

BILL012(24)
Testimony

MISC. COMM. 116

BUDGET (BUD)

BUDGET (BUD) Meeting

Meeting Date: Apr 1, 2024 @ 10:00 AM

Support: 58

Oppose: 8

I wish to comment: 13

Name: Shang Ong	Email: shang.ong82@gmail.com	Zip: 96825
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Mar 26, 2024 @ 08:41 PM
Testimony: I support the amendment to purchase plastic tiles for the outdoor hockey rink at Kaoma'aiku Neighborhood Park.		
Name: Noah Schurhammer	Email: hammertime3030@gmail.com	Zip: 96789
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Mar 26, 2024 @ 10:11 PM
Testimony: Hello, My name is Noah Schurhammer 95-1053 Pahaku st. Mililani 96789. I believe the hockey tiles being proposed would immensely help the youth players and also save on cost for the parents. The fact is that playing on concrete severely degrades the rollerblade wheels, sticks and pads. The concrete is also not pleasant to fall on for the kids that are skating, my son recently broke his arm due to the concrete conditions. Please approve the proper roller hockey tiles to save injuries and money for the parents. Thanks Noah Schurhammer		
Name: Katia Schurhammer	Email: paradisepurses@hotmail.com	Zip: 96789
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Mar 26, 2024 @ 10:40 PM
Testimony: Hello, My name is Katia Schurhammer 95-1053 Pahaku st. Mililani 96789. I believe the hockey tiles being proposed would immensely help the youth players and also save on cost for the parents. The fact is that playing on concrete severely degrades the rollerblade wheels, sticks and pads. The concrete is also not pleasant to fall on for the kids that are skating, my son recently broke his arm due to the concrete conditions. Please approve the proper roller hockey tiles to save injuries and money for the parents. Thanks Katia Schurhammer		
Name: Jason Cummings	Email: jkcummings38@gmail.com	Zip: 96789
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Mar 27, 2024 @ 08:34 AM
Testimony: I'm submitting testimony in support for the amendment to purchase plastic tiles for the outdoor hockey rink located at Kaoma'aik Neighborhood Park. My name is Jason Cummings and I have playing inline hockey for the better part of 30 years. I was born and raised in and still reside in Mililani. I witnessed firsthand the explosion of inline hockey in the mid 1990's. Inline hockey has come a long way in Hawaii and is seeing more and more interest from our keiki. When I was young, there was no rink to play at. The only place we had was the street or the basketball court. We were so grateful to see a rink built at Kaoma'aiku Neighborhood Park, however over the years the playing surface has deteriorated and is having a negative effect on the developmental, cost and safety aspects of the game such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Being exposed to the elements has given the cement surface a sandpaper texture and causes "road rash" when players fall. Even when wearing all safety gear. • The cement also has an inconsistent surface where as some places are "grippy" to inline wheels and other surfaces are "slippery". This causes an increased risk to injury due to it being hard to judge your speed when turning or stopping, especially for beginner skaters. • The rough surface also wears down inline wheels and sticks prematurely. It is not uncommon for skate wheels to only last a couple weeks and would need to be replaced. Inline wheels usually run \$40-\$70 a set. A new stick can run \$50-\$300. 		

- Roller hockey pucks only last half a game. The rough surface can wear out the puck in less than 15 minutes. This is a huge cost at around \$10 a puck. In a typical season around 100 or more pucks are used.

I ask the Honolulu city council to include funding for the installation of plastic inline hockey tiles at Kaoma'aiku Neighborhood Park. The new surface would provide many benefits to the hockey community. Some examples are:

- A safer and more consistent playing surface. It would provide more speed and control to the player.
- A huge cost savings. Sticks, wheels, pucks and other gear would last up to 10x or more on plastic tiles.
- A safer place for our keiki. The tiles will enhance the hockey program at HIHI Hockey as it provides the community a way for kids to learn sportsmanship, teamwork, community service and a sense of family.

Thank you,
Jason Cummings

Name: Chris Lee	Email: chris@chrisleemedia.com	Zip: 96816
Representing: Self	Position: I wish to comment	Submitted: Mar 27, 2024 @ 11:30 AM

Name: Anne Sasso	Email: annesasso@gmail.com	Zip: 96706
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Mar 27, 2024 @ 11:53 AM

Testimony:

Aloha, I am submitting testimony in support for the amendment to purchase plastic tiles for the outdoor hockey rink located at Kaoma'aiku Neighborhood Park. Have plastic tiles for our children and adults to play on is so important for many reasons. First, playing on concrete is incredibly hard on the expensive gear needed to for the sport, the reduction in gear wear can be a huge cost savings for parents. Secondly, the safety benefits of plastic tiles over concrete are huge. Thirdly, the overall improvement in the playing environment and the positive influence that has over the players and the sport.

Hockey, specifically the organization that uses this park, Hawaii Inline Hockey Inc., has changed my son's life in the most positive way. Beyond the physical benefits of exercise and creating lifelong healthy habits, he is a part of a huge community to that helps build his character, create leaders and lifelong friendship.

These improvements would be a small investment from the City and County for the keiki that utilize this facility but a huge improvement to their lives.

Name: Scott Okamoto	Email: scottokamoto50@gmail.com	Zip: 96707
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Mar 27, 2024 @ 01:23 PM

Testimony:

I would like to provide support for the amendment to purchase plastic tiles for the outdoor hockey rink at Kaomaik Neighborhood Park. This rink is used by Hawaii Inline Hockey Inc. (or HIHI), which is a competitive inline hockey program. The program is led by experienced, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander coaches who regularly enter medal-winning youth and adult inline hockey teams in National tournaments (e.g., the North American Roller Hockey Championships or NARCh) . My high-school aged son was trained by HIHI coaches over the past decade, and now competes with the HIHI men's team in National tournaments. He, as well as other competitive HIHI players, currently have to take precautions to prevent damage to their equipment or personal injury when playing at the Kaomaik hockey rink, because the rink's surface is cement. Falling on this surface at high speeds could result in injury and the surface can damage hockey sticks and wheels more easily than tiled surfaces. The installation of plastic tiles on the rink will address both of these issues, allowing the HIHI teams to practice more safely and with a higher level of intensity in preparation for National-level competitions. Moreover, the tiles will provide an overall safer experience for the numerous youths and adults who play inline hockey on this rink, regardless of their playing level.

Thank you for your consideration of this amendment.

Name: Sky Pierce	Email: sky@fx-group.com	Zip: 96701
Representing: FX Group	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Mar 27, 2024 @ 08:18 PM
Name: Laura Sode-Matteson	Email: lauramatteson@mac.com	Zip: 96727
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Mar 27, 2024 @ 08:56 PM
Name: Robin Pang	Email: iflyhnl@gmail.com	Zip: 96707
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Mar 27, 2024 @ 10:09 PM

Testimony:

I am writing to support the amendment to purchase plastic tiles for the outdoor hockey rink at Kaoma`aiku Neighborhood Park. My 16 year old son has been involved with inline roller hockey for 9 years, and is passionate about the sport. Unfortunately the conditions of the community hockey rink at this park do not allow the skaters the same opportunities as kids on the mainland because they do not have the facility to enable them to skate in the same fashion. Cement surfaces cause significant wear and damage to expensive hockey sticks and other skating equipment, making the sport more expensive and therefore out of reach for interested players. The current playing surface has a remarkably higher risk for player injury. Having a safer surface would also attract more skaters to the rink which would benefit the community and grow the sport. The athletes that skate at this rink do so out of pure passion for the sport, but I believe many more would get involved or continue to play if the surface was safer and more appropriate for the game.

My son has learned a tremendous amount from playing inline roller hockey in Hawaii, but his potential , and many other skaters that love the game, may be limited by the quality of the rink available to skate on. Having plastic tiles to support and grow the game for the youth and adults in Hawaii would lead to valuable opportunities for everyone involved, such as inline roller hockey tournaments, as well as college scholarships.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Name: Angelina Yamaguchi	Email: Angelina.yamaguchi@gmail.com	Zip: 96789
Representing: Self	Position: I wish to comment	Submitted: Mar 27, 2024 @ 10:14 PM

Testimony:

I would like to submit testimony in support for the amendment to purchase plastic tiles for the outdoor hockey rink located at Kaoma'aik Neighborhood Park in Mililani.

I am a wife and a mother of four children in Mililani. My husband and I met playing roller hockey in Mililani before the rink was built at Kaoma'aik Neighborhood Park. As a teen I traveled to other islands and the mainland to compete, Hawaii was never fully competitive at the time due to a lack of facility resources. Fast forward to today, 2024, all four of my children play roller hockey in Mililani and have opportunities to be more competitive thanks to having a designated outdoor facility. The improvement of plastic tiles creates a surface for our Keiki to learn and develop necessary skills to compete with in the mainland. Many of the Keiki that play regularly at the rink are highly skilled and travel to the mainland regularly to compete. Plastic tiles increase the effectiveness of skating at the rink.

Thank you so much for your time and consideration in continually creating safe public spaces for our Keiki and youth. Mahalo!

Name: Mitch Pang	Email: mitchellpang@hotmail.com	Zip: 96707
Representing:	Position:	Submitted:

Self	Support	Mar 28, 2024 @ 02:09 PM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>I'm writing in support of the amendment to purchase plastic tiles for the outdoor hockey rink at Kaoma'aiku Neighborhood Park. It's so much safer for the players due to a softer landing/sliding in case of a fall compared to landing on solid concrete where there is no give. These tiles will significantly reduce the number of injuries to all players. Purchasing these tiles will also get more kids involved in this physical activity and off of their electronic devices and out of trouble. The tiles would save a lot on the wear and tear of all the equipment compared to the concrete surface, making it more affordable for all parents and players. My son has been playing hockey for the last 9 years and he has been giving back to the community and helping grow the sport in Hawaii by coaching the little kids and refereeing their games. Please allow the budget for these tiles and you'll see what a difference it'll make for your community. Mahalo!</p>		
Name: Daniel Dinell	Email: ddinell@treesforhonolulu.org	Zip: 96814
Representing: Trees for Honolulu's Future	Position: I wish to comment	Submitted: Mar 28, 2024 @ 05:18 PM
Name: Jessica Lee	Email: kapuakela@hotmail.com	Zip: 96817
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Mar 28, 2024 @ 08:16 PM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>Aloha,</p> <p>My name is Jessica Lee and I urge you to support Bill 12 and the purchase of plastic tiles for the outdoor hockey rink at Kaomaaik Neighborhood Park. This purchase would significantly enhance the safety and quality of the sport of hockey that my child loves playing.</p> <p>Thank you for considering my perspective and opinion.</p> <p>Jessica Lee</p> <p>Honolulu</p>		
Name: Kevin Foster	Email: foster_kevin@me.com	Zip: 96789
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Mar 28, 2024 @ 08:56 PM
Name: Lindsey Albano	Email: Insatravels@gmail.com	Zip: 96789
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Mar 28, 2024 @ 09:31 PM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>I am testifying in support of funding to purchase plastic tiles for the outdoor hockey rink located at Kaomaaik Neighborhood Park in Mililani.</p> <p>My son started learning to skate at this rink last year. He now loves both skating and playing hockey on a beginner team. As a family, we are grateful for this wonderful resource that provides fun, exercise, and camaraderie in our community.</p> <p>The plastic outdoor hockey tiles would be a welcome addition to the rink. We would greatly appreciate the safety benefits of plastic tiles and the potential reduction in wear and tear of our son's hockey gear. Overall, we are very supportive of this improvement to the hockey rink, which will in turn provide exponential benefits to the community. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.</p>		
Name:	Email:	Zip:

