BILL034(22)
Testimony

MISC. COMM. 175

COUNCIL

COUNCIL Meeting
Meeting Date: May 4, 2022 @ 10:00 AM
Support: 4
Oppose: 0
I wish to comment: 0

Name:	Email:	Zip:
Curtis Harada	curtisharada@gmail.com	96821
Representing:	Position:	Submitted:
Self	Support	May 2, 2022 @ 03:00 PM

Testimony:
My name is Curtis Harada and my wife and I own 815 Queen Street in Kakaako. My wife Pauline Harada, DVM owns and operates a veterinary hospital at that location. We would fit the classic definition of a small business. We are in support of the amendment of Ordinance 16-21.

We understand that the Rules covering HCDA are reflected in section 15-22 of the Hawaii Code of Rules. And that the proposed bill will be consistent with Hawaii Code of Rules. Section 15-22-32, MUZ use rules part 4 (S) and Section 15-22-34, MUZ use rules part 4 (S) specify that our activity is a permitted Industrial use in a mixed-use zone with commercial emphasis or residential emphasis, respectively.
We have owned 815 Queen Street for nearly 17 years and spent 7 years to plan and build our pet hospital which has been in operation for 10 years. Designing and building the hospital under the HCDA rules existing during that timeframe was no easy task. We constructed our building in compliance with HCDA requirements. Many of the requirements to which we were held were eliminated or liberalized for future buildings. The requirements that we were required to follow were more costly and limited the size and use of our project. And for the past 17 years, we have endured the infrastructure activity that has allowed large companies to build massive condominiums.

The hospital currently has 12 employees and we were able to keep all of our employees throughout the covid pandemic. Unfortunately, the profitability of the hospital has been a constant struggle. In the few years that we are profitable, we typically pay more in property taxes than we earn. Over the past 17 years we have experienced an incredible increase in property taxes while the condition of the public infrastructure has deteriorated.

Frankly stated, our business is at risk and may not survive. We would appreciate some tax relief. More moderate levels of property taxes would help ensure the continuity of our business as we brace for the economic impact of expected higher inflation that economist are currently expecting. Our future is in your hands.
Thank you, Curtis Harada 808 392-3107

Name:	Email:	Zip:
Craig Yoshikawa	mckcarwash.hi@gmail.com	96814
Representing:	Position:	Submitted:
McKinley Motor Service dba McKinley Car Wash	Support	May 3, 2022 @ 03:52 PM

Name:	Email:	Zip:
Matt Malta	matt.malta@aliianimal.com	96814
Representing:	Position:	Submitted:
Self	Support	May 3, 2022 @ 04:14 PM

Testimony:
My name is Matt Malta and my business partner Dr. Joanna Cook operate Ali'i Animal Hospital out of 942 Kawaiahao St. We would fit the classic definition of a small business. We are in support of the amendment of Ordinance 16-21. We understand that the Rules covering HCDA are reflected in section 15-22 of the Hawaii Code of Rules. And that the proposed bill will be consistent with Hawaii Code of Rules. Section 15-22-32, MUZ use rules part 4 (S) and Section 15-22-34, MUZ use rules part 4 (S) specify that our activity is a permitted Industrial use in a mixed-use zone with commercial emphasis or residential emphasis. In our few years of operation we have made tremendous improvements to the property and surrounding areas, endured clean up of illegal activities and businesses that are less compliant. In our attempts to run a legitimate business and revitalize the street and bring a needed service to the community, we have made great strides. The taxes continue to increase with little or no support to the infrastructure and our utilities in the area. We are on the once privately owned street that has had no upkeep to the roadways or drainage and yet have to pay increased taxes with no improvement in sight. We are in support of this bill in hopes that there can be some tax relief so that we can continue to be a leader in our community in animal care. Please consider this for the future of small businesses like ours and the pets and pet families we serve.

Name:	Email:	Zip:

Mark Rodden	rodden101@outlook.com	96821
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: May 3, 2022 @ 04:53 PM

McKINLEY MOTOR SERVICE, INC. GAS AND CAR WASHING

1139 KAPIOLANI BLVD.. • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96814 • TELEPHONE (808) 596-2609 • FAX (808) 596-7950

April 22, 2022

City Council
City and County of Honolulu
Committee on Budget

Carol Fukunaga and Councilmembers,

McKinley Motor Service dba. McKinley Car Wash fully supports the proposed amendments for Ordinance 16-21 (2022), as we strongly believe that we apart of the Central Kakaako industrial zone. The preservation and promotion of industrial use within this neighborhood is vital to the community, economy, and residents of Honolulu. McKinley Car Wash is very proud to say that we have been serving the community at its current location since 1964, and we have no plans on doing so elsewhere. We are a small family owned and operated business, run by three generations of family members, that has felt the financial strain caused by continual increased property valuations over the last decade.

The proposed amendments and revisions will not only affect this company, but many other small businesses surrounding us. There is a very tight knit small business community that will fall within the new demarcation zone, and we all support each other in any way that we can. McKinley Car Wash's goal is to continue to serve the community and Island of Oahu for decades to come, a break in our property taxes will help ensure we are able to do so. With that being said, McKinley Car Wash stands by the proposed amendments to Ordinance 16-21(2022) brought forth by councilmember Carol Fukunaga.

Sincerely,

Craig Yoshikawa, President

Max Yoshikawa, Vice President/Treasurer

Kurt Yoshikawa, Secretary

May 1, 2022

Dear Chair Waters and fellow Councilmembers,

I support Bill 34 (2022) which Carol Fukunaga has introduced.

The tax relief provided by the original Ordinance 16-21 has been essential to the survival of the handful of businesses which make up the Central Kakaako industrial zone. I believe it was an erroneous oversight that the Yoshikawa family and their business (parcel) were left out of the original boundaries as described in the original ordinance. The authors of the original Ordinance clearly had McKinley Carwash and Service in mind when creating the bill, as the industrial use "car washes" are clearly stated in the original language (Section 2, (c), (2), (N)). At the time, McKinley Carwash and Service was the only carwash in the Kakaako industrial area. Presently and once again, they are the only carwash in the industrial area. McKinley's survival is crucial to the area. At any given time 60 (+/-) employees and their families depend on the McKinley operation for their livelihood.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Mark Rodden
Thirty-five-year customer and friend
Honolulu, 96821