

OFFICE OF CLIMATE CHANGE, SUSTAINABILITY AND RESILIENCY

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR &
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September 2, 2022

The Honorable Tommy Waters
Chair and Presiding Officer
and Members
Honolulu City Council
530 South King Street, Room 202
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Waters and Councilmembers:

SUBJECT: Bill 10 (2022), CD1 Relating to Use Regulations

The Office of Climate Change, Sustainability and Resiliency (CCSR) supports the efforts of Bill 10 (2022), CD1, to make critical updates to City land uses, development standards associated with those specific uses, and definitions in the Revised Ordinances of Honolulu (ROH) Chapter 21 Land Use Ordinance (LUO) to better implement the plans and policies of the City and County of Honolulu ("City").

As detailed in the City's Climate Action Plan, land use change is one of the most impactful climate action tools the City has by encouraging appropriately located denser development, mixed land-use zoning, and transit-oriented development to enable and provide multiple modes of greener transportation, and lessen automobile dependence and associated carbon pollution¹. CCSR supports the efforts by the Department of Planning and Permitting (DPP) to ensure the City to meet its established climate mitigation targets.

The DPP has taken a methodical and step-wise approach to the monumental task of updating articles of ROH Chapter 21 over the years, and has conducted significant stakeholder engagement throughout these processes. With Council's support these essential efforts are addressing our affordability and housing needs, and have implemented or advanced actions of the "Remaining Rooted" pillar of the City's O'ahu Resilience Strategy including addressing short-term rentals and availability of housing for

¹ City and County of Honolulu Climate Action Plan 2020-2025, Strategy 1: Encourage Density and Mixed Land Use in Strategic Areas: <https://www.resilientoahu.org/s/2020-2025-Climate-Action-Plan.pdf#page=64>.

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residents, other alternative and affordable housing options, and increasing housing affordability by reducing parking requirements².

Bill 10 additionally supports adaptation to known and increasing climate change hazards. In particular, the proposed amendments add Transfer of Development as an allowable use in the Master Use Table, which will facilitate movement out of increasingly hazardous locations. In July of 2022, the City's Climate Change Commission updated its Sea Level Rise (SLR) Guidance Document³, which underscore the threat of accelerating SLR to coastal properties and assets, providing added urgency for implementation of solutions. Given these findings, providing for the allowable use of additional zoning practices lays the foundation for preparedness against experienced and increasing climate change hazards. In conjunction with Council's consideration of Bill 41 (2022) and Bill 42 (2022) relating to shoreline setbacks and Special Management Area regulations, Bill 10 is a critical component of the City's array of climate change adaptation solutions.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide these comments on Bill 10 (2022), CD1. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (808) 768-2277 or via e-mail at resilientoahu@honolulu.gov.

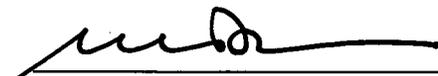
Sincerely,



Digitally signed by Gonser,
Matthew
Date: 2022.09.02 10:33:38 -10'00'

Matthew Gonser
Executive Director and
Chief Resilience Officer

APPROVED:



Michael D. Formby
Managing Director

2 City and County of Honolulu O'ahu Resilience Strategy, Action 2: Return Illegal Vacation Rental Units to Local Housing; Action 3: Develop Alternative, Affordable Housing Options for O'ahu Residents; and Action 8: Increase Housing Affordability by Reducing Parking Requirements:

https://www.resilientoahu.org/s/Ola_Oahu_Resilience_Strategy-lfrm.pdf#page=14.

3 City and County of Honolulu Climate Change Commission, Sea Level Rise Guidance:

https://www.resilientoahu.org/s/HonoluluClimateChangeCommission-SeaLevelRiseGuidance_Updated-July2022-sadb.pdf.