

**BILL044(22)**  
**Testimony**

**MISC. COMM. 307**

COUNCIL

## **COUNCIL Meeting**

Meeting Date: Aug 10, 2022 @ 10:00 AM

Support: 13

Oppose: 0

I wish to comment: 0

Name: MICHAEL WEIDENBACH	Email: m1ck@hawaiiantel.net	Zip: 96822
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Aug 5, 2022 @ 02:59 PM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>Preservation and restoration of structures, features and areas that represent our community's historic and cultural origins is vitally important to maintain the authenticity of our city, our sense of place, our community pride, and to insure the continued health of our visitor industry. Our recent and not so recent past have shown the consequence of short-sighted, limited perspective changes to our community's natural and built environment. Comparison with other communities across the nation, and around the world demonstrate the value of preservation and community pride in the richness and value in preservation of structures, features and areas of distinction, particularly valuable for visitor industries. Imagine New Orleans without the French Quarter, New York without Central Park. Sadly, our community has already lost, and is in the process of losing so much more of unique value and distinction. A Historic Preservation Commission will become the City's necessary voice of reason and our advocate for the continued thoughtful, carefully considered evolution of our community.</p>		
Name: Jun Look	Email: junlook@yahoo.com	Zip: 96826
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Aug 6, 2022 @ 08:37 AM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>Honolulu continues to grow. Finding space for everyone can create a "plow in under" mentality, where many things are torn down to put something new (not always better) in its place. Bill 44 gives a tool for our town to hold on to our history. For without our historic story, we do not know who we are.</p> <p>The Dearborn Building (Ward Ave) revitalization is a terrific example of how an old building can be reused and make Kakaako a richer place for all of us.</p> <p>Bill 44 is a step in the right direction for our town.</p> <p>Mahalo.</p>		
Name: Mialisa Otis	Email: mialisa808@gmail.com	Zip: 96795
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Aug 6, 2022 @ 08:51 PM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>I fully support Bill 44. I would like to give oral testimony.</p>		
Name: Jody Green	Email: jmelanigreen@hotmail.com	Zip: 96795
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Aug 7, 2022 @ 07:05 PM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>Dear Councilmembers,</p> <p>Please support Bill 44 so iwi kupuna can be better protected in the future. So many sacred spaces are in danger of being ignored or built over kanaka ancestors as land becomes more scarce. These places are vulnerable and better laws and oversight are crucial to prevent desecration.</p> <p>Mahalo for your good efforts.</p>		
Name: Boyd Ready	Email: readyboyd@gmail.com	Zip: 96712
Representing: Haleiwa Waialua Historical Society	Position: Support	Submitted: Aug 8, 2022 @ 05:58 PM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>Dear Councilmembers:</p>		

I am a 40-year resident of Haleiwa, retired certified-arborist, and long-time volunteer guide for historic tours of Haleiwa town and presenter of programs on the history of Waialua agriculture.

We are living in a time of discovery - the discovery of Hawaii and Honolulu's history from previously inaccessible information. The vast repertoire of grassroot history in Hawaiian language newspapers is increasingly on line. Archaeological methods for carbon dating, linguistics, use of ground penetrating radar, and undersea archaeology on previously inaccessible wrecks, are opening up a new world of facts and their relation to our history and culture.

Adaptive re-use of historic structures, the careful recycling of demolition materials, and the renewed appreciation of historic aesthetics in architecture, historic sites, sacred, heiau, historic trees, and cultural landscapes, are becoming an integral part of architecture and planning.

The city's quest to improve tourism by attracting fewer but higher income or culturally curious and respectful visitors faces a persistent challenge: compared to many small and large cities elsewhere the public availability of interpretive materials in our towns, sites, along our seashores, and in our parks and streetscenes is sadly lacking.

It is time to correct the city's long neglect, on the administrative side, of local history. I urge you to approve the update and re-establishment of the O'ahu Historic Preservation Commission.

Name: Lynette Cruz	Email: lcruz96792@gmail.com	Zip: 96792
Representing: Malama Makua	Position: Support	Submitted: Aug 8, 2022 @ 07:20 PM

Testimony:  
Fully support this bill.

