

HONOLULU CITY COUNCIL
KE KANIHELA O KE KALANA O HONOLULU
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

No. 24-66

RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND MANAGEMENT TO UPDATE THE COUNCIL ON THE STATUS OF THE TRANSFER OF CITY-OWNED LANDS TO THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION.

WHEREAS, a significant number of public schools on O'ahu are located on lands owned in part or entirely by the City and County of Honolulu ("City") that are also used for public parks and playgrounds that are adjacent to these schools; and

WHEREAS, the State of Hawai'i ("State") Department of Education ("DOE"), which oversees public school campuses across the State, including fields and outdoor facilities, is responsible for approximately 2,120 acres of land under existing school facilities in the City; and

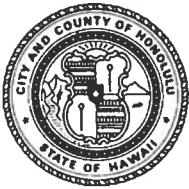
WHEREAS, the City owns, operates, maintains, and manages 120 parcels consisting of approximately 1,004 acres of land housing DOE schools, some of which are public park lands under the jurisdiction of the Department of Parks and Recreation; and

WHEREAS, Act 203, Session Laws of Hawaii ("SLH") 1967, transferred the jurisdiction of public education from the counties to the State, with the DOE assuming the responsibility for the construction, repair, improvement, planning, and maintenance of public school facilities and grounds; and

WHEREAS, the DOE having only a possessory interest in City-owned school facilities and grounds has hindered the DOE's efforts in realizing the purpose of Act 155, SLH 2013, which called for the DOE to redevelop underutilized school facilities and infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, Act 206, SLH 2017, as amended by Act 272, SLH 2019, required the City to transfer to the DOE by quitclaim deed the fee simple interest in 14 parcels of public school lands owned by the City, except for any real property designated as a public park, in addition to appropriating \$100,000 to the City to prepare and execute the conveyances; and

WHEREAS, Act 210, SLH 2018, transferred another 83 parcels of City-owned public school lands to the DOE, in addition to appropriating \$100,000 as a grant-in-aid to the City to prepare and execute the conveyances; and



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WHEREAS, Act 210, SLH 2018, also required the City and the DOE to negotiate and agree on proposed boundaries in subdividing certain parcels abutting a City park; and

WHEREAS, at the Zoning, Planning and Housing Committee meeting on June 18, 2020, the Director of Land Management confirmed that the City is in the process of transferring to the State title to public school lands currently held by the City; and

WHEREAS, the City's *Executive Program and Budget Fiscal Year 2023* noted that the Department of Land Management ("DLM") has been working with the DOE to coordinate the transfer of public school sites to the State, but no further details have been provided for Fiscal Year 2024 and 2025; and

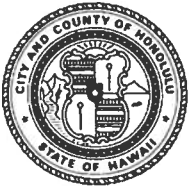
WHEREAS, at the start of the 2024 legislative session, the State Legislature introduced the City's legislative package consisting of Senate Bill 2221 and its companion, House Bill 1851, which appropriate \$500,000 to the DLM as a grant-in-aid for the hiring of two additional full-time employees to fulfill the obligations of Act 210, SLH 2018, but both measures have stalled; and

WHEREAS, the Council believes that an update from the DLM on the status of the transfer of City-owned lands to the DOE will shed light on the City's progress and will assist the City in making accurate budget projections; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City and County of Honolulu that it requests the Department of Land Management to update the Council on the status of the transfer of City-owned lands to the State Department of Education; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Land Management is requested to include the following information in its status update:

1. The amount of expenses the City is expected to incur in completing the transfer of all properties, including any funds appropriated as a grant-in-aid to the City from the State;
2. The amount the State is expected to fund to effectuate the transfer; and
3. An estimated timeline for the completion of the transfer of City-owned lands to the State Department of Education; and



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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Land Management is requested to provide its status update to the Council no later than 90 days after the adoption of this resolution; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Mayor, the Managing Director, the Director of Land Management, the Superintendent of the State Department of Education, and the Chair of the State Board of Education.

INTRODUCED BY:

Tommy Watson

DATE OF INTRODUCTION:

MAR 18 2024

Honolulu, Hawai'i

Councilmembers

CITY COUNCIL
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU
HONOLULU, HAWAII
CERTIFICATE

RESOLUTION 24-66

Introduced: 03/18/24 By: TOMMY WATERS

Committee: PLANNING AND THE ECONOMY
(P&E)

Title: REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND MANAGEMENT TO UPDATE THE COUNCIL ON THE STATUS OF THE
TRANSFER OF CITY-OWNED LANDS TO THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION.

Voting Legend: * = Aye w/Reservations

03/18/24	INTRO	Introduced.
04/04/24	P&E	Reported out for adoption.
		CR-124
		5 AYES: CORDERO, KIA'ĀINA, OKIMOTO, SAY, WEYER
04/17/24	CCL	Committee report and Resolution were adopted.
		8 AYES: CORDERO, DOS SANTOS-TAM, KIA'ĀINA, OKIMOTO, SAY, TULBA, WATERS, WEYER
		1 ABSENT: TUPOLA

I hereby certify that the above is a true record of action by the Council of the City and County of Honolulu on this
RESOLUTION.


GLEN I. TAKAHASHI, CITY CLERK


TOMMY WATERS, CHAIR AND PRESIDING OFFICER