Kevin Foster	foster_kevin@me.com	96789
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Mar 28, 2024 @ 10:49 PM
Name: Kala Crowell	Email: crowellkala@gmail.com	Zip: 96817
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Mar 28, 2024 @ 10:55 PM
Name: David Donaldson	Email: davidskd5@hotmail.com	Zip: 96706
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Mar 29, 2024 @ 12:31 AM
Testimony: Aloha, My name is David Donaldson and I urge you to support Bill 12, specifically the amendment by councilwoman Okimoto to authorize the purchase of plastic tiles for the outdoor hockey rink at Kaomaaik Neighborhood Park. This purchase would significantly enhance the safety and quality of inline hockey that my son loves playing, and I also, on occasion. The tiles would reduce the wear and tear on the gear that he, and his teammates, use, as well as reduce the injuries that result from falls. Furthermore, the tiles would enhance the ability of the hockey players to be competitive in tournaments that many of their opponents participate in, as they are often held on similar tile surfaces. Thank you for considering my testimony. Mahalo, David Donaldson Ewa Beach, HI		
Name: Garret Donaldson	Email: garret.donaldson99@gmail.com	Zip: 96706
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Mar 29, 2024 @ 08:14 AM
Testimony: Aloha, My name is Garret Donaldson and I am 12 years old. I would encourage you to support Bill 13 and the construction of a roof and lights for the outdoor hockey rink at Kaomaaik Neighborhood Park. Adding the roof will prevent rain from delaying our games and possibly canceling them so adding the roof will have our schedule on time without rain delaying our games and practices. The lights will help us see when it is dark for practice and we could play games at night and it wouldn't be hot. So I support the adding of a roof and lights for the outdoor hockey rink at Kaomaaik Neighborhood Park for us to play at night and in the rain. Mahalo, Garret Donaldson Ewa Beach, HI		
Name: Garret Donaldson	Email: garret.donaldson99@gmail.com	Zip: 96706
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Mar 29, 2024 @ 08:26 AM
Testimony: Aloha, My name is Garret Donaldson and I am 12 years old. I encourage you to support Bill 12, specifically to approve plastic tiles for the outdoor hockey rink at Kaomaaik Neighborhood Park. Having plastic tiles would help us skate without having to be worried about getting hurt when falling. With tiles, my gear gets damaged less and my gear lasts for a long time. Falling will not hurt as much as falling on concrete. My hockey stick, wheels, and clothes won't get damaged. So adding tiles will be a huge help to the outdoor rink for the players safety. Mahalo, Garret Donaldson Ewa Beach, HI		

Name: Cheryl Sakai	Email: cheryl.sakai@icloud.com	Zip: 96813
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Mar 29, 2024 @ 03:47 PM

Name: Michelle Birdsall	Email: koolinagirl@gmail.com	Zip: 96707
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Mar 29, 2024 @ 04:15 PM

Testimony:

Aloha,

My name is Michelle Birdsall and I strongly urge you to support Bill 12 and the purchase of plastic tiles for the outdoor hockey rink at Kaoma'a'kiu Neighborhood Park in Mililani. Both my teens, husband, and I all play hockey at this rink through Hawaii Inline Hockey Incorporated (HIHI). Not only has it become an extensive sense of community playing the sport with others who are new or seasoned, but it also reinvigorated a healthy way of getting exercise for my entire ohana.

As a Licensed Clinical Social Worker treating mental health, I can't stress enough the importance of exercise and healthy outlets for everyone. Our family makes the commute several times a week from Kapolei to play at this specific rink. The plastic tiling will not only protect the blades of our hockey stick, but it will also lessen the need and frequency for our wheels to be replaced because the cement can be harsh on our equipment. Hence, costs will be lowered for the average player. Both my kids play tournament level hockey at national competitions. Being able to play on similar plastic tile surfaces like they do in tournaments would not only enhance their hockey skills, but also continue to allow my children and their team mates to grow further in the sport.

Thank you for your time and commitment to supporting the people of Hawaii.

Michelle Birdsall
Kapolei

Name: Karla Noa	Email: karlanoa@gmail.com	Zip: 96792
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Mar 29, 2024 @ 05:59 PM

Name: Jaxon Pang	Email: doctordeke13@gmail.com	Zip: 96707
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Mar 29, 2024 @ 06:01 PM

Testimony:

I am in full support of the amendment to purchase plastic tiles for the outdoor hockey rink located at Kaoma'ik Neighborhood Park because of its ability to keep the players safe while also providing a better playing experience for this large and growing community. One of the most prevalent issues at this rink is the fact that there aren't plastic tiles, which in turn causes injuries and costs more money due to equipment damage. The age range of players varies widely, from ages of only three years old to upwards of sixty years old, and the installment of plastic tiles will greatly reduce the risk of injury for both our keiki and kupuna. As a youth skater who has won multiple national championships at a high level, the quality of this rink quite frankly disappoints me. Seeing so much potential in the younger generation, I am saddened by the fact that they are restricted to these harsh conditions. Ultimately, the much-needed addition of plastic tiles to the outdoor hockey rink located at Kaoma'ik Neighborhood Park would allow for the sport to grow, provide a safer environment for players, and save money due to reduced equipment damage.

Name: John Chun	Email: jonchun98@gmail.com	Zip: 96789
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Mar 30, 2024 @ 05:34 AM

Testimony:

Aloha,

My name is John Chun and I am the Hockey Director of Hawaii Inline Hockey Inc (HIHI). We are a non-profit organization on

Oahu that provides a safe, family friendly environment for people of all ages to learn the great game of roller hockey. I have played roller hockey my entire life here in Hawaii and I have had the pleasure of playing all over the USA including in professional level tournaments in California, Michigan and Texas. In addition, all three of my children currently play roller hockey at our beautiful local hockey court in Mililani located at Kaomaaik Neighborhood Park.

I urge you to support Bill 12 and the purchase of plastic tiles for the outdoor hockey rink at Kaomaaik Neighborhood Park. I promise you that the purchase of tiles would provide our youth and adult players a safer playing environment. Falling on concrete is very dangerous. However, falling on plastic tiles is much easier on the body. As a coach, a hockey player, a hockey parent, and life long advocate of roller hockey, I cannot express enough how important the plastic tiles would be for our children.

Thank you for considering my perspective and opinion.

Much Love,

John Chun

Mililani

Name: Jaehyun Hwangbo	Email: rcsco2001@gmail.com	Zip: 96818
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Mar 30, 2024 @ 08:12 AM

Testimony:
Aloha,

My name is Jaehyun Hwangbo, and I urge you to support Bill 12 and the purchase of plastic tiles for the outdoor hockey rink at Kaomaaik Neighborhood Park. This purchase would significantly enhance the safety and quality of the sport of hockey that I love playing.

Thank you for considering my perspective and opinion.

Me ke aloha,

Jaehyun Hwangbo

Honolulu

Name: Youngju Kim	Email: abyse80@gmail.com	Zip: 96818
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Mar 30, 2024 @ 08:14 AM

Testimony:
Aloha,

My name is Youngju Kim, and I urge you to support Bill 12 and the purchase of plastic tiles for the outdoor hockey rink at Kaomaaik Neighborhood Park. This purchase would significantly enhance the safety and quality of the sport of hockey that I love playing.

Thank you for considering my perspective and opinion.

Me ke aloha,

Youngju Kim

Honolulu

Name: Mireu Hwangbo	Email: hwangbomireu@gmail.com	Zip: 96818
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Mar 30, 2024 @ 08:23 AM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>Aloha,</p> <p>My name is Mireu Hwangbo, and I urge you to support Bill 12 and the purchase of plastic tiles for the outdoor hockey rink at Kaomaaik Neighborhood Park. This purchase would significantly enhance the safety and quality of the sport of hockey that I love playing. The purchase of plastic tiles will make the sport safer for everyone that uses the rink and would also help reduce gear wear leading to cost savings.</p> <p>Thank you for considering my perspective and opinion.</p> <p>Me ke aloha,</p> <p>Mireu Hwangbo</p> <p>Honolulu</p>		
Name: Vanessa Cabral	Email: voogs808@yqhoo.com	Zip: 96817
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Mar 30, 2024 @ 12:18 PM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>Aloha,</p> <p>My name is Vanessa Cabral and I urge you to support Bill 12 and the purchase of plastic tiles for the outdoor hockey rink at Kaomaaik Neighborhood Park. This purchase would significantly enhance the safety and quality of the sport of hockey that my son, granddaughter, and nephew love playing.</p> <p>Thank you for considering my perspective and opinion.</p> <p>Me ke aloha,</p> <p>Vanessa Cabral 807 Kunawai Lane Honolulu, Hawaii. 96817</p>		
Name: Vanessa Cabral	Email: voogs808@yahoo.com	Zip: 96817
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Mar 30, 2024 @ 12:27 PM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>Aloha,</p> <p>My name is Vanessa Cabral and I urge you to support Bill 12 and the purchase of plastic tiles for the outdoor hockey rink at Kaomaaik Neighborhood Park. This purchase would significantly enhance the safety and quality of the sport of hockey that my son, granddaughter , and nephew love playing.</p> <p>Thank you for considering my perspective and opinion.</p> <p>Me ke aloha,</p> <p>Vanessa Cabral</p>		

807 Kunawai Lane
Honolulu, Hawaii 96817

Name:
Robert Moylan

Email:
moylan@hawaii.rr.com

Zip:
96825

Representing:
Self

Position:
Support

Submitted:
Mar 30, 2024 @ 08:53 PM

Testimony:

Dear Committee on Budget Members,

I am writing to express my strong support for Bill 12 and the purchase of plastic tiles for the outdoor hockey rink at Kaomaaik Neighborhood Park and the proposed enhancements to our beloved outdoor hockey facility at Kaomaaik Neighborhood Park. The allocation of additional funding towards plastic outdoor hockey tiles in the operating budget marks a significant step towards improving our playing experience. Additionally, the consideration of a new Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) to explore the installation of a roof over the court by our district representatives is a testament to the progress we are making as a community.

As an active member of our hockey league, who travels from Hawaii Kai to play in Mililani weekly, I have witnessed firsthand the dedication and passion that our young players, coaches, and supporters bring to the game. However, our current facilities do not match the level of excellence demonstrated by our league's first-class coaching and commitment. The introduction of plastic outdoor hockey tiles will not only provide a safer and more durable playing surface but also enhance the overall aesthetics of the facility, creating a more inviting environment for players and spectators alike.

Furthermore, the proposal to install a roof over the court is a game-changer. Not only will it protect players from inclement weather, allowing us to enjoy uninterrupted gameplay, but it will also extend the usability of the facility throughout the year. This upgrade aligns with our goal of promoting year-round hockey activities and fostering a stronger sense of community among players of all ages.

Additionally, I would like to emphasize the importance of lighting enhancements. Adequate lighting is crucial for evening games and practices, ensuring a safe and enjoyable experience for everyone involved. By investing in modern lighting solutions, we can attract more participants to our programs and showcase our facility as a premier destination for hockey enthusiasts.

In conclusion, I urge the Committee on Budget to approve the proposed enhancements to our outdoor hockey facility. These upgrades are not just about improving infrastructure; they are about investing in the future of our hockey community, promoting physical activity, and creating a positive impact on the lives of our players and supporters. Your support in this matter is greatly appreciated, and I look forward to seeing our outdoor hockey rink at Kaomaaik Neighborhood Park reach new heights of excellence.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Rob Moylan
374 Ainahou St.
Hawaii Kai
60 yrs. old

Name:
Kailia Moylan

Email:
mkailia09@gmail.com

Zip:
96825

Representing:
Self

Position:
Support

Submitted:
Mar 30, 2024 @ 08:57 PM

Testimony:

Aloha Committee on Budget Members,

My name is Kailia Moylan, and I urge you to support Bill 12 and the purchase of plastic tiles for the outdoor hockey rink at Kaomaaik Neighborhood Park. This purchase would significantly enhance the safety and quality of the sport of hockey that I have love playing.

The introduction of plastic outdoor hockey tiles will not only provide a safer and more durable playing surface but also enhance the overall aesthetics of the facility, creating a more inviting environment for players and spectators.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Me ke aloha,

Kailia Moylan
374 Ainahou St.
Hawaii Kai
20 yrs old

Name: Brian Lim	Email: brian.christopher.lim@gmail.com	Zip: 96814
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Mar 31, 2024 @ 08:56 AM

Testimony:

Aloha - My name is Brian Lim and I support Bill 012(24), RELATING TO THE EXECUTIVE OPERATING BUDGET AND PROGRAM FOR THE FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2024 TO JUNE 30, 2025.

I support the purchase of plastic tiles for the outdoor hockey rink at Kaomaaik Neighborhood Park. Having plastic tiles to play hockey/skate on over the current bare concrete would be a great asset and help to the hockey community of the islands. Not only is skating on tiles safer, it provides everyone the opportunity to play a more competitive game.

Hockey is more than a sport to me, as it is very much a community. The hockey community on Oahu is a close group of people and I look forward to playing hockey with this community every week!

