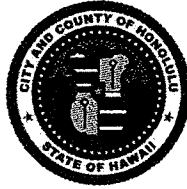


OFFICE OF CLIMATE CHANGE, SUSTAINABILITY AND RESILIENCY

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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'22SEP21 AM 7:57 CITY CLERK

RICK BLANGIARDI
MAYOR

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

September 20, 2022

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

Dear Chair Elefante and Councilmembers:

SUBJECT: Bill 42 (2022), CD1 Relating to the Special Management Area

The Office of Climate Change, Sustainability and Resiliency (CCSR) strongly supports Bill 42 (2022), CD1, which updates the Revised Ordinances of Honolulu (ROH) Chapter 25 to enhance safety in the Special Management Area (SMA) against experienced and increasing coastal climate hazards. Bill 42, CD1 provides for necessary amendments to Chapter 25 in order to maintain consistency with Hawai'i Revised Statutes Chapter 205A, the State Coastal Zone Management (CZM) law, following updates made by Act 16, Session Laws of Hawai'i 2020.

Act 16 amended the definition of "development" to include construction or reconstruction of a single-family residence on a shoreline lot or a lot impacted by waves, storm surge, high tide, or shoreline erosion, adding additional safety for properties that will experience these coastal hazard impacts, even if not directly on the shoreline. In practice, the Department of Planning and Permitting (DPP) and the Honolulu City Council have been implementing these changes as required by state CZM law since Act 16 took effect on September 15, 2020, through the SMA permitting process and instructions provided by DPP. Bill 42, CD1 ensures these updated state regulations are explicit in City ordinance to facilitate clearer and streamlined SMA permitting.

Bill 42, CD1, together with Council's consideration of Bill 41 (2022), CD1, implements policies of every Development or Sustainable Communities Plan adopted since at least the late 1990s which recognize the need to address increasing coastal hazards. Together, they additionally advance implementation of the O'ahu Resilience Strategy and its directive to update our outdated shoreline regulations to reduce risk

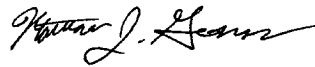
MAYOR'S MESSAGE 174

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and Members
September 20, 2022
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and increase resilience in the coastal zone¹. Over the last century, O'ahu has lost over five miles of beach due to coastal erosion and sea level rise². Given current projections, we can anticipate additional sea level rise impacts to approximately 3,800 structures and 5,640 acres of urban-zoned land and a resulting \$12.9 billion in economic losses³. Bill 42, CD1 is a critical first step to ensure the City can continue to protect public health and safety in areas that are already hazardous today and will become increasingly so into the future⁴.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide these comments in support of Bill 42 (2022), CD1. In tandem with Council's consideration of Bill 41, CD1 and Transfer of Development in Bill 10 (2022), CD1, these bills begin to add the necessary planning, regulatory, and market tools to our climate adaptation toolbox to address sea level rise and its impacts in the long-term. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (808) 768-2277 or via e-mail at resilientoahu@honolulu.gov.

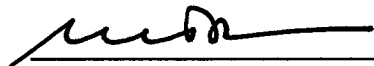
Sincerely,



Digitally signed by Gonser,
Matthew
Date: 2022.09.20 14:29:39
-10'00'

Matthew Gonser
Executive Director and
Chief Resilience Officer

APPROVED:



Michael D. Formby
Managing Director

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- 1 City and County of Honolulu O'ahu Resilience Strategy, Action 29: Protect Beaches and Public Safety with Revised Shoreline Management Rules: https://www.resilientoahu.org/s/Ola_Oahu_Resilience_Strategy-lfrm.pdf#page=46.
 - 2 Fletcher, C.H., et al. 2012. National Assessment of Shoreline Change: Historical Shoreline Changes in the Hawaiian Islands: <https://pubs.usgs.gov/of/2011/1051/>.
 - 3 Hawai'i Sea Level Rise Vulnerability and Adaptation Report. Hawai'i Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission. 2017. https://climateadaptation.hawaii.gov/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/SLR-Report_Dec2017.pdf.
 - 4 Climate Ready O'ahu Web Explorer: <https://cchnl.maps.arcgis.com/apps/View/index.html?appid=6694193a396f40fb87f78e98fbad7d73>.