

# **RES22-250 Testimony**

**MISC. COMM. 99**

PUBLIC SAFETY (PS)

**PUBLIC SAFETY (PS) Meeting**

Meeting Date: Mar 2, 2023 @ 01:00 PM

Support: 20

Oppose: 1

I wish to comment: 1

Name: RICHARD LANDFORD	Email: landfordjr@gmail.com	Zip: 96792
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Feb 28, 2023 @ 08:44 AM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>We need visually placed police officers presence in our community to deter and prevent a danger in our community..</p> <p>We should have officer's that live in our community working in our community... They know the areas and the feel of the community and can address issues accordingly....I am in favor of this bill....mahalo</p>		
Name: Gail Gomes	Email: wss@hawaii.rr.com	Zip: 96792-2916
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Feb 28, 2023 @ 09:35 AM
Name: jeanna hurt	Email: keaniananela@yahoo.com	Zip: 96792
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Feb 28, 2023 @ 09:36 AM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>I believe that the need for our own station out here in Waianae would greatly benefit the people of the Waianae Coast and take a burden off the kapolei/ewa folk. we need our own set of police and a station of our own to go or have access to when needed. the officers and the public all agree on this for a long time so there needs no further discussion. find the funds find the people and do the right thing to curb the wrong things going on.</p> <p>mahalo nui</p> <p>jeanna</p>		
Name: Cynthia Rezentes	Email: rezentesc@aol.com	Zip: 96792
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Feb 28, 2023 @ 09:59 AM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>Please consider the continuing and projected growth of the `Ewa/Kapolei/Leeward Coast Region and utilize facilities already in existence due to previous foresight, to establish a District 9 Police District before being overrun with the needs for police presence in the region.</p> <p>The facility in Wai`anae has been only partially utilized for years due to the limited police resources for the region which should be expanded as the population continues to grow in the area. Before a crisis is reached, please use that foresight once again to prepare for the inevitable needs of the area and start that process now by establishing a new Police District for the Leeward Coast with its relevant needs.</p> <p>Mahalo,</p>		
Name: Allen Cardines	Email: acardinesjr@gmail.com	Zip: 96792
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Feb 28, 2023 @ 01:31 PM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>support</p>		
Name: Duane Samson	Email: duane@wca-ohana.org	Zip: 96792
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Feb 28, 2023 @ 01:41 PM

Testimony:

Due to the enormous growth of our community and high crime and homeless community. I would like to support the establishment and staffing the Wainanae District and Police Station. I'm retired police sergeant of the Honolulu Police Department and currently reside in the district.

Mahalo,

Duane K. Samson

Name: Louis Galdeira	Email: l.galdeira@capitol.hawaii.gov	Zip: 96813
Representing: Senator Maile Shimabukuro	Position: Support	Submitted: Feb 28, 2023 @ 02:25 PM

Testimony:

Aloha Chair Okimoto,

I am in SUPPORT of the intent of Resolution 22-250 urging the Honolulu Police Department to establish new Waianae Patrol District by 2024 along the Waianae Coast.

The Waianae Coast host the largest population of native Hawaiians in the world as well as the largest homeless encampment in the State. This aligns with the overwhelming amount of liquor stores, minors drinking and those struggling with drugs, depression, mental health and homelessness along the coast.

There have been many conversations regarding HPD staff shortages along the coast, as well as a consistent ask from the community at the neighborhood board meetings to increase public safety and provide adequate enforcement for my constituents.

I feel that this resolution will provide solutions to many of these problems.

Mahalo for accepting my testimony for your consideration.

Senator Maile Shimabukuro

Name: Richard Medeiros	Email: richmedeiros@gmail.com	Zip: 96792
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Feb 28, 2023 @ 03:33 PM

Testimony:

Aloha,

I strongly support establishing a new Waianae Patrol District.

Mahalo,

Richard

Name: Joseph Simpliciano	Email: jks0609@gmail.com	Zip: 96792
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Feb 28, 2023 @ 05:31 PM

Testimony:

\$16.4M police station opening in Waianae

By Star-Advertiser staff

Posted on May 20, 2016 6:30 am

A new \$16.4 million police station will be dedicated in Waianae this morning.

The blessing and dedication ceremony will begin at 10 a.m. at 85-670 Farrington Highway between Waianae Valley Road and Bayview Street.

