

**RES22-196
Testimony**

MISC. COMM. 327

BUDGET

BUDGET Meeting

Meeting Date: Aug 24, 2022 @ 09:00 AM

Support: 2

Oppose: 0

I wish to comment: 0

Name: Robert Van Tassell	Email: diane.terada@catholiccharitieshawaii.org	Zip: 96822
Representing: Catholic Charities Hawaii	Position: Support	Submitted: Aug 22, 2022 @ 09:42 AM
Name: Zhizi Xiong	Email: alohadivinedesign@gmail.com	Zip: 96817
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Aug 24, 2022 @ 08:56 AM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>Dear chair, vice chair & members of the committee,</p> <p>I'm testifying in strong support as a concerned disabled citizen. The location of the lease is 1027 Lowell Place near the Calvary Assembly of God and Hawaii Public Housing Authority. For the city to be considering 2 leases for special needs housing is very generous and compassionate and therefore, I support this resolution.</p> <p>Also, the lease is close to the blind community over there in Liliha. Ideally, if this is where all the blind people hang out, then this is a good place to build a service center or special needs housing.</p> <p>The resolution and the content of the lease is is very thoughtful and considerate of special needs and disabled people and so as a disability rights advocate, I support it. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.</p>		



CATHOLIC CHARITIES HAWAI'I

RE: RESOLUTION 22-196: TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF AUTHORIZING THE LEASE OF CITY PROPERTY TO CATHOLIC CHARITIES HAWAI'I FOR SPECIAL NEEDS HOUSING

TO: The Honorable Calvin K.Y. Say, Chair
& Members of the Committee on Budget

FROM: Rob Van Tassell, President and CEO, Catholic Charities Hawai'i

Hearing: **Wednesday, August 24, 2022, 9:00 a.m., City Council Chamber**

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony **IN SUPPORT** of Resolution 22-196 – Authorizing the Lease of City Property to Catholic Charities Hawai'i for Special Needs Housing.

Catholic Charities Hawai'i supports the provision of affordable rental housing inventory in our state. The Lowell Small Group Home has operated at the City property located at **1027 Lowell Place, Honolulu, Hawai'i 96817 (TMK: (1) 1-6-006:080)** since 1983 as an affordable permanent housing option for low to moderate income individuals, age 62 and older.

Our Housing Assistance Program (HAP) provides the oversight of this project, which provides a low-cost housing option for senior adults. This shared housing option is a 2-story duplex; each level provides private bedrooms for five (5) senior adults, with common areas for shared use and care. This is one of two City properties leased by Catholic Charities Hawai'i to provide as an affordable housing option for senior adults. Each tenant pays rent on a sliding scale basis and shares in the cleaning of common areas (kitchen, bathroom, etc.) used.

Sixty-five (65) percent of HAP clients have income below the Federal poverty level (currently \$15,630/year for a 1-person household). Many must wait years for housing they can afford and often must move multiple times in order to avoid homelessness before they are able to find an affordable unit that they can safely live out their remaining years. The Lowell Small Group Home provides this type of safe and affordable housing option for senior adults.

We ask that you support the lease of this property to Catholic Charities Hawai'i to continue providing this low-cost housing option for senior adults. Thank you for your consideration of this Resolution.



CLARENCE T. C. CHING CAMPUS • 1822 Ke'eaumoku Street, Honolulu, HI 96822
Phone (808) 373-0356 • bettylou.larson@CatholicCharitiesHawaii.org

