

# Resolution 21-169 Testimony

**MISC. COM. 515**



UNIVERSITY  
of HAWAII  
SYSTEM

Kalbert K. Young  
Vice President for Budget and Finance  
Chief Financial Officer

September 7, 2021

The Honorable Tommy Waters, Chair & Presiding Officer  
Honolulu City Council  
City & County of Honolulu  
530 S. King Street  
Honolulu, HI 96813

**SUBJECT:** Testimony in Support of Resolution 21-169, Master Use and Occupancy Agreement With The Honolulu Authority For Rapid Transportation And The University of Hawai'i For Exclusive Rights To Use And Occupy University Property.

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

The University of Hawai'i supports Resolution 21-169, to authorize the Mayor or designee to enter into a Master Use and Occupancy Agreement (MUOA) with the Honolulu Authority for Rapid Transportation (HART) and the University of Hawai'i (UH) which will allow HART and the City to use UH real property at UH-West O'ahu, Leeward Community College, and Honolulu Community College for rail and to locate rail stations.


This MUOA represents years-worth of negotiation and work by representatives of the City, HART, and UH. I believe the agreement satisfactorily addresses a myriad of details delineating the responsibilities between each of the parties. The University supports this MUOA because we support the rail system and the benefits that the rail system will offer to our University students, faculty, staff, and our campus neighbors at UH-West O'ahu, Leeward Community College (LCC), and Honolulu Community College (HCC). Accommodating the rail system by making land available on UH campuses demonstrates UH's commitment to this critical partnerships between the City, HART, and UH to deliver this significant public works project.

This long term agreement will be the University's commitment to the use of UH lands for operating rail, constructing rail improvements, rail stations, and the guideway. It will also address the use, administration and operation of the rail system while providing opportunities for UH to communicate and work with City Administration on the future use. As an example, the agreement provides for a 12-member committee including representation from the City and UH.

The University of Hawai'i recognizes the complexities of the rail project and the major issues that are involved throughout the project. The UH, HART, and the City are continuing to work on proposed rail improvement agreements that still need to be refined at UHWO for an interim park-and-ride and at HCC for the rail station that is anticipated to be located there. This MUOA is an important primer to frame these additional details.

I respectfully request that the City Council approve Resolution 21-169. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

  
Kalbert K. Young  
Vice President – Budget & Finance  
University of Hawai'i System  
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