen to the voices of reason that have been saying to government that keeping the stairs open is a low priority to the majority of good taxpayers across O'ahu. Only a handful of overly ardent is willing to bowl over the majority of the populace, who have said that the stairs in not necessary and low priority, compared to important substantive projects and problems that need to be addressed and solved.

Compared to the demands on tax dollars now and the near future, the stairs ranks as a luxury and a frivolous nice to have. The stairs is truly a niche desire not an authentic necessity.

Besides, drones are available these days to provide the ability, for those in love of extravagantly grand landscape views, to go safely to altitudes most do not dare to attempt, on foot, by treacherous paths

This issue is truly the self-fulfilling adage of, "Beware, give them an inch and they will take a mile". The public has bent over backwards to accommodate the thrill of the Haiku stairs following, but the extents and insistence by which some of the stair's following have pushed and exceeded fair play, or honoring the law and allowances and concessions provided, has only proven that we can no longer trust that what is provided by communities and government will never be enough to the Haiku stairs' supporters, followers and promoters.

I strongly vote to shut the Haiku stairs down. Mahalo a nui loa to Councilwoman Kia'aina for seeing the need and rising to the kahea by putting forth Resolution 21-154 to shut down the stairs.

Council members, please never mind the proverbial squeaky wheel and vote YES to adopt Resolution 21-154!

Mahalo,

Bruce Lum  
Save Ala Moana Beach Park Hui

Testimony  
Attachment  
Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 12:28 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name	Benjamin Elsing
Phone	
Email	benelsing@gmail.com
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Council
Agenda Item	Resolution 21-154
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing Organization	Self
Written Testimony	I, Benjamin Elsing, an Oahu born local wish to express my strong opposition to Resolution 21-154.
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement	1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 12:31 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name Bjarne Bartlett  
Phone  
Email bjarne@hawaii.edu  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Council  
Committee  
Agenda Item Resolution 21-154  
Your position on the matter Oppose  
Representing Self  
Organization

Written Testimony I have always wanted to hike this trail, but will not do so until it is legal. I am passionate about the priceless Haiku Stairs, and hope you can plan managed access.

Testimony  
Attachment  
Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67



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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 12:32 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

**Name** Luukia Archer  
**Phone**  
**Email** luukia.archer@gmail.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** Resolution 21-154  
**Your position on the matter** Support  
**Representing Organization** Self

**Written Testimony**

Aloha. My name is Luukia Archer, and I am testifying in my personal capacity as a parent of three students who attend Kamakau Charter School. I strongly SUPPORT Resolution 21-154 because the Haiku Stairs present safety challenges and concerns for my family. Kamakau is located at the base of the mountain in a forest; it's remote, with just one long gravel road for access and spotty cell reception. The stairs invite unnecessary traffic to this secluded area.

I regularly see random people trespass onto the Kamakau campus because they are lost and trying to find the access to the stairs. Every time I see these lost trespassers on the kula grounds, wandering around near the playground and cafeteria, I worry about the safety of our children in general but especially at such an isolated location.

Moreover, the hikers create traffic problems for the neighborhood and also present safety issues for traffic on the narrow road leading up to the gate of the Kamakau campus. The road is barely wide enough to handle ingoing and outgoing traffic at the same time; forcing cars driving in the opposite directions on such a narrow road to also navigate around groups of hikers is dangerous.

In closing, please pass this resolution and remove the Haiku Stairs.

**Testimony Attachment**  
**Accept Terms and Agreement** 1

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 12:36 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

**Name** gay meyer  
**Phone**  
**Email** gmg2@mac.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** haiku stairs  
**Your position on the matter** Oppose  
**Representing Organization** Self

**Written Testimony**

You have a chance to save an engineering marvel, part of Hawaii's history, a unique tourist attraction and you want to tear it down? You have a chance to do the right thing, Worried about liability? Insist on qualifications for climbing ( i.e. no people with risky medical conditions, no children, no disabled people. .or even tighter, only allow hose who belong to a climbing society and are certified...etc. The more restrictions, the more prestigious the climb, and the higher the fees...However, if your intent is fame, rest assured that those who destroyed this priceless treasure will be remembered, by name, for all time.

**Testimony Attachment**

**Accept Terms and Agreement** 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 12:39 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

**Name** John Mickey Damerell  
**Phone**  
**Email** drd@mauismileworks.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** Resolution 21-154  
**Your position on the matter** Oppose  
**Representing Organization** Self

**Written Testimony**

I love hiking and this hike is one of the most beautiful ever imagined. Allow citizens the freedom to enjoy beautiful, God-given nature. It's worth setting up a self-funding sustainable maintenance program funded by entry fees. It's nearly certain someone may die, or get seriously injured sometime in the future, but that's true about crossing the street. Signs can be posted that say: "Quiet please respect the neighbors" where appropriate. Preserve freedom and adventure for the healthy and young at heart!!!  
J Mickey Damerell DDS MS-Orthodontist, hiker

**Testimony Attachment**

**Accept Terms and Agreement** 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 12:40 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

**Name** Michael Gulden  
**Phone**  
**Email** mbgulden@gmail.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** Resolution 21-154  
**Your position on the matter** Oppose  
**Representing Organization** Self

**Written Testimony**

Please do not remove the stairs. Please keep them. Either keep them under private management under the parks and recreation like was initially planned or just sell the land to a private party or private land trust so the city/state does not have to worry about the liability/security and all that. Have someone else take the risk, but please don't remove them. It's a waste of money to remove the stairs.

**Testimony Attachment**

**Accept Terms and Agreement** 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 12:41 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name	Alex Lanning
Phone	
Email	alexandra.lanning@gmail.com
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Council
Agenda Item	Resolution 21-154
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing	Self
Organization	
Written Testimony	
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement 1	

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 12:47 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name Gary Okimoto  
Phone  
Email koapens@gmail.com  
Meeting Date 10-08-2021  
Council/PH Committee Council  
Agenda Item Resolution 21-154  
Your position on the matter Oppose  
Representing Self  
Organization

Aloha,  
I wish to submit my opposition to Resolution 21-154.

Written Testimony

Mahalo,  
Gary

Testimony Attachment  
Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 12:49 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name	Katherine Jedynasty
Phone	
Email	Katherine.jedynasty@gmail.com
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Council
Agenda Item	Resolution 21-154
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing	Self
Organization	
Written Testimony	
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement 1	

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 12:50 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

**Name** Eweleiula Wong  
**Phone**  
**Email** eweleiula@kamakau.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** Resolution 21-154  
**Your position on the matter** Support  
**Representing Organization** Self  
Aloha,

**Written Testimony** I am a student at Ke Kula o SM Kamakau and I strongly support this resolution. I regularly see hikers trespassing through out school to reach the stairs and this is a major safety concern for all of the students (including my two younger siblings) and our kumu and staff.

I strongly support this resolution.

**Testimony Attachment**

**Accept Terms and Agreement** 1

IP: 192.168.200.67



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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 12:53 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

**Name** Olali Wong  
**Phone**  
**Email** oakaolali.wong@gmail.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** Resolution 21-154  
**Your position on the matter** Support  
**Representing Organization** Self

Aloha,

**Written Testimony** My name is Olali Wong and I am a student at Ke Kula o SM Kamakau and I strongly support this resolution. I r see hikers almost everyday of school trespassing through the school to reach the stairs. It is scary to see people who are not part of our school walking through our very small campus and I worry about the safety of all of my classmates and the kumu.

I strongly support this resolution.

Mahalo.

**Testimony Attachment**

**Accept Terms and Agreement** 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 12:58 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

**Name** James K Townsend  
**Phone**  
**Email** jtown@hawaii.rr.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** Resolution 21-154  
**Your position on the matter** Support  
**Representing Organization** Self

**Written Testimony**

I feel the resolution more than adequately state the problems encountered by the Haiku Valley residents due to the trespassing illegal hikers. The introduction of invasive species at the summit of the stairs, as stated in the resolution, is also a great concern of mine. I am particularly concerned about the cost of maintenance and liability on the city should the stairs be opened to the public. Supporters of keeping stairs open have written many op/eds and letters to the editor on this subject. Many have written about a managed approach involving a partnership with the city. These proposals are very general in nature stressing the beauty and grandeur of view from the top. This is the end result. What are the details that will get us there? What do the supporters expect from the city in terms of initial setup, maintenance and liability? What is the forecasted amount of entry fees to be collected and will it be enough to cover maintenance, security and insurance? How much insurance, to include bonding of the volunteers, will they purchase? The city must not be involved in any fashion with the Haiku Stairs for it will ALWAYS be the deep pocket in any litigation.

Other concerns:

Accessing the stairs through any area other than Haiku Valley will also create difficult liability and security situations for any landowner involved, government and private

How many new city and county employment positions will be needed to handle the increased workload created? Opening the stairs under a managed approach means significant city involvement in complex maintenance issues and the collection of fees. Who will be doing the work? This will not be like opening a new park.

The City and County of Honolulu has more pressing needs than to

spend time and money on the Haiku Stairs. We can't pave our neighborhood streets, maintain our current parks and playgrounds properly or adequately staff our building department. Don't forget about the homeless. Let's take care of what we have before we jump into the Haiku Stairs quagmire.

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Thank you very much

James K. Townsend  
46-240 Kalali St., Kaneohe  
(808) 779-2285

Testimony  
Attachment  
Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 1:04 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name Bill Schneider  
Phone  
Email Pastorbillschneider@gmail.com  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Council  
Committee  
Agenda Item 21-154  
Your position on the matter Oppose  
Representing Self  
Organization  
Written Testimony The Haiku stairs are a national treasure. I have no desire to come back to Oahu if you remove them. I will go to other islands instead.  
Testimony  
Attachment  
Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 1:38 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name	James Wald
Phone	
Email	james.wald@gmail.com
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Council
Agenda Item	Resolution 21-154
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing	Self
Organization	
Written Testimony	
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement 1	

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 1:39 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name Gabrielle Wald  
Phone  
Email gabibmello@gmail.com  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Committee Council  
Agenda Item Resolution 21-154  
Your position on the matter Oppose  
Representing Self  
Organization  
Written Testimony  
Testimony Attachment  
Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 2:04 PM  
**Subject:** Housing and the Economy Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name Jaymee Nanasi Davis  
Phone  
Email Jaymee30@gmail.com  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Committee Housing and the Economy  
Agenda Item Haiku Reso#21-154  
Your position on the matter Support  
Representing Self  
Organization

Written Testimony Aloha, as a life long member of the koolau community I support the closure of Haiku stairs. Although I'm saddened that I will never experience hiking up the "stairway to heaven", I am moved to testify in support of the closure to protect the environment as well as the preservation of our community. Mahalo.

Testimony Attachment

Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 10:51 AM  
**Subject:** Housing and the Economy Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name Dan Gardner  
Phone  
Email daniel.dano.gardner@gmail.com  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Committee Housing and the Economy  
Agenda Item 21-154 Resolution to remove Haiku Stairs  
Your position on the matter Comment  
Representing Self  
Organization

Written  
Testimony

Unless you Council members can come up with a plan that pays for itself through fees from hikers, then Vote Yes on this resolution. There should be a two fee system: one for residents and one for visitors / tourists. Costs to be recouped over time should include:

1. Initial reconstruction.
2. Ongoing necessary maintenance.
3. Any additional admin / personnel costs associated with the program: Reservation and fee collection system, etc.
4. A way to recoup emergency rescue costs. (Why people aren't charged for these costs when they are hiking in posted "no hiking zones" has never made good sense to me.)

Finally, there should be at least a majority of Haiku Stairs vicinity residents in favor of going forward with this new process.

All in all we are not to optimistic that this system won't be a red herring if done without the above considerations being pursued.

Testimony  
Attachment

Accept Terms  
and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67



**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 12:46 PM  
**Subject:** Housing and the Economy Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name Angela Hiilei Kawelo  
Phone  
Email hiilei@paepaeoheeia.org  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Committee Housing and the Economy  
Agenda Item 21-154  
Your position on the matter Support  
Representing Self  
Organization

Aloha Honolulu City Council Members,

My name is Hi'ilei Kawelo, an 8th generation native Hawaiian resident of the Ko'olaupoko moku, specifically the ahupua'a of Ka'alaea and Kahalu'u. In addition to residing in Kahalu'u, I work in the ahupua'a of He'eia for the non-profit organization, Paepae o He'eia that has been stewarding He'eia Fishpond for the past 20 years.

### Written Testimony

I am in strong support of dismantling Ha'iku Stairs. There are safer ways to access the summit of the Ko'olau, via any number of trails that are managed and maintained by the State of Hawai'i's DLNR. While the hikes are long and not for the novice hiker, the Ko'olau summit is a special place and access to our remote summits should be limited. Our environment in Hawai'i is being compromised for economic gain and tourism, I see it daily in Kaneohe Bay. I would love to see a Hawai'i where the City and State put our environment first. I also worry about the safety of all hikers and users of the stairs, I worry for the safety of the fire fighters, those that put their lives in harms way to rescue users and abusers of the stairs. For once, let's make a decision that puts our environment and safety first.

Mahalo,  
Hi'ilei Kawelo

Testimony Attachment  
Accept Terms and Agreement

1

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 1:59 PM  
**Subject:** Parks and Community Services Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name Karin Martin  
Phone  
Email alohakarimartin@gmail.com  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Committee Parks and Community Services  
Agenda Item 21-154  
Your position on the matter Oppose  
Representing Self  
Organization  
Written Testimony Haiku Stairs is a destination that is known worldwide for its unique natural beauty. Let's preserve it for generations of locals and visitors alike!  
Testimony Attachment  
Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 2:10 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name Ken Suzuki  
Phone  
Email kenji36@juno.com  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH  
Committee Council  
Agenda Item Resolution 21-154  
Your position on  
the matter Oppose  
Representing Self  
Organization

Written  
Testimony

There has been an overwhelming support for keeping the stairs for the past 20 plus years. Ester Kiaaina does not represent all the people of Hawaii, and to tear down the Stairs for a small amount of her constituents is unthinkable. No one would take down Diamond Head trail, why take down the Diamond Head Trail of the Windward side? Council members should at least take a tour of the stairs before taking it down.

Testimony  
Attachment

Accept Terms  
and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 2:19 PM  
**Subject:** Parks and Community Services Testimony

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## Written Testimony

**Name** Alyson Marsh  
**Phone**  
**Email** alyson.marsh731@gmail.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Parks and Community Services  
**Agenda Item** Resolution 21-154  
**Your position on the matter** Support  
**Representing Organization** Self

**Written Testimony**

I am in support for the removal of the "stairway to heaven" in Ha'iku Valley. The current structure and access points are unsecured and unsafe. As someone who works in conservation, the current structure and the rate of deterioration would cause a financial and safety liability to its hikers and current residents. As a native Hawaiian, this is against standard Hawaiian cultural practices for 'aina preservation and the care of the 'ahapua'a of He'eia. It is in the best interest of O'ahu and her community to restore its native landscape and preserve the natural integrity of the mauna.

**Testimony Attachment**

**Accept Terms and Agreement** 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 2:25 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name Scott Hovey Jr  
Phone  
Email scott.hovey.jr@gmail.com  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Committee Council  
Agenda Item Resolution 21-154  
Your position on the matter Oppose  
Representing Self  
Organization  
Written Testimony I oppose removing Haiku Stairs.  
Testimony Attachment  
Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 2:26 PM  
**Subject:** Parks and Community Services Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name	Rebecca ahina
Phone	
Email	Rebeccahina@hotmail.com
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Parks and Community Services
Agenda Item	Resolution 21-154
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing Organization	Self
Written Testimony	I am for public access, outdoor classrooms/environmental education, and management of our recreational resources. Save haiku stairs.
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement	1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 2:33 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name John and Jennifer Sabas  
Phone  
Email jsabas@hawaii.rr.com  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Committee Council  
Agenda Item CR 212 (Resolution 21-154)  
Your position on the matter Support  
Representing Self  
Organization

Aloha Council Members,

We offer our testimony in support of Resolution 21-154, urging the City Administration to remove the Haiku stairs.

Our family live in an area located near one of the commonly used entrances to the Haiku stairs. Over the past nearly 3 decades, we have witnessed first hand the disruption to our community because of people wanting to hike the stairs.

Written  
Testimony

For all of those years, our biggest concern was for the safety of our young children, as they rode their bikes and skateboards, or walked on the sidewalks to visit their friends in the area. Thanks to better enforcement by the City in recent months, the foot and vehicular traffic from hikers has lessened, however, there still remains a steady influx of illegal hikers to the stairs. While our children have now grown to be young adults, there are many other families with young children living in our neighborhood. Our neighbors, just as we were concerned for many years, have legitimate reasons to worry about their children's safety from hikers who insists on illegally accessing the stairs.

Reso 21-154 accurately describes all the reasons for removing the stairs. We support the resolution and strongly encourage the City Administration to act immediately in having the stairs dismantled.

Mahalo and aloha,

John and Jennifer Sabas

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 2:47 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name	Nelson Tomas
Phone	
Email	nelson.tomas1@gmail.com
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Council
Agenda Item	Resolution 21-154
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing	Organization
Organization	Friends of Haiku Stairs
Written Testimony	
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement 1	

IP: 192.168.200.67



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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 2:58 PM  
**Subject:** Parks and Community Services Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name	Anna Cieri
Phone	
Email	annacieri3@gmail.com
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Parks and Community Services
Agenda Item	Haiku
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing Organization	Self
Written Testimony	I oppose the removal of the stairs, and as a taxpayer the thought of a million dollars being used to do so is an absolute waste
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement	1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 3:06 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name David Randell  
Phone  
Email randell001@hawaii.rr.com  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Council  
Committee  
Agenda Item Resolution 21-154  
Your position on the matter Oppose  
Representing Self  
Organization  
Written Testimony Haiku stairs is an Oahu gem. I have hiked it with friends. Please keep the hike open and managed as suggested by the report submitted by The Friends of Haiku Stairs. There is no need to close this wonderful treasure.  
Testimony Attachment  
Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 3:16 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

**Name** Patrick Rorie  
**Phone**  
**Email** prorieandmnt@gmail.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** Removal of Haiku Stairs  
**Your position on the matter** Oppose  
**Representing Organization** Self

September 7, 2021

Dear Honolulu City Council Members,

First of all, thank you for taking up this very important issue at your council meeting.

