

Resolution 21-175 Testimony

MISC. COM. 522

TSH

From: CLK Council Info
Sent: Sunday, September 19, 2021 10:44 AM
Subject: Transportation, Sustainability and Health Testimony

Written Testimony

Name Linda Harrington
Phone
Email leahilinda@gmail.com
Meeting Date 09-21-2021
Council/PH Committee Transportation, Sustainability and Health
Agenda Item reso 21-175
Your position on the matter Support
Representing Self
Organization
Written Testimony It is very unsafe; can't see around parked cars.
The changes are unsuitable for the amount of traffic on Leahi.
Testimony Attachment
Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

From: CLK Council Info
Sent: Sunday, September 19, 2021 3:48 PM
Subject: Transportation, Sustainability and Health Testimony

Written Testimony

Name Marilyn Mick
Phone
Email m2@pobox.com
Meeting Date 09-21-2021
Council/PH
Committee Transportation, Sustainability and Health
Agenda Item Res 21-175
Your position on the
matter Support
Representing
Organization Self

Written Testimony Leahi Ave is now more unsafe than ever. Speeding has not stopped and makes things worse as cars have to navigate a one lane road.
These changes are unsuitable for the amount of traffic on Leahi. The City needs to take over what has been a private road for over a century.

Testimony
Attachment

Accept Terms and
Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

From: CLK Council Info
Sent: Sunday, September 19, 2021 4:20 PM
Subject: Transportation, Sustainability and Health Testimony

Written Testimony

Name David Eng
Phone
Email davideng22@gmail.com
Meeting Date 09-21-2021
Council/PH Committee Transportation, Sustainability and Health
Agenda Item 3. Resolution 21-175
Your position on the matter Support
Representing Self
Organization
Written Testimony Please take over this publicly used road for over a century. Someone is going to get killed from this lady making extremely poor decisions trying to be a traffic engineer. My children have almost been hit by cars because of the safety issues created by the private owner. This has to stop.
Testimony Attachment
Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

Subject: Transportation, Sustainability and Health Testimony

Written Testimony

From: CLK Council Info
Sent: Sunday, September 19, 2021 6:41 PM
Subject: Transportation, Sustainability and Health Testimony

Written Testimony

Name Harold Marx
Phone
Email rbmarxhi@gmail.com
Meeting Date 09-21-2021
Council/PH Committee Transportation, Sustainability and Health
Agenda Item 3. Resolution 21-175
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: Sunday, September 19, 2021 7:11 PM
Subject: Transportation, Sustainability and Health Testimony

Written Testimony

Name Steven Wong
Phone
Email stevenwong22885@gmail.com
Meeting Date 09-21-2021
Council/PH Committee Transportation, Sustainability and Health
Agenda Item 3 - Resolution 21-175
Your position on the matter Support
Representing Self
Organization

Written Testimony The road is way more unsafe now. The private owner is going to kill somebody. She clearly has no idea what she is doing. City ownership is required to make Leahi safer. Leahi is not like the other private roads - it has a lot of traffic, elementary school, ocean safety, parks, etc. It is a historic road and shouldn't be grouped with others as a reason not to take it over.

Testimony Attachment

Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

From: CLK Council Info
Sent: Sunday, September 19, 2021 7:43 PM
Subject: Transportation, Sustainability and Health Testimony

Written Testimony

Name Ariel Shepherd-Hall
Phone
Email arielsh@hawaii.edu
Meeting Date 09-21-2021
Council/PH Committee Transportation, Sustainability and Health
Agenda Item (3) Resolution 21-175
Your position on the matter Support
Representing Self
Organization

Written Testimony

I live on Leahi Avenue and have to commute every day on the road. It is especially inconvenient in the mornings going to work because even if I take Noela road down to Paki avenue the traffic is backed up due to parents dropping off their kids on a poorly traffic-engineered road. When I come back from the Kapahulu side, traffic is at a halt for more than twenty minutes because parents are picking up their kids. It wasn't an issue before the road became privatized.

My mother and I had our share of dangerous encounters. At the beginning of August, she was driving towards Monserrat on Leahi Avenue when a red Porsche sped towards her. According to the new "yield movement", legally they give the right-a-way to her and yield to the side. Unfortunately, that was not the case. She was forced to move to the left side as the car sped past her. Many times walking, I have seen cars speeding towards each other waiting to see who will move over first. All in all, since the new design of the road it has become very dangerous for myself and for residents who live on the street.

Testimony Attachment

Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

From: CLK Council Info
Sent: Sunday, September 19, 2021 8:06 PM
Subject: Transportation, Sustainability and Health Testimony

Written Testimony

Name Arthur Mallet
Phone
Email mallet.arthur@gmail.com
Meeting Date 09-21-2021
Council/PH
Committee Transportation, Sustainability and Health
Agenda Item (3) Resolution 21-175
Your position on
the matter Support
Representing Self
Organization

Written Testimony I drive on Leahi almost daily and the new parking creates confusion and is very dangerous. It's difficult to see the traffic coming with cars parked on the road. There isn't increased parking since vehicles were previously able to park on the side off the road. This is clearly just a cash grab without any consideration for the community.

Testimony
Attachment

Accept Terms
and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

From: CLK Council Info
Sent: Sunday, September 19, 2021 8:08 PM
Subject: Transportation, Sustainability and Health Testimony

Written Testimony

Name	Paul Bergeman
Phone	
Email	pbergeman@hotmail.com
Meeting Date	09-21-2021
Council/PH Committee	Transportation, Sustainability and Health
Agenda Item	21-175
Your position on the matter	Support
Representing	Self
Organization	
Written Testimony	Leaving Avenue is unsafe and in need of action from 21-175
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement	1

IP: 192.168.200.67

From: CLK Council Info
Sent: Sunday, September 19, 2021 8:17 PM
Subject: Transportation, Sustainability and Health Testimony

Written Testimony

Name Harry Newhart
Phone
Email hapahat@gmail.com
Meeting Date 09-21-2021
Council/PH Committee Transportation, Sustainability and Health
Agenda Item (3) Resolution 21-175
Your position on the matter Support
Representing Organization Self

Written Testimony When I drive on Leahi Ave. now, it feels much more dangerous than it used be 10 years ago. It's a 2 lane road, that is sometimes 1 lane. Some cars pull on the side, some speed down the side without lanes on the wrong side of the road. It's just much more chaotic now. Feels very unsafe.

Testimony Attachment

Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

From: CLK Council Info
Sent: Sunday, September 19, 2021 8:35 PM
Subject: Transportation, Sustainability and Health Testimony

Written Testimony

Name	Rede Eder
Phone	
Email	rede.eder@gmail.com
Meeting Date	09-21-2021
Council/PH Committee	Transportation, Sustainability and Health
Agenda Item	(3) Resolution 21-175
Your position on the matter	Support
Representing	Self
Organization	
Written Testimony	Leahi Avenue has become unsafe to use. I urge the City Council to pass Resolution 21-175!
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement	1

IP: 192.168.200.67

Testimony of Safe Leahi LLC – Mary Jones

**City Council
City & County of Honolulu
Committee on Transportation, Sustainability and Health
Councilmember Radiant Cordero, Chair
Councilmember Brandon J.C. Elefante, Vice Chair**

Resolution 21-175 CD1 – Requesting the City Administration to take the steps necessary to acquire that section of Leahi Avenue between Monsarrat Avenue and Noela Street, including, if necessary, the preparation of a resolution to initiate proceedings in eminent domain.

Tuesday, September 21st, 2021

9:00 A.M.

City Council Chamber

I support the intent of Resolution 21-175 CD1 requesting the City administration acquire Leahi Avenue between Monsarrat Avenue and Noela Street with the stipulations that the City continues uninterrupted the improvements that have been made to this section of Leahi Avenue, brings the roadway and sidewalk to City design standards and fairly compensates Safe Leahi LLC for the value of the property, including the completed improvements. If the Resolution advances, these stipulations should be incorporated in the Resolution.

This testimony is submitted as both the owner of Safe Leahi LLC and a nearby resident whose family includes five children, two of whom currently attend Waikiki Elementary School. Members of my family walk, bike and drive this section of Leahi Avenue multiple times every day. Advocating for traffic safety is deeply personal to me and extends far beyond the responsibilities required of a private road owner.

Safe Leahi LLC was founded in 2020 with the sole intent of acquiring Leahi Avenue to improve traffic safety in our neighborhood. This action came about after years and countless unsuccessful attempts with both the City and State to secure traffic safety improvements to the street, especially for children. I personally served on the Leahi Avenue Permitted Interaction Group of our Neighborhood Board, chaired the Waikiki School Traffic Safety Committee, organized and submitted petitions, engaged numerous leaders at both the City and State level, wrote letters and made appeals for improvements, such as school zone signage and speed limit reductions, to the Department of Facilities Maintenance and Department of Transportation Services. Lunalilo Trust, the previous owner, made several unsuccessful attempts to dedicate Leahi Avenue to the City. It ultimately became evident that neither the City nor the State would intervene, and the private road owner would be the only party able to initiate any improvements.