Name: Kimeona Kane	Email: kimeonakane@gmail.com	Zip: 96795
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Aug 9, 2022 @ 12:04 AM

Testimony:  
Aloha nui kkou,

I, Kimeona Kane of Waimnalo, strongly support this Bill recognizing the various challenges many communities have been facing with a lack of leadership, resources and direction. It is my hope that the City and County of Honolulu continues to advocate for change to the extents of its limits, and pursue further actions to help advocate outside of their written responsibilities. It is such a shame that this effort has not seen action, and I hope, now, after decades of desecration and trauma, there will be a way to honor our home, host culture, indigenous peoples, cultural spaces, practices, and more. This is a great first step to doing what is pono.

Mahalo nui,  
Kimeona Kane

Name: Mahealani Cypher	Email: malama pono744@aol.com	Zip: 96744
Representing: Ko'olau Foundation	Position: Support	Submitted: Aug 9, 2022 @ 08:32 AM

Name: Michelle Matson	Email: MSMatson808@gmail.com	Zip: 96815
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Aug 9, 2022 @ 01:49 PM

Testimony:  
Aloha Chair Waters and Councilmembers:

I support Bill 44, Relating to the O'ahu Historic Preservation Commission, to ensure the long-delayed activation and vital functional operation of this Commission, with the complete and necessary member disciplines to ensure the protection, preservation and restoration of O'ahu's irreplaceable cultural and historic landscapes, sites and structures as continuing legacies for present and future generations.

I support activating and strengthening the Oahu Historic Preservation Commission, which every O'ahu mayor has failed to do from the outset of the 1993 O'ahu Historic Preservation Commission Ordinance, which the Department of Planning and Permitting (DPP) attempted to have repealed last year.

The State Historic Preservation Division, together with O'ahu historic and cultural preservation groups and organizations, have expressed the need for the O'ahu Historic Preservation Commission to be activated to assist the Division's important work on O'ahu, just as the Historic Preservation Commissions of Hawai'i Island and Maui have been doing so successfully.

Major improvements recommended for Bill 44 will be to ensure a) that the O'ahu Historic Preservation Commission deliberations and operations remain separate and distinct from Department of Planning and Permitting operations in order to assure that the Commission remains unfettered by the Department's entrenched culture, and b) that the O'ahu Historic Preservation Commission will be immediately appointed and activated upon the adoption and enactment of Bill 44 in accordance with the Revised Ordinances of Honolulu, Section 3-10.1, and the Honolulu City Council's purpose and intent in the greater public interest.

Mahalo for your consideration of the above.

Michelle S. Matson  
City Council District IV

Name: Bronson Azama	Email: bazama02@gmail.com	Zip: 96744
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Aug 9, 2022 @ 04:41 PM

Name: Wayne Tanaka	Email: wayne.tanaka@sierraclub.org	Zip: 96803
Representing: Sierra Club of Hawai'i	Position: Support	Submitted: Aug 9, 2022 @ 04:54 PM

Name: Healani Sonoda-Pale	Email: klhpolticalactioncommittee@gmail.com	Zip: 96824
Representing: Ka Lhui Hawai'i Kmiike Kalai'ina	Position: Support	Submitted: Aug 10, 2022 @ 06:55 AM

Testimony:  
Mahalo we will be emailing our testimony shortly.

Name: Ekini Lindsey	Email: ekinilindsey@gmail.com	Zip: 96812
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Aug 10, 2022 @ 09:15 AM

Testimony:  
I strongly SUPPORT Bill 44, Oahu Historic Preservation Commission with ordinances, and binding laws that protect and preserve historical preservation, more specific, "CULTURAL" preservation dating since the National Historic Preservation act since 1966. It is your judiciary duty to uphold all measures!



*Ko`olau Foundation*

P. O. Box 4749

Kane`ohe, HI 96744

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August 9, 2022

TO: Chair Tommy Waters  
And Members, Honolulu City Council

FROM: Mahealani Cypher  
Ko`olau Foundation

SUBJECT: Bill 44, O`ahu Historic Preservation Commission

Aloha Chair Waters, Vice Chair Kia`aina, and Members of the City Council:

I bring you greetings and much aloha from the Ko`olau Foundation as we offer our strong support for Bill 44, which would update and strengthen the language regarding the O`ahu Historic Preservation Commission.