Some have called the Haiku Stairs 'The Eiffel Tower of the Pacific'.

**Written Testimony**

Under former Mayor Jeremy Harris, the City and County of Honolulu spent over \$800,000 to repair the Haiku Stairs and this money would be wasted if the Haiku Stairs is torn down. Furthermore, the Haiku Stairs is a historic structure, built by the Navy in the 1940's for the war effort, not to mention that it provides an amazing recreational opportunity for outdoor enthusiasts.

Please save the Haiku Stairs! Please vote to fund the repair and reopening of the Haiku Stairs rather than for its removal.

Mahalo nui for your time and consideration.

With Aloha,

Patrick Rorie (Aiea, Hawaii resident and avid hiker)

**Testimony Attachment**

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 3:03 PM  
**Subject:** Housing and the Economy Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name	Marice
Phone	
Email	marice_frandsen@yahoo.com
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Housing and the Economy
Agenda Item	Resolution to remove Haiku Stairs is 21-154
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing	Self
Organization	
Written Testimony	Please do not waste money tearing this precious landmark down.
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement 1	

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 3:33 PM  
**Subject:** Housing and the Economy Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name Shaina Maele  
Phone  
Email s.ann.maele@gmail.com  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH  
Committee Housing and the Economy  
Agenda Item RES21-154  
Your position on  
the matter Support  
Representing Self  
Organization

IN STRONG SUPPORT- Resolution 21-154

Aloha kākou,

My name is Shaina Ma'ele and I am in STRONG SUPPORT of the removal of the Ha'ikū Stairs. I am a parent at Ke Kula 'o Samuel M. Kamakau and I have observed the negative affects of illegal trespassers both on the the private access road to my child's campus as well as those who trespass onto campus.

Written  
Testimony I am concerned for my child's physical, mental and emotional safety, as well as the safety of all the students, Kumu, Staff and 'Ohana who are on campus.

It is for all of these reasons, that I STRONGLY SUPPORT Resolution 21-154 that urges the City & County Administration to remove the Ha'ikū Stairs and to develop a responsible plan for its removal.

Me ke aloha,  
Shaina Ann K. Ma'ele

Testimony  
Attachment

Accept Terms  
and Agreement 1

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 3:24 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

**Name** Jerry Miller  
**Phone**  
**Email** jlrides2001@yahoo.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** Resolution 21-154  
**Your position on the matter** Oppose  
**Representing Organization** Self

**Written Testimony**

I believe the Haiku Stairs should be treated as a gift. No where else is as exciting and beautiful to hike anywhere else on Oahu. This should be protected for the enjoyment of everyone, locals and visitors alike. If you have ever been up there you know this is special in every way. Please support the outdoor adventure in all of us. We as a community need these outlets to share and experience nature at it's finest.

**Testimony Attachment**

**Accept Terms and Agreement** 1

IP: 192.168.200.67



September 7, 2021

To: Honolulu City Council

From: Craig Thomas, MD

Aloha,

I'm strongly opposed to the removal of the Haiku Stairs which are a state treasure.

In the thirty-eight years I've worked in the Castle Emergency Department I have never treated an injury from the Haiku stairs. This is a stark contrast to the Pillbox trail, Olomana Peak or Maunawili Falls where injuries and medevacs are common, and deaths occur.

An avid hiker I first climbed the stairs twenty-five years ago, a fantastic experience and clearly the best Ko'olau summit trail complete with handrails – fantastic.

Submitted by,

Craig Thomas, MD

President, HEPA

[craig@hepa.net](mailto:craig@hepa.net)

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 3:36 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name Drew Jernigan  
Phone  
Email drewjernigan@earthlink.net  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Committee Council  
Agenda Item Resolution 21-14 Haiku Stairs  
Your position on the matter Support  
Representing Self  
Organization

You will receive an overwhelming number of people who do not live in Haiku Village, Haiku Valley, Oahu or even the United States submitting testimony to keep the stairs. Their lives are not affected like the local residents lives are. They don't pay the price, we do. It is your kuleana to respect the desires of the local residents and taxpayers of Haiku Valley, preserve the beauty of our island and put and end to illegal hiking by removing the Haiku Stairs.

Written  
Testimony

As a 16 year resident of Haiku Valley, I support the removal of The Haiku Stairs due to

- 1) Environmental concerns ( Hikers introduce destructive invasive species into Haiku Valley destroying native species of flora and fauna
- 2) Stairs management concerns (there is no viable plan to ethically, environmentally and sustainably manage the stairs in perpetuity)
- 3 Local resident concerns about disruptive and damaging hikers(There is no viable solution to the problem of local community degradation due to local and international tourism fueled by insatiable and unstoppable social media attention.)
- 4) Mis-spent taxpayer dollars (According to recent emergency responder testimony on this bill, 16 human resources are required to provide for the rescue of 1 wayward stranded illegal hiker, endangering a total of 17 lives at a minimum and diverting 16 resources from local taxpayers. Right now the city does not bill illegal hikers for rescues on the off-limits Haiku Stairs. )
- 5) Definition of trail. (Haiku Stairs is not a trail or a hike- it is a man-made structure that requires repairs, and incurs incredible liability for the city and county of Honolulu and the department of Hawaiian Homelands regardless of who they find to "manage" it.)



6) Scale concerns- (Once the stairs begin to be managed by a for-profit entity they will likely increase access to the stairs to meet demand)

7) Lack of a clear entity to manage the stairs. (No agency or company has been definitively been given the responsibility for managing the stairs- we are trying to make a decision with a major piece of the puzzle missing.)

Testimony  
Attachment

Accept Terms  
and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 3:41 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name	Krista White
Phone	
Email	kristawhitepiano@gmail.com
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Council
Agenda Item	Resolution 21-154
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing	Self
Organization	
Written Testimony	Please do not remove the Haiku Stairs!
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement 1	

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 3:36 PM  
**Subject:** Housing and the Economy Testimony  
**Attachments:** 20210907153532\_Testimony\_to\_Honolulu\_City\_Council\_Supporting\_Resolution\_21-154\_Urging\_Haiku\_Stairs\_Removal\_09-07-21.pdf

## Written Testimony

Name Gary Karr  
Phone  
Email garykarr@gmail.com  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Committee Housing and the Economy  
Agenda Item Resolution 21-154 Haiku Stairs Removal  
Your position on the matter Support  
Representing Self  
Organization  
Written Testimony  
Testimony Attachment 20210907153532\_Testimony\_to\_Honolulu\_City\_Council\_Supporting\_Resolution\_21-154\_Urging\_Haiku\_Stairs\_Removal\_09-07-21.pdf  
Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

September 7, 2021

Testimony submitted to the City Council, City and County of Honolulu supporting  
Resolution 21-154 Urging the City Administration to Remove the Haiku Stairs

I appreciate the opportunity to provide testimony supporting Resolution 21-154 *Urging the City Administration to Remove the Haiku Stairs*. I have lived on the windward side my entire life, in Kaneohe since 1969, and in my current residence in Haiku valley since 1975. During this time things have changed dramatically and what was once a couple of people going up the stairs every so often is now dozens per day trying and, unfortunately, many of them succeeding. Those people who want to see the sunrise/sunset or experience the challenge of climbing the stairs in a rain, thunder, or lightning storm will do it no matter what rules or measures are in place to try to properly manage the stairs. The decisions of these irresponsible people put themselves at risk but more importantly risk the lives of our emergency services personnel.

Sadly, the approximately \$250,000 spent annually to try to stop people isn't working as evidenced by the number of people I see on the stairs every day from my home. Management of the stairs has been and continues to be impossible given the many access points trespassers can use to reach the stairs. When a person from Florida tells me at 1 am in the morning as he drinks from my water hose that he flew all the way to Hawaii to climb the stairs because of something he read on social media, you can believe he wasn't and wouldn't be deterred by arrest or fines nor would he respect rules and hours of operation should the stairs be put under a managed access entity. These people will do whatever they can to check the "Stairway to Heaven" box on their bucket list. People will try no matter what unless the stairs are removed.

In addition to the problems and liability hikers present to the surrounding neighborhood and land owners, I don't believe that it is environmentally responsible to allow people up the stairs in what is a sensitive area that produces the water we drink. Furthermore, the educational value of the stairs can easily be provided by existing parks such as Aiea Loop Trail. The real reason the stairs are attractive is because of the thrill factor; not education, nature appreciation, or the wonderful view. Why else would someone climb up during a rainstorm when clouds completely obscure the view? When all these factors are taken into consideration, I believe the best way to handle the Haiku Stairs situation is to remove the temptation, remove the stairs.

Thank you.

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 3:42 PM  
**Subject:** Housing and the Economy Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name	Kathy Fay
Phone	
Email	fay.kathy@gmail.com
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Housing and the Economy
Agenda Item	Bill 21-154
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing Organization	Self
Written Testimony	Tearing down Haiku Stairs is not what the public wants. A managed access plan is a reasonable alternative to save such a significant and historic feature of our island. Thank you
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement	1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 3:53 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name	Georgi DeCosta
Phone	
Email	georgimaile@gmail.com
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Council
Agenda Item	Haiku Stairs
Your position on the matter	Support
Representing Organization	Self
Written Testimony	I strongly support the removal of Ha'ikū Stairs. Please let Keahiakahoe heal.
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement	1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 3:44 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

**Name** Emma Boyer-Shaul  
**Phone**  
**Email** ebshaul@gmail.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** 21-154  
**Your position on the matter** Oppose  
**Representing Organization** Self

**Written Testimony**

It deeply saddens me that the state is considering demolishing the Haiku Stairs. This iconic hike offers both historical significance and a unique experience here on Oahu. I believe that the stairs could be repaired and opened to the public, and I know that both residents and visitors would gladly pay to legally access them. If it was open, there would no longer be an issue of trespassing in the Kaneohe neighborhood. Also, I think educational signs/placards could be added along the hike with information about the historical aspects of the stairs as well as information about native plants, trees and other cultural aspects. It truly would be a shame to lose the Stairs, and I hope the council seriously considers not removing them.

**Testimony Attachment**

**Accept Terms and Agreement** 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 3:53 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

**Name** Jade Freitas  
**Phone**  
**Email** tanis3rd@yahoo.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** Resolution 21-154 Removal of Haiku Stairs  
**Your position on the matter** Support  
**Representing Organization** Self

**Written Testimony** Please remove the Stairs. Neighborhoods will feel the repercussion of those who will not get a paid ticket.  
We are tired of trespassers and strangers in our neighborhoods asking our keiki information about the hike is not exceptional. Let alone helicopters flying over our houses to view the stairs. Please feel for us and our Aina. Mahalo Nui

**Testimony Attachment**  
**Accept Terms and Agreement** 1

IP: 192.168.200.67



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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 4:03 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name	Stephen Jones
Phone	
Email	Kaaawa17@yahoo.com
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Council
Agenda Item	Resolution 21-154
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing Organization	Self
Written Testimony	Do not tear down the stairs. This would be an enormous waste of money.
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement	1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 4:06 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name	Rodney Mau
Phone	
Email	socalkamaaina@yahoo.com
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Council
Agenda Item	Resolution 21-154
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing	Self
Organization	
Written Testimony	The Ha`iku Stairs should not beremoved.
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement 1	

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 4:18 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

**Name** Harvey M Nakamoto Jr  
**Phone**  
**Email** h.nakamoto.jr@gmail.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** Resolution 21-154  
**Your position on the matter** Oppose  
**Representing Organization** Organization  
Unseen Hawaii Adventure Tours LLC

**Written Testimony**

I strongly oppose the resolution to remove the Ha'iku Stairs. The people of Hawaii have expressed an overwhelming opposition to the removal of the Ha'iku Stairs. In the last City Council meeting in which testimony on this issue was accepted, 92.7% of the submitted testimony was in opposition to removal. The vast majority of 7.3% of the testimony that supported removal was submitted by parents of current students and alumni from Ke Kula o' Samuel M. Kamakau (hereinafter "Kamakau"). This opposition, however, was premised on the erroneous belief that the alternative to removal is to do nothing and leave things as they are. I strongly oppose this resolution to remove the Ha'iku Stairs at least until the City puts out a requests for proposals (hereinafter "RFP") and the City and the people of Hawaii are allowed to assess the prospect of removal against privately funded plans to resolve all of the issues associated with the Ha'iku Stairs.

There is very wide opposition to the contemplated removal of the Ha'iku Stairs. At the last City Council meeting held on May 11, 2021 and per Bill Higgs from the Friends of Ha'iku Stairs who claims to have read through and counted each one of the 1365 pieces of written testimony, 92.7% (or 1265 of 1365) of the submitted written testimony was in opposition to removal of the Ha'iku Stairs. This is understandable, the Haiku Stairs are a huge international draw that was featured in the National Geographic article, "World's Best Hikes: Endangered Trails" as one of the top 10 endangered trails in the world.

The vast majority of the 7.4% (100 of 1365) of the written testimony submitted in support of the resolution to remove the Ha'iku Stairs was submitted by alumni or parents of current students of Kamakau. It is entirely understandable that the parents of students, alumni, and

faculty of Kamakau are the strongest supporters of removal. Kamakau sits next to the main access point to the Ha'iku Stairs and at least arguably is the most impacted by the Ha'iku Stairs. While the impact to Kamakau is of serious concern and needs to be addressed, all of the submitted testimony in support of removal is premised on the proposition that the alternative is to do nothing and leave things as they are. This is an entirely inaccurate proposition. No one wants to leave things as they are.

There are at least 14 private entities that have expressed an interest in attempting to resolve all of the problems associated with the Ha'iku Stairs - paramount of which must be reducing or eliminating the impact on Kamakau and the broader Ha'iku community. On or about February 11, 2020, the Department of Enterprise Services put out a request for information (hereinafter "RFI"). This RFI asked private operators questions about the procurement structure, financial/commercial feasibility, technical feasibility, and other issues surrounding a concession at the Ha'iku Stairs. Unseen Hawai'i Adventure Tours, LLC and 13 other potential operators submitted responses to the Department of Enterprise Services RFI on or before February 28, 2020 at 4:00PM. This RFI also explicitly stated, however, that a private parties failure to submit an RFI on February 28, 2020 did not preclude it from entering this contemplated public private partnership procurement process at a later stage. This RFI submitted by the City was the first step on the public private partnership procurement route that the City then contemplated.

The Haiku Stairs is likely the biggest international attraction to Hawaii and has the potential to attract tens of millions of dollars in visitor money annually. Removing just a portion of the Ha'iku Stairs would cost the City an estimated \$1,000,000.00. Furthermore, this removal would not stop access to the top of the Ha'iku Stairs. History has proven that when enforcement of and penalties for trespassing from the Ha'iku access point is increased, it reduces trespassing in Ha'iku but has little if any effect on trespassing to access the top of the Ha'iku Stairs from alternate routes. Of even greater concern is the HFD spokesperson pointed out at the City Council hearing on May 11, 2021, rescues from the alternate routes nearly double the number of rescues from the Ha'iku Stairs.

Particularly because 1) the people of Hawaii have expressed overwhelming opposition to the removal of the Ha'iku Stairs and 2) at best removal of the Ha'iku Stairs would have the questionable effect of pushing nuisance issues from one community to another, and increasing safety concerns, I strongly oppose this resolution to remove the Haiku Stairs - at least until a RFP can be conducted to consider the alternatives to removal.

Testimony  
Attachment  
Accept Terms  
and Agreement 1

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 4:21 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name David E Sofio  
Phone  
Email dsofio@gmail.com  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Council  
Committee  
Agenda Item 21-154  
Your position on the matter Oppose  
Representing Self  
Organization

### Written Testimony

It's difficult for me to fathom the level of dysfunctionality in City government that would bring us to the point where a proposal to DEMOLISH this breathtaking, fascinating, precious historical gem. Demolishing the Haiku stairs would demonstrate an astonishing inability to manage - by quite simple and in fact already-templated means - access and maintenance for the magnificent artifact that's being targeted, however bizarrely, for removal.

Did we demolish the Diamond Head lookout? The Koko Head 'stairmaster?' Both of those fall easily into the same realm of scenic hikes with clear ties to our historical legacy, however no one who has hiked the Haiku steps would ever consider the other two as close competitors in the categories of history or scenery.

Significantly, the Haiku steps stand apart from those hikes as never having been the scene of anything more than a minor injury, so those who argue that the steps are a lawsuit waiting to happen should be called upon to answer as to why those other hikes - and in fact, MANY trails - would not also constitute unacceptable liabilities to the City.

We don't - we MUST not - tear down this beautiful piece of history. Manage, preserve, and maintain it, as any good government would.

### Testimony Attachment

Accept Terms and Agreement 1

Lā 7 o Kepakemapa, 2021

Iā- Honolulu City Council & City Administration

Maiā- Ke Kula 'o Samuel M. Kamakau, LPCS (Social Studies & English class, grades 7 & 8)

E pili ana i- Leka Hō'ike Mana'o - Testimony for Resolution 21-154

Ke aloha nui 'oukou e nā hoa alaka'i o Honolulu e noho ana i ka malu o Pūowaina, aloha nō. 'O mākou ka papa mākau'ōlelo Pelekānia a me ka Pilikānaka o ka papa 7-8 no Ke Kula 'o Samuel M. Kamakau, LPCS no Ha'ikū, He'eia, Ko'olaupoko, O'ahu. Aloha nui.