Over the last ten months, Safe Leahi LLC has completed the following traffic safety improvements:

- Reduced speed limit from 25 mph to 15 mph
- Installed “School Zone” signage in both directions near Waikiki Elementary School
- Installed outer-edge striping along the entire length of both sides of Leahi Avenue to visually delineate sidewalk from roadway and narrow lane width.
- Installed reflective pavement markers every 20’ along the outer edge of the Diamond Head side of Leahi Avenue.
- Installed reflective pavement markers along the crosswalk area fronting the community garden.
- Repaired 163 ft of badly damaged asphalt sidewalk in the busiest walkway linking Pualei Circle to Waikiki Elementary School.
- Installed flexible delineators to protect unimproved sidewalks along Kapiolani Park, the community garden, two condominiums and other areas with heavy pedestrian traffic and exposed sidewalks (unimproved).
- Instituted yield movement with striped on-street parking spaces along the ‘Ewa side of Leahi Avenue to slow vehicle speeds and create vital neighborhood parking.
- Established a paid parking system to manage parking with options for monthly, daily and hourly users.
- Planted twenty street trees to protect the sidewalks (unimproved) fronting Waikiki Elementary School and City and County of Honolulu Ocean Safety and Lifeguard Services headquarters. All street trees are registered in the 100K trees Oahu initiative.

Before undertaking these improvements, Safe Leahi had extensive discussions. Discussions with the City have continued since the improvements began.

The implementation of yield-movement has resulted in an overall decrease in vehicle traffic by approximately 30% and an overall reduction in average vehicle speed of 15 mph. The installation of delineators and street trees has kept most sidewalk areas (unimproved) clear on both sides of the street for pedestrians.

The City’s acquisition of this area of Leahi Avenue would make available extensive resources necessary to bring Leahi Avenue fully up to City design standards. The long overdue and priority improvements should include raised and improved sidewalks on both sides of the street consistent with requirements for high pedestrian traffic areas near parks and schools, additional traffic calming measures and storm drains installed and interconnected to the City system for the entirety of the street.

Our neighborhood has realized the traffic safety benefits of already completed improvements. It would be a huge disservice for the City to acquire Leahi Avenue and fail to continue improvements, manage parking or, worse, allow Leahi Avenue to revert back to its previous state--a 0.3 mile stretch with no traffic calming measures and a high volume of speeding cut

through traffic, sidewalks that were unimproved and blocked by vehicles, many of them abandoned or stored long term. Pedestrians were forced to share the roadway with vehicles traveling at speeds ranging from 25 to 40 mph. It was extremely dangerous, particularly for pedestrians, in an area with high density residential, parks, a community garden and an elementary school.

In the event this Resolution fails to advance, Safe Leahi LLC will continue operating and improving Leahi Avenue on its current trajectory. We will remain agreeable to a City acquisition subject to the stipulations noted above.

Thank you for your consideration.

Mary Jones
Safe Leahi LLC

From: CLK Council Info
Sent: Sunday, September 19, 2021 9:45 PM
Subject: Transportation, Sustainability and Health Testimony

Written Testimony

Name Leila Akimoto
Phone
Email lchen54@yahoo.com
Meeting Date 09-09-2000
Council/PH Committee Transportation, Sustainability and Health
Agenda Item Resolution 21-175
Your position on the matter Support
Representing Self
Organization

Written Testimony

I support resolution 21-175 as it is quite dangerous trying to enter and exit out of Leahi Ave onto Monsarrat Ave. During the weekdays with school in session, there is a back log of cars getting into and out of Waikiki Elementary School. Often time there is no space to yield to on coming traffic due to vehicles on the marked paid parking stalls that is on the road. Beside the traffic, the most dangerous incident that I have encountered is when a car does speed down the road, I was already at a point where I couldn't yield due to the park vehicles. Having a speed hump like that on Pali Highway would be a better way to resolved speeding. Safe Leahi LLC is not committed to safety of motorists and pedestrians by making paid parking stalls on one side of the road. The repaved little path in front of Gregg's Apartment is not much of a sidewalk as it is a narrow path. These attempts of Safe Leahi LLC seems to be more of a personal gain rather than protecting the safety of the community. As parking is limited in Pualei Circle and within eateries along MonsarratAve, Safe Leahi LLC saw it as a business to cash in.

Testimony Attachment

Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

From: CLK Council Info
Sent: Sunday, September 19, 2021 9:45 PM
Subject: Transportation, Sustainability and Health Testimony

Written Testimony

Name	SN
Phone	
Email	Suzannealoha@gmail.com
Meeting Date	09-21-2021
Council/PH Committee	Transportation, Sustainability and Health
Agenda Item	(3) Resolution 21-175
Your position on the matter	Support
Representing	Self
Organization	
Written Testimony	
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement 1	

IP: 192.168.200.67

I'm writing in support of Honolulu City Council Resolution 21-175 for the city to acquire Leahi Avenue.

I've lived in Pualei Circle off of Leahi Avenue since 1994 and I love this neighborhood. However, recent changes to Leahi Avenue have me concerned about safe access for area residents.

According to a recent neighborhood board meeting, the acquisition of Leahi Avenue by Safe Leahi LLC may have broken neighborhood board subcommittee rules. The founder of Safe Leahi LLC was a member of the subcommittee researching road ownership and attempting to get help from the city. The legality of the acquisition by Safe Leahi LLC is in question.

The ownership of this road is not in dispute according to the city. However, did King Lunalilo Trust pay the city to maintain the road by installing crosswalks, repaving, ticketing and towing abandoned vehicles? If the answer is yes, then ownership by King Lunalilo Trust is not questioned. But if not, then it was an abandoned road maintained by the city and therefore technically a city-owned road.

Some improvements have been made by Safe Leahi LLC such as removing the parking in front of Gregg Apartments and repairing the asphalt sidewalk. But taking away one lane of traffic is definitely not an improvement.

Currently Safe Leahi LLC is forced to generate income to pay for road maintenance. The paid parking on one-half of the roadway now creates an unsafe situation for drivers, pedestrians, bikers, emergency vehicles and school kids. As a resident taxpayer, I expect basic services from the city and state - a safe two lane road to my residence being one.

The city needs to take responsibility for the safety of its citizens. The city needs to acquire Leahi Avenue.

With regards,
Robert Rameyer

From: CLK Council Info
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 7:43 AM
Subject: Transportation, Sustainability and Health Testimony

Written Testimony

Name	Seth Weber
Phone	
Email	sethweber@mac.com
Meeting Date	09-21-2021
Council/PH Committee	Transportation, Sustainability and Health
Agenda Item	Resolution 21-175
Your position on the matter	Support
Representing	Self
Organization	
Written Testimony	For the safety of the community I support Resolution 21-175
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement	1

IP: 192.168.200.67

From: CLK Council Info
Sent: Saturday, September 18, 2021 12:37 PM
Subject: Council Testimony

Written Testimony

Name Kelly OBrien
Phone
Email kobrien246@gmail.com
Meeting Date 09-21-2021
Council/PH Committee Council
Agenda Item Resolution 21-175
Your position on the matter Support
Representing Self
Organization

Written Testimony

Through the ill-conceived actions of a single individual, Leahi Avenue has been turned into an unsafe, traffic quagmire. We have lived on Leahi Avenue for eleven years and have never had any issues with the street or concerns for our safety when walking or driving along the street until now. We were shocked to learn that someone could claim ownership of a street that provides ingress and egress to hundreds of residents as well as access to parks, Waikiki Elementary School and Honolulu Ocean Safety Services. And, more shocking than just claiming ownership, is the fact that this person was allowed to make changes to that street according to her own whims with no public input or accountability for her actions. These changes have not only negatively impacted residents of Leahi Ave and the streets leading into it, but also parents dropping their kids off at Waikiki Elementary School, people with plots in the community garden and people using the city parks at either end of Leahi Ave. Additionally, Fire Station 07 is located at the end of Leahi Ave along Kapahulu Avenue and the congestion created by Leahi effectively being turned into a single lane street could impact the ability of emergency vehicles to quickly reach their destination.

If I want to make changes to my house, something that impacts no one but my family, I have to get a permit from the City. But, all these changes to our street, changes that affect hundreds, were done without a permit; no public comment process; no plan prepared by a qualified traffic engineer; and no traffic study that studied the impacts of the proposed changes. We now have a single lane street with traffic attempting to go two ways and multiple blind spots have been created for both drivers and pedestrians. While the new "owner's" intent may have been to make the street "safer", she has done the complete

opposite. I strongly support Resolution 21-175 and urge the City Council to purchase Leahi Ave and reverse all the changes that this person has implemented.

