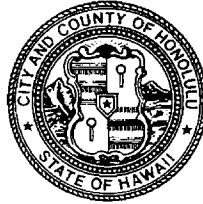


DEPARTMENT OF PARKS & RECREATION
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

1000 Uluohia Street, Suite 309, Kapolei, Hawaii 96707
Phone: (808) 768-3003 • Fax: (808) 768-3053
Website: www.honolulu.gov

RICK BLANGIARDI
MAYOR



LAURA H. THIELEN
DIRECTOR

KEHAULANI PU'U
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

November 8, 2021

The Honorable Tommy Waters
Chair and Presiding Officer
and Members
Honolulu City Council
530 South King Street, Room 202
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Waters and Councilmembers:

SUBJECT: Bill 34 (2021), CD1 – Commercial Activities at Public Parks

The Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) appreciates the intent of Bill 34 (2021), CD1. DPR supports the ultimate goal of regulating commercial activities at City parks. However, we have concerns regarding the approach of the current CD1 and the broad and possibly unintended consequences.

A total ban at any City park would prohibit the following activities, as an example:

- bouncy houses for birthday parties
- catered food for family gatherings
- surf contests, which include local athletes

DPR recommends the Council approach the issue of commercial uses in parks from an island-wide perspective with a focus on limiting congestion in parks and maximizing recreational opportunities for residents. We propose the following for Chapter 10 – "Rules, Regulations, Charges and Fees for Public Parks and Recreation Facilities":

"Commercial activities shall be prohibited on weekends and holidays; however the Director may, in the director's discretion, make a determination that a category of commercial activity may occur at a park, or region, or island-wide, as long as the public will not be unduly inconvenienced nor be deprived of the use of any park or beach during the commercial activity and provided that specific permit conditions and limitations are imposed."

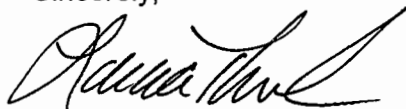
This strategy of addressing commercial activities island-wide will aid DPR in congestion management and allow residents to take full advantage of recreational opportunities at beach parks.

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The Honorable Tommy Waters
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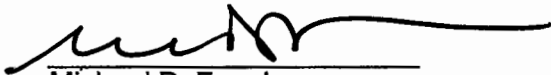
Thank you for this opportunity to submit testimony on behalf of the Department of Parks and Recreation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Laura Thielen', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Laura H. Thielen
Director

APPROVED:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michael D. Formby', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Michael D. Formby
Managing Director