*Greetings to our friends at the Honolulu City Council and City Administration.*

*We are the middle school students of Ke Kula 'o Samuel M. Kamakau, LPCS located in the ili of Ha'ikū in He'eia, Ko'olaupoko, O'ahu. Aloha!*

Eia mākou e KĀKO'O piha nei i ka Resolution 21-154.

*We are in full SUPPORT of Resolution 21-154 as introduced by Councilmember Esther Kiaaina.*

Eia mai he elua mana'o ko'iko'i e no'ono'o ai mākou:

*We share two reasons or explanations of our support for this resolution.*

'Akahi: 'A'ohe mālama pau i ka 'iole. 'Ōlelo No'eau #180

*We have witnessed first hand the amount of trash that is often left by hikers along the path, the road and the stream bed that passes through and surrounds our campus. This becomes a sanitary problem and an eyesore.*

'Alua: E nihi ka hele, mai ho'opā. *Tread softly, do not touch.*

*We have also been left to pay for or fix the damages done to our fence, gates, signs, cones, and plants as trespassers assume they can park on our campus, or as they make attempts to enter the access road during non-school hours and damage our gates. This becomes a burden for our Administration team, our school governing board, our custodial staff and our parent group to have to constantly repair and attend to these issues of property damage by hikers and trespassers.*

E aloha 'āina kākou, e mālama wahi pana kākou, e waiho aku iā Keahiakahoe i ka malu ko'oko'o lau.

*We encourage each of you at the City & County of Honolulu (Council & Administration) to activate your aloha 'āina and to engage your sense of place by supporting this resolution. Let's leave this wahipana, this sacred place named Keahiakahoe, safe and unharmed.*

Eia mākou e KĀKO'O piha nei i ka Resolution 21-154.

*Again, please note that we are in full SUPPORT of Resolution 21-154*

A no laila e nā hoa kia'i o ka 'āina, e mālama pono i ola ma'ema'e mau ai o Hawai'i. He leo mahalo kēia no ka wā e hāpai mana'o aku a me ka ho'olono 'ana mai. Me ke aloha Kamakau, aloha a hui hou.

*A sincere thank you for your work to keep Hawai'i safe and thriving. Also, we thank you for the opportunity to express our concerns regarding safety and land access.*

*Nā haumāna a me ke kumu o ka papa waena (7-8) o ke kula nei.*

*~Kumu Kameha'ililani Waiau*

*U'ilani,*

*Milika'a,*

*Pualokomaika'i,*

*Kealoha and*

*Our grades 7-8 classmates*

Phyllis Kamehaililani Waiau

[kamehaililani@kamakau.com](mailto:kamehaililani@kamakau.com)

Resolution 21-154

Support

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 4:29 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

**Name** Malama Minn  
**Phone**  
**Email** mminn811@gmail.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** Resolution 21-154  
**Your position on the matter** Oppose  
**Representing Organization** Organization  
**Organization** Unseen Hawaii Adventure Tours LLC

**Written Testimony**

I strongly oppose the resolution to remove the Ha'iku Stairs. The people of Hawaii have expressed an overwhelming opposition to the removal of the Ha'iku Stairs. In the last City Council meeting in which testimony on this issue was accepted, 92.7% of the submitted testimony was in opposition to removal. The vast majority of 7.3% of the testimony that supported removal was submitted by parents of current students and alumni from Ke Kula o' Samuel M. Kamakau (hereinafter "Kamakau"). This opposition, however, was premised on the erroneous belief that the alternative to removal is to do nothing and leave things as they are. I strongly oppose this resolution to remove the Ha'iku Stairs at least until the City puts out a requests for proposals (hereinafter "RFP") and the City and the people of Hawaii are allowed to assess the prospect of removal against privately funded plans to resolve all of the issues associated with the Ha'iku Stairs.

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The vast majority of the 7.4% (100 of 1365) of the written testimony submitted in support of the resolution to remove the Ha'iku Stairs was submitted by alumni or parents of current students of Kamakau. It is

entirely understandable that the parents of students, alumni, and faculty of Kamakau are the strongest supporters of removal. Kamakau sits next to the main access point to the Ha'iku Stairs and at least arguably is the most impacted by the Ha'iku Stairs. While the impact to Kamakau is of serious concern and needs to be addressed, all of the submitted testimony in support of removal is premised on the proposition that the alternative is to do nothing and leave things as they are. This is an entirely inaccurate proposition. No one wants to leave things as they are.

There are at least 14 private entities that have expressed an interest in attempting to resolve all of the problems associated with the Ha'iku Stairs - paramount of which must be reducing or eliminating the impact on Kamakau and the broader Ha'iku community. On or about February 11, 2020, the Department of Enterprise Services put out a request for information (hereinafter "RFI"). This RFI asked private operators questions about the procurement structure, financial/commercial feasibility, technical feasibility, and other issues surrounding a concession at the Ha'iku Stairs. Unseen Hawai'i Adventure Tours, LLC and 13 other potential operators submitted responses to the Department of Enterprise Services RFI on or before February 28, 2020 at 4:00PM. This RFI also explicitly stated, however, that a private parties failure to submit an RFI on February 28, 2020 did not preclude it from entering this contemplated public private partnership procurement process at a later stage. This RFI submitted by the City was the first step on the public private partnership procurement route that the City then contemplated.

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Particularly because 1) the people of Hawaii have expressed overwhelming opposition to the removal of the Ha'iku Stairs and 2) at best removal of the Ha'iku Stairs would have the questionable effect of pushing nuisance issues from one community to another, and increasing safety concerns, I strongly oppose this resolution to remove the Haiku Stairs - at least until a RFP can be conducted to consider the alternatives to removal.

Testimony  
Attachment  
Accept Terms  
and Agreement 1



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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 4:34 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

**Name** Ina Taea  
**Phone**  
**Email** smudge\_09@hotmail.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** Resolutions 21-154  
**Your position on the matter** Oppose  
**Representing Organization** Self

**Written Testimony** Please reconsider. We cannot loose such a historical site. Please meet with us as a community and lets find a way to keep the stairs, charge a fee for usage and work with the residents of the area so they can help determine the best way we can eventually have this benefit us ALL! PLEASE SAVE the STAIRS!!!

**Testimony Attachment**  
**Accept Terms and Agreement** 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 4:35 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

**Name** Choon James  
**Phone**  
**Email** choonjameshawaii@gmail.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** 21-154  
**Your position on the matter** Support  
**Representing Organization** Self

**SUPPORT:**

URGING THE CITY ADMINISTRATION TO REMOVE THE HAIKU STAIRS AND ITS ACCESSORY STRUCTURES TO STOP TRESPASSING, REDUCE DISTURBANCES TO LOCAL NEIGHBORHOODS, INCREASE PUBLIC SAFETY, REMOVE POTENTIAL LIABILITY TO THE CITY, AND PROTECT THE ENVIRONMENT.

Aloha Chair Waters and City Council,

**Written Testimony**

Both the state and city have been talking about the escalating over-tourism impacts on our local residents, communities, and the environment.

Resolution 21-154 will be good opportunity for the decision-makers to take a stand and walk the talk.

I've been following this issue and have particularly noticed that many out-of-state and commercial interests have been very vocal and organized about protecting their profiteering ventures to this site. No one is against entrepreneurship and profiteering. But commercialization must NOT be at the expense of our residents' quality of life, peace, and contentment in their own homes, neighborhoods and natural environment.

It's easy for those who are not personally affected in their own homes

or have to live with chronic negative multiplier impacts to make promises or assurances of mitigation of the issue.

But, in terms of public policy making, the most AFFECTED parties must have the most standing in this issue.

I sympathize with our local Haiku Valley residents on the frontline who have to live with inevitable impacts from over-use and exploitation of surrounding natural resources. For a tourist, it may be their one-in-a-life-time dream but to our affected residents, it is years of negative CUMULATIVE impacts.

Let's take our neighborhoods back. Put our Residents First! Allow our residents and communities to live in peace and contentment.

Those of us who do not live in Haiku Valley have to understand that we outsiders can make sacrifices and find other options to enjoy nature.

Those of us who want to profit from this issue will have to find other commercial ventures that do not overly burden residents, neighborhoods and Oahu's precious and finite resources.

Not every inch of our natural resources has to be always exploited for gain, stomped over, and encroached upon. Let's protect and preserve some of these areas for future generations.

Mahalo,

Choon James

Testimony  
Attachment  
Accept Terms  
and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 4:19 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name	Phyllis Kamehaililani Waiau
Phone	
Email	kamehaililani@kamakau.com
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Council
Agenda Item	Resolution 21-154
Your position on the matter	Support
Representing	Self
Organization	
Written Testimony	
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement 1	

IP: 192.168.200.67

---

**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 4:23 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name van tran  
Phone  
Email thuvan3@hotmail.com  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Committee Council  
Agenda Item Resolution 21-154  
Your position on the matter Oppose  
Representing Self  
Organization

I strongly oppose resolution 21-154.

The Haiku Stairs are a landmark that bring joy and beauty to not only the city and state but also for visitors from all over the world that seek to immerse themselves in the adventure and majesty of the stairs. My recollection of driving on the Pali and seeing the clouds move, the stairs "pop" out against the mountainside for the first time, was one of reverence for human ingenuity intertwined with awe for the astounding beauty. The mystery of how to ascend the Stairs would then haunt me for years.

Written  
Testimony

When I read or hear that the Stairs may be torn down due to property disputes or financial concerns, I am disappointed in our leadership. If managed properly, it would cost far less to maintain this living monument than the cost of hiring security and having HPD ticket hikers. Instead, funds could be used to upkeep the stairs, build parking, find alternative legal access point on windward side, build and upkeep Moanalua access, limit number of hikers/day or close stairs at night or when conditions make Stairs inaccessible or dangerous. Currently, few incidents occur on the stairs and with the city managing the stairs, the incident rate could be lowered further. If the city were to set up a support model similar to Diamondhead, the stairs could easily become a travel destination landmark similar to Pearl Harbor, Eiffel Tower, Antelope Canyon, or Kalalau Trail.

I urge you to reconsider removing this beloved trail that many speak of, few have had the pleasure of hiking, and many more wish to ascend.

---

**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 4:50 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name Jeremy bell  
Phone  
Email Jbnite@gmail.com  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Council  
Committee  
Agenda Item 21-154  
Your position on the matter Oppose  
Representing Self  
Organization

Written Testimony The stairs are an asset to Oahu, please keep them and open them. A small fee to maintain them for access makes the most sense.

Testimony Attachment

Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 4:52 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name	Jennifer M Loo
Phone	
Email	jennruu@gmail.com
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Council
Agenda Item	21-154
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing	Self
Organization	
Written Testimony	
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement 1	

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 4:55 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name	Richmond Jalos
Phone	
Email	richljalos@gmail.com
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Council
Agenda Item	Resolution 21-154
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing	Self
Organization	
Written Testimony	
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement 1	

IP: 192.168.200.67



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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 4:56 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name Tim Streitz  
Phone  
Email tstreitz.nb8@gmail.com  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Committee Council  
Agenda Item CR-212  
Your position on the matter Oppose  
Representing Self  
Organization

CR-212 grossly understates the opposition to removing the Haiku Stairs. Buried at the very end is a brief mention of the THOUSANDS of people who oppose removal, and who want to legally be able to use, the stairs. I strongly oppose Resolution 21-154 to remove the Haiku Stairs and restrict access to public land. Elected officials should clearly be representing the broader community who want the stairs and who significantly outnumber those seeking removal. This shortsighted action to remove the stairs is favoring a small group of private interests over the greater public good.

Written  
Testimony

Historic and current practices in Hawaii have provided for common access to public land and water. Beach and mountain access easements are located all over the island in between houses, and there are even special allowances to pass through gated communities to reach mountain hike trailheads. The ability for all to enjoy the island's natural resources, regardless of whether you have the good fortune to own property next to these public amenities, is what sets Hawaii and Oahu apart.

There are around 1 million residents (not to mention all the tourists) on Oahu, and only a small fraction live around the Haiku Stairs. As our island becomes more crowded, we should be creating/improving access to as much of the public land as possible to allow for some respite and enjoyment of the very land owned and supported by taxpayers. Removing Haiku Stairs runs counter to this objective, and it's very shortsighted to outright dismiss the obviously greater good of such a public amenity that is already known to be highly desirable and cherished.

Of perhaps greater concern, this resolution could create a slippery slope where other select property owners near public amenities around the island will subsequently find cause to challenge the public's access rights near their residence just because it inconveniences them. Recall that the City Council has previously supported the greater good, including past condemnation of an easement that opened up beach access in Portlock just this year. It defies reason why the community around Haiku Stairs should get special treatment from these public access standards to make our public land more accessible.

Please direct your efforts to figuring out viable solutions for a managed and safe access to the stairs, which can still respect the nearby residents' wellbeing, and defer this resolution. There are plenty of people willing to assist.

Testimony  
Attachment  
Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 4:57 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name	Rebecca L Harasymczuk
Phone	
Email	rharasymczuk@gmail.com
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Council
Agenda Item	Resolution 21-154
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing	Self
Organization	
Written Testimony	
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement 1	

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 4:57 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

**Name** Brenda Nemec Nemec  
**Phone**  
**Email** brenbasil@aol.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** Resolution 21-154  
**Your position on the matter** Oppose  
**Representing Organization** Self

**Written Testimony** There are so many of us that would pay to upkeep the stairs and make it manageable for future generations to enjoy. It has such historical significance to the community!

**Testimony Attachment**

**Accept Terms and Agreement** 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 4:45 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name	Patrick murphy
Phone	
Email	Patmurphy76@gmail.com
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Council
Agenda Item	21-154
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing Organization	Self
Written Testimony	We have been testifying for years. Save the stairs! Save our island history and one of the safest hikes on Oahu. This will also prevent erosion of the middle ridge which is in major need of repair
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement	1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 4:32 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name Tia Swarbrick  
Phone  
Email Tia4Nyc@gmail.com  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Committee Council  
Agenda Item Resolution 21-154  
Your position on the matter Oppose  
Representing Self  
Organization

Written  
Testimony

I am writing to oppose of taking down the Ha'iku Stairs . People from all over the world dream of coming to do this hike and they cannot for years because it's been closed . It is known to have one of the most incredible views of the island and there's something about the stairs that makes it unique and like no other place in the world. I feel that we need to keep that because it's so different from anything else anyone has ever seen. I have been waiting for years to be able to hike up the stairs. I understand that the neighborhood is fed up with people trying to go past the guard and making noise and disturbing the area, but if they would just open up the main entrance way most likely would not happen . I do know that the stairs need some repair but I can't see why we can't do something like KoKo head and have an organization to take care of them instead of spending tons of money taking them down. I fear that people will still try to hike up that side of the mountain or down it should I say which would be even more dangerous in my opinion. I also know that people would pay to go up and down the stairs as well so earning money to maintain the stairs would not be a problem. Due to the popularity of it I am positive on that! So I am writing to oppose to taking down the Ha'iku stairs and to keeping them up ! Thank you for your time. Tia Swarbrick

Testimony  
Attachment

Accept Terms  
and Agreement 1

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 5:03 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

**Name** Allan Gill  
**Phone**  
**Email** allancris@hotmail.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** Resolution 21-154  
**Your position on the matter** Oppose  
**Representing Organization** Self

**Written Testimony**

I don't agree with tearing down the stairwell to heaven. I believe that the county or city should fix the stairs and charge a small entry fee for any maintenance needed. If someone wants to go on the hike, they should be required to sign a waiver so that said person doesn't file a law suit on the city or county, or state.

**Testimony Attachment**

**Accept Terms and Agreement** 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 5:04 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

**Name** Jenna Bratko  
**Phone**  
**Email** Jennaleno22@gmail.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** 21-154  
**Your position on the matter** Oppose  
**Representing Organization** Self

**Written Testimony**

These stairs are iconic to Oahu. There can be provisions and fees put into place to allow for the reopening of these stairs, as they have been safer than the back way up to the satellite station. They are a piece of history and just an overall amazing structure. Please don't have them removed.

**Testimony Attachment**

**Accept Terms and Agreement** 1

IP: 192.168.200.67



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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 5:04 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

**Name** Jenna Bratko  
**Phone**  
**Email** Jennaleno22@gmail.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** 21-154  
**Your position on the matter** Oppose  
**Representing Organization** Self

**Written Testimony**

These stairs are iconic to Oahu. There can be provisions and fees put into place to allow for the reopening of these stairs, as they have been safer than the back way up to the satellite station. They are a piece of history and just an overall amazing structure. Please don't have them removed.

**Testimony Attachment**

**Accept Terms and Agreement** 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 5:11 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name Douglas Longwood  
Phone  
Email brianeyes@yahoo.com  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Council  
Committee  
Agenda Item Resolution 21-154  
Your position on the matter Oppose  
Representing Self  
Organization

I cannot fathom that a million dollars would be spent to needlessly take down this treasure, when it has been documented that the stairs can be operated safely & responsibly \*and\* with fiscal gains.

Written Testimony The majority of the opposition is from local neighborhood groups. The managed access plan would avoid all illegal trespassing and nuisances to neighborhoods.

Please save this landmark for future generations to enjoy.