Testimony
Attachment

Accept Terms
and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

From: CLK Council Info
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 7:02 AM
Subject: Council Testimony

Written Testimony

Name arleen velasco
Phone
Email velascoarleen@yahoo.com
Meeting Date 09-21-2021
Council/PH Committee Council
Agenda Item Resolution 21-175
Your position on the matter Comment
Representing Self
Organization

Written Testimony

The farcical sale of Leahi Avenue to a private citizen is an affront to the community of Honolulu. The road has become a public safety hazard with the implementation of street parking being allowed into the middle of a two way road with barriers alongside the road that prohibit a car from pulling aside to prevent a head on collision. The changes made by Mary Jones have made walking on the existing crosswalks dangerous as well as preventing the public free public parking access to Kapiolani Park.

All these terrible changes and disruptions to Waikiki elementary have been documented and presented to the Department of Transportation only to be ignored. There are laws that have been passed that clearly show Leahi Avenue was owned by the state and the state passed on the responsibility to the city. All the documentation to prove this has been presented at the neighborhood board #5 and given to Tommy Water's office.

The lack of adherence to existing laws is morally appalling and illegal. Private citizens are now collecting funds to sue the city, state and perhaps Mary Jones in an effort to force the city to take responsibility and abide by their own laws.

Testimony Attachment

Accept Terms and Agreement 1

From: CLK Council Info
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 8:49 AM
Subject: Transportation, Sustainability and Health Testimony

Written Testimony

Name Twain Newhart
Phone
Email twain808@gmail.com
Meeting Date 09-21-2021
Council/PH
Committee Transportation, Sustainability and Health
Agenda Item (3) Resolution 21-175
Your position on
the matter Support
Representing Self
Organization

Written Testimony I believe Leahi Avenue, between Noela St. and Monsarrat Ave., has become unsafe with drivers trying to race around parked cars which are now parking in the street in lieu of the shoulder of the road as it use to be.
I further believe that drop off and pick up at Waikiki Elementary has become more challenging for parents because of the lack of flow on Leahi Avenue.

Testimony
Attachment

Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

From: CLK Council Info
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 9:28 AM
Subject: Transportation, Sustainability and Health Testimony

Written Testimony

Name Nancy Wassman
Phone
Email wassmann001@hawaii.rr.com
Meeting Date 09-21-2021
Council/PH Committee Transportation, Sustainability and Health
Agenda Item Resolution 21-175 and resolved paragraph
Your position on the matter Support
Representing Self
Organization

Aloha! I want the City to take over Leahi Ave. and take out the paid parking, returning it to a 2 lane street which is how it has been the over 20 years I have lived in Pualei Circle, with no problems. The City has fronting on Leahi Ave. of 2 City Parks, the City Community Garden, the City Lifeguard Baseyard, Waikiki Elementary School, and at the end of Leahi Ave. is the City Baseyard for Urban Forestry. The City has resurfaced the street in the past, put in crosswalks, and it should NOT be privately owned by Mary Jones for profit and the total endangerment of pedestrians and drivers.

Written Testimony I SUPPORT Resolution 21-175, and the amended paragraph. The City needs to take necessary steps to acquire the privately-owned section of Leahi Ave. between Monsarrat Ave. and Noela St. in the best interest of safety.

Major vehicle jams for parents and residents happen with Leahi Ave. now as a one lane street during school pick ups and drop offs. Bicycles have no safe place to ride. Vehicles have to pull over or back up to let approaching vehicles pass, which when vehicles are parked, there is no safe space to pull off. It is dangerous for emergency vehicles to maneuver.

Based on 2017 Hawaii ACT 208 -HB115 HD1 SD1 CD1 Was this purchase even legal?

Nancy Wassman

Testimony
Attachment
Accept Terms
and Agreement

1

From: CLK Council Info
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 12:11 PM
Subject: Transportation, Sustainability and Health Testimony

Written Testimony

Name Rachel Alsagoff
Phone
Email rachel.alsagoff@gmail.com
Meeting Date 09-21-2021
Council/PH
Committee Transportation, Sustainability and Health
Agenda Item (3) Resolution 21-175
Your position
on the matter Support
Representing
Organization Self

Written
Testimony I have many friends who have always loved living on Leahi Avenue and some who have children who attend Waikiki Elementary. Ever since the private parking stalls have been installed, there has been increased confusion as to who has right of way, leading to cases of road rage, unnecessary speeding to overtake cars while negotiating blind spots on the much-narrowed street. It is our collective fear that someone is going to get hit on a crosswalk while drivers are concentrating on negotiating the potentially dangerous traffic situation, thanks to the poorly managed and ill-conceived concept. It's truly only a matter of time that someone will get hurt on a street that was designed without considering the safety of others. Please revert the street back to its original form and put in all-way stops as needed to address speeding and have the road be managed by the City & County of Honolulu.

Testimony
Attachment

Accept Terms
and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

From: CLK Council Info
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 12:15 PM
Subject: Transportation, Sustainability and Health Testimony

Written Testimony

Name Stephanie Eshenour
Phone
Email stephrhoads321@gmail.com
Meeting Date 09-19-2021
Council/PH Committee Transportation, Sustainability and Health
Agenda Item RESOLUTION 21-175 – A
Your position on the matter Support
Representing Self
Organization

I support Resolution 21-175-A.

As the main access to the pualei community it is seriously concerning that an individual has such power over the community.

The message brought by the name Safe Leahi leaves one to believe the intent behind the venture is to improve safety, however the “improvements” made to the street have clearly moved safety in the opposite direction. On a daily basis I feel like i’m playing chicken with cars coming off of Monsarrat Ave.

Written
Testimony

In addition, Safe Leahi has not only eliminated parking for those in the community, but has attracted the permanent parking of commercial vehicles (food trucks) in the neighborhood. There has also not been any sort of improvements made regarding the sidewalks.

Lastly, the addition of reflector rods have changed the character of the road and are quite unsightly. This used to be a quiet neighborhood road and now it looks like a constant construction zone.

Thank you

Testimony
Attachment
Accept Terms
and Agreement

1

From: CLK Council Info
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 1:31 PM
Subject: Transportation, Sustainability and Health Testimony

Written Testimony

Name Chuck Magalian
Phone
Email chuck@catewm.com
Meeting Date 09-21-2021
Council/PH Committee Transportation, Sustainability and Health
Agenda Item Resolution 21-175
Your position on the matter Support
Representing Self
Organization

Written Testimony I support Resolution 21-175.
I have seen near accidents with school children attempting to navigate through these new traffic jams to get to or from school.
These conditions never existed in my 10 plus years on Pualei Circle until the recent changes.
Please intervene before there is a serious injury.

Testimony Attachment

Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

From: CLK Council Info
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 12:23 PM
Subject: Transportation, Sustainability and Health Testimony

Written Testimony

Name	KK Paine
Phone	
Email	Kate@hula.net
Meeting Date	09-21-2021
Council/PH Committee	Transportation, Sustainability and Health
Agenda Item	21-175
Your position on the matter	Comment
Representing Organization	Self
Written Testimony	Please advise on how a full council hearing 9/21 can go before a committee meeting 9/22? Previous notice to impacted community advocates was that full council agenda would be in October.
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement	1

IP: 192.168.200.67

From: CLK Council Info
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 1:58 PM
Subject: Council Testimony

Written Testimony

Name Anna Kerr
Phone
Email Annamalia2001@yahoo.com
Meeting Date 09-21-2021
Council/PH Council
Committee
Agenda Item Resolution 21-175 CD1
Your position on the matter Support
Representing Self
Organization

Written Testimony
Allowing one individual to purchase a city street, without allowing any of the people affected to have a voice has had an egregious effect on neighbour hood harmony and has lowered our property values. Not to mention, this has denied residents parking. Making it a one way street is a dangerous situation. In a democracy, we do what is best for the whole and there is discussion and vote.

Testimony Attachment
Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

From: CLK Council Info
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 2:29 PM
Subject: Transportation, Sustainability and Health Testimony

Written Testimony

Name b young
Phone
Email byoung@gmail.com
Meeting Date 09-21-2021
Council/PH
Committee Transportation, Sustainability and Health
Agenda Item 21-175
Your position on
the matter Support
Representing Self
Organization

Written
Testimony

I have seen a Map from 1883 (See Registered Map #1079) that shows Leahi Ave from Kapahulu "Road"(where it appeared that Kapahulu and Leahi were both planned as a major route to the "new" Kapiolani Park) to beyond the current Noela Street. The portion of Leahi owned by Safe Leahi has the following: City and County/Fire Department fire hydrants with support pipes underground, Board of Water Supply water pipes underground to the entire neighborhood, Department of Wastewater Sewer Manholes and underground sewer lines supporting the entire neighborhood, at least one Storm Drain which may be on the Leahi Ave parcel which likely has pipes under Leahi Ave, plus Hawaii Gas utility lines under Leahi Ave. I can not understand how the C & C allowed this likely Republic of Hawaii/Territory of Hawaii,/State of Hawaii/C & C road to be acquired by a private entity while ignoring what was best for the residents, most of whom use it as their only way to get to their properties. It's time to rectify this mistake immediately! Mahalo for accepting my testimony.