Thank you so much!
Brian Lim

Name: Cora Lee	Email: hirata_cora@yahoo.com	Zip: 96706
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Mar 31, 2024 @ 12:40 PM

Testimony:

Aloha City Council of Honolulu,

My name is Cora Lee. I am both a parent and skater of Mililani's outdoor hockey rink. I am in full support for Bill 12's amendment to install hockey floor tiles into the rink. Tiles would reduce injuries due to falling, reduce the wear and tear of gear (including wheels, sticks, shin guards, elbow pads, and gloves), and improve players' performances. Having tiles could also allow us to attract international to national tournaments. I hope that you will consider these factors in your decision.

Mahalo,
Cora Lee
Ewa Beach

Name: Nella Chun	Email: kiyomijc@gmail.com	Zip: 96789
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Mar 31, 2024 @ 12:43 PM

Testimony:

Hi my name is Nella Chun and I am 7 years old. I like Hihi because you get to skate. And I think we should get tiles because it would be safer to skate.

Name: Kiyomi Chun	Email: kiyomijc@gmail.com	Zip: 96789
Representing:	Position:	Submitted:

Self	Support	Mar 31, 2024 @ 01:06 PM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>My name is Kiyomi Chun and I urge you to support Bill 12 and the purchase of plastic tiles for the outdoor hockey rink at Kaomaaik Neighborhood Park.</p> <p>My Husband and I and our three kids all play hockey at the outdoor rink. We are there almost everyday. The hockey community has become our extended family.</p> <p>Plastic tiles would enhance the quality of play on the outdoor rink. Our sticks and wheels wear down very quickly on the current rough surface and families need to purchase new wheels and sticks often.</p> <p>There are currently cracks in the surface that trip up skaters and impede the puck from sliding smoothly.</p> <p>When we compete on the mainland our kids take a while to get used to skating on tiles and they need different sticks and wheels for those surfaces.</p> <p>Thank you for your time and consideration.</p>		
Name: Caleb Senn	Email: calebpsenn@gmail.com	Zip: 96734
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Mar 31, 2024 @ 01:41 PM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>Aloha,</p> <p>As a player with HIHI at the outdoor hockey rink in Kaomaaik Neighborhood Park, I am writing today in support of Bill 12 and the acquisition and installation of plastic tiles for our rink.</p> <p>Currently, the floor of our rink is made of concrete. It is painful to fall down on and highly abrasive, quickly wearing down players' wheels, sticks, pucks, and goalie pads. The installation of plastic tiles at the rink would benefit player safety by softening the impact of falls, as well as minimize wear and tear on equipment and save players and their families money. Additionally, the reduced friction of tiles would allow pucks to slide easier, as well as give players better grip on the floor and allow them to skate faster, much like the function of ice in ice hockey. As a player who competes in the league's top division, I find the safety and performance benefits of installing plastic tiles to be invaluable to myself and the rest of our hockey 'ohana, and ask for your support.</p> <p>Thank you for your consideration on this matter, Caleb Senn</p>		
Name: Sharon Kim	Email: alohasharonkim@gmail.com	Zip: 96789
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Mar 31, 2024 @ 01:43 PM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>I support for the amendment to purchase plastic tiles for the outdoor hockey rink at Kaomaaik Neighborhood Park.</p> <p>My son started playing ice in the mainland before moving to Hawaii and our Ohana never imagined getting as involved as we have with roller hockey and the wonderful community at Hawaii Inline Hockey Inc. We started off at the indoor rink in Kapolei, but we made the best decision to play with HIHI outdoors last year because of the amazing people and program.</p> <p>Over time, we were spending more money on pants, sticks, blade covers, tape, wheels, and other items due to the wear and tear from the cement rink, and so thankful for the full gear our keiki play with, but it would be safer for all players if we had plastic tiles as seen at some other rinks on the mainland. It would also be helpful for the players' hockey training and skills to have a tile floor in place, as it replicates the most similar experience to ice and the other rinks whenever the players go to tournaments.</p>		

The tiles would result in overall improvement in the playing environment and the positive influence of the sport on players. This rink has been a source of joy and physical activity for many residents all around Oahu and even our Maui inline community whenever they visit us, allowing them to enjoy the sport and spend quality time with friends and family. I believe that by investing in this project, we will not only enhance the quality of life for our residents but also demonstrate our commitment to providing opportunities for physical activity, promoting healthy lifestyles, and fostering community spirit. Moreover, the investment will have a positive impact on our local youth by allowing a safe, encouraging and ohana friendly environment.

Thank you for considering our request. I would be honored to discuss this matter further at your convenience and provide any additional information or support that may be required. I am confident that with your leadership and support, we can build a stronger and more vibrant community for our current and future generations.

Name: Nicole MacDonald	Email: NJM4377@gmail.com	Zip: 96789
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Mar 31, 2024 @ 03:12 PM

Testimony:
Aloha,
My name is Nicole MacDonald, and I strongly urge you to support the amendment to purchase plastic tiles for the outdoor hockey rink at Kaomaaik Neighborhood Park. Inline hockey is an extremely valuable program for our families and the greater community. Hockey teaches our youth important values such as respect, teamwork, focus, dedication to something greater than themselves, and being coachable. It provides an opportunity for families from all over Hawaii to come together as friends and competitors. Hockey is great for improving health and physical fitness, as well as providing an opportunity for people to connect with others which can help their mental and emotional health. The outdoor hockey rink in Mililani is the only opportunity many families have to play inline hockey. Because the rink does not have plastic skating tiles, these opportunities are more limited. The plastic tiles will significantly improve the safety of the children and adults playing inline hockey at the outdoor hockey rink in Mililani. The tiles will also reduce the amount of wear and tear on hockey equipment, which will reduce the cost of playing hockey and will make the sport more accessible to families. The approval of this amendment to Bill 12 to purchase plastic tiles for the hockey rink at Kaomaaik Neighborhood Park would be hugely beneficial to our youth and families that desire to play inline hockey. Thank you very much for your time and consideration.
Respectfully,
Nicole MacDonald
Mililani, HI

Name: Paenaa Baclayon	Email: pbacclayon8923@myhta.org	Zip: 96707
Representing: Self	Position: I wish to comment	Submitted: Mar 31, 2024 @ 03:22 PM

Testimony:
Aloha,
My name is Paenaa, and I encourage you to support Bill 12 and the purchase of plastic tiles for the outdoor hockey rink at Kaomaaik Neighborhood Park. This purchase would significantly help with the safety and quality of the sport of hockey that my sister loves to play. The plastic tiles will also help my sister avoid falling, injuring herself, and preserving her hockey equipment. I like to watch my sister play and see how much she has grown from her years of playing roller hockey. This will help a lot and make my sister and all the other players very happy. I hope that you please consider purchasing the tiles for the rink in Mililani for the many players and families who want to watch and play.

Thank you for taking the time to read my perspective and opinion.

Me ke aloha,

Paenaa Baclayon

Name: Ana Baclayon	Email: anabacclayon8@gmail.com	Zip: 96707
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Representing: Self	Position: I wish to comment	Submitted: Mar 31, 2024 @ 03:26 PM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>Aloha,</p> <p>My name is Ana, and I'd like to submit testimony in support of Bill 12 to purchase plastic tiles for the outdoor hockey rink in Mililani located at Kaomaaik Neighborhood Park. I am a High School student in Waipahu and have been playing roller hockey since I was about 8 years old. I was surprised when I first heard about the rink in Mililani opening to play hockey. I never knew there was one there! However, when I started to play on the outdoor rink, it brought back memories I had growing up playing at the inline hockey rink in Kapolei with my friends. Unfortunately, the floor we are skating on is a surface that is very different and a bit slipperier than an indoor roller hockey facility's floor. The wheels and hockey stick protectors we use outdoors wear down fast and need to be constantly changed out by new ones bought online. As a high school student, I don't make a lot of money to buy new wheels all the time. It is expensive and would be very beneficial to install plastic tiles so everyone can save money to buy other vital hockey equipment and tools.</p> <p>The purchase of plastic tiles for the rink would help immensely with our games and practices. It will not only help enhance the safety and quality of the rink, but it will help us grow physically and mentally as hockey players. The environment of playing outdoors for Mililani has been a wonderful and positive experience for me as a player. I enjoy the amazing coaches, players, and time I can play at the Mililani rink. It is an outstanding non-profit organization and would ask that you please understand with an open heart, how much of an impact this would make in helping us grow as HIHI hockey players.</p> <p>Thank you for considering my perspective and opinion.</p> <p>Mahalo nui loa,</p> <p>Ana Baclayon</p> <p>Kapolei</p>		
Name: Brandon Woods	Email: Bwoods808@gmail.com	Zip: 96789
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Mar 31, 2024 @ 04:37 PM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>Aloha!</p> <p>We have recently joined the Mililani Hockey league and wow we are blown away! The ohana vibe and community feel captures the essence of what we in Hawaii would love to perpetuate for our keiki to adult. I predict that this sport will rapidly grow within the next few years. Did you know that some of the coaches who are coaching our keiki were on the junior National team representing the United States and Hawaii in tournaments! Our family strongly supports and hopes that there is funding for the flooring and roofing with lights for the sport of street hockey in Mililani. With the rain the frequents the area and the delay that we have to endure during season really burns out everybody. This sport may be different than traditional Hawaii sports but that is why it is so special. From 3 years old to 70 years old people come to join in the sport of street hockey in the safety of the hockey rink. Setting aside funds to improve the rink will be beneficial for our community and perpetuate the sport. I hope you can come down one day and witness for yourself the community and Aloha vibe that surrounds the rink. From sun up to sun down everyone plays and supports each other in the exciting game of hockey. Imagine how far this sport could go with improved facilities and a roof with lights on day with poor weather. Thank you all!</p> <p>Aloha</p> <p>Brandon Woods</p>		
Name: Caitlin Kaneshiro	Email: kthoopsstar7@yahoo.com	Zip: 96782-2403
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Mar 31, 2024 @ 04:46 PM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>We would love to be able to enhance this facility and make it into something even more incredible than it is!</p>		

Name: Aubrie Owens	Email: Aubriekjo@gmail.com	Zip: 96734
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Mar 31, 2024 @ 04:55 PM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>I am writing to support Kaomaik Neighborhood Park inline hockey facility. This hockey rink has provided so many kids an opportunity to participate in learning hockey, develop sportsmanship skills, and overall team building. Unfortunately, at times we have to cancel practices and games due to weather/ rain. Additionally, we have limited court ability which effects our players. Simple facility improvements would benefit the hockey community and each child who participates. Thank you</p> <p>If you need, I've attached a guide to follow when submitting testimony. Please remember to submit testimony for both Bill 12 and Bill 13.</p> <p>When crafting your testimony, consider highlighting the following points:</p> <p>The detrimental impact of rainouts on practice and game schedules, particularly considering the unique challenge of playing on skates.</p> <p>The limited court availability and its effect on player development.</p> <p>The safety benefits of plastic tiles and the potential reduction in gear wear for parents, leading to cost savings.</p> <p>The overall improvement in the playing environment and the positive influence of the sport on players.</p>		
Name: Rita Wilcox	Email: ritajwilcox@gmail.com	Zip: 96707
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Mar 31, 2024 @ 05:09 PM
Name: Krisha Watamura	Email: k.watamura@yahoo.com	Zip: 96789
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Mar 31, 2024 @ 05:35 PM
Name: Cristina Chun	Email: cristina.chun@gmail.com	Zip: 96789
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Mar 31, 2024 @ 06:01 PM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>Honorable Government Officials,</p> <p>I am reaching out to you today with a heartfelt plea for funding to support the installation of hockey tiles on our community's outdoor hockey court. As an active member of our youth hockey league, I have witnessed firsthand the challenges and risks that our young athletes face when playing on uneven and worn-out surfaces. Hockey tiles offer a safe and durable solution that will not only enhance the playing experience but also significantly reduce the risk of injuries. Unlike the current concrete surfaces, which can be abrasive and unforgiving, hockey tiles provide a smooth and consistent playing surface that minimizes the impact of falls and collisions. Furthermore, the installation of hockey tiles will extend the lifespan of our outdoor hockey court, saving on maintenance costs in the long run. With proper care and upkeep, these tiles will ensure that our young athletes have access to a high-quality playing surface for years to come. But perhaps most importantly, investing in hockey tiles is an investment in the safety and well-being of our children. By providing them with a secure and supportive environment to develop their skills and passion for the sport, we are not only nurturing their athletic abilities but also instilling values of teamwork, perseverance, and sportsmanship. I urge you to consider the profound impact that this funding will have on the lives of our young athletes and the future of our community. Together, let us prioritize the safety and success of our children and ensure that they have every opportunity to thrive on and off the courts. Thank you for your time and consideration.</p>		
Name: Rachel Masada	Email: raemasada@gmail.com	Zip: 96789
Representing:	Position:	Submitted:

Self	Support	Mar 31, 2024 @ 06:09 PM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>Aloha Committee,</p> <p>I am writing to you today for funding to support the installation of hockey tiles on our community's outdoor hockey court at 10 acres in Mililani. As an active member of our youth hockey league, I have witnessed what our keiki athletes face when playing on uneven and worn-out surfaces. Having Hockey tiles would offer a safe solution that will not only help enhance the playing experience but would reduce the risk of injuries. The concrete surfaces are abrasive. Having these hockey tiles provide a smooth and consistent playing surface that minimizes the impact of falls and collisions. The tiles would help with the upkeep of the facility. With proper care and upkeep, these tiles will ensure that our young athletes have access to a high-quality playing surface for years to come. But perhaps most importantly, investing in hockey tiles is an investment in the safety and well-being of our children. By providing them with a secure and supportive environment to develop their skills and passion for the sport, we are not only nurturing their athletic abilities but also instilling values of teamwork, perseverance, and sportsmanship. I want you to consider the impact that this funding will have on the lives of our young athletes and the future of our keiki. Thank you for your time and consideration.</p> <p>Mahalo,</p> <p>Rachel Masada</p>		
Name: Foeata Baclayon	Email: kf_baclayon@yahoo.com	Zip: 96707
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Mar 31, 2024 @ 06:18 PM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>I fully support Bill 12 to purchase plastic tiles for the outdoor hockey rink at Kaoma'aiku neighborhood park. Tiles for the outdoor hockey rink in Mililani would be a direct blessing to children, teens, and adults who enjoy the sport of hockey. As a parent of a teen hockey player, I know that the addition of tiles would help decrease the cost of constantly buying new wheels to replace the quickly worn out ones. Additionally, my daughter would be able to practice/play at full speed with safe, even flooring. Flooring would directly mimic tournament flooring in the mainland at which many players compete at.</p> <p>The outdoor hockey arena is a wonderful place to belong to and a place where 'Ohana come together to enjoy a fun sport. Adding flooring, would be the next step to creating a better hockey rink for not just the community of mililani, but the community of Hawaii as a whole.</p> <p>Respectfully,</p> <p>Foeata Baclayon</p> <p>Kapolei Resident and Hockey mom</p>		
Name: Ryan Finch	Email: ryan.finch81@gmail.com	Zip: 96819
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Mar 31, 2024 @ 06:22 PM
Name: Mitchell Furukawa	Email: mitchfu@gmail.com	Zip: 96789
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Mar 31, 2024 @ 06:28 PM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>Hello my name is Mitchell Furukawa. Im a lifelong roller hockey player with four kids who play in the HIHI league in Mililani. My kids love the sport and so do I. Please support bill 12 to implement tiles at the outdoor skating rink at Kaoma'aiku park. The tiles will provide a much better playing experience as well as improve wear on all of our gear. The current surface while usable is slow and destroys anything that moves on it like sticks, wheels, pucks, protective equipment, clothing and skin. Thank you.</p>		
Name: Miles Beck	Email: milesebeck@gmail.com	Zip: 96789
Representing:	Position:	Submitted:

Self	I wish to comment	Mar 31, 2024 @ 06:41 PM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>Dear Members of the Legislative Assembly,</p> <p>I'm writing to strongly support Bill 12 and the proposal to buy plastic tiles for the outdoor hockey rink at Kaomaaik Neighborhood Park. This amendment is vital for enhancing the safety and quality of our community's unique recreational facility.</p> <p>Plastic tiles provide better safety for players, reducing the risk of injuries like slips and falls while also saving families money on wear and tear on equipment. By prioritizing safety, we create a positive environment for everyone involved in the sport.</p> <p>Improving this hockey rink will not only ensure safety but also increase enjoyment for players, coaches, and fans. This upgrade will encourage more people to participate in the sport and strengthen our community bonds.</p> <p>Thank you for considering this matter,</p> <p>Miles Beck</p>		
Name: Brian Birdsall	Email: brianbirdsall@yahoo.com	Zip: 96707
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Mar 31, 2024 @ 06:49 PM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>Aloha,</p> <p>My name is Brian Birdsall and I support Bill 12 improvements to the rink at Kaoma'aiku Neighborhood park in Mililani and humbly ask for you to do the same. The purchase of plastic tiles would enhance safety and improve overall quality of play at the rink. Our family have been able to skate and play hockey together three to four days a week. We love the community aspect and opportunities for kids and adult to participate in a health outdoor activity</p> <p>Our children 15 and 13 years old participate in the youth hockey program and travel hockey tournament program at Kaoma'aiku Neighborhood park rink .The youth hockey program offers and affordable team sport with opportunities to represent Hawaii in mainland tournaments. The plastic tile will improve safety and the quality of the playing surface which will allow our youth to train on par with their mainland counterparts.</p> <p>The potential upgrades would support a wonderful organization doing great things in the community. It would also show your constituents that lawmakers support communities, safe places for kids to play, and healthy island living.</p> <p>Thank you for your time and attention,</p> <p>Brian Birdsall</p> <p>Kapolei, HI</p>		
Name: Jackie Beck	Email: jackie.d.beck@icloud.com	Zip: 96789
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Mar 31, 2024 @ 07:06 PM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>I'm writing to express my full support for Bill 12 and the plan to install plastic tiles on the outdoor hockey rink at Kaomaaik Neighborhood Park.</p> <p>Ensuring safety and quality in our recreational facilities is crucial. Plastic tiles not only reduce the risk of injuries but also save families money by preserving equipment.</p> <p>Improving the hockey rink will make playing safer and more enjoyable for everyone involved. This upgrade could also encourage more people to join in and strengthen the community.</p> <p>Let's prioritize safety and enrich our community's recreational spaces.</p> <p>Thank you for your attention to this matter.</p>		
Name:	Email:	Zip:

Valerie Horne	horneshome51@gmail.com	96789
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Mar 31, 2024 @ 07:08 PM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>My son grew up in the inline hockey community, I was part of the Board helping to get the rink built, and now my grandkids are skating. It is a wonderful sport with many opportunities for skill, character and social development. The league also develops and fosters individual and community Ohana. Please support Bill 012(24) allowing for special tiles for the rink. The tiles would enhance quality of play as well as help to protect expensive equipment that can wear out quickly on concrete surfaces. More importantly, it protects the skaters from serious surface injuries.</p>		
Name: Ian MacDonald	Email: ism278509@gmail.com	Zip: 96789
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Mar 31, 2024 @ 07:18 PM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>Hello,</p> <p>My name is Ian MacDonald and I would like to encourage you to support the Bill 12 amendment to purchase plastic tiles for the outdoor inline hockey rink at Kaomaaik Neighborhood Park. These tiles will make it safer and cheaper for kids and adults in the community to practice and play hockey as the current rink surface is abrasive to both skin and gear. The improvement will also help the skaters be more competitive at tournaments as the tile surface is very similar to the surfaces the indoor facilities use.</p> <p>Thank you for considering my opinion.</p> <p>Ian MacDonald Mililani resident</p>		
Name: Kevin Tang	Email: ktang8@hawaii.edu	Zip: 96744
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Mar 31, 2024 @ 07:49 PM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>Aloha,</p> <p>My name is Kevin Tang, and I urge you to support Bill 12 and the purchase of plastic tiles for the outdoor hockey rink at Kaomaaik Neighborhood Park. This purchase would significantly enhance the safety and quality of the sport of hockey that I love playing. The cement itself can be a dangerous surface due to the cracks and the paint makes the surface slippery. With the tiles, it can reduce injuries and also extend the life of the protective equipment.</p> <p>Thank you for considering my perspective and opinion.</p> <p>Me ke aloha,</p> <p>Kevin Tang</p> <p>Kaneohe</p>		
Name: Eliza Talbot	Email: eliza8482@gmail.com	Zip: 96734
Representing: Self	Position: I wish to comment	Submitted: Mar 31, 2024 @ 08:03 PM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>Aloha Budget Chair Cordero, Vice Chair Weyer and Councilmembers,</p> <p>I am testifying in my personal capacity as a sitting member of the Economic Revitalization Commission for the City and County of</p>		

Honolulu. I am also a former employee of the City and County, and I am familiar with the City's budgeting process. In my professional capacity, I work closely with Hawaii's business community every day and can offer a unique perspective about the importance of this city agency.

I wish to share my support for the OER team and its work and convey the importance of funding the important mission of this office, which is to build the financial resiliency of our entire Oahu community by uplifting underserved residents and businesses.

I was appointed in 2022 to serve on this inaugural body and was soon after elected Vice Chair of the Commission. I'm honored to be included in this group of highly accomplished Commissioners. They represent Hawaii's small businesses, the financial sector, the tech industry, nonprofit and more.

During my time as a Commissioner, I spent countless hours working with the OER staff and the other commissioners to research and understand the economic challenges and opportunities facing Oahu's community. We read every relevant economic data report and strategic plan published in the last few years. We have heard directly from stakeholders who are engrossed in the work of supporting our low-income and ALICE families and our small businesses.

It is a true privilege to be associated with the high caliber team of the OER. Since the inception of this office, it has been singularly focused on enhancing Oahu's economic resilience. There is no other agency in the city dedicated to meeting with and supporting local businesses, establishing accelerator programs in underserved communities and building programs that will actually diversify our economy.

OER evolved out of necessity during the pandemic and immediately became one of the most dynamic and service-oriented agencies in the state during the crisis. In 2020, OER worked with more than 3,000 small businesses and provided essential communications for our Pacific Islander population.

But OER was not a newly created agency, it replaced the Office of Economic Development, which was previously funded through general funds. Since its establishment, OER has been primarily funded by COVID relief funding. This is because its mission is dynamic and versatile enough to pivot and serve the entire community during a crisis.

OER has distributed millions of dollars in critical programs for our community including rental aid, business recovery grants, pivot grants, agricultural grants and the good jobs program. In 2024, OER is leading Oahu's initiatives to expand broadband access and digital literacy. It is a common misconception that broadband access is sufficient on Oahu, however, the rural areas of West Oahu and Windward Oahu still do not have equitable access to wireless infrastructure. These are important roles the City plays for our underserved communities through OER.

Today, Honolulu is the primary economic driver in Hawaii, however, OER has one of the smallest teams dedicated to economic development when compared to the other counties. Other counties have used general funds to grow these programs for years and they are skilled at using their experience to attract federal grant funding.

OER serves a critical role by enhancing the County's ability to attract external funding opportunities. OER will soon host the City's first dedicated grant contractor which will be critical for attracting federal grants for all agencies in the County. Most large municipalities throughout the nation have more than one dedicated grant administrator.

OER was uniquely positioned to receive \$186,000 from DBEDT under the State Small Business Credit Initiative to launch the Oahu Small Business Connector. This is a gamechanger for underserved businesses and entrepreneurs because it connects them to technical resources that will help scale up and grow their businesses. This is a critical tool which will boost opportunity and reduce economic disparity in underserved areas. OER is also a partner with other organizations that foster workforce development and work-based learning opportunities. This is critical to develop a skilled workforce and expand income horizons so we can keep our residents here in Hawaii.

In conclusion, although we may not be in the pandemic era, the state's economy is still reeling. More importantly, our local businesses are facing more challenges than ever before. Every industry is faced with workforce shortages, higher costs of doing business and mounting uncertainty about the future of Hawaii's resident and tourist populations. OER and its team serve a critical and essential role for the City and County by supporting local businesses and communities. An investment in OER is an investment in Oahu's future economic recovery and resiliency.