Testimony Attachment

Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 5:13 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name Brent Teraoka  
Phone  
Email bteraoka@gmail.com  
Meeting Date 09-07-2021  
Council/PH Council  
Committee  
Agenda Item #21-154  
Your position on the matter Support  
Representing Self  
Organization

### Written Testimony

I vote to support the removal of Haiku Stairs. For the last 3 years, my family & I have endured constant trespassing by inconsiderate hikers at all hours of the day. Despite what has been erroneously written about the residents of the surrounding neighborhood, we are not the "villains." We simply want to feel safe, secure, and at peace in the neighborhood we live in. I've read the managed access proposals and none of them effectively lay out a plan to prevent trespassers from wandering around our home. Private security won't have the authority to cite anyone who trespasses. There's nothing in the plan that states any consequences imposed on the management company when it fails to reduce trespassing. No metrics, no KPI's, no tangible goals. The local residents will be left holding the bag (like always). They want to turn our neighborhood into their personal playgrounds. We just want to be live at peace in our homes. What's wrong with this picture?

### Testimony Attachment

Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 5:20 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

**Name** Sharlene Chun-Lum  
**Phone**  
**Email** sharstocks@yahoo.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** res. 21-154  
**Your position on the matter** Support  
**Representing Organization** Self

Aloha Kākou,

I am testifying again in support of Res. 21-154, "Urging the City Administration to remove the Haiku Stairs and its accessory structures to stop trespassing, reduce disturbances to local neighborhoods, increase public safety, remove potential liability to the City, and protect the environment."

The title of this resolution gives all the reasons why the Haiku Stairs should be removed. You have received powerful testimony from residents--tax paying citizens--who have had to endure the crowds of visitors looking for the "next" big thrill to put on instagram post.

**Written Testimony** It is the residents who have pleaded with you to support this resolution that need to be listened to. It's their tax dollars that are paying for the rescue services, the police, the forestry department, etc.

Those who write that it's sacred or a tradition don't really know the history of the stairs. Built by the Navy in 1932, they were off-limits to the public and should have been dismantled when the Navy no longer needed them for their Alpha station. Native Hawaiians hiked these mountains without man-made stairs. The overuse of this area is endangering the native flora and fauna.

Selfish people who have written in large numbers to oppose this resolution point to its value as a tourist attraction or refuge from the world. Why should the residents who live in these neighborhoods be penalized for someone's one time thrill? Would these hikers welcome

people tramping through their yards at all hours of the day and early morning, leaving trash and human wastes?

The burden of keeping the Haiku Stairs is not worth the cost to all Hawaii's taxpayers. The liability as well as diversion of limited resources--police, fire, emergency services--must end.

The Council is responsible for serving and advancing the general welfare, health, happiness, and safety of the people through exercising its legislative power. It is imperative that this City Council pass Resolution 12-154 today.

Mahalo for doing what is pono.

Shar Chun-Lum,  
Senior resident and taxpayer

Testimony  
Attachment  
Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 5:21 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name	Thalia Loumbardas
Phone	
Email	Thalia.Loumbardas@gmail.com
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Council
Agenda Item	Resolution 21-154
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing	Self
Organization	
Written Testimony	
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement 1	

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 5:22 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name	David Zabek
Phone	
Email	daz652@att.net
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Council
Agenda Item	21-154
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing	Self
Organization	
Written Testimony	
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement 1	

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 5:25 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name	Michelle Garcia
Phone	
Email	garciamichelle@mac.com
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Council
Agenda Item	Resolution no. 21-154, to remove Haiku Stairs
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing	Self
Organization	
Written Testimony	
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement 1	

IP: 192.168.200.67



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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 5:14 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name	Zhouie murray
Phone	
Email	Zhouiem@yahoo.com
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Council
Agenda Item	Resolution 21-154
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing	Self
Organization	
Written Testimony	
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement 1	

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 5:31 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name	JAN BARO
Phone	
Email	janybaro@gmail.com
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Council
Agenda Item	21-154
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing Organization	Self
Written Testimony	I'm totally against! Stairs are part of Oahu! Please keep the stairs! MAHALO
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement	1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 5:36 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

**Name** Lori Lipton  
**Phone**  
**Email** LoriLipton@yahoo.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** Resolution 21-154  
**Your position on the matter** Oppose  
**Representing Organization** Self  
Resolution 21-154

**Written Testimony** I oppose the removal of the Ha'ikū Stairs and stand with Friends of Ha'ikū Stairs and advocate reopening the Ha'ikū Stairs under managed access.

**Testimony Attachment**  
**Accept Terms and Agreement** 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 5:37 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

**Name** Petra Otto  
**Phone**  
**Email** petra@new.rr.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** 21-154  
**Your position on the matter** Oppose  
**Representing Organization** Self

**Written Testimony** Please do not tear the down the Haiku stairs! It is a huge tourist attraction that - properly managed and regulated - will generate lots of tourism dollars. The legal trail on the backside of the stairs is starting to erode and can use some reprieve, too.

**Testimony Attachment**

**Accept Terms and Agreement** 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 5:38 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

**Name** Erich Roeder  
**Phone**  
**Email** erich\_roeder@yahoo.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** 21-154  
**Your position on the matter** Oppose  
**Representing Organization** Self

**Written Testimony** Removing the stair is a complete waste of public money. That location presents a unique opportunity to allow managed access to historic site which will provide a revenue stream for the city, all the while ensure the local home owners are not troubled. Quit wasting money on efforts like this and focus on supporting businesses in Waikiki getting through COVID.

**Testimony Attachment**  
**Accept Terms and Agreement** 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 5:38 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

**Name** Jordan Longstreth  
**Phone**  
**Email** Bleasts@yahoo.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** Resolution 21-154  
**Your position on the matter** Oppose  
**Representing Organization** Self  
**Resolution 21-154**

**Written Testimony** I oppose the removal of the Ha'ikū Stairs and stand with Friends of Ha'ikū Stairs and advocate reopening the Ha'ikū Stairs under managed access.

**Testimony Attachment**  
**Accept Terms and Agreement** 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 5:40 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

**Name** Brandon Longstreth  
**Phone**  
**Email** blong323@yahoo.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** Resolution 21-154  
**Your position on the matter** Oppose  
**Representing Organization** Self  
Resolution 21-154

**Written Testimony** I oppose the removal of the Ha'ikū Stairs and stand with Friends of Ha'ikū Stairs and advocate reopening the Ha'ikū Stairs under managed access.

**Testimony Attachment**  
**Accept Terms and Agreement** 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 5:40 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name	Linh Nguyen
Phone	
Email	Ngfamily23@yahoo.com
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Council
Agenda Item	Resolution 21-154
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing	Self
Organization	
Written Testimony	
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement 1	

IP: 192.168.200.67



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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 5:41 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

**Name** Lisa Longstreth  
**Phone**  
**Email** Lisab929@yahoo.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** Resolution 21-154  
**Your position on the matter** Oppose  
**Representing Organization** Self  
Resolution 21-154

**Written Testimony** I oppose the removal of the Ha'ikū Stairs and stand with Friends of Ha'ikū Stairs and advocate reopening the Ha'ikū Stairs under managed access.

**Testimony Attachment**  
**Accept Terms and Agreement** 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 5:41 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

**Name** Lisa Longstreth  
**Phone**  
**Email** Lisab929@yahoo.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** Resolution 21-154  
**Your position on the matter** Oppose  
**Representing Organization** Self  
  
Resolution 21-154

**Written Testimony** I oppose the removal of the Ha'ikū Stairs and stand with Friends of Ha'ikū Stairs and advocate reopening the Ha'ikū Stairs under managed access.

**Testimony Attachment**  
**Accept Terms and Agreement** 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 5:41 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

**Name** Cheryl Goody  
**Phone**  
**Email** csgoody@mac.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** Resolution 21-154  
**Your position on the matter** Oppose  
**Representing** Self  
**Organization**

**Written Testimony**

The Haiku Stairway is a historic site that has so much value for the State and for the country. What other state would tear out such a wonderful site that can be made into an educational, money-making, environmentally unique asset? Don't listen to the NIMBYs, the traffic can be managed easily. Are we going to close down all the other trails that lead to mountain summits?! When I lived in Haiku Valley in the 1970s-80s, the reservation system managed by the Coast Guard was great, never a problem. It can be done again!!

**Testimony Attachment**

**Accept Terms and Agreement** 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

---

**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 5:46 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

**Name** Todd Wilson  
**Phone**  
**Email** hamsterradio13@gmail.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** 21-2021  
**Your position on the matter** Oppose  
**Representing Organization** Organization  
American Legion Post 11

**Written Testimony**

Given it's long history among our military veterans and it's strategic value as a lookout post during our time just before and during WWII, unfortunately the Hawaiian Islands finds itself in the very same scenario as it did just before but this time with the Communist China and Russia. Plus the military build up in the South China Sea from dozens of nations in support of the United States due to China's aggression towards neighboring nations including our allies, we feel that we all should take a strategic pause to these ideas of closing the Haiku Stairs.

As China is building bases all over the Pacific and the Hawaiian Islands caught in the middle again, we propose that the Honolulu City Council shelf any decisions for a ten year period. The Haiku Stairs has existed for over eight decades, what would be the harm in holding off any decisions for a ten year period for the safety of the residents of the Hawaiian Islands and for the continued existence of the Hawaiian People.

Plus a majority of the American Legion membership are Federally license Amateur radio operators and would most likely be taking on the duties along with our active duty military to re-establish Haiku Stairs a strategic lookout post in order to protect our residents from enemy invasions and from enemy missile fire.

It is our hope that the Honolulu City Council will consider and think about the safety of the entire Hawaiian Islands and it's people before taking any action that may leave the residents of the Hawaiian Islands vulnerable to enemy attacks and worse yet, an enemy invasion in a more modern era and more advance weaponry than seventy years ago.

For the Honolulu City Council's considerations.

Respectfully signed,

Todd Wilson USMC Ret.  
DEC-American Legion Post 11

Testimony  
Attachment

Accept Terms  
and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 5:53 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name	Ken ellsworth
Phone	
Email	Kre62@live.com
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Council
Agenda Item	21-154
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing Organization	Self
Written Testimony	The stairs are a piece of history! Find a solution and preserve ww2 history!
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement	1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 5:55 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

**Name** Kerri Mahoney  
**Phone**  
**Email** kmahoney42@yahoo.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** Resolution 21-154  
**Your position on the matter** Oppose  
**Representing Organization** Self

**Written Testimony** Oahu needs to embrace these stairs. It is such a cool part of history and such an amazing way to see the island. It is part of the uniqueness that the people love about Hawaii. Please don't tear them down. There are ways to make them safer and make the area better for those that live near them.

**Testimony Attachment**

**Accept Terms and Agreement** 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 5:58 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

**Name** Andrea Wade  
**Phone**  
**Email** andreamw@hawaii.edu  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** Resolution 21-154  
**Your position on the matter** Oppose  
**Representing Organization** Self

**Written Testimony**

It makes no sense to spend money to tear down something that has been advertised to tourists. It's an historical and world-renowned "attraction." I support the Friends of the Haiku Stairs' plan to invest in the stairs and their proper management--make them safe, create a parking lot or bus system to bring in tourists, erect a "museum" at the bottom of the stairs, add platforms for people to rest at, and charge a lot of money for tourists. I believe people would pay \$250, and even as kama'aina I would pay to go up legally. It just makes no sense to tear down something that the city/state can clearly earn money from. I've heard the council worrying about liability, but how is it any different from Diamond Head? People hike that all the time, and I'm sure people get injured and the state isn't held liable. Why are the Stairs any different? It's silly. Keep them open, please, so future generations can experience this man-made wonder.

**Testimony Attachment**  
**Accept Terms and Agreement** 1

IP: 192.168.200.67





**HAWAI'I LODGING & TOURISM  
ASSOCIATION**

Testimony of  
Mufi Hannemann  
President & CEO  
Hawai'i Lodging & Tourism Association

Honolulu City Council  
Council Meeting  
September 9, 2021  
Resolution 21-154

Chair Waters and members of the City Council, mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony on behalf of the Hawai'i Lodging & Tourism Association, the state's largest private sector visitor industry organization.

The Hawai'i Lodging & Tourism Association—nearly 700 members strong, representing more than 50,000 hotel rooms and nearly 40,000 lodging workers—strongly supports the removal of the Haiku Stairs, also commonly known as the Stairway to Heaven.

To this day, we are all well aware of the myriad negative issues surrounding the illegal, but popular, hike on the Windward side: trespassing through local neighborhoods, illegal parking, and the sheer threat it serves to both hikers and emergency personnel. During my tenure as the mayor of Honolulu, I had made the decision to close off the stairs to the public in consultation with my Fire Department Chief and other first responders who expressed grave concerns of the danger we would be placing on their teams, and the lives we would be putting at risk to run rescue missions.

The likelihood of hikers needing emergency intervention has only increased in recent years as the popularity of the Haiku Stairs has skyrocketed online via social media and other popular hiking websites. Opting to remove the stairs will make clear that visitors and residents alike should not be trespassing, overwhelming residential areas, or taking unnecessary risks that place greater strain on our City personnel.

**For these reasons, HLTA supports Resolution 21-154.**

Thank you for the opportunity to offer this testimony.

[mhannemann@hawaiilodging.org](mailto:mhannemann@hawaiilodging.org)

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 6:12 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name Nelson Phillips  
Phone  
Email nelsonphillips@shaw.ca  
Meeting Date 08-09-2021  
Council/PH Committee Council  
Agenda Item Haiku Stairs  
Your position on the matter Oppose  
Representing Self  
Organization

### Written Testimony

To destroy this history is like scrapping the Arizona. If the people of Honolulu felt these stairs were not an important part of history, they wouldn't have let the Haiku Stairs have a history. They would have been destroyed almost 100 years ago. Yea almost 100 years ago. I'll bet these stairs have more history than anyone person in this room, today. These stairs should be available to the public to experience even if it involves a partnership between the City, Friends of the Haiku Stairs and the paying public. Please don't be like the Americans on the mainland, cancelling history. Good or Bad, history should be taught to our children. Those, trying to cancel history are the guilty ones. I live in Canada and I have supported the "Fiends" financially and will continue to support them. I want to climb to the top of the Haiku Stairs. Do realize how the economy will benefit with each climber on the Stairs? Airfare, accommodation, food, and I am not talking about a one nights stay. Hawaii has too much to offer..... not just the stairs. I have visited Hawaii on 5 different occasions and have stayed a total of over 240 nights. Please SAVE the Haiku Stairs from destruction.

### Testimony Attachment

Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 6:18 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name	Zoua Vang
Phone	
Email	zvang92@gmail.com
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Council
Agenda Item	Resolution 21-154
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing	Self
Organization	
Written Testimony	Do not tear down the haiku stairs.
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement 1	

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 6:18 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name	Zoua Vang
Phone	
Email	zvang92@gmail.com
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Council
Agenda Item	Resolution 21-154
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing	Self
Organization	
Written Testimony	Do not tear down the haiku stairs.
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement 1	

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 6:22 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name	Iori Riggins
Phone	
Email	Lori.riggins69@gmail.com
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Council
Agenda Item	Resolution 21-154
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing Organization	Self
Written Testimony	I oppose the tearing down of the stairway to heaven due to such historical value to the state of hawaii.
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement	1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 6:28 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

**Name** Bronson Azama  
**Phone**  
**Email** Bazama02@gmail.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** Resolution 21-154  
**Your position on the matter** Oppose  
**Representing Organization** Self

I would request that prior to the removal of the stairs the city make an effort to remove the invasive species along the ridges and preserve the wao akua with the native plants found there. I, however, support the kupa 'āina's stance of prohibiting access to these places.

**Written Testimony**

As someone who will inherit the future of these islands, protecting our watershed is a priority for the generations to come. We know that the water levels are being vastly depleted, to not utilize this as an easily accessible path for restoration work would be foolish in my opinion. I am opposed to eco-tours without consent and managed directly by kupa 'āina of the community.

I do not want to be in the latter years of my life regretting not taking a stand on this issue to protect a sustainable path for work that could benefit our environment and generations to come, because either with or without the stairs the restoration of our watersheds will need to occur. I hope I will not have to repel down ridges.

Ke aloha nō,  
Bronson Azama

**Testimony Attachment**  
**Accept Terms and Agreement** 1

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 6:30 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name Erik Wallace  
Phone  
Email erikjwallace2017@gmail.com  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Committee Council  
Agenda Item 21-154  
Your position on the matter Support  
Representing Self  
Organization  
Written Testimony I am a resident in Haiku Village, and I am in support of the resolution to remove the stairs.  
Testimony Attachment  
Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

Hello Councilwoman,

My name is Lester Lee and I reside in Kaneohe. I am for the removal of the Haiku Stairs and not favor of it becoming commercialized to paying hikers. Social media can be a good thing and also bad because tourist use it to visit sites all over this state, such as the Haiku Stairs, Hana Highway, and Maunawili Falls Trail, look at all the problems the surrounding neighborhood has to live with. I live in the Castle Hills subdivision and often see hikers walking through the Anchor Church access road on their way up to the stairway. I would say that a majority of the hikers are tourist or military members. Can anyone in the city council give a good reason as to why the Haiku Stairs are necessary, besides as a route for hikers use the stair to get to the lookout?

If you go to You Tube website and enter Haiku Stairway to Heaven there are several videos from various people climbing the stairway, I guess the stairway is being advertised to the tourist visiting Oahu and they can be escorted up the stairway with a guide, the stairway was also given as a prize on the Price is Right gameshow!

So much for the stairway being off limits, the special interest groups who want to keep the stairway open and intact are not listening to the issues from the residents, we are the ones that have to suffer the consequences of the hikers parking all over the street and trespass through some of the homes to get to the stairway. The previous Mayor and councilman representing the windward residents were not supporting the residents who live next to the Haiku Stairway. Situations between the hikers, residents and HPD really escalated about a month ago; there was a physical confrontation when police officers told the hikers that they could not access the stairs. I was watching the news on TV and the reporter said that he hiked the trail, not through the illegal way (stairway) but through another route he claims was legal to climb. If that is the case, than tear down the stairway and have the hikers climb up to the top through other legal access ways.