Testimony
Attachment

Accept Terms
and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

September 19, 2021

Honolulu City Council
c/o Tommy Waters – Council Chair and Presiding Officer
Honolulu Hale
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

RE: TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF RESOLUTION 21-175

Aloha Councilmembers,

On behalf of hundreds of adversely impacted Diamond Head homeowners, thousands of Kama'āina visiting Queen Kapiolani Park, and most acutely on behalf of the innocent Waikiki Elementary School children endangered by the actions of Safe Leahi, LLC, I support Resolution 21-175 and urge you to take action to cure the public safety issues manifested by Mary Jones and Safe Leahi, LLC.

Pedestrian safety and vehicular misconduct on Leahi Avenue have been an ongoing problem for many years. Seeking a safer way to walk her children to Waikiki Elementary, Ms. Jones, a local resident, spent years trying to persuade the City & County of Honolulu ("City") to improve Leahi Avenue between Monserrat Avenue and Noela Street ("Leahi Avenue"). When it became clear that the City was unwilling to improve the roadway, Ms. Jones took matters into her own hands.

With the City unaccommodating, Ms. Jones contacted the Estate of King Lunalilo ("Lunalilo Trust"), the original landowner after the Great Mahele, convincing the trustees to convey their alleged interest in Leahi Avenue to her newly formed Safe Leahi, LLC for not more than \$10 dollars using a simple quitclaim deed. This despite the Executive Director of the Lunalilo Trust publicly admitting (including in a November 2020 Civil Beat Article) that the Trust was unaware it had any claim to Leahi Avenue. Since Safe Leahi, LLC acquired the alleged interest in Leahi Avenue, public safety conditions have descended into chaos.

Safe Leahi, LLC will almost certainly tout to the City Council the "improvements" implemented at its direction; however, this amounts to little more than a veiled attempt at justifying the disarray Safe Leahi, LLC has sewn. Ongoing discussions within our neighborhood, attendance at Diamond Head neighborhood board meetings, and the behavior of frustrated motorists reveal the nearly unanimous outrage at what Safe Leahi, LLC has done. In the interest of transparency, I originally supported Ms. Jones efforts. Disappointingly, what was believed to be a genuine effort to improve public safety has ostensibly become an enraged citizen's personal crusade and a threadbare effort to make a mockery of the State of Hawaii and the City and County of Honolulu at the expense of our neighborhood.

Among other things, by installing highway delineators (traffic poles) as a barrier Safe Leahi, LLC deliberately blocked community access to Kapiolani Park and the existing public parking attached thereto. Safe Leahi, LLC will of course boast that this created an "unimproved sidewalk" when in fact all it has done is restrict public access and force pedestrians and vehicles together onto the roadway. Simultaneously, an entire lane of vehicular traffic on Leahi Avenue has been taken out of service in favor of a for-profit parking scheme on the roadway itself. Combined, these acts have resulted in a daily game of pedestrian-vehicular chicken dangerously playing out directly in front of Waikiki Elementary School, City & County Ocean Safety Headquarters, Leahi Community Garden, and numerous private residences including my own.

Safe Leahi, LLC is also knowingly allowing derelict food trucks and other commercial vehicles – many of which are being used as transient habitations – to effectively camp on the actual roadway fronting Waikiki Elementary School thereby blocking half the roadway. This has created vehicular disarray and is putting school children in danger as frustrated drivers speed up to circumnavigate the transient habitations and gridlock. Waikiki Elementary School principal Kusuda has pleaded with Ms. Jones to remove the derelict vehicles and transient habitations fronting his school; Safe Leahi, LLC has reportedly refused.

If Safe Leahi, LLC remains true to its purpose, then it too will presumably support this resolution. However, Safe Leahi, LLC should not be allowed to profit – at taxpayer expense – because of such a transfer. If Mary Jones is as philanthropic as she claims and is genuinely motivated by improving safety for school children, then Safe Leahi LLC should dedicate the roadway to the City and the City in turn accept the roadway for not more than the \$10 paid for the roadway. It would be a disservice to the taxpayers of this City to allow Safe Leahi, LLC to turn public safety into a profit plan.

Both as a homeowner on Leahi Avenue and as a parent, I urge the City Council to unanimously pass Resolution 21-175, which will help quiet the controversy on Leahi Avenue and concurrently keep school children safe. Passage would be an important first step in reclaiming the public land currently being encumbered and adversely possessed by Safe Leahi, LLC.

Given that the process of reclaiming Leahi Avenue for the public may take time, I respectfully ask that the City Council seek immediate injunctive relief to alleviate the dangerous conditions brought by Safe Leahi, LLC, which are currently endangering school children and more broadly the public. At the very least, Leahi Avenue must be restored to two (2) vehicular lanes while the process of reclaiming the street advances.

I am grateful for the opportunity to submit this written testimony and welcome any questions you may have. Please do not hesitate to contact me if I may be of any assistance to the City Council.

Mahalo Nui Loa,



Dana C. Bergeman
Dana C. Bergeman Tr

Cc: Tommy Waters
Diamond Head Neighborhood Board

From: CLK Council Info
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 2:40 PM
Subject: Transportation, Sustainability and Health Testimony

Written Testimony

Name Faye Koyanagi
Phone
Email fmk217@gmail.com
Meeting Date 09-21-2021
Council/PH Committee Transportation, Sustainability and Health
Agenda Item Resolution 21-175CD1
Your position on the matter Support
Representing Self
Organization

I strongly support this resolution to have the City acquire that portion of Leahi Ave. between Noela and Monsarrat Avenues and to operate and maintain that portion of the roadway free of hazards..

My family has lived in the area since the 1950s and we always felt that that portion of Leahi was very dangerous. My brother and I would walk to and from school and to and from the bus stop which was then located at the corner of Leahi and Campbell Avenues. Since there was no pedestrian walkway or sidewalk, we would have to walk in the roadway next to the haphazardly parked cars. And since there were no lane markings or line delineations, cars would be driven all over the roadway and often speeding.

Written
Testimony

With the improvements made by Safe Leahi, we now have a dedicated pedestrian walk area and with the shared lane concept of the roadway, this has resulted in slowing the speed at which the vehicles are driven.

It appears that the opposition is being voiced by those who have lost their free parking spaces along the street. How can we justify keeping a few free spaces at the risk of endangering human lives?

Thank you,
Faye Koyanaagi

Testimony
Attachment

Accept Terms
and Agreement

1

From: CLK Council Info
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 2:41 PM
Subject: Transportation, Sustainability and Health Testimony

Written Testimony

Name	Iopono Holdings Group, LLC
Phone	
Email	dana@bergemangroup.com
Meeting Date	09-21-2021
Council/PH Committee	Transportation, Sustainability and Health
Agenda Item	(3) Resolution 21-175
Your position on the matter	Support
Representing	Organization
Organization	Iopono Holdings Group, LLC
Written Testimony	SUPPORT PASSAGE OF 21-175
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement 1	

IP: 192.168.200.67

From: CLK Council Info
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 2:44 PM
Subject: Transportation, Sustainability and Health Testimony

Written Testimony

Name Francis Paul Valenti
Phone
Email fpvalenti@gmail.com
Meeting Date 09-21-2021
Council/PH
Committee Transportation, Sustainability and Health
Agenda Item (3) Resolution 21-175
Your position on
the matter Oppose
Representing
Organization Self

Written Testimony

I have been opposed to the changes Ms. Moriarity Jones has made to our street, I think the have made Leahi Street less safe and more dangerous.
However, the damage has been done and cannot be reversed so I see no reason why the city should cave in to Mrs. Jones (in collusion with Mr. Waters) and be forced to take ownership of Leahi Street.
Mr.s Jones owns it, let Mrs. Jones maintain it, improve and be liable for what happens on her street. I see no reason for the city to take something they have publicly stated they do not want - regardless of what Mr.s Jones and Mr. Waters say!

Testimony Attachment

Accept Terms and
Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

September 20, 2021

Honolulu City Council
c/o Tommy Waters – Council Chair and Presiding Officer
Honolulu Hale
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

RE: Testimony in Support of Resolution 21-15

Councilmembers,

I am writing in support of Resolution 21-175, or any action that that would remove Leahi Avenue from Safe Leahi LLC and return safety and normalcy to Leahi Avenue. As a homeowner on Leahi Avenue for over 7 years, I am extremely concerned by what I have witnessed and experienced since Safe Leahi has acquired and made drastic changes to the street.