The new station will replace the original station built in 1961. With 25,172 square feet of space and 14 holding cells, the new station is more than three times larger than its predecessor. In addition to gasoline pumps and a radio antenna tower, the new station has 63 parking stalls, including 22 stalls for Pokai Beach visitors

Aloha,

Back in 2016 there was a lot of talk about how the safety of the Waianae community would improve with this new station mentioned above. It is clear that the facility has the room and means to house more police officers. Currently by no fault of HPD but due to the amount of Aina HPD has to cover it can take anywhere from 30 minutes to an hour for a police officer to arrive to offer help or aid and this is with approximately 6-8 police officers on shift from Kapolei to Kaena point.

In 2019 while as a member of the Waianae Neighborhood Board I had asked HPD if they could look into having more police officers for Waianae and the response I was given was I am "preaching to the choir". This is because with the amount of work and being short handed each and everyday the police officers are also asking for help but their concerns also fell on deaf ears. It only makes sense to support this resolution as it will surely benefit the Wai'anae community in numerous ways.

As seen in the past when HPD is able to use their ATV's to patrol our beaches it results in arrests and capture of wanted suspects but it is no longer happening due to a shortage of officers. Our traffic on Farrington Highway is full of illegal vehicles which shouldn't be on the road and that too is only because of a shortage of officers to patrol traffic and ensure vehicle, motorcycle and pedestrian safety, help monitor speeding and promoting safe school zones and all of this can be done if this resolution is passed.

Mahalo in advance for your consideration in supporting this resolution.

Very Respectfully,  
Joseph K. Simpliciano

Name: Marleina Tuifua	Email: marleinatufua@yahoo.com	Zip: 96792
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Feb 28, 2023 @ 06:20 PM

Testimony:  
I support this for the much needed Waianae community.

Name: Paul Aio	Email: ppaio@comcast.net	Zip: 96792
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Feb 28, 2023 @ 06:20 PM

Testimony:  
Aloha Council Chair Waters and Council Members of the City & County of Honolulu. I'm submitting this written testimony in behalf of myself and many other Kupunas who reside here in Nanakuli. I am a retired LEO of HPD and worked here on the Westside back in 1980-1985 in the Patrol Division beat 324 that covered from Lualualei Naval Rd. (west) to Honokai Hale (east) and from mauka to makai. Back then we had (1) lieutenant, (2) Sergeants and (7) patrolmen (first responders) covering all of the Waianae, Makaha, Maili and Nanakuli areas per Watch. We had rotating shifts and three watches. Headquarters was the Pearl City Station. HPD has survived the old Waianae Station and the City saw fit to build a much larger police station and to outfit it with many larger rooms, detention cells for both juveniles as well as adults, health workout gym, better locker & shower facilities for HPD personnel.

The population here on the Westside has grown a whopping 20%, as compared to Kapolei's 10% in houses built but not yet occupied. The statistical data of calls for services as well as crimes committed will provide the enormous crime load each LEO faces on a day to day basis here in sectors #1 and #2 as compared to sector #3 Ewa beach, Makakilo and Kapolei.

My plea in submitting this testimony is to assure our communities that you our Council Members digest all the written testimony,

the live testimony and take the time to come out to the Westside and do a ride along with a Patrol Officer in sector #1 and #2. Witness for yourselves the dire need of a District #9 Headquarters Station.

This written testimony is given of my own freewill and I am willing to testify in front of the full Council. This is a true and accurate account given to the best of my knowledge.

Name: Francés Nakoa	Email: fran.nakoa@gmail.com	Zip: 96792
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Feb 28, 2023 @ 06:35 PM

Testimony:

I support his initiative as a resident seeing the countless people wondering business when im trying to get a bite to eat at the mall , or entering the drug store I am afraid to walk from my car to front door always watching my back. I don't feel comfortable to have my kids catch the bus because people asking them for money. Also then there's domestic issues in at the harbor with the homeless communities or on our beaches I don't feel safe.

Name: John Clark	Email: john@johnclarkiii.com	Zip: 96706
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Feb 28, 2023 @ 09:05 PM

Testimony:

I do NOT support this measure if it will detract from, reduce, or otherwise minimize the resources available to the Ewa Beach area.

With (only) a finite number of officers with the responsibility to patrol, respond, and/or show presence in the entire Leeward area of responsibility, it would appear that further segmenting the current region into a(n) (additional) district(s) would commensurately reduce the resources available and associated with said districts and potential sub-districts. Accordingly...

I do NOT support this measure if it will detract from, reduce, or otherwise minimize the resources available to the Ewa Beach area.