Even if the Haiku Stairway will be controlled by a contractor during normal daylight hours, the hikers that do not want to pay a fee to hike the stairway are still going to access the trail during the early morning hours like they are doing right now. Our elected officials are finally standing up to the communities concerns and making it difficult for special interest groups trying to influence our elected officials. This issue of removing the Haiku Stairway has gone on for so long, please listen to the concerns of the Kaneohe neighborhood. Thank you for standing up to the communities concerns!

Aloha,

Lester Lee

[leel048@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:leel048@hawaii.rr.com)



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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 7:05 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

**Name** Marjorie Clemente  
**Phone**  
**Email** marjitc@gmail.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** Resolution 21-154  
**Your position on the matter** Oppose  
**Representing Organization** Self

Dear Council Members,

I am against the resolution to dismantle and remove the Ha'ikū Stairs. I was fortunate to hike the Ha'ikū Stairs right after the investment to improve the hike and have stairs the entire route was completed. This hike is beautiful and making it all the way to the top gave me a huge sense of accomplishment. It was an inspiration and still is every time I pass it while driving on the H3 or reminisce about doing the hike.

The Ha'ikū Stairs is a historic treasure and needs to be preserved. I'm sure just like me, it brings a sense of inspiration and accomplishment to others. I support the Concept Plan that outlines how FHS would run the Ha'ikū Stairs under managed access.

Written  
Testimony

Please save the Ha'ikū stairs so that future generations can enjoy them safely. It would be sad for future generations to hear or read about stories like other treasures that have been closed such as Sacred Falls. We encourage the younger generation to be more active outside and learn about the 'aina, closing and removing the Ha'ikū Stairs takes that opportunity away from them.

Thank you for your time reading my testimony.

Mahalo,  
Marjorie Clemente

Testimony  
Attachment

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 7:13 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name	Chantelle Buck
Phone	
Email	chantellebuck98@gmail.com
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Council
Agenda Item	Resolution 21-154
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing	Self
Organization	
Written Testimony	
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement 1	

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 7:15 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name	Dan Froehlich
Phone	
Email	bigfroe@gmail.com
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Council
Agenda Item	21-154
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing	Self
Organization	
Written Testimony	
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement 1	

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 7:18 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name	Andrew Kelly
Phone	
Email	Andrew.michaella@gmail.com
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Council
Agenda Item	Resolution 21-154
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing	Self
Organization	
Written Testimony	I oppose the removal of the stairs. Thank you for noting my vote.
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement	1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 7:27 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name	Pavle Berak
Phone	
Email	Berakpavle995@gmail.com
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Council
Agenda Item	Resolution 21-154
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing	Self
Organization	
Written Testimony	This is one of Oahu landmarks, please do not tear it down
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement	1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 7:28 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name	Kate Pitt
Phone	
Email	kate.s.pitt@gmail.com
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Council
Agenda Item	21-154
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing Organization	Self
Written Testimony	The Háikū stairs are a monument in Oahu and should not be torn down. They are a historical part of Hawaii.
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement	1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 7:35 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

**Name** Anthony Grise  
**Phone**  
**Email** Apgrise@gmail.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** Res 21-154  
**Your position on the matter** Oppose  
**Representing Organization** Self

**Written Testimony**

I absolutely understand the grievances of the community. This area has been mismanaged and prone to criminal activity for decades, but mostly in part due to inaction by the City and County of Honolulu.

The stairway, like many other trails on O'ahu is a beautiful area that's actually fairly easy to access and navigate. There are stairs (obviously), handrails, and a clear path. The same can't be said for some other Nā Ala Hele routes on O'ahu. There is no reason your average hiker cannot traverse this path!

Instead of ruining another cherished spot, can we consider committing to preserving our natural areas, instead of shutting them off to everyone? Inability to manage natural areas is not the fault of the public.

-Mahalo

**Testimony Attachment**  
**Accept Terms and Agreement** 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 7:35 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

**Name** Anthony Grise  
**Phone**  
**Email** Apgrise@gmail.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** Res 21-154  
**Your position on the matter** Oppose  
**Representing Organization** Self

**Written Testimony**

I absolutely understand the grievances of the community. This area has been mismanaged and prone to criminal activity for decades, but mostly in part due to inaction by the City and County of Honolulu.

The stairway, like many other trails on O'ahu is a beautiful area that's actually fairly easy to access and navigate. There are stairs (obviously), handrails, and a clear path. The same can't be said for some other Nā Ala Hele routes on O'ahu. There is no reason your average hiker cannot traverse this path!

Instead of ruining another cherished spot, can we consider committing to preserving our natural areas, instead of shutting them off to everyone? Inability to manage natural areas is not the fault of the public.

-Mahalo

**Testimony Attachment**  
**Accept Terms and Agreement** 1

IP: 192.168.200.67



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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 7:41 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

**Name** Kris Sel  
**Phone**  
**Email** earlraven29@gmail.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** 21-154  
**Your position on the matter** Oppose  
**Representing Organization** Self

**Written Testimony**

There is a possibility to make this area the most amazing tourist attraction in the world. It needs to be managed properly, once it is all the negative aspects that residents, government & citizens experience will vanish. Please use a proper cost benefit analysis on this important decision. Proper management will bring in much needed revenue for the city, lower health care costs by allowing locals another avenue for exercise, eliminate trespassing & a whole host of other benefits.

Mahalo in advance for your consideration in this important matter!

**Testimony Attachment**

**Accept Terms and Agreement** 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 7:42 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name	Melissa Heldoorn
Phone	
Email	melissa.heldoorn@gmail.com
Meeting Date	09-08-2020
Council/PH Committee	Council
Agenda Item	Resolution 21-154
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing	Self
Organization	
Written Testimony	
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement 1	

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 8:01 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name	Dominic Kemmeter
Phone	
Email	Dominic.Kemmeter@gmx.de
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Council
Agenda Item	Resolution 21-154
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing	Self
Organization	
Written Testimony	
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement 1	

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 8:10 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name	Eileen Helmstetter
Phone	
Email	Helmstetterm@hawaii.rr.com
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Council
Agenda Item	Resolution 21-154
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing Organization	Self
Written Testimony	Wonderful hike- one of few opportunities to scale the Pali side of the Koolau's.
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement	1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 8:11 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name	Brinton Howerton
Phone	
Email	brintonh@gmail.com
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Council
Agenda Item	Resolution 21-154
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing Organization	Self
Written Testimony	The Haiku Stairs should be preserved and made safely accessible to the public using permits or other state systems.
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement	1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 8:12 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name	Monica Erez
Phone	
Email	Moerezo@gmail.com
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Council
Agenda Item	Resolution 21-154
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing	Self
Organization	
Written Testimony	Against tearing down stairway to heaven stairs
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement 1	

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 8:14 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

**Name** Wivina Ibay  
**Phone**  
**Email** Vinasaur@gmail.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** Resolution 21-154  
**Your position on the matter** Oppose  
**Representing Organization** Self

**Written Testimony** This is the most beautiful hike on the island and should be preserved. It is an iconic part of Hawaii and should not be taken away.

**Testimony Attachment**

**Accept Terms and Agreement** 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 8:21 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

**Name** Ken McCann  
**Phone**  
**Email** kenmac@gmail.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** 21-154  
**Your position on the matter** Oppose  
**Representing Organization** Self

**Written Testimony**

I'm writing to express my opposition to the proposed removal of the Stairs. In today's day and age, we should be finding ways to enhance and encourage outdoor activity, as many people seek to reconnect with nature and the beauty of this state. The stairs provide a unique amenity to showcase and appreciate the landscape. The challenges their existence present are solvable, and we should be working together, leveraging the overwhelming enthusiasm to preserve them in order to achieve the balance necessary. Please save this truly unique treasure that we share.

**Testimony Attachment**

**Accept Terms and Agreement** 1

IP: 192.168.200.67



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From the Desk of Greg Thielen

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September 7, 2021

Council Chair Tommy Waters and Members of the City Council

**Re: Strong Opposition to Resolution 21-154**

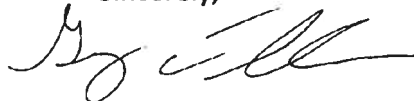
Dear Chairman Waters and Members of the Council,

There are many things that make Hawaii such a special place. Among them is the right to access. Could you imagine an Oahu where the beach at Waikiki was owned by the hotels? Could you envision what Kailua beach would look like if homeowners could own the beach in front of their homes? This point is not lost on all of you as the City sued to successfully remove a gate obstructing access to Moanalua Bay following approval of resolution 18-263. So why fight then to save that access and fight now to close it elsewhere?

The homeowners in the Haiku area are completely justified to be outraged over the long-standing failure to properly manage access to the stairs. If I lived there, I would be fed up as well. Nevertheless, the goal of resolution 21-154 shows a complete lack of imagination in dealing with the problem. The problem isn't the stairs themselves; it is the people victimizing the neighborhood. Should we fine cars for drunk driving? Homes for zoning violations? No, it is the people that flaunt what is right that should be punished.

Dig a little deeper. Explore managed access with stiff penalties for the contracting entity if they don't curtail nighttime and illegal hiking. Utilize geo-fencing and geo tracking to keep people out that shouldn't be there. Get creative. Find a better way than tearing down a historic artifact and a beloved hiking trail. Be the Council that opens pathways instead of shutting people out.

Sincerely,



Greg Thielen

[greg@ccs-hawaii.com](mailto:greg@ccs-hawaii.com)

P.O. Box 757  
Kailua, HI 96734

---

**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 8:40 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name	Judith Wilhoite
Phone	
Email	judithwilhoite@gmail.com
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Council
Agenda Item	Resolution 21-154
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing Organization	Self
Written Testimony	We as a community have the power to preserve one of the greatest trails in the world. Please do not waste this opportunity.
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement	1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 8:42 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name	Valeriu Mangu
Phone	
Email	vali_mangu@yahoo.com
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Council
Agenda Item	Resolution 21-154
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing	Self
Organization	
Written Testimony	
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement 1	

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 8:48 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name	Nikko Takahashi
Phone	
Email	Nikko1203@yahoo.com
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Council
Agenda Item	Resolution 21-154
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing	Self
Organization	
Written Testimony	
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement 1	

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 8:52 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

**Name** Donna Ambrose  
**Phone**  
**Email** Venice2kailua@hawaii.rr.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** 21-154  
**Your position on the matter** Oppose  
**Representing Organization** Self

**Written Testimony** The Haiku Stairs represent an excellent, irreplaceable outdoor activity for Oahu residents. Please give Friends of Haiku Stairs and other interested non-profit groups more time to present alternatives to tearing down this unique structure.

**Testimony Attachment**

**Accept Terms and Agreement** 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

---

**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 8:56 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name SARA DiGrazia  
Phone  
Email Birthandearth@hotmail.com  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Committee Council  
Agenda Item Resolution 21-154  
Your position on the matter Oppose  
Representing Self  
Organization  
Written Testimony  
Testimony Attachment  
Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

---

**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 9:10 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name Karolina parecka  
Phone  
Email karal1994@wp.pl  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Committee Council  
Agenda Item 21-154  
Your position on the matter Oppose  
Representing Self  
Organization  
Written Testimony  
Testimony Attachment  
Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 9:18 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

**Name** Harmony Bentosino  
**Phone**  
**Email** harmonyrainbow5@yahoo.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** Res 21-154  
**Your position on the matter** Oppose  
**Representing Organization** Self

**Written Testimony** The stairs must be saved. They can be safely and profitably be managed to pay for maintenance as outlined by the Friends of Haiku Stairs. Limited access and supervised tours will not bother the neighbors. This climb is for the thrill of a life time!

**Testimony Attachment**

**Accept Terms and Agreement** 1

IP: 192.168.200.67



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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 9:30 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name	Achyut Bathani
Phone	
Email	bathani514@gmail.com
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Council
Agenda Item	21-154
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing	Self
Organization	
Written Testimony	
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement 1	

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 9:45 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name	Aadit Narechania
Phone	
Email	aaditnarechania@gmail.com
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Council
Agenda Item	21-154
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing	Self
Organization	
Written Testimony	
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement 1	

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 9:51 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

**Name** Waialeale Sarsona  
**Phone**  
**Email** waialealenui@gmail.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** Resolution 21-154  
**Your position on the matter** Support  
**Representing Organization** Self

Before the Full City Council on September 8, 2021 at 10:00 a.m,  
Resolution 21-154  
IN STRONG SUPPORT- Resolution 21-154

### Written Testimony

Aloha mai kākou,  
My name is Waialeale Sarsona and I am in STRONG SUPPORT of the removal of the Ha'ikū Stairs. I am a parent at Ke Kula 'o Samuel M. Kamakau and I have observed the negative affects of illegal trespassers both on the the private access road to my child's campus as well as those who trespass onto campus.

I am concerned for my children's safety and the unfair burden that the stairs continues to put on the schools limited resources to protect students and the school.

It is for all of these reasons, that I STRONGLY SUPPORT Resolution 21-154 that urges the City & County Administration to remove the Ha'ikū Stairs and to develop a responsible plan for its removal.

Testimony  
Attachment  
Accept Terms  
and Agreement 1

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 9:53 PM  
**Subject:** Parks and Community Services Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name	Carmel Davis
Phone	
Email	jzorba@yahoo.com
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Parks and Community Services
Agenda Item	Haiku Stairs
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing Organization	Self
Written Testimony	The public wants it. Don't kill it. Find a way to make it happen. Like Makapuu Lighthouse. The Stairs is historic, community, for visitors and kamaaina alike. It is cultural—a memorial protecting oahu/Hawaii from external threats.
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement	1

IP: 192.168.200.67

---

**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 9:53 PM  
**Subject:** Parks and Community Services Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name	Carmel Davis
Phone	
Email	jzorba@yahoo.com
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Parks and Community Services
Agenda Item	Haïku Stairs
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing Organization	Self
Written Testimony	The public wants it. Don't kill it. Find a way to make it happen. Like Makapuu Lighthouse. The Stairs is historic, community, for visitors and kamaaina alike. It is cultural—a memorial protecting oahu/Hawaii from external threats.
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement	1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 9:57 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

**Name** Kirstin Hochart  
**Phone**  
**Email** kirstin00@aol.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** Resolution 21-154 Haiku Stairs  
**Your position on the matter** Oppose  
**Representing Organization** Self

**Written Testimony**

Aloha, OPPOSE Resolution 21-154 Haiku Stairs! Preserve public access of this historic hiking trail for our residents and future generations. Haiku Stairs is an outdoor classroom for environmental education and cultural education. Haiku Stairs is a valued recreational resource and should not be removed. Protect public access rights and recreational resources. Preserve the Haiku Stairs, which provides access to significant cultural, archaeological, and is a significant historical resource. The State of Hawaii, DLNR Historic Preservation Division (SHPD) recommends to preserve Haiku Stairs and restore the significant historic resource. Implementation of Resolution 21-154 would produce adverse long-term impacts. The proposed removal of Haiku Stairs will significantly impact historic property. The proposed removal of Haiku Stairs will significantly impact endangered plant species and have adverse biological impacts. The proposed removal of Haiku Stairs will significantly impact archaeological and cultural resources, including impacts to Native Hawaiian public access rights to significant cultural sites and archeological resources. The proposed removal of Haiku Stairs will significantly impact viable cultural and recreational resources. The proposed removal of Haiku Stairs will significantly impact and not adhere to the City and County of Honolulu's General Plan. The managed access plan is a viable solution. The Haiku Stairs Final EIS states the following, "The City has indicated a desire to accept the conveyance of the Haiku Stairs property from BWS, subject to BWS Board and City Council approval. The City would acquire necessary easements for an access route, develop a managed access plan, and engage a vendor to operate public access to Haiku Stairs." Support the managed access plan and vote OPPOSED to the removal of Haiku Stairs! Mahalo!

---

**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 10:10 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

**Name** Maxwell Porter

**Phone**

**Email** max.porter50@gmail.com

**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021

**Council/PH  
Committee** Council

**Agenda Item** Resolution 21-154

**Your position on  
the matter** Oppose

**Representing  
Organization** Self

**Written  
Testimony** This is an amazing piece of history that could be reused for recreation under proper management. The willingness of my government to remove these stairs shows the willingness to waist resources and deny citizen's access to recreation.

**Testimony  
Attachment**

**Accept Terms  
and Agreement** 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

---

**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 10:15 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name	Taryn
Phone	
Email	tarynhatsuko@hotmail.com
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Council
Agenda Item	Removal of hAiku stairs
Your position on the matter	Support
Representing	Self
Organization	
Written Testimony	
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement 1	

IP: 192.168.200.67



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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 10:30 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name	Gavin Loo
Phone	
Email	Gavin82Loo@gmail.com
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Council
Agenda Item	Removal of haiku stairs
Your position on the matter	Support
Representing Organization	Self
Written Testimony	Too much trespassing through private properties and people that will need emergency help. Wasting tax payers money on more than 2 ways.
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement	1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 10:32 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

**Name** Linda Leroy  
**Phone**  
**Email** lindaleroy@me.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** 21-154  
**Your position on the matter** Oppose  
**Representing Organization** Self

**Written Testimony** This a wonderful asset to the island regularly climbed by residents and tourists. It should be maintained to encourage exercise and love of the beauty and wildlife of this island.