The original intent of Safe Leahi LLC was to make improvements to Leahi Avenue so that Mary Jones a nearby resident, and founding member of Safe Leahi LLC, could safely walk her children to Waikiki Elementary School from Nikolo Street since her efforts to persuade the city to make these improvements were unsuccessful. Ms. Jones founded Safe Leahi LLC, which purchased the street, presumably with the intent to make safety improvements.

As parent of a young child who has regularly walked her son to Paki Park and Unity Preschool from Leahi Avenue close to Noela Street, my initial reaction to the unspecified, but proposed safety improvements, was positive. The cars on the road, particularly those cars using Leahi Avenue to bypass Paki Avenue would often drive at excessive speeds for a small neighborhood street. Given the that the elementary school, two parks, the Community Garden, Paki Hale and the City & County Ocean Safety and Lifeguard Services Headquarters are located here, along with hundreds of residents on or near Leahi Avenue, improved pedestrian safety was a worthwhile goal.

My expectation was that simple, but effective, measures would be taken to reduce speed and traffic on the road such as reduced speed limits, an additional stop sign a Pualei Circle and some speed bumps. Sadly, the changes made were significantly more drastic and far less effective. In fact, what Safe Leahi, LLC has achieved is quite the opposite. Changes made by Safe Leahi, LLC have made the street significantly less safe while inconveniencing the residents and while disfiguring the beauty of this park side neighborhood.

I am, first and foremost, extremely concerned about a pedestrian safety and the increased likelihood of a traffic incident. Despite clearing areas at the shoulders of the roads, poorly repaving an already poorly paved, small stretch sidewalk, and putting in unsightly traffic stanchions, pedestrians are now frequently walking in the middle of the street, something I rarely saw in the past. The introduction of the abovementioned items, plus the introduction of parking onto what was previously a lane of traffic has caused pedestrians to bypass the newly

designated shoulders, as well as the pre-existing sidewalks in front of Paki Hale, the Gregg Apartments and to instead walk in the middle of the street. It seems like the additional items are creating confusion for both neighborhood and visiting pedestrians alike, causing them to think they need to avoid the dirt patches around the park and once they're on the street, they stay there.


Compounding this issue is the elimination of an entire lane of traffic, which now causes the drivers to play a game of "blind frogger" with the hopes that they don't run into a car coming in the other direction. While there are several two-way streets in Honolulu that, unfortunately, are too narrow to accommodate both parking and two lanes of traffic, they are typically designed to allow for sufficient visibility and breaks in the parking for cars to more safely weave in and out and avoid oncoming traffic. This is not the case on Leahi Avenue. There is a blind curve in the road making it impossible to see any oncoming traffic, especially when a driver needs to pull in behind a parked car. Further, there are insufficient breaks in the parking to allow a driver to pull out of the way to let the car coming in the opposite direction pass. As a result, I frequently observe drivers speed up to get passed the areas that are one lane due to cars parked. The permanent parking of large food trucks near the elementary school only exacerbates the problem. While reduction of speed is a key goal of improving pedestrian safety, I am observing cars going significantly faster than the new 15 MPH speed limit and the prior 25 MPH speed limit.

With pedestrians walking in the streets, cars driving more quickly and blindly, I am extremely concerned about a pedestrian being struck. As a parent of a young child, I certainly feel less safe walking with him on Leahi Avenue at this time than I did prior to Safe Leahi LLC's changes to the street. As noted above, these changes not only make Leahi Avenue significantly less safe but have also placed a significant burden on the neighborhood by eliminating and charging for parking.

I support any effort to remove Leahi Avenue from Safe Leahi and return the street to safety and normalcy, however I do not believe that a "fair market value" is owed to Safe Leahi LLC for the city to take over the street. It is widely known that Safe Leahi, LLC purchased the street for \$10 from the Lunalilo Trust and there is a provision in that agreement that Safe Leahi LLC was not to profit from the purchase of the street. Paying anything beyond the \$10 that Safe Leahi spent on street would be a terrible precedent for the city to set given the number of disputed and supposedly private streets in Honolulu. Safe Leahi has raised funds through parking and towing that can cover any out-of-pocket expenses for the minimal addition of signs, the placement of a small stretch of repaved sidewalk and the trees added (these will likely need to be removed in the future at the city's expense as they are directly under the electrical wires). As told by Safe Leahi LLC, the traffic stanchions were donated to it by the Chun Brothers.

I appreciate the opportunity to share my written testimony with the City Council and the time that you have taken to read it. I would be happy to provide additional information, particularly regarding the safety concerns I regularly observe in front of my home.

Warmest regards,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'Alyssa', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Alyssa Bergeman
3880 Leahi Avenue
Honolulu, HI 96815

From: CLK Council Info
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 3:19 PM
Subject: Transportation, Sustainability and Health Testimony

Written Testimony

Name	William Moschell
Phone	
Email	wmoschell@yahoo.com
Meeting Date	09-21-2021
Council/PH Committee	Transportation, Sustainability and Health
Agenda Item	(3) Resolution 21-175
Your position on the matter	Support
Representing	Self
Organization	
Written Testimony	Leahi Ave is unsafe. I urge the City Council to pass resolution 21-175
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement 1	

IP: 192.168.200.67

From: CLK Council Info
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 6:21 PM
Subject: Council Testimony

Written Testimony

Name Linda C Woodstock
Phone
Email Dusty@HoritaRealty.com
Meeting Date 09-21-2021
Council/PH Council
Committee
Agenda Item 21-175, CD1
Your position on the matter Support
Representing Self
Organization

Written Testimony

I recently drove down Leahi and there were 2 parked cars in my lane. In order for me to go past these 2 cars, I had to wait a very long time with my blinker on. There were many cars on the opposite lane and after waiting about 10 min, finally someone stopped back far enough for me to pass the two parked cars. I can only imagine if someone is going fast, that there could easily be a "head on" collision. It felt like a death trap. I am in support of this bill. For the greater good there should not be any parked cars in the lane on the makai side of the street. It is quite a hazard.

Testimony Attachment

Accept Terms and Agreement ¹

IP: 192.168.200.67

From: CLK Council Info
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 8:08 PM
Subject: Council Testimony

Written Testimony

Name Ben Phillips
Phone
Email benjamindrp@gmail.com
Meeting Date 09-22-2021
Council/PH Council
Committee
Agenda Item Resolution 21-175
Your position on the matter Support
Representing Self
Organization

Written Testimony The recent handling of traffic and parking concerns on Leahi Avenue have only increased the risks to both pedestrian and vehicle safety. The current management is clearly unqualified to safely and efficiently address the needs of this street. For the best interest of the community, please have the City Administration take the steps necessary to acquire Leahi Ave.

Testimony Attachment

Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

From: CLK Council Info
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 6:33 PM
Subject: Transportation, Sustainability and Health Testimony

Written Testimony

Name	Kyle Brandt
Phone	
Email	Kyleb84@comcast.net
Meeting Date	09-21-2021
Council/PH Committee	Transportation, Sustainability and Health
Agenda Item	(3) Resolution 21-175
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: Monday, September 20, 2021 5:43 PM
Subject: Transportation, Sustainability and Health Testimony

Written Testimony

Name	Tracy Gruenert
Phone	
Email	tracy@pacificinstruments.biz
Meeting Date	09-21-2021
Council/PH Committee	Transportation, Sustainability and Health
Agenda Item	(3) Resolution 21-175
Your position on the matter	Support
Representing	Self
Organization	
Written Testimony	Leahi Avenue is unsafe. I urge the City Council to pass resolution 21-175.
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement 1	

IP: 192.168.200.67

From: CLK Council Info
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 4:53 PM
Subject: Transportation, Sustainability and Health Testimony

Written Testimony

Name Karen Swann
Phone
Email swanny125@gmail.com
Meeting Date 09-21-2021
Council/PH Committee Transportation, Sustainability and Health
Agenda Item Res 21-175
Your position on the matter Support
Representing Self
Organization

The “improvements” Safe Leahi has attempted to make have had the opposite effect. Cars dart in and out of blind spots around unsightly food trucks that have been placed as traffic calming. Free parking has been replaced with mostly empty paid parking stalls. The markings of the pay to park stalls cause right of way confusion, speeding and road rage.

On Sunday I witnessed this road rage where 2 cars stopped at the Pualei intersection and got out of their cars. If one guy wasn’t out numbered it could have escalated out of control.

Written
Testimony

There has always, for the 20 years I have lived here, been a sidewalk in front of Waikiki Elementary and I still see pedestrians choose to walk in the street.

Traffic during school pick up hours backs all the way up Leahi making it impassable for emergency vehicles.