Name: Michael Rice	Email: generalikaika@hotmail.com	Zip: 96792-1834
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Feb 28, 2023 @ 11:27 PM

Testimony:

I stand in support of this measure. I've been a lifelong resident of Makaha and know that Waianae has earned its negative reputation. District 8 is far too big and I would argue holds roughly half the population of the island. District 8 is second only to District 1 in the number of crimes reported to HPD. There is also the issue of our isolation, if Farrington Highway gets blocked anywhere between Nanakuli Ave and Kalaeloa Boulevard we are effectively cut off from the rest of the island, as are the police. There's roughly 18 police officers assigned to District 8 at all times, and they usually respond in large numbers to any incident. I've seen as many as 6 Units show up just to a domestic disturbance call, that's a third of the assigned officers just for one call, you combine that with the distance they have to travel and response time shoots up through the roof. If all the officers respond to a threat in Kapolei and an accident happens that blocks the road going in, they're stuck outside of Waianae until it's cleared.

Name: Carmen Guzman-Simpliciano	Email: carmzz84@gmail.com	Zip: 96792
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Mar 1, 2023 @ 06:26 AM

Testimony:

Aloha Members of the Committee,

I am a lifelong resident of Wai'anae and am in **STRONG** support of this resolution. We need this station to be an active part of our community, equipt with staff, and definitely, someone that can help HPD with mental illness, which is running rampant on our streets more than ever.

For years now, we have expressed on the Neighborhood Board the need for officers due to the blatant criminal activity, domestic abuse, burnouts, speeding, and game rooms right on Farrington Hwy because they know HPD is short-staffed and not stationed here. Please appropriate money and incentivize these officers because Wai'anae is a different kind of beat filled with much domestic and criminal activity than our counterparts. There is an apparent influx of houseless people from other parts of the island that need psychiatric help. I lost count of how many times I've personally called, and by the time officers got there, the individual was gone and repeating the offense. We also need the prosecutors and attorney general to take a field trip out of their offices to see firsthand what and who the affected people are by the outcome of their rulings of repeat offenders, making HPD jobs more difficult then need be.

Name: Darius Kila	Email: repkila@capitol.hawaii.gov	Zip: 96813
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Mar 1, 2023 @ 01:32 PM

Name: Tina Yamaki	Email: tyamaki@rmhawaii.org	Zip: 96816
Representing: Retail Merchants of Hawaii	Position: I wish to comment	Submitted: Mar 1, 2023 @ 04:35 PM

Name: Patrick Watson	Email: surftone@hotmail.com	Zip: 96816
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Mar 1, 2023 @ 04:44 PM

Testimony:  
Aloha,

Please consider supporting this measure to ensure increased security for our ohana in the Waianae community. What could be more discouraging than a nice modern satellite police station in the heart of the Waianae community desperately needing HPD presence, with no police officers staffing it? Of the four times I tried to visit that station, twice was closed during normal daytime hours, once I went in and no one was there at the reception window nor did anyone seem to be there, and the last time two officers were present and came to the front desk to address my question.

An abandoned police station sends a sad message of despair, indifference and failure to any community in the country, raising concerns of funds wasted for the construction and maintenance of such a facility sitting dormant. What other community benefit could this property be serving? The beautiful people of Waianae deserve better!

Mahalo!

Name: Samantha DeCorte	Email: sdecorte@hotmail.com	Zip: 96792
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Mar 1, 2023 @ 06:11 PM

Testimony:  
I strongly support Resolution 22-250!

Name: Kevin Johnson	Email: kjddrp@earthlink.net	Zip: 96707
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Mar 2, 2023 @ 04:34 AM

Testimony:  
As the fastest growing area of Oahu, we cannot expect the Kapolei station to continue to serve the rest of the West Side. The traffic bottlenecks (another symptom of neglect of this area) inevitably lead to slow response times and make this area a prime target for crime. Another station further up the coast is simply a no-brainer for anyone purporting to serve ALL of Oahu.

Name:	Email:	Zip:
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Tiana Wilbur	tianawilbur2022@gmail.com	96792
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Mar 2, 2023 @ 11:37 AM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>I support this reso to incentivize our officers to keep more of our officers home. As well as recruit and restore programs to bring more interest in our young adults to desire to become an officer in our home state!</p> <p>And I also support allocations to complete our Waianae police station to be fully operational for the safety and well being of our community. Thank you Council for your review and consideration to accept this resolution.</p>		
Name: Kurt Fevella	Email: lionkurt1@gmail.com	Zip: 96706
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Mar 2, 2023 @ 12:23 PM



Gail Gomes  
86-232 Alamihi St.  
Wai'anāe, HI 96792  
808.554.4558  
[wss@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:wss@hawaii.rr.com)

To: Honolulu City Council Public Safety Committee

RE: Resolution 22-250 - Honolulu Police Department and the Administration to establish a new Wai'anāe Patrol District 9 by 2024

Aloha members of the Public Safety committee,

I am in **strong support** of Resolution 22-250 urging the Honolulu Police Department to establish a new District Patrol 9 based out of our under used Wai'anāe Police Station.