Name:	Email:	Zip:
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Rachel Haworth	rachels.haworth@gmail.com	96789
Representing: Self	Position: I wish to comment	Submitted: Mar 31, 2024 @ 08:32 PM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>My name is Rachel Haworth, my family lives in the Mililani community and is one of the many families that enjoy the Kaoma'aiku Neighborhood Park. My 11 year old daughter plays hockey with an outstanding team at the park hockey rink. I urge you to consider the safety and quality of hockey rink and allocate the necessary funds to make the required changes to provide a safe environment for our community. Although my daughter is heavily padded for practice and games, the installation of plastic tiles, a roof, and lighting will greatly increase the safety of this amazing sport. Not only will the safety of the park be improved but with a roof and lighting it would allow for continued sports through inclement weather and after sunset. Expending the function of the rink would increase accessibility for more families and players of all ages. Mililani is a beautiful community that pulls people in with its schools, parks, and focus on families. Please continue to align the budget with the community and approve funding for these imperative rink improvements.</p> <p>Thank you for supporting our community.</p> <p>Rachel Haworth</p>		
Name: Matthew Tramuto	Email: koki@hawaii.rr.com	Zip: 96782
Representing: Self	Position: I wish to comment	Submitted: Mar 31, 2024 @ 09:20 PM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>Aloha,</p> <p>My name is Matt Tramuto and I am testifying to ask for support for Bill 12 and the purchase and installation of plastic tiles for the outdoor hockey rink at Kaomaik Neighborhood Park. The current surface (concrete) works but has several factors that could be significantly improved with the advent of plastic tiles. First and foremost is wear and tear on player equipment. Hundreds of dollars are spent each season by each player just to maintain skate wheels and sticks in a safe and usable condition due to the abrasiveness of the concrete surface. Plastic tile would eliminate that need and allow families who may otherwise may not be able to afford the continued added expenses to continue to participate. Additionally, plastic tiles would eliminate seams in the concrete surface which, on occasion, can disrupt play (whether causing a puck to bounce errantly, tracking one's skate wheels in the seam, or catching the blade of a stick and cracking it). Again, plastic tiles (which once assembled are seamless) would eliminate these disruptions. Outdoor hockey is and has been a passion for both me and my 3 kids for over 15 years and it will continue to be for years to come. The hockey community in Hawaii and on Oahu particularly are extremely welcoming and provide a safe and healthy environment for both youth and adults. Earmarking funds to provide tiles for the outdoor hockey rink will reap benefits not only for locals in our community, but like the Waipio soccer complex (though on a much smaller scale), could allow teams from other islands and even the mainland and international communities to come and participate in local tournaments - healthy for competition, healthy for our community, healthily for our local economy.</p> <p>Thank you for your time and considering my perspective and opinion.</p> <p>Me ke aloha,</p> <p>Matt Tramuto</p>		
Name: Krista Vincent	Email: kris.vncnt@gmail.com	Zip: 96789
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Mar 31, 2024 @ 09:31 PM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>My name is Krista Vincent and I strongly urge you to support Bill 12 and the purchase of plastic tiles for the outdoor hockey rink at Kaoma'aiku Neighborhood Park. This rink has been a great community asset and upgrades to the rink will greatly benefit the children and adults who come from all over the island, state, and country to play as family right here in Mililani. I have two young boys who have played hockey at the Mililani rink since it first reopened in the spring of last year. My children and I have been so</p>		

blessed to be a part of the blossoming HiHi hockey community. We are so thankful for the social, physical, and emotional benefits of being able to use this outdoor skating rink in Mililani. It has been so healing for the community to use this facility to exercise and socialize following the reopening of the state after Covid-19. This facility is used daily by the families of our community and upgrades to it are long overdue. We should do everything possible to support the keiki and their families in their hard work and dedication to a facility that helps builds character, create community, and helps to spread the aloha spirit across the nation. Thank you for your support.

Name: Liliane Wilcox	Email: lilianejwilcox@gmail.com	Zip: 96707
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Mar 31, 2024 @ 09:46 PM

Name: Conner Birdsall	Email: connerbirdsall@gmail.com	Zip: 96707
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Mar 31, 2024 @ 09:53 PM

Testimony:
Aloha

My name is Conner Birdsall from Kapolei, Hawaii and I strongly urge you to support Bill 12 and the purchase of plastic tiles for the outdoor hockey rink at Kaomaaik Neighborhood Park. The addition of tiles would greatly improve the safety and quality of hockey in Hawaii. As a 15 year old tournament level hockey player I enjoy playing at the Mililani outdoor hockey rink. I have been to a handful of tournaments and the usage of tiles would benefit not only mine but all of the players of all ages to further their hockey experience whether they are just playing for fun, or to go pro. As a hockey player that plays there 4 days a week the addition of tiles would be a huge plus because we can practice on the same type of tiles as used in the mainland rinks. It would also save money on stick guards and our hockey wheels. Our family alone spends several hundreds of dollars a year on hockey equipment replacement from playing on concrete. I highly recommend you fit the tiles for this outdoor rink into the budget. Thank you for listening and Aloha (HIHI))

Conner Birdsall
Kapolei, HI

Name: Michael Cabral	Email: sumrsufr@yahoo.com	Zip: 96734
Representing: Self	Position: I wish to comment	Submitted: Mar 31, 2024 @ 09:56 PM

Testimony:
Aloha,

My name is Michael Cabral and I am a father and grandfather of 2 hockey players in Hawaii. I have watched my son play and grow the sport of hockey in Hawaii and has continued to share his passion with all players young and old. Thanks to HiHi, I get to watch my granddaughter find her love for the sport.

Watching my son play since he was in 7th grade was some of the best times of my life. The understanding of teamwork and leadership that his coaches instilled back then not only worked for him as a player, but has helped groom him into the person he is today. He is a great role model for the kids and he loves watching them grow through the sport like I watched him do. Now it's my granddaughters turn and I just want the best for her that way she can perform her best in tournaments, instead of feeling like they could've done more.

Putting tile down for the Mililani rink will not only help all the players perform at their best, but it will keep them safer and will save the community more money in the end because wear and tear on tile is night and day compared to playing on concrete surfaces. Also, in the mainland, tiled surfaces are what's used in every tournament that is held in the continental US.

We are an island with many talented children and dedicated families to help support what they love to do. Although roller hockey is a sport not normally talked about, through dedicated volunteer coaches, HiHi has been on the news multiple times for their success when playing in the mainland tourneys. With tile, HiHi will have the proper surface to practice on the same courts as

those in the mainland.

I fully support and ask of you to help the hockey community with allocating funds to tile the concrete court in Mililani.

Thank you for your time,

Michael Cabral

Name: Maiya Birdsall	Email: maiya@sall@gmail.com	Zip: 96707
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Mar 31, 2024 @ 10:08 PM

Testimony:

Hello,

My name is Maiya Birdsall and I strongly urge you to support Bill 12 and the construction of tiles for the outdoor rink at Kaoma'aiku Neighborhood Park. I am 13 years old and I have been playing hockey at this specific rink for over a year. It would be beneficial to the whole hockey community because it would give us more opportunities to play and get better at the sport. Since we play on cement it hurts a lot when we fall. I have gotten many scrapes and bruises from falling on the concrete when I play hockey. Also our family would save an incredible amount of money on stick guards and outdoor wheels that get damaged from being used on concrete instead of tile. If we received funding for the tiles we would take great care of it since everyone at the rink has a passion for the sport and wants any chance to play.

Thank you for reading this letter.

-Maiya Birdsall
Kapolei, HI

Name: Aaron Tominaga	Email: aaron@sall@gmail.com	Zip: 96789
Representing: Hawaii In-Line Hockey Inc	Position: Support	Submitted: Mar 31, 2024 @ 10:16 PM

Name: Kalysta Cabral	Email: Kaly@sall@gmail.com	Zip: 96817
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Mar 31, 2024 @ 10:23 PM

Testimony:

Hi,

My name is Kalysta and I am 9 yrs old. I have been playing hockey since I was 4 and I really like playing. Can you please put tile on our hockey court so when I fall it doesn't hurt and so my mommy and daddy can save money?

Thank you,

Kaly

Name: Irish Barber	Email: aloha@sall.org	Zip: 96817
Representing: IATSE Local 665	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Mar 31, 2024 @ 10:53 PM

Name: Noah Tramuto	Email: noah@sall@gmail.com	Zip: 96782
Representing:	Position:	Submitted:

Self	I wish to comment	Mar 31, 2024 @ 11:15 PM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>Aloha,</p> <p>My name is Noah Tramuto and I strongly urge you to support Bill 12 and the purchase of plastic tiles for the outdoor hockey rink at Kaomaaik Neighborhood Park as it would greatly support our community by improving the quality and safety of the sport.</p> <p>Currently, the rink has a concrete surface. This surface when mixed with dirt, leaves, and occasional rain becomes extremely slippery and unsafe for our players (especially our keiki and those new to the sport). Plastic tile would greatly enhance the amount of grip for our skates and would vastly improve the quality and safety of our playing experience.</p> <p>When players fall on this surface, it is very common to receive significant scrapes or cuts. They may also endure bruises or fractured bones. With a plastic tile surface, objects slide much better. This means that players will likely never get cut or scraped on the surface and any impact to their body would be less intense than on concrete.</p> <p>The concrete surface causes extreme wear on our equipment, especially the wheels which get torn up in a matter of a couple months. The equipment we use is expensive to replace. A plastic tile surface would greatly reduce the amount of wear on the equipment. For example, I have had sets of wheels last around two years while playing on a plastic tile surface. With a plastic tile surface, more keiki and families will be able to afford to play for years to come.</p> <p>The plastic tile also affects the way that the puck moves along the surface. Unfortunately, no matter what hockey puck we use, the pucks tend to roll over a lot more frequently on the concrete surface when compared to tile. The puck is instead to slide across the surface for passes and shots. When the puck consistently rolls instead of sliding, it drastically decreases the amount of plays that can be made (passes, stickhandling, shooting). When our local teams go up to the mainland to compete in tournaments that use plastic tiles, our players are unprepared due to the difference in surfaces and the way the puck behaves. With plastic tiles at our local rink, our players would better represent Hawaii while competing in the mainland.</p> <p>Overall, adding plastic tiles to our outdoor hockey rink in Mililani will greatly benefit the hockey community on Oahu. With more safety and affordability, the plastic tiles will ensure that our hockey Ohana will be able to grow and spread Aloha across the island and even to the mainland.</p> <p>Thank you for taking my perspective and opinion into consideration.</p> <p>Me ke aloha, Noah Tramuto Pearl City, HI</p>		
Name: John Davis	Email: barrucus@gmail.com	Zip: 96814
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Mar 31, 2024 @ 11:30 PM
Name: OLIN Lagon	Email: olin.lagon@gmail.com	Zip: 96819
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Mar 31, 2024 @ 11:58 PM
Name: katie petronio	Email: katie.r.petronio@gmail.com	Zip: 96734
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 1, 2024 @ 12:30 AM
Name: Pamela Dittrick	Email: misofoxy@gmail.com	Zip: 96789
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 1, 2024 @ 07:06 AM

Testimony:

We write in strong support of bill#12 which will greatly improve the Mililani rink by providing a safer and more secure area for the community. Outfitting the rink with proper hockey court tiles will create a more cushioned and even surface to better protect the skaters from falls than the current concrete rink.

We have three grandchildren and friends who use the Mililani rink, and we look forward to facility upgrades that will improve playing and practice conditions for everyone involved in this growing sport.

Sincerely,
Tim and Pam Dittrick

Name: Alfred Chung Zheng	Email: alfredhmchung@yahoo.com	Zip: 96789
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 1, 2024 @ 07:29 AM

Testimony:

Hello we would like to support bill 12 for the tiling improvements for our outdoor hockey rink. I was fortunate enough to be able to grow up in mililani and I played at the rink as a young adult. I now have 3 children who have also started to play here and would like to see Oahus only outdoor hockey rink preserved and upgraded for our future generations.

Name: Kristen Skelton	Email: ktskelton@gmail.com	Zip: 96789
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 1, 2024 @ 07:41 AM

Testimony:

Aloha,

I am writing in support of bill #12 to be used for the installation of hockey tiles on the skating rink at Kaomaik Neighborhood Park in Mililani. Our kids have been playing roller hockey for about 3 years and have learned so much about sportsmanship and being team players. They have played at the tiled indoor rink in Kapolei and now at the outdoor rink in Mililani, so we have seen firsthand the difference a playing surface makes. Tiling the court would make a significant difference in both the playing experience, and most of all, significantly improve the safety of the players (the majority being kids).