**Testimony Attachment**

**Accept Terms and Agreement** 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 10:36 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name	Glen Houlton
Phone	
Email	glen@planeteldorado.com
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Council
Agenda Item	Resolution 21-154
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing Organization	Self
Written Testimony	Managed access of this historic stair way would be a much better solution and save the City & County money.
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement	1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 10:38 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name Carlile Gloria  
Phone  
Email kahiko@aol.com  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Council  
Committee  
Agenda Item Resolution 21-154 (Haiku Stairs)  
Your position on the matter Oppose  
Representing Self  
Organization

Written Testimony I support keeping the Haiku stairs and giving a group like Friends of Haiku stairs to maintain, manage, and limit the amount of people on the hike each day.

Testimony  
Attachment

Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 10:54 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name	Jill Williams
Phone	
Email	Jwjw9976@gmail.com
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Council
Agenda Item	21-154
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing	Self
Organization	
Written Testimony	Keep the stairs!
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement 1	

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 11:06 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

**Name** Shane Jackson  
**Phone**  
**Email** higwap@gmail.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** Resolution 21-154  
**Your position on the matter** Oppose  
**Representing Organization** Self

Hello,

**Written Testimony** I oppose this resolution. I support the stairs remaining open but with non profits taking donations to make it inaccessible from the Kailua/Kaneohe side and assessible from the long hike. Thank you for reading my message.

**Testimony Attachment**

**Accept Terms and Agreement** 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 11:09 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name	Robert Kealoha Domingo
Phone	
Email	<a href="mailto:hawaiianstyle@rocketmail.com">hawaiianstyle@rocketmail.com</a>
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Council
Agenda Item	Resolution 21-154
Your position on the matter	Support
Representing	Organization
Organization	Kai Loa
Written Testimony	Request registration for oral testimony.
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement 1	

IP: 192.168.200.67

Brett Taylor  
45-633 Keneke St.  
Kaneohe, HI 96744

Honolulu City Council  
530 S. King Street  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Council City Members,

My name is Brett Taylor, and I'm a new resident in Kaneohe, Hawaii. I absolutely love this beautiful state and wish to discover all the beauty it unfolds while I am living here.

I recently heard about Resolution 21-154 regarding the removal of the historical Haiku Stairs which happens to be visible from my very backyard. When I learned of the history behind these stairs, I was taken in awe by its story. A friend of mine took me up the Moanalua Valley Trail where we could see the top of the stairs. It truly is a beauty to behold.

Reasons stated for removing the stairs include "to stop trespassing, reduce disturbances to local neighborhoods," and etc. I agree that locals and tourists need to respect the privacy of others' property. However, one cannot blame tourists and locals for seeking ways to climb the famous Haiku Stairs because of its beauty and historical significance.

I have a difficult time understanding why we would remove these stairs simply because of the actions of inconsiderate people. Are there not other alternatives such as fixing the stairs for safety purposes, establishing the stairs as a historical landmark, and allowing tourists and locals paid access and proper guidance for using the stairs? It pains me to see that there is only one alternative, and that is to tear down these stairs.

I appreciate you taking the time to read this letter.

Sincerely,

Brett Taylor

[brett.englishteacher@gmail.com](mailto:brett.englishteacher@gmail.com)



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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 11:24 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name	Danny Edens
Phone	
Email	edensd@sohc4.net
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Council
Agenda Item	Resolution 21-154
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing Organization	Self
Written Testimony	Please save the stairs and turn it over to a private association and TAX it
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement	1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 8, 2021 12:25 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name Gianluca Donadio  
Phone  
Email 20minutenmail@gmail.com  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Council  
Committee  
Agenda Item 21-154  
Your position on the matter Oppose  
Representing Self  
Organization

Written Testimony Hello  
Let the stairways be as it is... or repair it. But dont destroy it. Up there is like no where else... its so beautiful and unique... just mind blowing. The view helped me a lot up there... something i would never forget anymore. Please dont destroy it. Dont take it down. It would be catastrophic

Testimony  
Attachment  
Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

---

**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 8, 2021 12:25 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name	Sven Major
Phone	
Email	svma990@gmail.com
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Council
Agenda Item	Resolution 21-154
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing	Self
Organization	
Written Testimony	
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement 1	

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 8, 2021 12:50 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name	Cornelia Loeper
Phone	
Email	Loeper@gmx.ch
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Council
Agenda Item	Resolution 21-154
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing	Self
Organization	
Written Testimony	
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement 1	

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 8, 2021 1:16 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

**Name** Joleen Khounvongsa  
**Phone**  
**Email** jkhounvongsa@yahoo.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** Resolution 21-154  
**Your position on the matter** Oppose  
**Representing Organization** Self

**Written Testimony** The stairs add so much beauty to Hawaii. Please reconsider tearing them down. Maybe consider removing the bottom half so that people cannot make their way up them. I was planning on visiting Oahu next year to hike up the backside to see the view and stairs for the very first time.

**Testimony Attachment**

**Accept Terms and Agreement** 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 8, 2021 1:22 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

**Name** Adriel Lam  
**Phone**  
**Email** adriel.lam@outlook.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** Resolution 21-154 Removal of Haiku Stairs  
**Your position on the matter** Oppose  
**Representing Organization** Self

I oppose the removal of Haiku Stairs.

The Haiku Stairs is a testament to the unsung heroes of our generation and a bridge between the cultures of past and present.

**Written Testimony**

Haiku Stairs was constructed for a top secret military facility that provide safe and secure passage of our defenders around the world, in the air, and under the sea. Those that worked and operated on it did so in secrecy, that even today, the world-class historical legacy of this predecessor to GPS is unknown to many in the community. It is a testament to the thousands of military servicemen and servicewomen who work in highly classified environments, never to talk about their work and experience, but who impacted the daily lives of their fellow citizens to be able to live in safety and security. Please do not destroy this legacy for it to be forgotten and lost to memories of the past.

As in the destruction of the Stairs, the untold legacy of 600 years of cultivation in Haiku Valley has yet to be told. Some have known about it, but many others fail to appreciate the natural security, abundant waters, and rich soils that sustained generations of natives through the centuries. That legacy will also be forgotten if we continue to keep access to Haiku Valley closed.

Please amend the resolution from "remove" to "repair" and work to open access to the Valley and the Stairs.

The Stairs is a bridge to the past and present that not only draws attention to the natural beauty and scenic environment, but can

provide an appreciation, a microcosm of the history, culture, and potential future of the community. The Stairs, properly operated on basic principles of safety and security, can cultivate the physical endurance, courage, vigilance, and mental acuity of our youth, to be like those in the past who sought and fought to protect our lands. It is that same warrior spirit, the unsung heroes both past and present that have been the guardians of our society.

Destroying the Stairs destroys our legacy. Save the Stairs, and inspire future generations to embrace our history and culture in looking forward.

Testimony  
Attachment  
Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 8, 2021 1:37 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name	Angela
Phone	
Email	Manjo87@hotmail.com
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Council
Agenda Item	21-154
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing	Self
Organization	
Written Testimony	
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement 1	

IP: 192.168.200.67



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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 8, 2021 1:53 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name Dan Hartenstein  
Phone  
Email dan@gebionline.com  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Committee Council  
Agenda Item Resolution 21-154  
Your position on the matter Oppose  
Representing Self  
Organization

I have lived on the Windward Side of Oahu for nearly 50 years. Growing up, I had the pleasure of accessing the hike when it was still on a Coast Guard Installation. To access the hike, you had to call the installation and make a reservation, with a limit of 50 people per day. A liability waiver was signed, and off we went.

The hike is a unique part of this side of the island that has unfortunately been plagued by misbehaving hikers to be sure. That being said, if there was an entity that was actively and effectively operating/maintaining the site, I am sure that the concerns of the residents can be effectively addressed.

### Written Testimony

The revenue generated from fees collected from hikers could become a very important part of the local economy - especially as our schools/parks/etc are strapped for funds due to covid-related budget cuts. A viable & reasonable opportunity such as this should not be squandered. Further, setting aside so much money to remove something that could become a cash flow-positive entity for the community seems like a very poor decision for our community.

Please do not spend money to remove this hike. Our community desperately needs the money elsewhere. Allow one of the companies who have stepped forward to have a chance at operating the hike. Offer them a probationary period. Give them a chance to work with the concerned residents so that this hike can be the asset to our community that it could become.

Thank you for your time & consideration!

---

**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 8, 2021 1:57 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

**Name** Reneta Neeva  
**Phone**  
**Email** rneeva@hotmail.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** Resolution 21-154  
**Your position on the matter** Oppose  
**Representing Organization** Self

**Written Testimony**

I am very saddened that demolishing the stairs is even up for discussion. There is so much history behind them and things like that must be preserved for future generations. It's also a famous attraction known world wide because of its history. And personally I'm just in ahh as to how they even managed to build them. It shouldn't be something that you can only see in pictures. Please save the stairs.

**Testimony Attachment**

**Accept Terms and Agreement** 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 8, 2021 2:00 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name	Eva
Phone	
Email	raelevangoline@icloud.com
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Council
Agenda Item	21-154
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing	Self
Organization	
Written Testimony	
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement 1	

IP: 192.168.200.67

---

**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 8, 2021 2:01 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name	Eva
Phone	
Email	raelevangoline@icloud.com
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Council
Agenda Item	21-154
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing	Self
Organization	
Written Testimony	
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement 1	

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 8, 2021 2:11 AM  
**Subject:** Parks and Community Services Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name	Christopher Holter
Phone	
Email	cholter7@gmail.com
Meeting Date	09-09-2021
Council/PH Committee	Parks and Community Services
Agenda Item	Haiku stairs
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing Organization	Self
Written Testimony	I oppose shutting down the stairway to Heaven. This was the best experience I have ever had hiking up to the tower. The magic will be gone and our history will be gone if you close the stairs.
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement	1

IP: 192.168.200.67

---

**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 8, 2021 2:17 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name	Colleen Shannon
Phone	
Email	tracks1000@yahoo.com
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Council
Agenda Item	21-154
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing Organization	Self
Written Testimony	Please don't tear down the iconic and historic stairs. They mean so much to so many. I would be willing to pay to climb them!
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement	1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 8, 2021 2:29 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name	Joan hinkle
Phone	
Email	Poohkids2@yahoo.com
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Council
Agenda Item	Stairs to heaven
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing	Self
Organization	
Written Testimony	DON'T DO IT!!!!
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement 1	

IP: 192.168.200.67

---

**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 8, 2021 2:39 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name	Charles Pieper
Phone	
Email	thatgoshdarngenji@gmail.com
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Council
Agenda Item	Resolution 21-154
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing	Self
Organization	
Written Testimony	
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement 1	

IP: 192.168.200.67



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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 8, 2021 2:50 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

**Name** Katrena Kennedy  
**Phone**  
**Email** kennedyr001@HAWAII.RR.COM  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** 21-154  
**Your position on the matter** Oppose  
**Representing Organization** Self  
**Written Testimony** I strongly oppose the destruction of Haiku stairs. I am in favor of the city moving forward with managed access to the stairs.  
**Testimony Attachment**  
**Accept Terms and Agreement** 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

---

**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 8, 2021 2:51 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

**Name** Alison Miller  
**Phone**  
**Email** Alisonm.miller@yahoo.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** Resolution 21-154  
**Your position on the matter** Oppose  
**Representing Organization** Self

**Written Testimony** The Haiku Stairs should not be demolished. They are an integral part of America's military history and leave the state of Hawaii a chance to increase its revenue from tourists paying to use the Stairs. The Stairs would pay for themselves plus some.

**Testimony Attachment**

**Accept Terms and Agreement** 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

TESTIMONY OF **DYLAN P. ARMSTRONG, INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY**  
TO THE HONOLULU CITY COUNCIL

12 July 2021

**MEASURE:** **RESOLUTION 21-154**

**TITLE:** *URGING THE CITY ADMINISTRATION TO REMOVE THE HAIKŪ STAIRS AND ITS ACCESSORY STRUCTURES TO STOP TRESPASSING, REDUCE DISTURBANCES TO LOCAL NEIGHBORHOODS, INCREASE PUBLIC SAFETY, REMOVE POTENTIAL LIABILITY TO THE CITY, AND PROTECT THE ENVIRONMENT.*

**POSITION:** **I oppose this Resolution.**

I lived closest to the gate at the end of Kuneki Street in Haikū, Kāneʻohe, of all your testifiers.

Every night, I was woken up between midnight and 3 a.m., to the slamming car doors, the headlights beaming through my window curtains, from the breaking of glass, the car alarms, the police sirens, the yelling and arguments between hikers and residents. This is a preventable tragedy. The political class of Hawaiʻi has inflicted this state of affairs on the residents of Makena Street, Kuneki Street, Makena Place, Kuneki Place, and Puulau Place for far too long. So why am I opposed to the resolution?

I oppose this resolution because we can solve the residents' issues, *and keep the stairs*. It pains me that this resolution, introduced by a kind and otherwise thoughtful member of the Council, does neither.

Anytime the cash-strapped City and County of Honolulu spends hundreds of thousands of dollars to refurbish a piece of world-famous infrastructure, only to spend \$1 million to destroy it a few years later, amidst the backdrop of a city budget crisis, it is clear that we have failed politics.

As with the Stairs, our City wastes vast sums of money, though it has scarce little. First, consider the ridiculous, \$150,000 robot-dog for the Police Department. Second, there's the money to shuffle the homeless around, accomplishing nothing other than further traumatization. Third, there's the rail, built over-budget and *offensively* behind schedule, in the most backwards, improbable manner. Fourth, consider the *crook* that the City put in charge of administering the CARES Act funds (see: police, robot-dog), because we often award jobs in Honolulu on the basis of patronage or family, instead of competence and service to the little people. Fifth, think of repeatedly vandalized public parks and bathrooms, where criminals smash porcelain toilets, mirrors, doors, and steal soap dispensers. Rather than installing cameras and rounding up the tiny handful of vandals through detection, surveillance, and tough enforcement, we incinerate hundreds of thousands of dollars on replacing smashed and stolen infrastructure. We keep our parks in such a sorry state, that parents should be either *frightened or ashamed* to let their children play unsupervised in these.

Anytime a legislative policy pits the homeowners against hikers, it's a red flag that a narcissistic manipulator is hijacking our politics. We urban planners talk about Not-In-My-Back-Yard-ism (NIMBYism). Economists call it zero-sum, because *no one wins*. 'Tear-down-the-Stairs' is both. I know exactly who has fostered a City of bad politics and patronage for decades, specifically on the Haikū Stairs. That so-called 'thought-leader' doesn't live anywhere near as close to the gate as I did. Thanks to her influence, we have managers of Haikū Stairs and no leaders. Claim the 'Leader' title for yourself, with all its benefits. The only sacrifice you must make is that you must act like one, and

do more difficult work than *running away* from the problem when residents or wannabe political kingmakers get mad.

Bring real solutions on Haikū Stairs, not zero-sum policies. Here's one solution for you to use. Open the Stairs daily, for 10 hours during daylight hours only, for access *by permit reservation with liability waiver only*. Close the Stairs at night, and maintain guard presence throughout the closure period.

Currently, we guard the Stairs in the morning, and send a giant message to the whole world *to just come at night*.

This solution eliminates all the nightly noise and light, the nightly parking overflow, the nightly fights, like I had to endure. It regulates parking demand so that the residents are not unduly burdened. In exchange, you provide hiker access, preserve the City's status as a world-class destination, cover the City's liability, and provide revenues for infrastructure maintenance and ecosystem preservation. You will protect the residents' quality of life, like you are supposed to.

You know who thought this policy up, originally? An environmental economist, someone who worked in the field of win-win policies. She has been woken up every night for decades because of what the City has done with the Stairs, has *done to her*, and to taxpayers like us. I think she's right. This resolution is wrong. Yes, her idea has issues to work out. *All real solutions do*, where people make compromises that they'd rather forego. Come up with a better one if you can.

Tearing the Stairs down is an abdication of leadership. It is no solution, only a moral and public policy failure. You can do better. I have faith in you, and faith that in the end, the truth will continue to come out when corrupt and negligent mismanagement of the City occurs.

Thank you,  
Dylan P. Armstrong, individual capacity.

[dylan.p.armstrong@gmail.com](mailto:dylan.p.armstrong@gmail.com)

---

**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 8, 2021 4:28 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name Linda Hardy  
Phone  
Email 112233amarah@gmail.com  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Committee Council  
Agenda Item resolution 21-154  
Your position on the matter Oppose  
Representing Self  
Organization  
Written Testimony  
Testimony Attachment  
Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

---

**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 8, 2021 4:29 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name	Amanda Sullivan
Phone	
Email	amanda.kauffeld@gmail.com
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Council
Agenda Item	Resolution 21-154
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing	Self
Organization	
Written Testimony	
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement 1	

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 8, 2021 4:39 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

**Name** Sam yee wu  
**Phone**  
**Email** qtgirlx86@hotmail.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** Resolution 21-154  
**Your position on the matter** Oppose  
**Representing Organization** Self

**Written Testimony** Tearing down the stairs would be a detriment to the Oahu society as this is a staple of Honolulu hikes. As a tourist, I am looking forward to hiking this trail and it would be devastating to hear that this will be torn down. The views at the top are unsurpassed. Please reconsider

**Testimony Attachment**

**Accept Terms and Agreement** 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 8, 2021 4:58 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

**Name** Chan Saechao  
**Phone**  
**Email** lil\_baby58@yahoo.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** 21-154  
**Your position on the matter** Oppose  
**Representing Organization** Self

**Written Testimony** Keep the stairs, maintain it and charge parking fees so the city could make money. People from all over the states go there just to hike that trail.