The city needs to take over Leahi, reinstate the parking that was there before, remove the traffic cones and maintain the road as they have always done. Please bring peace and safety back to our neighborhood.

Thank you

Testimony
Attachment

Accept Terms
and Agreement

1

From: CLK Council Info
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 6:39 PM
Subject: Transportation, Sustainability and Health Testimony

Written Testimony

Name	Ann A Shinsato
Phone	
Email	pono.prudent@gmail.com
Meeting Date	09-21-2021
Council/PH Committee	Transportation, Sustainability and Health
Agenda Item	Resolution 21-175
Your position on the matter	Support
Representing Organization	Self
Written Testimony	I am in support of the city acquiring this portion of Leahi Avenue for the well-being of the residents.
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement	1

IP: 192.168.200.67

From: CLK Council Info
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 6:44 PM
Subject: Transportation, Sustainability and Health Testimony

Written Testimony

Name Emily Hauck
Phone
Email Haucke26@gmail.com
Meeting Date 09-21-2021
Council/PH Committee Transportation, Sustainability and Health
Agenda Item (3) Resolution 21-175
Your position on the matter Support
Representing Self
Organization

My name is Emily Hauck and my husband and I have been a resident of Pualei Circle for 4 years. I have also been the Vice President of the Diamond Head Community Garden located on Leahi Ave. Per an email from Representative Waters, I wanted to share with you some perspective on the chaos that is occurring on Leahi Ave since it's been purchased by the latest private citizen, Mary Jones.

Written
Testimony

The pay-to-Park spots that were added adjacent to Waikiki Elementary are a serious hazard, since they literally block all movement of traffic from the east bound direction if west bound cars are on the road. The food trucks that are currently parked there, block all view of oncoming traffic and I have personally almost been hit head-on on multiple occasions, as has my husband, from people not yielding appropriately. All of the spots that were once along the park in the shoulder, were additional parking spots used by Waikiki Elementary parents, teachers, and staff, park goers, Gardeners at Diamond Head Community Garden, and residents of Pualei Circle. Now those once 20+ spots are reduced significantly, are privately owned, and dangerous. My husband and I are only designated one parking spot for our apartment. He works in Moanalua and I work in Kaneohe, so we need two vehicles. Due to limited parking on Leahi Ave, I now have to find parking on the other side of the park if my husband gets home before me, and if I get home after dark (not uncommon), I have to walk through the unlit areas of the surrounding parks to get to my apartment. Doing this feels extremely unsafe, especially with the homeless population prolific in those areas. I know I am not the only one with these safety concerns.

I understand and agree with the need for safe travel to and from the school, but multiple crosswalks and sidewalks already exist on that street. If that existing infrastructure were improved and repaved, I believe that would satisfy the need that some folks have to walk somewhere other than within the park.

The trees that have been planted, while not the biggest issue, are not even native trees! Shower trees are an introduced species that, while beautiful while flowering, produce an excess of leave litter what will negatively impact the road long term.

I appreciate you taking time to address this issue, and wish you would consider having City and County take ownership of this street before things get worse. If your goal really is to keep pedestrians and residents safe, ownership needs to change immediately.

Testimony
Attachment
Accept Terms
and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

From: CLK Council Info
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 7:14 PM
Subject: Transportation, Sustainability and Health Testimony

Written Testimony

Name Laura Cottongim
Phone
Email Laura.Cottongim@gmail.com
Meeting Date 09-21-2021
Council/PH Committee Transportation, Sustainability and Health
Agenda Item Resolution 21-175
Your position on the matter Support
Representing Self
Organization

Written Testimony I strongly support Resolution 21-175 urging the City to acquire the section of Leahi Avenue between Noela Drive and Monserrat. It would be an excellent opportunity for this Council to demonstrate superior public service in their roles as Kapiolani Park Trustees by curbing commercialization (privatized paid parking) adjacent to Kapiolani Park.

Testimony Attachment

Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

From: CLK Council Info
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 7:22 PM
Subject: Transportation, Sustainability and Health Testimony

Written Testimony

Name Adam Sheehan
Phone
Email sheehanadam@hotmail.com
Meeting Date 09-21-2021
Council/PH
Committee Transportation, Sustainability and Health
Agenda Item 21-175
Your position on
the matter Support
Representing
Organization Self

Written Testimony

The recent changes to the road known as 'Leahi Avenue' have negatively affected my family's life. They were enacted without consultation, safety impact plan nor considered the impact on residents immediately located adjacent to the street who previously depended on the street to find secure/safe parking.

I work shift work and often travel down Leahi at random times of the evening/morning and have nearly been involved in a collision several times with people speeding to get past the parked cars. The road is effectively one way.

We have a 2 year old that we cross Leahi several times per day and it seems less safe than it was a year ago. Speeding drivers, poorer visibility due to parked cars (abandoned food trucks).

Please consider our household (dual tax paying citizens who feel like we don't get much for our taxes) in the Pro camp for taking over control of this street.

Mahalo.

Testimony Attachment

Accept Terms
and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

From: CLK Council Info
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 8:21 PM
Subject: Transportation, Sustainability and Health Testimony

Written Testimony

Name John Titchen
Phone
Email johntitchen@hotmail.com
Meeting Date 09-21-2021
Council/PH Committee Transportation, Sustainability and Health
Agenda Item Resolution 21-175
Your position on the matter Support
Representing Self
Organization

It makes sense for the City to take the street. This Council would support improved public safety, and improved cultural and historic stewardship, by voting yes on this Resolution.

The Administration could place Leahi Avenue into the Kapiolani Park Trust and immediately solve a lot of issues that the new street owner has started to address. She has been more successful in a matter of months than previous City administrations have been over decades.

Written
Testimony

The City could immediately place the acquired street into the Kapiolani Park Trust. This should obviate the requirements for ADA improvements. This would improve public safety (see, ROH for Trust roads), solve a problem for the residents in the neighborhood, and promote alternative modes of transport such as walking, biking, skating, scootering, etc.

This Council would also display good public stewardship of Kapiolani Park, by extending the “non-commercialization of the Park” just a little bit farther than it is now and ensuring it abuts private residences instead of private property from which an owner might make a profit (at the expense of Kapiolani Park users).

Taking the road and placing it into the Kapiolani Park Trust would give this Administration a win in historic preservation. A City Council urging this Administration to do so would be one truly carrying out its duty as Kapiolani Park Trustees. Please vote yes on this Resolution!

Testimony
Attachment

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and Agreement

1

From: CLK Council Info
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 8:32 PM
Subject: Transportation, Sustainability and Health Testimony

Written Testimony

Name Greg Eng
Phone
Email gregoryeng11@gmail.com
Meeting Date 09-21-2021
Council/PH Committee Transportation, Sustainability and Health
Agenda Item 3. Resolution 21-175
Your position on the matter Support
Representing Self
Organization

Please do what is best for the community and vote to adopt Resolution 21-175 before somebody gets seriously injured or killed. The intentions of the private owner started off with good intentions and previously had some community support, but she has failed at her attempt to be a traffic engineer and made the road more unsafe than it was before. Living on Leahi Avenue, I see the near head-on collisions and hear the more frequent aggressive honking from the dangerous driving situations that were created by the private owner.

Written
Testimony

The private owner changed a relatively busy two-way road into a “yield roadway” by blocking one lane of traffic with parking, thinking it would slow down traffic to make it safer. Yield roadways only work on extremely low volume roads, which is unlike Leahi Avenue that has an Elementary School, Ocean Safety, 12 Condos, and many homes that need to use Leahi for ingress and egress. Vehicles are now speeding up so they do not have to yield to opposing traffic. There are new blind spots at the crosswalks and around curves that make it extremely unsafe because a suitable stopping sight distance, which is the near worst-case distance a vehicle driver needs to be able to see in order to have room to stop before colliding with something in the roadway, such as a pedestrian in a crosswalk, is not maintained. I have almost been hit head-on while on my bike and moped. The congestion is a nightmare for parents at the start and end of the school day such that the principal had to start a walking school bus where parents would have to park at multiple locations away from the school. Emergency vehicles cannot get through. But a parking lot in the middle of the road does not have to be the solution. She could have simply put in speed humps or tables and stop signs at the cross roads to slow down traffic and kept it two-way, but she refused this suggestion, even though this is a low-cost solution. The private owner has shown ineptitude at engineering a road and it needs to be taken away from her before her experiment injures or kills somebody. No competent traffic engineer would have made many of the changes that have been implemented and I believe the City and County can make more appropriate decisions – even back to before was better than the current disaster.

The City and County should know that if a lawsuit is filed by the community because this resolution is not adopted, they will likely still end up with the road. There are precedent setting cases that show the Highways Act applies to Leahi Avenue, as it did in Kaka'ako. The evidence is overwhelming. Why waste everyone's time and money with a lawsuit when we know the road will most likely end up with the City and County, like the ones in Kaka'ako.