The Ko`olau Foundation is dedicated to the preservation of historic sites and cultural properties, and works to raise awareness of the rich history and heritage of our island and its peoples.

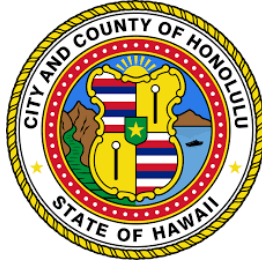
We are pleased that the Council is considering these revisions to the law. Our members were involved in efforts to pass this ordinance back in 1993, when the Council agreed with us that measures were – and still are – needed to address protection and/or preservation of historic and cultural properties on our island.

We should note that this ordinance was passed many years ago by a Council override of a mayoral veto, and that subsequent administrations have failed to staff or appoint members to this commission.

The counties of Maui, Kaua`i and Hawai`i island all have historic preservation commissions, and all seem to be functioning very well. They also enjoy federal funding to support those operations. O`ahu is the only island without this kind of review and consideration for projects that affect historic and cultural properties.

We are grateful to Council members and staff who have worked on this revised language, which we hope will encourage the Administration to move forward with staffing and appointing commission members once this bill is passed.

Mahalo nui for allowing us to share our mana`o.



**Testimony in Support of Bill 44**  
**From: Honolulu Youth Commission**

Aloha mai kākou,

My name is Bronson Azama, Chair of the inaugural Honolulu Youth Commission and I speak in support of Bill 44. Earlier this year the Honolulu Youth Commission passed HYC Resolution 22-004 URGING THE HONOLULU CITY COUNCIL TO PROPERLY CONSTITUTE THE O'AHU HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION. It brings me great joy as an individual and a member of the commission that our requests have been met.

I would like to thank Councilwoman Kia'aina and Chair Waters for introducing this bill which will help protect our sacred and historical places. I believe this bill also sets excellent precedence for how issues should be handled with the county advising the State of its needs, rather than the typical top-down method. I hope these precedents can be met in future endeavors to create better efficiency in government to meet our community's needs.

Mahalo,

Bronson Azama  
Chair, Honolulu Youth Commission



# SIERRA CLUB OF HAWAI'I

HONOLULU CITY COUNCIL

**Testimony in SUPPORT of Resolution 22-36 – REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF  
PLANNING AND PERMITTING AND THE HAWAI'I STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
DIVISION TO COORDINATE THEIR REVIEW AND NOTIFICATION PROCEDURES TO  
PREVENT THE DESTRUCTION OF HISTORIC SITES AND RESOURCES**

Wednesday, August 10, 2022

10 a.m.

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Aloha Chair Waters, Vice Chair Kia'āina, and members of the Honolulu City Council,

On behalf of our 20,000 members and supporters, the Sierra Club of Hawai'i offers testimony in **support of Bill 44**, to ensure our historic and cultural sites are protected from irreparable harm.

Our historic preservation law recognizes that “the historic and cultural heritage of the State is among its important assets and that the rapid social and economic developments of contemporary society threaten to destroy the remaining vestiges of this heritage.” The law accordingly relies upon interagency and intergovernmental coordination for consultation, review, and other procedural and substantive protections in decisionmaking that may impact Native Hawaiian burials, cultural sites, and other historic features. Such protections are essential to preventing the irreversible loss of a **physical and spiritual foundation for Native Hawaiian traditional values, practices, and knowledge that enabled hundreds of thousands of people to live sustainably on our islands – and that may be the key to the resilience and well-being of our current and future generations.**

Unfortunately, as highlighted by Resolution 22-36, the administration of our historic preservation law has been long plagued with chronic, systemic problems that have resulted in the irreparable loss of burials and other cultural sites and features that had been preserved for generations, forever cutting off the values, practices, and knowledge they embodied. Resolution 22-36 specifically recognized that the lack of coordination and communication between the state historic preservation division and the county department of planning and permitting is one such problem that must be addressed. Given these concerns, the Sierra Club of Hawai'i strongly appreciates and supports this bill, which would empower the long-neglected O'ahu Historic Preservation Commission to ensure that county decisions are appropriately vetted and referred to the state historic preservation division, consistent with the letter and intent of our historic preservation law.

Therefore, the Sierra Club of Hawai'i respectfully urges the Council to **adopt** this measure. Mahalo nui for the opportunity to testify.