**Testimony Attachment**

**Accept Terms and Agreement** 1

IP: 192.168.200.67



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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 8, 2021 4:59 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

# Written Testimony

Name	Emily overman
Phone	
Email	emregnc96@gmail.com
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Council
Agenda Item	Ha'ikū Stairs
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing	Self
Organization	
Written Testimony	
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement 1	

IP: 192.168.200.67

---

**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 8, 2021 5:35 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

**Name** Dorothy Morgan  
**Phone**  
**Email** contact.dorothym@gmail.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** 21-154  
**Your position on the matter** Oppose  
**Representing Organization** Self

Agenda item 21-154 to remove the Haiku Stairs

**Written Testimony**

I am Opposed to this item. I believe that with proper safety measures and allowing responsible patrons, this trail can be enjoyed. Hawaii's nature resource should be accessible to those that will respect it and work to preserve it. As an active hiker, I always clean the trails as I go and help restore as much as I am able; or report findings to appropriate agencies.

Please do not tear down the Stairs!! Mahalo.

**Testimony Attachment**

**Accept Terms and Agreement** 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 8, 2021 5:37 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

**Name** Ivan Johnstone  
**Phone**  
**Email** ivanjohnstone@yahoo.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** Resolution 21-154  
**Your position on the matter** Oppose  
**Representing** Self  
**Organization**

The Ha'ikū Stairs is a historic part of Hawaii, and removing would be a disservice to the State.

**Written Testimony** The Ha'ikū Stairs represent one of the safest hiking trails in Hawaii. There having been no documented serious injuries or deaths resulting from accidents on the Stairs.

**Testimony Attachment**

**Accept Terms and Agreement** 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 8, 2021 6:27 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name	Joy Geeraerts
Phone	
Email	joy7776@gmail.com
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Council
Agenda Item	Resolution 21-154
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing	Self
Organization	
Written Testimony	
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement 1	

IP: 192.168.200.67

---

**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 8, 2021 6:47 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

**Name** Mike McCartney  
**Phone**  
**Email** surf440@gmail.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** Resolution 21-154  
**Your position on the matter** Support  
**Representing Organization** Self  
Council Member Kia'aina  
July 7, 2021 - Maunawili

Mahalo for having the courage and conviction to do the right thing on Haiku Stairs. It's not an easy or popular issue to take on. But it's an important one.

As one of the founding members of the Friends of Haiku Stairs back in 1984 - I truly believed the stairs were worth preserving so people could hike along this scenic and historic trail.

Written  
Testimony

Today, however I know better - better about safety, better about risk and liability, better about the perspective of the lineal dependents, better responsibility, better about community concerns like overuse, trespassing, parking, trash and noise.

The stairs had its time and a purpose in time days gone by. It's a different time with very different perspectives, problems, risk, challenges and responsibilities. Everything has its time and place - and in this case it's what Nana Verry named the title of her book - "Change we Must."

The stairs have served its primary and secondary purposes well and now it's time for us to gradually retire them for the common good. To let them go. Let the Mountain rest.

It's time to begin a new era of stewardship with deeper respect and understanding for the land, the people, the place and the culture. I

fully support your position and am proud to have you as our Council Member. Mahalo for your leadership.

With my respect and Aloha, Mike McCartney

Drafted and sent on my iPad with no spelling or grammar check - and in accordance with HRS 5-7.5 (b)

Testimony  
Attachment  
Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 8, 2021 6:56 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

**Name** Josephine Waite  
**Phone**  
**Email** Sakey2@gmail.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** RESOLUTION 21-154  
**Your position on the matter** Oppose  
**Representing Organization** Self

**Written Testimony**

**SAVE THE HAIKU STAIRS!**  
preserve this outdoor classroom for our children-to learn its unique flora microclimate and experience the value of physical activity and be lifted up spiritually. Let us share this precious opportunity to everyone.  
Keep it open and ensure maintenance of the area, provide opportunity to weed out invasive species that choke out own native trees and prevent erosion and damage to our nearby water supply area.  
-We should be an example to the next generation in preserving our historical structures (not spending money to dismantle them). We are here because of our past- this is a part of it-- preserve and learn -- (not destroy).  
Base your decisions on facts - not feelings...

**Testimony Attachment**

**Accept Terms and Agreement** 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

---

**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 8, 2021 6:59 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

**Name** BOB BORTFELD  
**Phone**  
**Email** bbortfeld@comcast.net  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2019  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** Resolution 21-154  
**Your position on the matter** Oppose  
**Representing** Self  
**Organization** BOB BORTFELD

**Written Testimony** The Haiku Stairs should be opened to the public as long as it is done safely, respectful of private property rights and neighbors. I prefer that it be as controlled access only.

**Testimony Attachment**  
**Accept Terms and Agreement** 1

IP: 192.168.200.67



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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 8, 2021 7:00 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name	Minnie Hidrogo
Phone	
Email	minniehm@yahoo.com
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Council
Agenda Item	Resolution 21-154
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing	Self
Organization	
Written Testimony	The aloha spirit is to preserve and protect not to destroy.
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement 1	

IP: 192.168.200.67

---

**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 8, 2021 7:02 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name	Laura Crane
Phone	
Email	Lauralynncrane@gmail.com
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Council
Agenda Item	21-154
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing	Self
Organization	
Written Testimony	Please keep this resource available for future generations.
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement	1

IP: 192.168.200.67

---

**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 8, 2021 7:15 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name	Kaitlin Karch
Phone	
Email	kaitlinkarch@aol.com
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Council
Agenda Item	Resolution 21-154
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing Organization	Self
Written Testimony	The stairs are important part of history that should not be destroyed. Please do not tear them down!
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement	1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 8, 2021 7:25 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name	Dana Karaffa
Phone	
Email	dmkaraffa@gmail.com
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Council
Agenda Item	21-154
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing	Self
Organization	
Written Testimony	
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement 1	

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 8, 2021 7:30 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name	Kara Hogan
Phone	
Email	karajhogan@gmail.com
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Council
Agenda Item	Resolution 21-154
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing	Self
Organization	
Written Testimony	
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement 1	

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 8, 2021 7:32 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

**Name** IVAN M RAYKOV  
**Phone**  
**Email** grycko1@gmail.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** Resolution 21-154  
**Your position on the matter** Oppose  
**Representing Organization** Self

**Written Testimony** Haiku stairs is one of the biggest attractions and inspirations for hikers and regular people on the island bringing millions of people every year, they need to stay and get remodeled. Because all these people getting to visit are spending so much more around the island just with 1 goal to visit and experience the historical beauty of the Haiku (Stairways to Heaven) stairs.

**Testimony Attachment**  
**Accept Terms and Agreement** 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

---

**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 10:44 PM  
**Subject:** Housing and the Economy Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name Jennifer Cole  
Phone  
Email Caugrl@aol.com  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Committee Housing and the Economy  
Agenda Item Haiku Stairs  
Your position on the matter Oppose  
Representing Self  
Organization

### Written Testimony

The Haiku Stairs is clearly popular and has been a draw to many people for my entire life despite being an illegal hike. The State should fix the stairs, create parking, provide a restroom and draw up waivers for all to sign before going up. Then the State can charge money for the experience for the upkeep of the stairs.  
If you dismantle the stairs that will also cost money, but you won't be able to make any money back. Too many times Hawaii loses out on what could be a profitable enterprise. Don't add the Stairs to the list of missed opportunities.

### Testimony Attachment

Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

---

**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 10:44 PM  
**Subject:** Housing and the Economy Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name Jennifer Cole  
Phone  
Email Caugrl@aol.com  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Committee Housing and the Economy  
Agenda Item Haiku Stairs  
Your position on the matter Oppose  
Representing Self  
Organization

### Written Testimony

The Haiku Stairs is clearly popular and has been a draw to many people for my entire life despite being an illegal hike. The State should fix the stairs, create parking, provide a restroom and draw up waivers for all to sign before going up. Then the State can charge money for the experience for the upkeep of the stairs.  
If you dismantle the stairs that will also cost money, but you won't be able to make any money back. Too many times Hawaii loses out on what could be a profitable enterprise. Don't add the Stairs to the list of missed opportunities.

### Testimony Attachment

Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67



---

**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 9:17 PM  
**Subject:** Housing and the Economy Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name Marianne Whiting  
Phone  
Email 747mkw@gmail.com  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Committee Housing and the Economy  
Agenda Item Resolution to remove Haiku Stairs 21-154  
Your position on the matter Oppose  
Representing Self  
Organization

Written Testimony I am strongly opposed to destroying an irreplaceable historical and iconic Hawaii treasure unlike anything else in the world. Why would you remove this unique feature of our island before implementing the proposed plan to properly manage this asset?! It defies logic. Please do not destroy elite trail for generations to come.

Testimony Attachment

Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

---

**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 5:57 PM  
**Subject:** Housing and the Economy Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name Carey Vierra  
Phone  
Email m.vierra28@gmail.com  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Committee Housing and the Economy  
Agenda Item Resolution 21-154  
Your position on the matter Oppose  
Representing Self  
Organization  
Written Testimony  
Testimony Attachment  
Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

---

**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 4:45 PM  
**Subject:** Housing and the Economy Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name Anne Leake  
Phone  
Email ARLeake@aol.com  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Housing and the Economy  
Committee  
Agenda Item 21-154  
Your position on the matter Oppose  
Representing Self  
Organization

Written Testimony I live in the neighborhood and want to keep Haiku Stairs open as an educational and recreational experience for myself and future generations. There are workable plans for how to do this that have been ignored.

Testimony  
Attachment

Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 4:27 PM  
**Subject:** Housing and the Economy Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name Margaret Foley  
Phone  
Email Mfoley623@gmail.com  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Committee Housing and the Economy  
Agenda Item The Haiku Stairs removal  
Your position on the matter Oppose  
Representing Self  
Organization  
Written Testimony  
Testimony Attachment  
Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

---

**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 8, 2021 12:21 AM  
**Subject:** Zoning and Planning Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name Gianluca Donadio  
Phone  
Email 20minutenmail@gmail.com  
Meeting Date 09-07-2021  
Council/PH Zoning and Planning  
Committee  
Agenda Item Let the Stairways be as it is! 2-154  
Your position on the matter Oppose  
Representing Self  
Organization  
Written Testimony The Stairways is an epic mark of ohau. Dont destroy it let it be. Find a solution that people can hike up there because its unique. Never saw something like this. Its a natural beauty  
Testimony  
Attachment  
Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

---

**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 9:53 PM  
**Subject:** Parks and Community Services Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name Carmel Davis  
Phone  
Email jzorba@yahoo.com  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Committee Parks and Community Services  
Agenda Item Haiku Stairs  
Your position on the matter Oppose  
Representing Self  
Organization

Written Testimony The public wants it. Don't kill it. Find a way to make it happen. Like Makapuu Lighthouse. The Stairs is historic, community, for visitors and kamaaina alike. It is cultural—a memorial protecting oahu/Hawaii from external threats.

Testimony  
Attachment

Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

---

**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 9:53 PM  
**Subject:** Parks and Community Services Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name Carmel Davis  
Phone  
Email jzorba@yahoo.com  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Committee Parks and Community Services  
Agenda Item Haiku Stairs  
Your position on the matter Oppose  
Representing Self  
Organization

Written Testimony The public wants it. Don't kill it. Find a way to make it happen. Like Makapuu Lighthouse. The Stairs is historic, community, for visitors and kamaaina alike. It is cultural—a memorial protecting oahu/Hawaii from external threats.

Testimony  
Attachment  
Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

---

**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 8, 2021 2:11 AM  
**Subject:** Parks and Community Services Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name Christopher Holter  
Phone  
Email cholter7@gmail.com  
Meeting Date 09-09-2021  
Council/PH Committee Parks and Community Services  
Agenda Item Haiku stairs  
Your position on the matter Oppose  
Representing Self  
Organization

Written Testimony I oppose shutting down the stairway to Heaven. This was the best experience I have ever had hiking up to the tower. The magic will be gone and our history will be gone if you close the stairs.

Testimony Attachment

Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67



---

**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 8, 2021 7:57 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

**Name** Matthew Kekoa Shanks  
**Phone**  
**Email** mattkshanks@gmail.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** Resolution 21-154  
**Your position on the matter** Oppose  
**Representing Organization** Self

**Written Testimony** The Haiku Stairs should not be torn down. This is a fantastic attraction that should be managed. In a time where the city, county, and localities need money, it does not make financial sense to spend money to remove something that could be managed as a tourist attraction. Tourists from around the world would pay \$50+ to hike this- all that needs to happen is we have to figure out the best way to monetize it.

**Testimony Attachment**  
**Accept Terms and Agreement** 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

---

**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 8, 2021 7:57 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name Maria Andrade  
Phone  
Email maria\_a619@yahoo.com  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Committee Council  
Agenda Item Resolution:21-154  
Your position on the matter Oppose  
Representing Self  
Organization  
Written Testimony I oppose the removal.  
Testimony Attachment  
Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

---

**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 8, 2021 8:10 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name	Nancy Boyd
Phone	
Email	nancboyd@hotmail.com
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Council
Agenda Item	Resolution 21-154
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing Organization	Self
Written Testimony	Please do not close this iconic historic item in Hawaii. Make it legal to hike and charge people to do so.
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement	1

IP: 192.168.200.67

---

**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 9:17 PM  
**Subject:** Housing and the Economy Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name Marianne Whiting  
Phone  
Email 747mkw@gmail.com  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Committee Housing and the Economy  
Agenda Item Resolution to remove Haiku Stairs 21-154  
Your position on the matter Oppose  
Representing Self  
Organization

Written Testimony I am strongly opposed to destroying an irreplaceable historical and iconic Hawaii treasure unlike anything else in the world. Why would you remove this unique feature of our island before implementing the proposed plan to properly manage this asset?! It defies logic. Please do not destroy elite trail for generations to come.

Testimony Attachment

Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

---

**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 8, 2021 8:27 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name Gaz zachary  
Phone  
Email gareth\_zachary@hotmail.co.uk  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Committee Council  
Agenda Item Resolution 21-154  
Your position on the matter Oppose  
Representing Self  
Organization  
Written Testimony  
Testimony Attachment  
Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 8, 2021 8:31 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

**Name** Joslynn Ojiri  
**Phone**  
**Email** Squanto0518@gmail.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** Haiku Stairs  
**Your position on the matter** Oppose  
**Representing Organization** Self

**Written Testimony** The stairs were not intended as a tourist attraction, and do not serve the purpose of cultural education or opportunities for the public to understand our culture. As a matter of fact, these stairs truly create the exact opposite by exploiting our culture and its resources, along with impacting the quality of life for us as Kaneohe residents. THESE STAIRS MUST BE REMOVED

**Testimony Attachment**  
**Accept Terms and Agreement** 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 8, 2021 8:43 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name	Michael Jarzomski
Phone	
Email	Msj133@gmail.com
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Council
Agenda Item	Resolution 21-154
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing	Self
Organization	
Written Testimony	It would be a devastating loss if these stairs were removed.
Testimony Attachment	
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IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 8, 2021 8:51 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

**Name** Gary Ojiri  
**Phone**  
**Email** GOjiri@twc.net  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** Haiku Stairs  
**Your position on the matter** Oppose  
**Representing Organization** Self

**Written Testimony**

Keeping the stairs open under managed access will only serve the purpose of the group and not the community at large. Many of those who hike there today, knowingly do so without regard for the community. Although the "Friends" state that the money generated will cover the maintenance and security at no cost to the tax payers, who will be liable for any lawsuits that should occur? That is of great concern. the stairs should be removed. We have tourist inundating the keapuka subdivision to access Hoomaluhia park, and a crazy amount of tour helicopters flying all day long along the Koolau mountains. We need to take care of our community.

Aloha

**Testimony Attachment**

**Accept Terms and Agreement** 1

IP: 192.168.200.67



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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 8, 2021 8:59 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name Ciprian Dumitrascu  
Phone  
Email cipdumitrascu@gmail.com  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Committee Council  
Agenda Item Resolution 21-154  
Your position on the matter Oppose  
Representing Self  
Organization  
Written Testimony  
Testimony Attachment  
Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 8, 2021 9:26 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

**Name** Holly Sevier  
**Phone**  
**Email** hsevier@hawaii.edu  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** 21-154  
**Your position on the matter** Oppose  
**Representing Organization** Organization Kaneohe Neighborhood Board

Aloha kākou, my name is Holly Sevier. I have lived in Ha'ikū valley for 17 years and have served as neighborhood board member for nine of those years. In 2017 the Board voted unanimously in support of reopening the Stairs under a managed access plan.

Since the City & County of Honolulu are on the point of making the Ha'ikū Stairs history, I'd like to speak today to the unique history of how the Ha'ikū Stairs came into being.

**Written Testimony** After Pearl Harbor was attacked in 1941 and the US joined the war, the US Navy became determined to engineer a way to provide communications to their fleet across the Pacific. For sailors and submariners as far away as Tokyo Bay, these communications meant life and death and so an engineering feat unmatched in communications history was needed.

Looking at the unique horseshoe-shaped topography of Ha'ikū Valley with its steep valley walls rising up to a height of between 2-3 thousand feet all around, the Navy realized they could use the valley itself as a signal amplifier, if only they could scale those steep walls and anchor the antenna into place.

And so for 21 days, two young high-scalers named Bill Adams and Louis Otto were contracted to scale the steep pali up to the peak of Pu'u Keahiakahoe, driving spikes into the rock and pulling themselves up on ropes as they went. When they reached the top, anchors were put into place that then allowed antennae to be strung across the entire 3,000 width of the valley.

With the groundbreaking Alexanderson Alternator in place in the bomb-proof transmitter building in the base of the valley, radio signals could now reach ships and submarines in Japan.