Playing experience would be greatly improved by installing tiles. Tiles are superior to concrete because they are designed with a specialized texture to grip with skate wheels, while being smooth at the same time to hold momentum and speed. Our kids often represent Hawaii in tournaments on the mainland and are at a disadvantage with the teams there because they are not able to practice on a surface that is on-par to what the mainland players use. They sometimes even fly up a day early and rent time at a rink to get used to the playing surface. A proper playing surface on our local court would help to equip our kids to better represent our state.

The second and most important reason for installing tiles is safety for our keiki and all players who use the rink. Currently the surface is concrete that has been worn with natural wear and tear over the years, becoming rough and uneven. Skate wheels catch in small divots or cracks in the slab, increasing trips and falls. Although the players wear proper protective gear, falls still cause injury, so minimizing falls is of utmost importance. The concrete materials itself is also very rough and hard, frequently causing abrasions and bruising upon impact. Tiles would be smoother and have a slight give to them, which would decrease injury. Tiles would also help the player's gear to last longer and not get torn up so quickly. Currently players outfit their sticks with makeshift plastic guards, which wear down and need to be replaced almost weekly. Their skate wheels also need to be replaced at an alarming rate, making the sport more expensive than it needs to be, which is a financial challenge for us, and may be a complete barrier for many families who want to get into inline hockey.

We urge you to support this bill and thank you for considering our testimonies.

Kristen Skelton
Mililani Resident

Name: James Triplett	Email: jimlocations@gmail.com	Zip: 96822
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Representing: Hawaiian Isle Production Inc.	Position: I wish to comment	Submitted: Apr 1, 2024 @ 08:15 AM
Name: Charlotte Cabral	Email: cfcabral@hotmail.com	Zip: 96734
Representing: Self	Position: I wish to comment	Submitted: Apr 1, 2024 @ 09:11 AM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>Dear Representatives,</p> <p>I am writing to express my full support for allocating a budget towards acquiring new tiles for our hockey facility. As an avid spectator of the sport, I understand the critical role that quality playing surfaces play in the development and enjoyment of hockey.</p> <p>Our current surface have served the kids well, but over time, wear and tear have become evident on their equipment, leading to high cost of replacements. This not only affects the performance of players but also increases the risk of injuries due to hard uneven surfaces.</p> <p>Investing in new tiles will not only enhance the overall experience for the players but also demonstrate our commitment to maintaining a top-tier facility. With improved playing surfaces, we can expect increased participation, heightened performance levels, and a greater sense of pride in the community led hockey program.</p> <p>Furthermore, new tiles will ensure the safety of our players, coaches, and spectators, aligning with HiHi's core values of promoting a safe and enjoyable environment for everyone involved.</p> <p>I urge you to consider this budget allocation as a worthwhile investment in the future success and sustainability of our hockey program. The benefits of improved playing surfaces far outweigh the initial cost, and I am confident that this decision will yield positive returns for years to come.</p> <p>Thank you for your attention to this matter. I look forward to seeing the hockey facility thrive with the addition of new tiles.</p> <p>Sincerely, Charlotte aka Gramzy (Great Grandma)</p>		
Name: Patrick Hartnett	Email: prhartnett@aol.com	Zip: 96789
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 1, 2024 @ 09:14 AM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>I support funding to improve the inline hockey facility in Mililani that is used by youths and adults. This is the only inline hockey facility in central Oahu.</p>		

The Honorable Tommy Waters
Chief and Presiding Officer
And Members of the
Honolulu City Council
530 South King Street, Room 202

Subject: Bill 12 (2024) – COMMENTS

Dear Chair Waters and Members of the City Council,

My name is Chris Lee and I am a Honolulu resident and the Founder and Director of the Academy for Creative Media System at the University of Hawai'i. I write today as a private citizen in regards to the funding of the Honolulu Film Office.

Honolulu is fortunate to have a seasoned and trusted Film Office with extensive industry connections and experience. Whether it's dealing with the networks and studios, independent filmmakers or assisting our students with their permits, the Honolulu Film Office is always there to help. And they do so always with aloha.

Honolulu is also blessed with a vibrant and growing production industry, in part because of the excellence of the Film Office. A review of the direct spend numbers show the scope of this enormous economic engine for the city that the Film Office must manage.

Hawai'i's production industry has climbed to a DBEDT reported average of \$396 million dollars in direct spend per annum, the vast majority of which is generated on O'ahu. In DBEDT's latest figures from 2022, the total Hawai'i film production direct spend was \$420.04 million (includes qualified tax credit spend and non-tax credit spend).

The breakdown by island is as follows: O'ahu: \$354.88 million; Hawai'i County: \$39.32 million; Kaua'i County: \$12.56 million; Maui County: \$13.28 million. With Hawai'i household income generated at \$168.02 million and tax revenue generation of \$45.36 million, DBEDT estimates the total economic impact from film production on our economy at an impressive \$726.68 million. Most of that is generated in and for the City and County of Honolulu.

The University of Hawai'i is entering into negotiations to partner for the state's first major studio complex at UHWO. The goal is to grow that \$400 million a year in production to \$1 billion. That requires the full time services of the Honolulu Film Office.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on Bill 12 (2024).



FX Group LLC
FEIN: 84-2250646
HI GET: GE-013-232-3840-01

Budget Committee Chair Radiant Cordero
and Members of the Committee and the Council.
Honolulu Hale
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Chair Cordero, Vice Chair Weyer, members of the committee,

I am writing to provide testimony in strong support of funding for the Honolulu Film Office.

I have been a producer and location manager for nearly 20 years and work closely with the Honolulu Film Office as a regular part of our business operations, and was distressed to hear that their funding might be in jeopardy.

The film office is absolutely essential to the success of our entire local film industry as well as all the small businesses, employees and vendors who work in and around the industry. If the film office were to lose funding and reduce its scope of services or ceased to operate, it would cripple our local industry and hurt everyone associated with it.

To start, film offices everywhere play an essential role in supporting their local communities, new incoming filmmakers as well as established local industry professionals. The film office in any area is the first point of contact for many visiting and local producers, location managers and scouts who are considering filming in a particular area. **The office serves as a central hub of vital information** so we can get our projects organized in the right way as we get started, and is essential to getting the guidance to be able to get permits as we proceed and -- if things happens -- holding our feet to the fire if something needs correcting.

During the pandemic when everything was shutdown, I worked closely with the Honolulu Film Office (along with many others) to get everyone back to work. At a time when the world was reeling and everything had stopped, it was Walea in your Honolulu film office who was **absolutely pivotal in getting the industry going again**. Her efforts on behalf of the City, helped to get hundreds of people and businesses in Hawaii safely back to work, and quite literally, brought hundreds of millions of dollars to Oahu because **it was one of the first jurisdictions in the country to be able to do so**.

Once productions of all sizes (not just the large features, but all the photo shoots, documentaries, student films, etc.) have decided to shoot in the City & County of Honolulu, they need to get permits. Without the film office there would be no efficient procedure for the processing of film permits, many of which have to be approved by multiple city agencies in a very short period of time. This is a crucial day-to-day function film office manages. **The Honolulu office has a strong reputation as a timely and efficient processor** of our requests. Without those permits, we simply would not have any legal ability to conduct our business. And we have the utmost confidence that our submissions will be processed in a timely manner by the Honolulu Film Office. They never let us down.

The involvement of the film office early on prevents bad practices from occurring in the first place. There are thousands of filming days each year which go smoothly because the film office provided guidance, permits, support and advice from beginning to end.

As a local company that frequently hosts clients from around the world, I cannot overstate the importance of the film office in making sure visiting productions act responsibly, sensitively and with respect. Each request undergoes a detailed review and is refined to make it the best possible set up for all concerned (the production and the public).

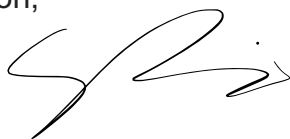
And last but not least, it's very important to note the essential and leading role the film office plays in supporting the individuals and small businesses that do not have the ability to responsibly promote the islands as a filming destination to producers around the world. The Honolulu Film Offices does extensive outreach for Oahu's film industry as a whole. By advertising, marketing, sponsoring and being visible at key national and international events, the film office directly supports everyone on Oahu to attract business to our island.

To summarize: The Honolulu Film Office, the film commissioner and her staff are absolutely essential to the film industry, the thousands of people and vendors on Oahu who work in the industry, and the tens of thousands of the public when we film in their neighborhoods or shoot in a public park or film on the road.

Respectfully I am requesting that you restore the funding for an office that supports an industry that is good for the people of Hawai'i and our 'aina.

Mahalo for your consideration,

Sky Pierce,
Co-Owner, FX Group LLC



3/27/24

Members of the Budget Committee and the Honolulu City Council:
530 South King St
Honolulu, HI 96813

Aloha Budget Committee Chair Radient Cordero, Vice-chair Matt Weyer, and members of the committee:

It has come to my attention that the Honolulu Film Office budget has been proposed for a budget reduction. I was shocked when I learned this might occur. Please let me share why this office is vital to attracting, hosting and managing the wide scope and breadth of the industry on Oahu and the budget cuts should be restored.

I was born and raised in Hawaii and very fortunate to find a successful career in the Entertainment Industry. I have worked and scouted all over the United States and Internationally on major motion pictures, including many projects in Hawaii, (ie: Battleship, Jurassic World 1 & 2, Jumanji, Jungle Cruise, and Chief of War.) for some of the largest production companies in the world including Disney, Universal, Sony and Apple)

If you want a successful production, any form of filming, whether it is a large major motion picture, a TV show or a commercial it requires multiple levels of involvement from the local film office. Oahu is the hub of Hawaii's production industry and virtually all of the filming requests that shoot on Oahu interact with the Honolulu Film Office, who greets them with Aloha and guides each one so they can have a successful shoot that meshes well with the needs of production and the needs of the community.

Having worked with many film offices in the US, across Europe and Asia, Honolulu's film office is an excellent example of what a great film office should be. While representing the Aloha spirit of Hawaii, it is very efficient and most importantly quick to respond and find answers, solutions and/or resolve issues.

Filming is a creative process, and it can be complicated and fluid. Walea Constantinau and her staff are dedicated professionals who I have been fortunate to have their assistance in finding filming sites, mitigating potential issues, and if need be, problem-solving together, working with production to find equitable solutions.

I know first-hand the economic benefits filming creates in Hawaii. As someone born and raised on Oahu, I am especially supportive of the local employment, providing living wages to many, as well as increasing vendor and business opportunities the industry provides. The industry has benefitted many businesses and individuals but we could not do this without a well run and well respected film office in the hub of Hawaii's film industry.

The Honolulu Film office is a major contributor to how Hawaii is so positively perceived globally as a filming destination. How filming requests are handled, and how problems are solved, is reflected in the reputation of a film office, and Honolulu's film office is very well respected. I would honestly be very concerned if there was no film office. It would make me wonder if we could get the support we needed which would be a big red flag for producers and the studios.

As someone who truly cares about the success of Hawaii's film industry, I am respectfully asking you to please reconsider the proposed cuts to the film office and restore their funding.

Mahalo for your time,



Laura Sode Matteson
Supervising Location Manager
IMDB: NM0559849
lauramatteson@mac.com
818/383-0427



Testimony before the
HONOLULU CITY COUNCIL
COMMITTEE ON BUDGET
Monday, April 1, 2024 (10:00 AM)

RE: BILL 12 (2024)–EXECUTIVE OPERATING BUDGET FOR FY 2025

Aloha Committee Chair Cordero and Committee Members:

Trees for Honolulu's Future (TFHF) is a nonprofit organization with a vision for a tree-filled island that preserves and enhances our quality of life, especially in the face of climate change.

Trees create multiple benefits well documented by research. They create shade and use evapotranspiration to lower temperature. Trees recharge groundwater and decrease surface runoff protecting our reefs. Trees trap pollutants and store CO2. Trees calm traffic. They are critical infrastructure. Numerous jurisdictions, including Honolulu, have recognized this, and are making tremendous progress in greening their cities.

In 2018, the City Council unanimously adopted resolution 18-55 setting a goal of achieving 35% urban tree canopy by 2035. Last year the Council put oomph behind that policy by adding \$700,000 to the FY24 to plant trees. Mahalo! The Administration released the funds and the City's Division of Urban Forestry (DUF) produced a sound plan, with community engagement at its core, to execute the Council's directive. Throughout TFHF has been working with the Department of Parks & Recreation (DPR) to increase the urban tree canopy on O'ahu. This is all good.