Please do what is best for the community before someone gets hurt or killed.

Testimony

Attachment

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and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

From: CLK Council Info
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 8:44 PM
Subject: Transportation, Sustainability and Health Testimony

Written Testimony

Name	John Caswell
Phone	
Email	john_caswell@hotmail.com
Meeting Date	09-21-2021
Council/PH Committee	Transportation, Sustainability and Health
Agenda Item	Resolution 21-175
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: Monday, September 20, 2021 8:53 PM
Subject: Transportation, Sustainability and Health Testimony

Written Testimony

Name	Mark O'Malley
Phone	
Email	surfomalley@gmail.com
Meeting Date	09-21-2021
Council/PH Committee	Transportation, Sustainability and Health
Agenda Item	Resolution 21-275
Your position on the matter	Support
Representing Organization	Self
Written Testimony	Leahi Avenue should be open to two way traffic. Making it one way has made the road more unsafe and parking cars in the street is not a way to slow down traffic.
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement	1

IP: 192.168.200.67

From: CLK Council Info
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 8:54 PM
Subject: Transportation, Sustainability and Health Testimony

Written Testimony

Name	Walt Tilap
Phone	
Email	housetrained2001@yahoo.com
Meeting Date	09-21-2021
Council/PH Committee	Transportation, Sustainability and Health
Agenda Item	Resolution 21-175
Your position on the matter	Support
Representing	Self
Organization	
Written Testimony	I support Resolution 21-175.
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement 1	

IP: 192.168.200.67

From: CLK Council Info
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 8:54 PM
Subject: Transportation, Sustainability and Health Testimony

Written Testimony

Name James Yoshimura
Phone
Email jamesyoshimura@gmail.com
Meeting Date 09-21-2021
Council/PH Committee Transportation, Sustainability and Health
Agenda Item Resolution 21-175
Your position on the matter Support
Representing Self
Organization

Written
Testimony

Even more troublesome than the total and utter failure of the road to alleviate safety concerns under current ownership is the fact that it has divided a close knit community. The C&C needs to claim immediate domain now, as it should have done years ago. While Mary Jones's initial sentiment and intentions may have been noble, she has proven herself to be a a tyrant. The story of the troll underneath the bridge guarding it comes to mind Please, I beg the city to take immediate action on behalf of all the taxpayers, and to consolidate the safety of the road, which I'm sure they can do because unlike Mary Jones, the city need not monetize the operations of the road. How about a couple speed bumps?

Testimony
Attachment

Accept Terms
and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

From: CLK Council Info
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 9:30 PM
Subject: Public Safety Testimony

Written Testimony

Name	Jason Kohl
Phone	
Email	kohl_jason@hotmail.com
Meeting Date	09-21-2021
Council/PH Committee	Public Safety
Agenda Item	21-175
Your position on the matter	Support
Representing	Self
Organization	
Written Testimony	Leahi St has turned into a dangerous stretch of road under the current ownership
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement 1	

IP: 192.168.200.67

From: CLK Council Info
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 9:37 PM
Subject: Transportation, Sustainability and Health Testimony

Written Testimony

Name C. Alan Titchenal
Phone
Email altitch@gmail.com
Meeting Date 09-21-2021
Council/PH
Committee Transportation, Sustainability and Health
Agenda Item RESOLUTION 21-175 CD1
Your position on
the matter Support
Representing
Organization Self

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF RESOLUTION 21-175 FOR THE CITY TO TAKE OWNERSHIP OF LEAHI AVENUE

Making Leahi safe for keiki was a great goal, however Leahi Avenue is now unsafe for all.

The alterations made on Leahi Avenue between Monsarrat and Noela have complicated access to Waikiki elementary school during dropoff and pickup of students. Especially during these times, first responder access to the surrounding neighborhoods is blocked. The paid parking spaces on the street are blocking direct access to public park areas and create an unsafe road. Although this is theoretically a 2-way street, there is only room for one car. If it is fully parked, there will be minimal places for vehicles to pull over. Cars have already had to back up to let another pass. Below are some additional issues.

Written Testimony

1. Safety and Community Easement Issues that have NOT been taken into consideration
2. When school children are arriving or departing from school, both safety and efficiency will be affected. Vehicle log-jam for parents and all residents of Pualei Circle has been occurring.
3. There is no safe way for bicycles to ride on Leahi.
4. If Parkling stalls are full, there no way to pull off to let emergency vehicles pass.
5. Additionally, it could be challenging for fire equipment to turn in or out of Pualei Circle if vehicles are parked in ParkLinq designated spaces.

6. Leahi Avenue is the first street mauka of the Tsunami Evacuation Zone, potentially creating

unsafe conditions during an evacuation.

7. ParkLinq stalls have blocked Park Access to C&C Paki Park and Community Gardens.

8. Ocean Safety Headquarters are located on Leahi, potentially creating a dangerous situation.

9. There have been multiple times when the Bus has had to be rerouted down Leahi due to closure of Paki. This would now be problematic at best.

10. To prevent cars from pulling over onto school edge - Trees were planted (rather than bushes)

directly under HECO lines. This action appears to be shortsighted.

Testimony
Attachment

Accept Terms
and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

From: CLK Council Info
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 9:47 PM
Subject: Transportation, Sustainability and Health Testimony

Written Testimony

Name Joannie Dobbs
Phone
Email ExploringNewConcepts@gmail.com
Meeting Date 09-21-2021
Council/PH
Committee Transportation, Sustainability and Health
Agenda Item RESOLUTION 21-175 CD1
Your position
on the matter Support
Representing Self
Organization

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF RESOLUTION 21-175 FOR THE CITY TO TAKE OWNERSHIP OF LEAHI AVENUE

Safety should always be a priority, however to make Leahi Avenue safe for keiki and the surrounding community requires that the City take ownership. The present modifications made by Safe Leahi LLC private ownership have made the function of Leahi Avenue one step away from an accident waiting to happen.

I believe there is legal precedence for this the City and County to take ownership based on the State Of Hawaii House of Representatives Twenty-Ninth Legislature 2017 Bill 115, H.D.1 , S.D.1, C.D.1

Written
Testimony https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2017/bills/HB115_CD1_.HTM

"The purpose of this Act is to require each county with a population of five hundred thousand or greater to take ownership and jurisdiction over all roads for which there is a dispute over ownership and jurisdiction between the State or any of its political subdivisions and a county or a private party, or between a county and a private party.

SECTION 2. Chapter 264, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by adding a new section to part I to be appropriately designated and to read as follows:

"§264- County highways; ownership. (a) As used in this section:

"Disputed road" means any highway, road, alley, street, way, lane, bikeway, bridge, or trail that is open to the public and is located in any county with a population of five hundred thousand or more, for which there is a dispute over ownership and jurisdiction, as determined by the

department of transportation, between the State or any of its political subdivisions and a county or a private party, or between a county and a private party.

(b) If no party has exercised ownership over the disputed road in the five years prior to the effective date of this section, the disputed road shall be deemed to have been surrendered to the county in which the road is situated, pursuant to an administrative order issued by the state director of transportation. The county shall accept without exercise of discretion all surrendered roads and shall record its ownership immediately with the bureau of conveyances.

For purposes of this subsection, driving on a disputed road shall not, on its own, constitute an act of ownership."

Safe Leahi LLC may have had good intentions, but there have been too many harmful decisions related to this avenue. Here are only four key issues related to Safe Leahi private parking maintained by Parklinq.

When stalls are full, there no way to pull off to let emergency vehicles pass. This is an alarming situation related to the over 1,000 residents living in Pualei Circle.

Leahi Avenue is the first street mauka of the Tsunami Evacuation Zone, potentially creating unsafe conditions during an evacuation.

ParkLinq stalls have blocked Park Access to C&C Paki Park and Community Gardens. ParkLinq have been towing cars and dropping them off in Pualei Circle until they have time to take them back to their "yard". This has also cause parking issues for residence in Pualei Circle.

Having the City and County take over ownership of Leahi will make Leahi safe again.

Respectfully,

Joannie Dobbs
3017 Pualei Circle #217
Honolulu, HI 96815

808-321-6302
ExploringNewConcepts@gmail.com

Testimony
Attachment
Accept Terms
and 1
Agreement

IP: 192.168.200.67

From: CLK Council Info
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 10:05 PM
Subject: Transportation, Sustainability and Health Testimony

Written Testimony

Name Curtis Chee
Phone
Email thegreggapartments@yahoo.com
Meeting Date 09-21-2021
Council/PH Committee Transportation, Sustainability and Health
Agenda Item Resolution 21-175
Your position on the matter Support
Representing Self
Organization

Written Testimony I strongly support Resolution 21-175.
There have been too many near accidents due to blind spots created by parked vehicles taking over one lane of a two-way street. The current road management simply does not work given the volume of residents residing in the area.
A city effort to control traffic flow and create safe passage for both vehicles and pedestrians is needed. This can only be done if the city takes ownership of the road.

