



RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION TO MANAGE VEHICULAR ACCESS INTO KOKO HEAD DISTRICT PARK TO BE CONSISTENT WITH DESIGNATED AND POSTED PARK HOURS.

WHEREAS, Koko Head District Park is a 40-acre City and County of Honolulu ("City") park maintained and operated by the Department of Parks and Recreation ("DPR") with, among other things, numerous recreational fields, a gymnasium, tennis courts, picnic areas, and access to the Koko Crater Trail, more commonly known as the Koko Head Stairs; and

WHEREAS, the Koko Head Stairs is an abandoned tramway, originally built by the U.S. military during World War II to haul cargo and supplies to the bunker at the top of Koko Crater; and

WHEREAS, over the past decade, climbing the Koko Head Stairs has become an extremely popular activity among locals and visitors alike, with the trail offering an intense workout and summit views of east O'ahu, the Pacific Ocean, and even nearby neighbor islands on a clear day; and

WHEREAS, the City Council ("Council") has worked closely with the City Administration, the DPR, nonprofit organizations, the Hawai'i Kai Neighborhood Board No. 1, and area residents to fund necessary repairs and rehabilitation of the Koko Head Stairs and to address ongoing maintenance and management issues; and

WHEREAS, according to the DPR website and signage on-site, Koko Head District Park is closed nightly from 11:00 p.m. until 4:00 a.m., but vehicular access into the park is not available until 6:30 a.m., when the park's entrance gate is opened; and

WHEREAS, due to the immense popularity of the Koko Head Stairs, particularly in the early morning hours before the sun rises, hikers have parked in the otherwise quiet surrounding residential neighborhood, which has led to numerous complaints from residents relating to nuisance, noise, congestion, and safety; and

WHEREAS, in an attempt to address the discrepancy between Koko Head District Park's official park hours (4:00 a.m.) and when vehicles are allowed into the park (6:30 a.m.), the City's Ocean Safety Division has, since December, 2021, opened the roadway entrance gate to the park at Kaumakani and Anapalau Streets at approximately 5:30 a.m. every day; and



RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, unfortunately, dozens of vehicles continue to arrive before 5:30 a.m. daily to park in the already congested surrounding residential neighborhood or line up and wait until the roadway entrance gate is opened; and

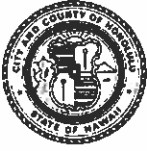
WHEREAS, the Council understands that the DPR is balancing various safety interests and practical concerns pertaining to public and vehicular access into Koko Head District Park, as well as the fact that Koko Head Stairs is not technically part of the park itself; and

WHEREAS, however, the Council believes that until a longer-term Koko Head Stairs management strategy can be developed and implemented, there should be no time discrepancy between pedestrian and vehicular access into Koko Head District Park; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City and County of Honolulu that it requests the City Administration, through the Department of Parks and Recreation, to manage vehicular access into Koko Head District Park to be consistent with the designated and posted park hours; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Council urges the Department of Parks and Recreation to determine a feasible opening time for Koko Head District Park, which allows for concurrent pedestrian and vehicular access into the park; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Council also urges the Department of Parks and Recreation to continue its discussions with the community and interested parties to develop a longer-term Koko Head Stairs management strategy; and



CITY COUNCIL
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU
HONOLULU, HAWAII

No. 22-159

RESOLUTION

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Mayor, the Managing Director, the Director of Parks and Recreation, and the Hawai'i Kai Neighborhood Board No. 1.

INTRODUCED BY:

Young Watanabe

DATE OF INTRODUCTION:

JUN 22 2022

Honolulu, Hawai'i

Councilmembers

CITY COUNCIL
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU
HONOLULU, HAWAII
CERTIFICATE

RESOLUTION 22-159

Introduced: 06/22/22 By: TOMMY WATERS

Committee: PARKS AND COMMUNITY
SERVICES (PCS)

Title: REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION TO MANAGE VEHICULAR ACCESS INTO KOKO
HEAD DISTRICT PARK TO BE CONSISTENT WITH DESIGNATED AND POSTED PARK HOURS.

Voting Legend: * = Aye w/Reservations

06/22/22	INTRO	Introduced.
08/25/22	PCS	Reported out for adoption.
		CR-232
		4 AYES: FUKUNAGA, TSUNEYOSHI, TULBA, TUPOLA
09/07/22	CCL	Committee report and Resolution were adopted.
		9 AYES: CORDERO, ELEFANTE, FUKUNAGA, KIA'ĀINA, SAY, TSUNEYOSHI, TULBA, TUPOLA, WATERS

I hereby certify that the above is a true record of action by the Council of the City and County of Honolulu on this
RESOLUTION.



GLEN I. TAKAHASHI, CITY CLERK



TOMMY WATERS, CHAIR AND PRESIDING OFFICER