For too long, our “Westside” has been short of HPD officers and when officers are needed, they often have to travel from Kapolei. With Farrington Hwy being our only access to the westside, and if there is an emergency and Farrington Hwy is blocked (which is often is), extreme delays are often the case and much needed police presence is missing.

In addition, when the new HPD station was built, our community was told by the former administration that it was to be used for the creation of a new district and possible court hearings in the unfinished spaces. To date, this has not happened.

Recently we have seen an increase of crime (attempted break in, robberies, etc.) in our local businesses along Farrington Highway. Having an increased police presence along Farrington Hwy in these areas would be a great deterrent as well as faster response times (especially if units are out at Keawa'ula/Kea'au, etc.).

In addition, “game rooms” have been popping up in many neighborhoods and although HPD is aware of many of them, an increased patrol presence cruising through various locations would help keep the “attendees” from hanging around outside to cause problems. If an issue occurs, HPD could quickly be on scene to help it from escalating.

It has been proven with neighborhood patrols of HPD officers just patrolling through neighborhoods with their blue lights on, firework incidents have decreased.

PLEASE support Resolution 22-250 and allow us to have what we deserve and what is way overdue for our Westside.

Mahalo for allowing me to testify!

*Gail Gomes*



**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

*Hale o nā Luna Makaʻāinana*

STATE OF HAWAII  
STATE CAPITOL  
415 SOUTH BERETANIA STREET  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

March 1, 2023

The Honorable Valerie A. Okimoto, Chair  
Committee on Public Safety

RE: Resolution 22-250

*Urging the Honolulu Police Department to Establish a New Wai'anae Patrol District by 2024  
and Requesting that it Consider Providing Officer Recruitment and Retention Services*

Chair Okimoto and the Committee on Public Safety. I am Darius Kila, Representative for House District 44, which includes Honokai Hale, Nanakuli and Ma'ili. I am strongly in support of this measure calling for the Honolulu Police Department to establish a new Wai'anae Patrol District and that they consider providing officer recruitment and retention incentives.

Currently, the Wai'anae Coast is counted as a part of District 8, which encompasses Kapolei, Ewa, Ewa Beach, West Loch, Kalaeloa, Kapolei, Makakilo, Campbell Industrial Park, Honokai Hale, Ko 'Olina, Nanakuli, Lualualei, Ma'ili, Makaha, Wai'anae, Kea'au, Maku and Ka'ena Point. District 8 serves the largest land area, consisting of 128 square miles.

In 2011, plans were made to build a police sub-station in Wai'anae, with eventually creating a District 9 should the population growth demand it. In 2016, the Wai'anae Police Sub-Station was dedicated; this is a two-story building of approximately 25,172 square feet, and costing \$16 million to build.

The land area is approximately 60.95 square miles, nearly half of the land mass of District 8 of 128 square miles. The population is approximately 48,519, with a large portion

**Representative Darius K. Kila**

House District 44—Honokai Hale, Nānākuli, Ma'ili  
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 436 / Honolulu, HI 96813  
Phone: (808) 586-9480 / Fax: (808) 586-9485 / Email: RepKila@capitol.hawaii.gov

The Honorable Val A. Okimoto, Chair Committee on Public Safety  
RE: Resolution 22-250  
March 1, 2023  
Page Two

being young adults in their 20s to 40s and a large percentage of children under 18 living in this area.

The demographics warrants establishing the current Wai'anae police sub-station into a full police station, and establishing the 96792 area as District 9. Establishing a District 9, and fully staffing the Wai'anae station as a full police station will assist in not only quick responses to emergency situations, but establish a larger police presence in the area as a deterrent to crime.

This would including increased staff and equipment to the Wai'anae station and designating more beats for the police to patrol. I acknowledge the difficulty in fully staffing a new District 9 station, but I believe offering recruitment incentives, such as signing bonuses may help to increase recruitment for the Police Department.

I am not only the House Representative for this District, but also a long time resident. I have seen the growth in this area take place, and I believe establishing this district as HPD District 9 is warranted. It will bring not only much needed law enforcement to the area, but quick response time to emergency calls.

