

**RES22-196
Testimony**

MISC. COMM. 362

COUNCIL

COUNCIL Meeting

Meeting Date: Sep 7, 2022 @ 10:00 AM

Support: 1

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: Sep 2, 2022 @ 09:46 AM



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 Tommy Waters, Chair & Presiding Officer
& Members of the City Council

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

Hearing: **Wednesday, September 7, 2022, 10:00 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 for your support to adopt this resolution to lease 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.



Catholic
Charities
USA



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