There is only one remaining Alexanderson Alternator left in the world, the one in our valley having been partially destroyed by vandals after the Navy left. Don't let the City and County of Honolulu destroy the rest of this pioneering world-famous communications system. Save the Ha'ikū Stairs.

Testimony  
Attachment  
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IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 8, 2021 9:27 AM  
**Subject:** Zoning and Planning Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name John D'Amico  
Phone  
Email m7026044307@gmail.com  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Zoning and Planning  
Committee  
Agenda Item Haiku stairs 21-154  
Your position on the matter Support  
Representing Self  
Organization

Written Testimony It would be a horrible mistake to remove this one in a world natural wonder. Hiking is a big reason for people to come to Hawaii and this hike is easily one of the best in the world. Rather that dump this gift that was handed to you embrace it and make it into something that can bring joy and revenue to city.

Testimony Attachment

Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 8, 2021 9:17 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name Larry Oswald  
Phone  
Email larryoswald001@gmail.com  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Committee Council  
Agenda Item Resolution 21-154  
Your position on the matter Oppose  
Representing Self  
Organization  
Written Testimony  
Testimony Attachment  
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IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 8, 2021 9:35 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name Vernon Ansdell  
Phone  
Email vernonansdell@gmail.com  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Council  
Committee  
Agenda Item Resolution 21-154  
Your position on the matter Oppose  
Representing Organization  
Organization Friends of Haiku Stairs  
Written Testimony Please listen to the large majority of your constituents who want the Haiku Stairs reopened under controlled and managed access. That way, the Stairs can be enjoyed and appreciated by current and future generations.  
Testimony Attachment  
Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 8, 2021 11:28 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name Patrick John McCrindle  
Phone  
Email patrick.mccrindle@gmail.com  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Committee Council  
Agenda Item Haiku Stairs  
Your position on the matter Oppose  
Representing Self  
Organization

The stairs are a big part of the community and while there is are issues with them in place the issues stem from it not being legal to do/climb the stairs.

Written Testimony The value that exists in Hawaii of it natural beauty is quite high. Its all about being able to share it in a way that doesn't damage it now or for future generations. By controlling access at the bottom and charging a fee to climb the the stairs could be maintained and a profit could be made.

Testimony Attachment

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IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 8, 2021 11:43 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name Cole Parkey  
Phone  
Email cole.parkey@yahoo.com  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Committee Council  
Agenda Item Resolution 21-154  
Your position on the matter Oppose  
Representing Self  
Organization

Written Testimony I oppose the tear down of the stairs! The memory I have of this amazing landmark and hiking to the top of the mountain with my wife, father-in-law and guide was a memory I will never forget! I hope to one day do this hike with my children and grand children.

Testimony Attachment

Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67



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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 8, 2021 12:01 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name Steve Colon  
Phone  
Email Scolon@hawaii.rr.com  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Committee Council  
Agenda Item 21-154  
Your position on the matter Oppose  
Representing Self  
Organization

Written Testimony Please do not let the public lose this natural treasure. Please let common sense prevail here.  
Let's not tear down these stairs. This is the classic example of a few loud voices taking away a community treasure.

Testimony  
Attachment  
Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 8, 2021 12:28 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name Waakoamaikalani Aluli  
Phone  
Email waako34@gmail.com  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Committee Council  
Agenda Item Resolution 21-154  
Your position on the matter Oppose  
Representing Self  
Organization Unseen Hawaii Adventure Tours LLC

I am a Kailua resident, born and raised in the east side, and I strongly oppose the resolution to remove the Ha'iku Stairs. The people of Hawaii have expressed an overwhelming opposition to the removal of the Ha'iku Stairs. In the last City Council meeting in which testimony on this issue was accepted, 92.7% of the submitted testimony was in opposition to removal. The vast majority of 7.3% of the testimony that supported removal was submitted by parents of current students and alumni from Ke Kula o' Samuel M. Kamakau (hereinafter "Kamakau"). This opposition, however, was premised on the erroneous belief that the alternative to removal is to do nothing and leave things as they are. I strongly oppose this resolution to remove the Ha'iku Stairs at least until the City puts out a requests for proposals (hereinafter "RFP") and the City and the people of Hawaii are allowed to assess the prospect of removal against privately funded plans to resolve all of the issues associated with the Ha'iku Stairs.

### Written Testimony

There is very wide opposition to the contemplated removal of the Ha'iku Stairs. At the last City Council meeting held on May 11, 2021 and per Bill Higgs from the Friends of Ha'iku Stairs who claims to have read through and counted each one of the 1365 pieces of written testimony, 92.7% (or 1265 of 1365) of the submitted written testimony was in opposition to removal of the Ha'iku Stairs. This is understandable, the Haiku Stairs are a huge international draw that was featured in the National Geographic article, "World's Best Hikes: Endangered Trails" as one of the top 10 endangered trails in the world.

The vast majority of the 7.4% (100 of 1365) of the written testimony submitted in support of the resolution to remove the Ha'iku Stairs was submitted by alumni or parents of current students of Kamakau. It is entirely understandable that the parents of students, alumni, and faculty of Kamakau are the strongest supporters of removal. Kamakau sits next to the main access point to the Ha'iku Stairs and at least arguably is the most impacted by the Ha'iku Stairs. While the impact to Kamakau is of serious concern and needs to be addressed, all of the submitted testimony in support of removal is premised on the proposition that the alternative is to do nothing and leave things as they are. This is an entirely inaccurate

proposition. No one wants to leave things as they are.

There are at least 14 private entities that have expressed an interest in attempting to resolve all of the problems associated with the Ha'iku Stairs - paramount of which must be reducing or eliminating the impact on Kamakau and the broader Ha'iku community. On or about February 11, 2020, the Department of Enterprise Services put out a request for information (hereinafter "RFI"). This RFI asked private operators questions about the procurement structure, financial/commercial feasibility, technical feasibility, and other issues surrounding a concession at the Ha'iku Stairs. Unseen Hawai'i Adventure Tours, LLC and 13 other potential operators submitted responses to the Department of Enterprise Services RFI on or before February 28, 2020 at 4:00PM. This RFI also explicitly stated, however, that a private parties failure to submit an RFI on February 28, 2020 did not preclude it from entering this contemplated public private partnership procurement process at a later stage. This RFI submitted by the City was the first step on the public private partnership procurement route that the City then contemplated.

The Haiku Stairs is likely the biggest international attraction to Hawaii and has the potential to attract tens of millions of dollars in visitor money annually. Removing just a portion of the Ha'iku Stairs would cost the City an estimated \$1,000,000.00. Furthermore, this removal would not stop access to the top of the Ha'iku Stairs. History has proven that when enforcement of and penalties for trespassing from the Ha'iku access point is increased, it reduces trespassing in Ha'iku but has little if any effect on trespassing to access the top of the Ha'iku Stairs from alternate routes. Of even greater concern is the HFD spokesperson pointed out at the City Council hearing on May 11, 2021, rescues from the alternate routes nearly double the number of rescues from the Ha'iku Stairs.

Particularly because 1) the people of Hawaii have expressed overwhelming opposition to the removal of the Ha'iku Stairs and 2) at best removal of the Ha'iku Stairs would have the questionable effect of pushing nuisance issues from one community to another, and increasing safety concerns, I strongly oppose this resolution to remove the Haiku Stairs - at least until a RFP can be conducted to consider the alternatives to removal.

Testimony  
Attachment

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IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 8, 2021 12:32 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name Rachel Palumbo  
Phone  
Email Rachelpal18@gmail.com  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Council  
Committee  
Agenda Item 21-154  
Your position on the matter Oppose  
Representing Self  
Organization

Written Testimony The stairs are an incredible and unique jewel of Hawaii and an opportunity for all to visit and enjoy. It is a once in a lifetime hike and view unavailable anyplace else in the world. Please do not tear them down.

Testimony  
Attachment  
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IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 8, 2021 12:35 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name Christina Monschein  
Phone  
Email monchr4679@yahoo.de  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Council  
Committee  
Agenda Item Resolution 21-154  
Your position on the matter Oppose  
Representing Self  
Organization

### Written Testimony

for me hawaii and the haiku stairs belong together. the have so much history and the are a part of hawaii's culture today. they should be repaired and reopened instead if removed. there could be made a small entrance fee that has to be paid if one wants to walk it and I'm sure hundreds of people would be willing to pay that fee to enjoy the amazing view from the top! (I hiked the legal way years ago and even though I haven't been on the stairs, the view was so beautiful, it brought me to tears. and it made me realize once again how beautiful our planet is.)

### Testimony Attachment

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 8, 2021 9:50 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name Murray Visser  
Phone  
Email visserm@hotmail.com  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Council  
Committee  
Agenda Item 21-154  
Your position on the matter Oppose  
Representing Self  
Organization

Written Testimony Please keep the Stairs open to the public. I've lived on Oahu since 1972, and the Stairs hike is the best one (in my opinion) on Oahu. Why not only charge the visitors who hike these Stairs, in order to pay for the upkeep ?

Testimony  
Attachment  
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IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 8, 2021 9:57 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name Cheryl Tyler  
Phone  
Email ctyler@ucla.edu  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Council  
Committee  
Agenda Item Removal of Haiku Stairs  
Your position on the matter Support  
Representing Self  
Organization

Written Testimony The Haiku Stairs should be removed . Too many trespassers who have no respect for private property and contribute to noise and other pollution at all hours of day and night; no public parking or restroom facilities; too many costly rescues of careless or inexperienced hikers at taxpayer expense.

Testimony Attachment

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IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 8, 2021 10:36 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name Cathy  
Phone  
Email cathy2010@gmail.com  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Council  
Committee  
Agenda Item 21-154  
Your position on the matter Oppose  
Representing Self  
Organization

Written Testimony Haiku stairs should not be removed. It is a beautiful piece of Hawaii history that should be restored and maintained for all generations to enjoy. Please do not get rid of haiku stairs.  
Testimony  
Attachment  
Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67



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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 8, 2021 1:28 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name	Jennifer Mies
Phone	
Email	nenny1771@hotmail.com
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Council
Agenda Item	Resolution 21-154
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing Organization	Self
Written Testimony	The haiku stairs are a legacy for everyone. They should be given to the people to manage and accept responsibility for.
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement	1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 8, 2021 1:55 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name	Jennifer Cameron
Phone	
Email	Jeni3@aol.com
Meeting Date	09-09-2021
Council/PH Committee	Council
Agenda Item	Stairway to heaven destruction
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing	Self
Organization	
Written Testimony	
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement 1	

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 8, 2021 2:00 PM  
**Subject:** Parks and Community Services Testimony

## Written Testimony

**Name** Crista Lindberg  
**Phone**  
**Email** cristalindberg@icloud.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Parks and Community Services  
**Agenda Item** Stairway to Heaven  
**Your position on the matter** Oppose  
**Representing Organization** Self

**Written Testimony** It's a rite of passage for many to conquer this physical challenge. Now is not the time to demolish nor invest; Oahu has other issues to tackle. Please do not shut them down now. We can find a way to honor the sacred land, make improvements, create a fiscally responsible solution and create jobs for this area.

**Testimony Attachment**

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IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 8, 2021 2:00 PM  
**Subject:** Parks and Community Services Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name Crista Lindberg  
Phone  
Email cristalindberg@icloud.com  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH  
Committee Parks and Community Services  
Agenda Item Stairway to Heaven  
Your position on  
the matter Oppose  
Representing Self  
Organization

Written Testimony It's a rite of passage for many to conquer this physical challenge. Now is not the time to demolish nor invest; Oahu has other issues to tackle. Please do not shut them down now. We can find a way to honor the sacred land, make improvements, create a fiscally responsible solution and create jobs for this area.

Testimony  
Attachment

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and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 8, 2021 2:17 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name	ANNE
Phone	
Email	Junebuq@aim.com
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Council
Agenda Item	Resolution 21-154
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing	Self
Organization	
Written Testimony	
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement 1	

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 8, 2021 2:23 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

**Name** Steven Crisp  
**Phone**  
**Email** scrip@mac.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** Resolution 21-154  
**Your position on the matter** Oppose  
**Representing Organization** Self

**Written Testimony**

An earlier decision to save these stairs was already made, with the intention to have it become a managed resource, provide access to avoid the aggrieved neighborhood, and keep this wonderful scenic landmark available for generations. And then the new administration came in and reversed course 180 degrees with little discussion or public awareness, and wants to appropriate funds to tear it all down. This is shameful, and should not happen! I strongly oppose this resolution, and pray you will heed to the will of the people, so we and our children's children can enjoy this resource for generations. Build up, do not tear down the Haiku Stairs!

**Testimony Attachment**

**Accept Terms and Agreement** 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 8, 2021 2:50 PM  
**Subject:** Parks and Community Services Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name	Nicki
Phone	
Email	Nicki.matsumoto@gmail.com
Meeting Date	09-09-2021
Council/PH Committee	Parks and Community Services
Agenda Item	Stairway to heaven
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing	Self
Organization	
Written Testimony	I oppose tearing this historical piece down
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement 1	

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 8, 2021 2:52 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name	Nicki shelbourne
Phone	
Email	Nickimats@icloud.com
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Council
Agenda Item	Resolution 21-154
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing	Self
Organization	
Written Testimony	I oppose this
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement 1	

IP: 192.168.200.67



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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 8, 2021 3:04 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

**Name** Carol Crisp  
**Phone**  
**Email** cdcrisp@mac.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** Resolution 21-154  
**Your position on the matter** Oppose  
**Representing Organization** Self

**Written Testimony**

I strongly believe that the Haiku Stairs should be preserved and open to the public. They are a unique Hawaiian treasure that could be enjoyed for generations to come! This new resolution to tear them down is shameful . With cooperation between the city and local residents, this can work! Please preserve the Haiku Stairs for all of us to enjoy.

**Testimony Attachment**

**Accept Terms and Agreement** 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 8, 2021 3:09 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

**Name** Allison Crisp  
**Phone**  
**Email** acrisp@mac.com  
**Meeting Date** 09-08-2021  
**Council/PH Committee** Council  
**Agenda Item** Resolution 21-154  
**Your position on the matter** Oppose  
**Representing Organization** Self

**Written Testimony**

Please do not tear down the Haiku Stairs. I strongly oppose this resolution and hope instead that it can be managed to allow safe access to this amazing scenic hike to be enjoyed by all. This is such a unique spot and it would be a real shame for Hawai'i to lose this incredible landmark. Please protect the Haiku Stairs and make them safely accessible for future generations of our keiki to enjoy!

**Testimony Attachment**

**Accept Terms and Agreement** 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 8, 2021 4:11 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name	Janis M Lindley
Phone	
Email	janlindley@yahoo.com
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Council
Agenda Item	Resolution 21-154
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing	Self
Organization	
Written Testimony	One of the most special and spectaclar hikes on Oahu
Testimony Attachment	
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IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 8, 2021 4:18 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name	Duke
Phone	
Email	ckyost@gmail.com
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Council
Agenda Item	21-154
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing	Self
Organization	
Written Testimony	Save Our Stairs! Please Mahalo.
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement 1	

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 8, 2021 4:37 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name Donna Mabalot  
Phone  
Email madonna.magtoto@icloud.com  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Council  
Committee  
Agenda Item Resolution 21-154  
Your position on the matter Oppose  
Representing Self  
Organization

Written Testimony We're oppose to taking down the stairs! It's part of history. Keep it the way it is! Please just focus your agenda on something else not these stairs.

Testimony  
Attachment  
Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 8, 2021 4:40 PM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name	Alyssa Neville
Phone	
Email	abneville1995@gmail.com
Meeting Date	09-08-2021
Council/PH Committee	Council
Agenda Item	Resolution 21-154
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing	Self
Organization	
Written Testimony	
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement 1	

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 9, 2021 2:28 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name A Belcher  
Phone  
Email abelcher375@outlook.com  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Council  
Committee  
Agenda Item 21-154  
Your position on the matter Oppose  
Representing Self  
Organization

Written  
Testimony

As I have stated numerous times, the Haiku Stairs are an historical gem and should never be torn down. We can't just keep destroying our history. Hawaii and Pearl Harbor in particular played such an important role in WWII, and the Haiku Stairs are part of that.

The Stairs and the community can exist together. Give it a chance to work...if it doesn't, then revisit the decision.

No one has been given a CHANCE to try and make it work yet.

Testimony  
Attachment

Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Friday, September 10, 2021 12:24 PM  
**Subject:** Parks and Community Services Testimony

## Written Testimony

Name Phoenix  
Phone  
Email chongppr@yahoo.com  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Committee Parks and Community Services  
Agenda Item Save the Haiku Stairs  
Your position on the matter Comment  
Representing Self  
Organization

Written  
Testimony

Pls do NOT tear down the Haiku Stairs. Nothing worse than wasting the resources that hv already built this. Managed access should be the goal. Win-win. U cd charged folks who want to climb this island treasure. Heck, I want to do it b4 I pass on. Pls Mr Mayor, Retain the Haiku Stairs with managed access.

Testimony  
Attachment

Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67



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**From:** CLK Council Info  
**Sent:** Friday, September 17, 2021 8:33 AM  
**Subject:** Council Testimony

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## Written Testimony

Name Denise Karabinus  
Phone  
Email denisekarabinus@gmail.com  
Meeting Date 09-08-2021  
Council/PH Council  
Committee  
Agenda Item Resolution 21-154  
Your position on the matter Oppose  
Representing Self  
Organization

Written Testimony Haiku stairs is totally unique and amazing place in Oahu. Find solutions to keep it open —do not remove! If we take aways all these wonderful and precious places Oahu will lose something important. I realize there are many tourists that visit these spots but there are also many local people who hold these place dear and wish to see them remain open.

Testimony Attachment  
Accept Terms and Agreement 1

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