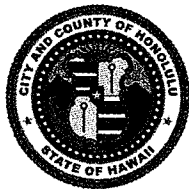


OFFICE OF CLIMATE CHANGE, SUSTAINABILITY AND RESILIENCY

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

'22AUG26 AM 10:06 CITY CLERK

650 SOUTH KING STREET, 11th FLOOR • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
PHONE: (808) 768-2277 • EMAIL: resilientoahu@honolulu.gov • INTERNET: www.resilientoahu.org



RICK BLANGIARDI
MAYOR

MATTHEW GONSER, AICP, CFM
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR &
CHIEF RESILIENCE OFFICER

August 25, 2022

The Honorable Brandon Elefante, Chair
and Members
Committee on Zoning and Planning
Honolulu City Council
530 South King Street, Room 202
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Elefante and Councilmembers:

SUBJECT: Bill 41 (2022) Relating to Shoreline Setbacks

The Office of Climate Change, Sustainability and Resiliency (CCSR) strongly supports Bill 41 (2022), which amends the Revised Ordinances of Honolulu Chapter 23, relating to shoreline setbacks, to implement an erosion-rate-based shoreline setback formula and incorporate updates to Hawaii Revised Statutes Chapter 205A, the State Coastal Zone Management law, made by Act 16, Session Laws of Hawaii 2020.

In conjunction with Council's consideration of Bill 42 (2022), Bill 41 advances implementation of Action 29 of the O'ahu Resilience Strategy, which underscores the need to revise our shoreline setback regulations given historical and current coastal hazard impacts, and updated shoreline erosion and sea level rise projection data that provide more accurate and empowering information for protecting public safety and our shoreline environments. Already having lost over five miles of our sandy beaches to erosion over the past century, we can, with no action, expect sea level rise impacts to approximately 5,640 acres of urban-zoned land and 3,800 existing structures into the future.

Bill 41 takes a critical first step at reducing further damage to properties and risk to shoreline access by increasing the minimum shoreline setback for all areas of the island and implementing a shoreline setback range for most properties based on historic erosion rates uniquely applicable to each zoning lot. In conjunction with the Committee's consideration of Bill 10's (2022) specific Transfer of Development Rights element, Council is poised to take critical coastal climate change adaptation action to both: reduce further intensity of development in an increasingly hazardous setting, while creating a mechanism to facilitate the movement of existing development out of harm's way.

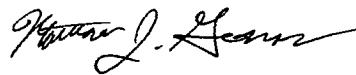
**MAYOR'S MESSAGE 153
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The Honorable Brandon Elefante, Chair
and Members
August 25, 2022
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Bill 41 acts on adopted community plan policies in place since the late 1990s. It is a public safety measure and an essential step to adapt to climate change, reduce risk, and increase coastal resilience. Though implementing updated shoreline setback requirements as proposed by Bill 41 may take some time, the current coastal conditions and data tell us that sea level rise is already a top climate hazard threatening our island way of life now and into the future. Swift adoption and implementation of Bill 41 will be essential for protecting residents, beaches, and our community resilience.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide these comments in support of Bill 41 (2022). Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (808) 768-2277 or via e-mail at resilientoahu@honolulu.gov.

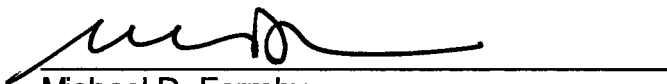
Sincerely,



Digitally signed by Gonser, Matthew
Date: 2022.08.25 07:45:55
-10'00'

Matthew Gonser
Executive Director and
Chief Resilience Officer

APPROVED:



Michael D. Formby
Managing Director