Our worry, however, is that sufficient monetary resources are allocated for maintenance of trees. Community can come together to water newly trees in parks and residents who agree to water City-owned and planted street trees adjacent to their properties, yet structural pruning and longer-term care must be provided by either professionals within DPR or outside contractors. This takes money. We urge the Council to ensure that DUF has adequate funding to provide services that result in healthy and safe urban forest. We note that unlike most infrastructure, trees appreciate in value over time, not depreciate. They are, in short, worth the investment. Please ensure adequate funding for maintenance of trees. This is not an area to be "penny wise and pound foolish".

We thank those within DPR and the Administration, along with the Council, for working to make Honolulu a more livable and resilient city.

Aloha,

Daniel Dinell, President

HONOLULU is HOT TREES are COOL

Visit us: www.TreesForHonolulu.org Contact us: info@TreesForHonolulu.org Voice/Fax/Text: 808-707-6353
P.O. Box 12051, Honolulu, Hawaii 96828

The Honorable Radiant Corder, Chair
and members of the Budget Committee
Honolulu City Council
530 South King Street
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Aloha Budget Chair Cordero, Vice-chair Weyer and members of the budget committee:

I have worked in the film industry in the US and Hawaii for over 20 years, five of which have been in Hawai'i on network television series like MAGNUM PI and movies like FINDING OHANA, and am writing in support of the Honolulu Film Office and how important the office is in the process and success of filmmaking on O'ahu.

I have worked in the great cities of Los Angeles, Pittsburgh, Cleveland, Boston, and now Honolulu. The Honolulu Film Office is the most personnel and hands-on that I have experienced. If were not for the organization, direction, and collaboration with your film office, it would be impossible to work together both interdepartmentally, inter-governmentally and with the local communities to successfully mitigate the impact and facilitate the benefits of the film industry.

All cities and locations pose challenges on every level, but those are mostly operational and logistical. The additional layer in Hawaii due to its unique nature, history and make-up of the communities of the Hawaiian Islands requires an additional level of care and attention to detail that the Honolulu Film Office has in spades, which is helping to drive the industry's success here.

It's hard to imagine filming on O'ahu without the film office providing the resources needed to adequately help facilitate filming the business districts, neighborhoods, and rural areas of the island to help navigate the complexities of on location filming or the resources needed to reach out to the larger film community to keep productions coming to Oahu.

It's impressive to see how much care the Honolulu Film Office takes marketing to the industry beyond your shores to ensure that Hawai'i is on their minds as they weigh the pros and cons of their filming options. The film industry is a relationship-oriented business and is very competitive. The producers and executives who make the decisions on where to film have many choices. Your Honolulu Film Office realizes this and acts upon it. Walea at the Honolulu Film Office extends the same personal, hands-on approach she and her team uses in Hawai'i in the marketing efforts of the office in order to keep 'work in the pipeline.'

For all the reasons above, please restore the funding for the office that does so much for so many.

Sincerely,



Kevin Foster
Location Manager
Local 399

The Honorable Radiant Corder, Chair
and members of the Budget Committee
Honolulu City Council
530 South King Street
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Aloha Budget Chair Cordero, Vice-chair Weyer and members of the budget committee:

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For all the reasons above, please restore the funding for the office that does so much for so many.

Sincerely,



Kevin Foster
Location Manager
Local 399

Budget Chair Radiant Cordero
and Members of the Budget Committee
Honolulu City Council
Honolulu Hale
Honolulu, HI 96813

Aloha Chair Cordero, Vice-chair Weyer and members of the Budget Committee:

I am writing in strong opposition to the amendment that would cut the funding for the film office.

I am a key assistant location manager working in the film industry for 8 years. I am born and raised on the island of Oahu and have been lucky enough to stay on island to continue to work. I am also a member of the local Teamster 996 union.

I work closely with the City & County Film Office in permitting for the various filming productions. I have worked in TV shows, movies, as well as helping in smaller productions, each having their own various footprints and unique inquiries. I believe a large part of being able to film on island is due to collaborating with the City's Film Office. In my experience, about 80% of the permits I would usually submit have been processed through the City. I have great confidence in their knowledge and experience. They take the time to meet onsite and facilitate communication to better explain with Park Managers, Community members and Production on the best ways to proceed.

For example, for an upcoming project, we met with the Film Commissioner as well as the Park Manager about potential locations to film. They were able to give us information and recommendations on best areas that may work logistically for the Production as well as for the Parks and the community. We were able to narrow it down to 2-3 solid viable options to present to production. That kind of certainty is important as a large project plans to move forward. Productions have to make plans that end up locking them into a set creative direction so the ability to get the kind of preliminary info we got was so helpful.

The film industry has shown a steady increase in projects coming to the island to film over the last decade, too much for one person to handle. The addition of staff in the last couple of years to assist with the high volume of requests was long overdue. The prospect now of not having any staff due to cuts to the budget is daunting for the industry.

Because of this, I am writing in opposition to the suggested amendment, to reduce the budget of the Honolulu Film Office or require it to be funded federally.

Thank you for your consideration of my comments

Mahalo,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kala Crowell". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Kala Crowell

March 28, 2024

The Honorable Budget Chair Radiant Cordero and
Members of the Budget Committee
Honolulu City Council
Honolulu Hale
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Chair Cordero, Vice-chair Weyer, committee members and council members:

I am testifying in strong opposition to an amendment to Bill 12 that would reduce or eliminate funding for the Honolulu Film Office.

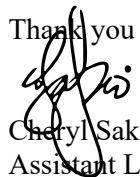
My name is Cheryl Sakai, and I am an Assistant Location Manager and member of Hawaii Teamsters 996. I am proud to say that I was raised in Honolulu and have worked in the production industry for almost two decades, since 2006. My resume consists of a variety of local productions from various commercials, network episodic (CBS's "*Magnum PI*"), non-profit (PBS Hawaii's "*Na Mele*"), and major motion pictures (Disney's "*Lilo and Stitch*"). On every production, I have worked closely with the City & County of Honolulu Film Office, which is helmed by Walea Constantinau.

With the world-wide success of productions like, "*Lost*" and the "*Jurassic Park*" franchise, Hawaii has seen the positive impacts of the production industry. This is possible thanks to the City & County of Honolulu Film Office. From street usage such as a car chase on "*Hawaii 5-0*," to Jason Momoa walking through Heeiea Forest on "*Aquaman 2*," to a rescue scene on a sandy beach on "*Doogie Kamealoha*," the film office facilitates all of these city locations. They are often our first call when conceptualizing a location for filming, and they work closely with us until it is captured on camera. Hawaii has become a sought-after place to film on-location because this film office makes it possible.

On August 25, 2020, our production industry was issued a City and County Emergency Order 2020-25, from Mayor Kirk Caldwell. The order, "defines Film and Television production as an essential activity, and therefor allows this activity to operate." As an essential worker, I was able to return promptly to work in August of 2020 on a streaming feature film for Netflix, titled "*Kate*." One of the first points of contact was the Film Office, as they paved the way for our production to begin collaborating with various city locations for filming. This would not have happened if the film office had not worked with the industry to figure out how to safely return to work... it's a validation of the economic importance the production industry is to the city. And a confirmation of how much we rely on the film office to keep the production wheels turning. Oahu was one of the first places in the country to be able to go back to work and because of that, we attracted series like *Doogie Kamealoha* and others. The film industry spent over \$300 million in our economy at a when we really needed it.

I am not only testifying in strong opposition of Bill 012, but I would like to argue for more funding, for this essential office. Recently, they were able to hire two employees who were able to expertly execute our requests while thinking of the needs of the public. The film office serves both the people of Honolulu and the film industry. We need this essential office to be able to do our work.

Thank you for your consideration,



Cheryl Sakai
Assistant Location Manager

The Honorable Radiant Cordero, Budget Chair
and members of the Committee
Honolulu City Council
530 South King Street
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Aloha Budget Chair Cordero, Vice-chair Weyer and members of the budget committee:

My name is Karla Noa. I work in the film industry, primarily in the Locations Dept and it has provided me the opportunity to collaborate and work directly with, and learn from the staff at the Honolulu film office and Walea Constantinau as I develop my craft. The office has facilitated my growth, helping me build more depth and knowledge and that has transformed my career to be able to take position of greater authority in a very short period of time.

I am writing to oppose the funding cuts proposed for the Honolulu Film Office. This office has helped production significantly and me personally as I pursue a career in film. They helped me to establish and develop business connections with agencies and industry professionals, taught me about stewardship and how to build relationships that helps a film project become a contributor to our local communities and organizations.

The Honolulu Film Office has assisted production including myself not just with permitting but also to connect and develop relationships with organizations, agencies, and professionals that are sustaining for the future of film in Hawaii. I've learned through Walea that I can develop relationships that are founded upon collaboration between entities and can transform communities through contribution. It is the reason production can be a contributing factor in a community and we minimize the impact we may cause in an area during filming.

The Honolulu Film Office and its staff has worked tremendously hard in connecting community leaders and organizations to develop mutually beneficial relationships with production and film to ensure a successful film shoot. It is this same ability to build connections that Walea and the film office uses to nurture long-lasting and influential relationships with the executive level of the film industry at the studios and senior producer levels. This is a relationship-oriented business and the Honolulu Film Office understands this and operates with Aloha each day to help our industry grow, and that is good for everyone.

Respectfully, I am requesting that you restore funding to the Honolulu Film Office.

It will be extremely detrimental to the industry to cut the funding of the Honolulu Film Office because would negatively affect our future as local filmmakers.

Mahalo,



Karla Noa
Key Assistant Location Manager / Coordinator
Local 996

Aloha,

My name is Rita Wilcox and I strongly urge you to support Bill 12 and the purchase of plastic tiles for the outdoor hockey rink at Kaoma'aiku Neighborhood Park. The following best describes how this purchase would significantly enhance the safety and quality of the sport of hockey that my children and I love playing here on the beautiful island of Oahu.

First, as a parent of two hockey players and a player myself, I am constantly looking out for the safety of any activity that we commit ourselves to. The purchase of tile for this rink would greatly benefit both players and goalies alike. For my daughter and myself, we skate out and play both offense and defense, and my son plays goalie or "in net". The upgrade to tile would allow all who skate to avoid mishaps caused by the seams in the cement of the rink surface. There is a major seam that runs through the mid-section of the rink. I myself have gotten my wheels caught in this on multiple occasions and have met with the concrete in uncoordinated and ungraceful falls, luckily without serious incident until now. My daughter has had collisions with others on account of someone getting wheels caught and has skinned up her knees when the surface has grabbed her leg pads and exposed her knees. My son, who is a committed goaltender, has had his rollerflys and pads caught when trying to slide across the crease to defend the net and has had his hips twisted and jolted quite badly as a result of this crease. Falls and purposeful moves by goalies would not be as hard with the tile surface and would keep all safer while enjoying this great sport.

This brings me to my second reason for the tile upgrade. The cement is very hard on the lifespan of the equipment needed: protective gear, wheels, pucks, and sticks used to play the sport. Families like mine are constantly having to purchase wheels at an alarming rate because they wear so quickly on the surface. Sticks are worn thin and protective wraps, tape, and sticks or stick blades need to be replaced constantly. Even gloves and other gear do not meet without major wear and tear from contact with the abrasive cement. Since there are no equipment stores that supply hockey needs here on the island, families are forced to purchase online from the mainland and pay for shipping which can add up quickly. For families trying to have a safe and positive outlet for their children and themselves this becomes quite a financial burden. With the upgrade of the surface to tile, many families would spend less and enjoy their time at the rink knowing that they have a safe and positive environment to play in.

Thank you for your time and for considering my perspective and opinion on funding Bill 12 and the purchase of plastic tiles for the hockey rink at Kaoma/aiku Neighborhood Park.

Me ke aloha,

Rita Wilcox

Kapolei

Aloha,

My name is Krisha Watamura, and I am writing in support of Bill 12 and the purchase of plastic tiles for the outdoor hockey rink at Kaoma'aikū Neighborhood Park in Mililani. It would greatly increase the safety of the sport for all those who play outdoor hockey.