Testimony Attachment

Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

From: CLK Council Info
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 10:17 PM
Subject: Transportation, Sustainability and Health Testimony

Written Testimony

Name Brady Piercy
Phone
Email bpiercy2@yahoo.com
Meeting Date 09-21-2021
Council/PH Committee Transportation, Sustainability and Health
Agenda Item (3) Resolution 21-175
Your position on the matter Support
Representing Self
Organization

Written Testimony The current owner of Leahi's Ave. is acting in a dangerous and reckless manner. I don't feel safe walking my two young sons down the street any more. I urge the City Council to pass resolution 21-175.

Testimony
Attachment

Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

From: CLK Council Info
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 10:41 PM
Subject: Transportation, Sustainability and Health Testimony

Written Testimony

Name Emily Acevedo
Phone
Email emilyace@hawaii.edu
Meeting Date 09-21-2021
Council/PH
Committee Transportation, Sustainability and Health
Agenda Item 21-175
Your position on
the matter Support
Representing
Organization Self

Written Testimony

I support the city to take over Leahi ave. Under the new ownership, Leahi has become extremely unsafe due to additional parking and removal of two lane traffic. There are several blind spots due to the parking. In addition, cars are now speeding to avoid oncoming traffic. The lanes are smaller and gift less room for bikers. Overall, the street has become a complete mess. It is a commonly used road and needs to be more safe for the emergency vehicles, school, and Leahi residents.

Testimony Attachment

Accept Terms
and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

From: CLK Council Info
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 10:54 PM
Subject: Transportation, Sustainability and Health Testimony

Written Testimony

Name Nicholas von Wiegandt
Phone
Email Muchlovenaloha@gmail.com
Meeting Date 09-21-2021
Council/PH
Committee Transportation, Sustainability and Health
Agenda Item 21-175
Your position on
the matter Support
Representing
Organization Self

There have been zero improvements made to Leahi Ave by Safe Leahi LLC.

Safe Leahi llc should be fiscally responsible for removing all “improvements” that were made; signs, striping, trees, sidewalk before the city purchases the road.

If Safe Leahi llc truly cared about safety, then they would have made an ADA compliant sidewalk from Pualei to Monserrat.

Written Testimony

If safe Leahi llc truly cares about the safety of the community, then they will accept the payment of \$1 from the city. That way all the money being spent on the purchase of the road can go directly into making the ADA sidewalk.

By no means should the city place metered parking anywhere along Leahi Ave. This is a very densely populated community, with family’s that have always relied on the available free parking.

Testimony
Attachment
Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

From: CLK Council Info
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 10:54 PM
Subject: Transportation, Sustainability and Health Testimony

Written Testimony

Name Nicholas von Wiegandt
Phone
Email Muchlovenaloha@gmail.com
Meeting Date 09-21-2021
Council/PH Committee Transportation, Sustainability and Health
Agenda Item 21-175
Your position on the matter Support
Representing Self
Organization

There have been zero improvements made to Leahi Ave by Safe Leahi LLC.

Safe Leahi llc should be fiscally responsible for removing all “improvements” that were made; signs, striping, trees, sidewalk before the city purchases the road.

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By no means should the city place metered parking anywhere along Leahi Ave. This is a very densely populated community, with family’s that have always relied on the available free parking.

Testimony Attachment

Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

From: CLK Council Info
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 11:07 PM
Subject: Transportation, Sustainability and Health Testimony

Written Testimony

Name	Daisery Matias
Phone	
Email	daiserykmatias@gmail.com
Meeting Date	09-21-2021
Council/PH Committee	Transportation, Sustainability and Health
Agenda Item	21-175
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: Monday, September 20, 2021 11:08 PM
Subject: Transportation, Sustainability and Health Testimony

Written Testimony

Name	Taiamani Mckeague-Stone
Phone	
Email	tablebelly@gmail.com
Meeting Date	09-21-2021
Council/PH Committee	Transportation, Sustainability and Health
Agenda Item	21-175
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: Monday, September 20, 2021 11:14 PM
Subject: Transportation, Sustainability and Health Testimony

Written Testimony

Name	Andrew Nhieu
Phone	
Email	nhieu.andrew@gmail.com
Meeting Date	09-21-2021
Council/PH Committee	Transportation, Sustainability and Health
Agenda Item	21-175
Your position on the matter	Support
Representing Organization	Self
Written Testimony	They did not make leahi ave it safe at all. Trying to Make kids walk to school on the mess up side walk? Did you even go waikiki elementary school as a keiki ?
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement	1

IP: 192.168.200.67

From: CLK Council Info
Sent: Tuesday, September 21, 2021 3:44 AM
Subject: Transportation, Sustainability and Health Testimony

Written Testimony

Name	Devin Minardi
Phone	
Email	devin.minardi@gmail.com
Meeting Date	09-21-2021
Council/PH Committee	Transportation, Sustainability and Health
Agenda Item	(3) Resolution 21-175
Your position on the matter	Support
Representing	Self
Organization	
Written Testimony	Leahi Ave is unsafe. I ask the City Council to pass resolution 21-175.
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement 1	

IP: 192.168.200.67

From: CLK Council Info
Sent: Tuesday, September 21, 2021 6:58 AM
Subject: Transportation, Sustainability and Health Testimony

Written Testimony

Name Ryan Kusuda
Phone
Email ryan.kusuda@k12.hi.us
Meeting Date 09-21-2021
Council/PH Committee Transportation, Sustainability and Health
Agenda Item Resolution 21-175
Your position on the matter Support
Representing Organization Organization
Waikiki Elementary School

Written Testimony

As principal of Waikiki Elementary, a 2020 National Blue Ribbon School, I am coming out in full support of Resolution 21-175. Based on my personal observations and feedback from my school stakeholders, the changes made to the privately owned Leahi Avenue has created unsafe conditions that put our children and surrounding community at totally avoidable risk. The paid parking stalls that now jut onto the road on the maikai side of Leahi creates dangerous scenarios of drivers either unsure of the yielding procedures or individuals driving even faster to beat the potential of having to pull over and wait till oncoming cars pass by. I have personally witnessed multiple head-on close calls between vehicles at various points throughout the day. Additionally, the large food truck vehicles parked near the intersection of Monsarrat and Leahi creates an unneeded backlog for individuals trying to get to Waikiki School and establishes obstructed sight-lines for cars yielding directly behind them. It is for these safety reasons that I'm asking for the City and County of Honolulu to take ownership of the now privately owned portion of Leahi Avenue.

Testimony Attachment

Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

From: CLK Council Info
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 9:30 PM
Subject: Public Safety Testimony

Written Testimony

Name	Jason Kohl
Phone	
Email	kohl_jason@hotmail.com
Meeting Date	09-21-2021
Council/PH Committee	Public Safety
Agenda Item	21-175
Your position on the matter	Support
Representing	Self
Organization	
Written Testimony	Leahi St has turned into a dangerous stretch of road under the current ownership
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement	1

IP: 192.168.200.67

From: CLK Council Info
Sent: Tuesday, September 21, 2021 9:03 AM
Subject: Transportation, Sustainability and Health Testimony

Written Testimony

Name Heidi Gagnon
Phone
Email heikianne4eva@yahoo.com
Meeting Date 09-01-yyyy
Council/PH
Committee Transportation, Sustainability and Health
Agenda Item 21-175
Your position
on the matter Support
Representing
Organization Self

Written
Testimony I urge the City Council to pass Resolution # 21-175. Consultation with residents of this neighborhood would have created the opportunity for solutions to emerge to assure the safety of our keiki instead of what has caused a more dangerous situation for the safety of all, not to mention a feeling of unconcern toward the community.

Testimony
Attachment

Accept Terms
and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

From: CLK Council Info
Sent: Tuesday, September 21, 2021 8:48 AM
Subject: Transportation, Sustainability and Health Testimony

Written Testimony

Name marshall songs
Phone
Email msongs@yahoo.com
Meeting Date 09-21-201y
Council/PH
Committee Transportation, Sustainability and Health
Agenda Item (3) Resolution 21-175
Your position on
the matter Support
Representing Self
Organization

Written
Testimony recent changes on Leahi avenue have turned it into a one lane road instead of a two lane road.
it has become like a bumper car ride with cars having to dodge and turn to avoid each other.
It is also turning into a parking lot for food trucks that block half the road especially at night
making it difficult to see and coordinate with oncoming traffic. Pleas restore Leahi to
a 2 lane road.

Testimony
Attachment

Accept Terms
and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67