I strongly support this Resolution and urge you to adopt this Resolution. Thank you for your consideration of my testimony.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Darius K. Kila', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Darius K. Kila  
Representative, House District 44



**TESTIMONY OF TINA YAMAKI  
PRESIDENT  
RETAIL MERCHANTS OF HAWAII  
March 2, 2023**

**Re: 22-250 URGING THE HONOLULU POLICE DEPARTMENT TO ESTABLISH A NEW  
WAI'ANAE PATROL DISTRICT BY 2024 AND REQUESTING THAT IT CONSIDER  
PROVIDING OFFICER RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION INCENTIVES.**

Good afternoon, Chair Okimoto and members of the Honolulu City Council Committee on Public Safety. I am Tina Yamaki, President of the Retail Merchants of Hawaii and I appreciate this opportunity to testify.

The Retail Merchants of Hawaii was founded in 1901 and is a statewide, not for profit trade organization committed to supporting the growth and development of the retail industry in Hawaii. Our membership includes small mom & pop stores, large box stores, resellers, luxury retail, department stores, shopping malls, on-line sellers, local, national, and international retailers, chains, and everyone in between.

We support the intent of this measure, we do have some concerns as this resolution urges the Honolulu Police Department to establish a new Wai'anae patrol district by 2024 and requesting that it consider providing officer recruitment and retention incentives.

We have seen an increase in theft in our stores. We have been working closely with the Honolulu Police Department to address this. They have been very supportive in coming out to make a report or arrest shoplifters. The Honolulu Prosecutors Office has been great in taking the shoplifters to court. However, because stealing is NOT a violent crime, the shoplifters receive minimal penalty if anything when taken to court so they are right back out stealing from our stores again.

We are very well aware that the Honolulu Police Department is short staffed – like many other industries including retail. The major concerns that we have is **does the Honolulu Police Department have the manpower to establish a new patrol district without compromising the other 8 Districts?** We are concerned that if the HPD has to set up a new district **without needed manpower within a short period of time, will the other districts be compromised or will officers from other districts be reassigned to District 9.**

**We are also wondering if the Honolulu Police Department have the resources to establish a new district as this resolution does not include allocations.**

Mahalo again for this opportunity to testify.



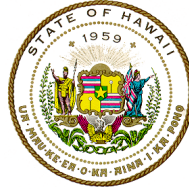
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## The Senate

STATE CAPITOL  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

March 1, 2023

Councilmember Val Okimoto  
and Members of the Committee on Public Safety  
Honolulu City Council  
Honolulu Hale  
530 S. King Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Aloha Committee Chair Okimoto and Members:

Subject: Resolution 22-250 Establishing a New Waiʻanae Patrol  
District

I am writing in support of the above-referenced resolution which urges the Honolulu Police Department (HPD) to Establish a New Waianae Patrol District by 2024 and Request HPD to Consider Providing Officer Recruitment and Retention Incentives.

Currently, there are eight (8) HPD Districts. patrol officers assigned to District 8 service the communities of Ewa, Ewa Beach, West Loch, Barbers Point, Kapolei, Makakilo, Campbell Industrial Park, as well as communities along the Waianae coast that include Honokai Hale, Ko Olina, Nanakuli, Maili, Waianae, Makaha, Makua, and Kaena. In the last ten (10) years, District 8 has not been allocated any additional patrol officers, yet the residential communities of West Oahu have grown to include new residential developments and retail facilities that include Haseko's Hoakalei and Ocean Pointe, Gentry Homes, D.R. Horton's Sea Country, Castle & Cooke projects in Kapolei, Makakilo and Ewa Beach and DeBartolo's Ka Makana Ali'i Shopping Center in Kapolei. District 8 officers are responding to an average of 100 calls per shift while operating at 85% staff capacity. Based on the 2020 population growth estimates, there is currently one officer per 15,000 residents.

Renovations to the former Waianae Substation were completed in 2016 and standing up a new Patrol District 9 and additional beats for areas west of Honokai Hale with a separate command, additional patrol officers and support staff was contemplated during the planning and design phases of this newly renovated district-level station. I fully support establishing a new District 9 command and an increase in the number of beats for both Districts 8 and 9

March 1, 2023

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which would enable faster police response times and improve services for the Leeward Coast residents while also allowing the existing patrol officers of District 8 to concentrate their efforts on the growing communities of Kapolei, Ewa, Ewa Beach, West Loch, Barbers Point, Kapolei, Makakilo, and Campbell Industrial Park.

Thank you for this opportunity to share this testimony for the Honolulu City Council's consideration..

Sincerely,



Senator Kurt Fevella  
State of Hawai'i, District 20  
Minority Leader

-----  
State Capitol, Room 231  
415 S. Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813  
Phone: (808) 586-6360  
Fax: (808) 586-6361  
[senfevella@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:senfevella@capitol.hawaii.gov)

cc: All Honolulu City Councilmembers  
Chief Arthur "Joe" Logan, Honolulu Police Department