My family and I have been a part of the outdoor roller hockey organization, Hawaii In-Line Inc (aka HIHI) for almost a year and it's become an integral part of our every day life. My children play in the league, my husband plays in the league and volunteers to help assist the bench coaches and practices, and I also volunteer every Saturday to scorekeep for the games. In fact, most families that participate in HIHI also offer up their personal time to help assist in various ways - many of them volunteer to ref, some volunteer to help the young keiki learn to skate (which is a free program offered through HIHI), some volunteer to scorekeep alongside myself, some volunteer by assisting coaches with practices. It has become an Ohana to us.

The plastic tiles would be extremely beneficial to the outdoor hockey program, in terms of safety and retention of gear and equipment. Currently, the players are skating on a concrete pad that was laid several decades ago - and while it's held up over time, there are still creases and imperfections that can cause players to trip and fall. Falling on the concrete slab is not pleasant, at all. All of the players are always geared up to the fullest - helmets, shin-guards, elbow guards, gloves, etc, but it still doesn't stop the pain that comes from slamming into solid ground. My son has broken his wrist and my husband got a small concussion from playing hockey on this pad; both are healed and continue to play because they love this sport, and they love this organization. If we had the plastic tiles installed at the outdoor rink, the skating would be so much smoother and the falls would be less traumatic, especially for our keiki who are just learning how to skate and play the game.

Not only does HIHI organize the outdoor rec league at this park, but they also organize teams for travel tournaments. Almost, if not all, of the rinks that they travel to for these tournaments have rinks comprised of these plastic tiles, and it would be wonderful if our local teams could have the same foundation laid out for them as other teams across the country. These kids give 1000% to these games and often bring back trophies (and bragging rights) to Oahu. Many people underestimate the kids from Hawaii because not many people associate Hawaii with hockey (roller or ice), and with hard work and dedication - and the right training facility - I know this organization could create a big name for themselves in the hockey world.

Another benefit of these tiles would be the retention of hockey gear and equipment for the players. Hockey gear is extremely expensive, and living in Hawaii with very few sport equipment resources, we often have to rely on our gear coming from the Mainland and hefty shipping expenses right along with it. With the rink in it's current state with the concrete pad, my family and I are constantly going through gear. The skate wheels need to be changed

constantly - the rubber does not hold up well against the harsh surface - and the skates are also getting worn down quickly. We are going through hockey blade protectors all the time. The blades of hockey sticks are not meant for cement, so in order to protect them, we have to buy blade protectors and they only last a few weeks, at best. Player clothing/jerseys get torn, shin-guards get worn down from falling/sliding constantly...it's a battle just to keep ourselves fully equipped. The tiles would be such a blessing just for finances alone. The sport of hockey is not cheap, so anywhere we can find to save money would be amazing!

Mahalo for your time and considering my thoughts and opinions on this matter. If this passed, it would benefit so many families and keiki, not just in Mililani but across Oahu.

Thank you,

The Watamura Family

Aloha,

My name is [Your Name], and I urge you to support Bill 12 and the purchase of plastic tiles for the outdoor hockey rink at Kaomaaik Neighborhood Park. This purchase would significantly enhance the safety and quality of the sport of hockey that I love playing.

Thank you for considering my perspective and opinion.

Me ke aloha,

[Your Name]

[City]

Aloha,

My name is Liliane Wilcox, and I urge you to support Bill 12 and the purchase of plastic tiles for the outdoor hockey rink at Kaomaaikū Neighborhood Park. We, as a hockey community, want to feel safe when we play and plastic tiles are a great start. Not only do tiles help with the safety aspect of playing but they also would help with the field of play.

My first point will be about safety, the safety of myself and others. Being a part of the youth category I know that when I play I don't want to go home all hurt and busted up from falling on the concrete asphalt that we have. Tiles would make it possible so that me and others don't have to go home in a rough shape. After all, we as a hockey community just want to have a good time playing our sport. Tiles would ensure a much more graceful fall that would still hurt but not as much as getting your knees and whole body cut up from sliding across the concrete that we have. Yes, we do have gear but when we fall our gear shifts to different sides of our legs and arms and also shreds down our gear making the next fall even more likely to be worse than the last.

Coming to my second reason for why tiles would be a great improvement for us in Kaomaaikū Neighborhood Park is that tiles would make playing a lot more fun and easier to skate. You see we have a crease that runs down the middle of our rink. As well as smaller creases that branch off from the crease in the middle, and while skating I know that a lot of us hockey players get our wheels stuck in this crease that sometimes causes us to trip a little or completely fall onto the floor. Getting tiles would help with a much smoother gameplay and overall much more fun experience than tripping over a divot in the middle of our rink that is risking our health and safety.

Not only would having tiles be amazing but it would be a good combination with Bill 13, where we want to install a roof and lights. Adding a roof would protect the tiles from any damage and also would be a great safety measure.

As I've said I'm concerned for the safety of myself and others. Tiles would be very very helpful and amazing to have here at Kaomaaikū Neighborhood Park. As a youth player that has been playing hockey for as long as I can remember, I wanna feel safe playing hockey, and I'm sure everyone else does, plus we all just want to have a good time doing the things we love to do.

Thank you for considering my perspective and opinion. I hope you take into consideration that tiles would be a big help to our community and would make us youth, and adults very happy.

Me ke aloha,

Liliane Wilcox :)

Kapolei

To Chair Radiant Cordeiro and Budget Committee,

My name is Aaron Tominaga and my wife Lisa Tominaga and I are in strong support for the passing of Bill 12 and 13 which secures and allocates funds for the purchasing of plastic tiles for the outdoor hockey rink at Kaoma'aikū Neighborhood Park and for the funding of the planning, designing, construction, inspecting, and providing equipment for a sustainable and resilient covering and lighting for the outdoor inline hockey facility at Kaoma'aikū Neighborhood Park in Mililani.

Lisa and I are not just parents to one of the athletes that participates in the Hawaii In-Line Hockey league, we are also adamant advocates for all activities which positively impacts the lives of our youth and our community. Lisa has been an Assistant Principal at Kanoelani Elementary for the past 6 years and was also the 2009 Counselor of the Year for the state of Hawaii. I have been principal at Waipahu Elementary School for the past 6 years and was also recognized as the National Distinguished Principal for our state 2022. We have both been a part of and have championed many worthy causes and initiatives and strongly believe that supporting the Hawaii In-line Hockey organization's goal in providing an adequate and safe environment for practices and games is no exception.

The funding would allow the installation of practice tiles and a covering which would alleviate the detrimental impact of inclement weather which creates an extremely unsafe environment for practices and games for all participants. This is especially true considering the unique challenge of playing on skates.

More importantly, this organization has had an overall positive impact and influence on our son. In a short period of time, our 11 year old son has come to love this sport. Participating has improved his self confidence and we have seen an overall positive improvement in our son's physical fitness. Although our son has participated in other sports such as Soccer, Wrestling, and Football, In-Line Hockey is something that he has really taken a liking to. Because the outdoor hockey facility is continually subjugated to adverse weather, practices and games have been often postponed and/or canceled. This limitation on court availability has had an overall negative impact on his development as a participant in this sport.

The coaching and support staff are all outstanding in how they support all skill levels as they are patient, professional, and are easy to communicate with. We are confident that with more exposure and just like our son, more will come to enjoy this sport.

Unfortunately, as support and interest from the community continues to increase, not having an adequate and safe facility for practices and games may hinder the growth in allowing others to safely enjoy this sport. I urge you to strongly consider funding and the execution of the funds to complete all projects connected to the outdoor hockey facility.

Respectfully Submitted,

Aaron and Lisa Tominaga



IATSE Local 665 HAWAII'S TECHNICIANS

for
FILM, TELEVISION, STAGE AND PROJECTION
Since 1937



INTERNATIONAL ALLIANCE OF THEATRICAL STAGE EMPLOYEES, MOVING PICTURE TECHNICIANS, ARTISTS AND ALLIED CRAFTS
OF THE UNITED STATES, ITS TERRITORIES AND CANADA, AFL-CIO, CLC

April 1, 2024

Budget Chair Radiant Cordero
and Members of the Budget Committee

HEARING: Budget Committee - Mon., 04/01/24 at 10:00 AM
RE: BILL 12: Relating To the Executive Operating Budget
Testifying in opposition to proposed cuts to the Honolulu Film Office

Aloha Budget Chair Cordero, Vice-chair Weyer, members of the committee and the Honolulu City Council -

My name is Irish Barber, and I am the Business Representative and head of IATSE Local 665. Our local represents over 800 members who work behind-the-scenes and backstage on feature films, television shows, concerts and conventions across all of the Hawaiian Islands.

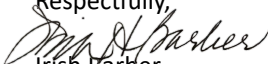
I am writing in strong opposition to the proposed cuts to the Honolulu Film Office.

I have worked in the film industry for nearly 40 years and have worn many hats. I have worked as a Locations Manager, Production Supervisor and Transportation Coordinator on many Feature films, TV series and commercials. In all of these positions, including my current position at IATSE Local 665, I have had the pleasure to work directly with Honolulu Film Office, it's office director Walea Constantinau and the staff in various capacities at various times through my career. **In short, as an industry, we need this office.** Just like the construction industry needs a building department, the film industry needs a film office to market, liaise and facilitate.

There are few government employees who truly understands our business and work as hard for our industry as the Honolulu Film Office staff does. Walea is often the first person a producer calls when considering a film project for Oahu, and **she and her staff do the utmost to ensure the film comes to Hawai'i.** They attend numerous film events to promote filming in Hawai'i and build valuable relationships with industry executives to bring work to our islands. Once here, Walea and her seasoned and knowledgeable staff work day-to-day with multiple city and production departments to ensure the filming is a success for everyone.

The Honolulu Film Office is an important liaison between the industry, the City and the community. She has a very hands-on leadership style. I have seen Walea and her staff on set at 5am to lead the road closure briefing with Production and HPD, late at night in a neighborhood to ensure a simulated house-burning scene goes smoothly and on weekends to help an independent film about the 442nd Battalion get the footage needed for the ending of the film. **It is this attention to the details and hands-on approach that keeps neighborhoods happy and productions coming back.**

This long-standing office, founded more than 30 years ago, deserves your full funding support. Respectfully, please do not cut the funding for an office that is making a difference in growing our economy, creating jobs and doing so with great humility and respect for Hawai'i.

Respectfully,

Irish Barber

Business Representative, Local 665

Budget Chair Radiant Cordero
& members of the committee
Honolulu City Council
530 South King Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

Aloha nui Chair Cordero, Vice-chair Weyer and members of the committee:

My name is John Davis and I am a location professional, having worked on many films and television projects for more than a decade including the remake of Magnum PI, NCIS: Hawai'i and a new Warner Bros series currently filming on Oahu. Having worked in the Production Industry in Hawai'i for the last 12 years, I've seen first-hand the crucial role that the knowledgeable staff of the Honolulu Film office plays in our industry. Its why I found it so unbelievable to hear that their funding was in question.

The film office is the liaison for every size and scope of project that shoots on Oahu - from a smaller local commercial to a network television show, or a blockbuster feature film - the film office has consistently been so helpful and an absolutely necessary intermediary between the production company, the location department and multiple city agencies. In addition, their dedication to community outreach, with us and on behalf of us, has helped both production and the community tremendously. Our interaction with the film office has helped us work smoothly and successfully with everything from action scenes with actors jumping from one rooftop to another Downtown, to scenes with a couple walking in a neighborhood, to a scene with actors stuck in an airplane in the jungle.

Many local people have been able to build a career out of Hawaii's industry and have not had to leave and go work on the mainland. The film industry pays a livable wage, allowing locals to remain in the islands where their hearts and families are. The good work the Honolulu Film Office does -- whether it's helping to attract a production to come here, being with us on the street during road closures or working with us and the community -- they help us make it happen. They are a key factor in making it possible to film here.

Hawai'i is a desirable location to film in the world but it takes a lot of work to make it all work. Support of the film office is essential to our business. Let's please remember all of this and not cut the funding for the film office.

Mahalo piha,

John Davis IV
Key Assistant Location Manager

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'JD IV', with a long horizontal line extending to the left.

Olin Kealoha Lagon

2950 Laelae Way Honolulu 96819 • olin.lagon@gmail.com • 808.351.9784

Honolulu City Council Members
530 S King St # 202, Honolulu, HI 96813

March 31, 2024

Aloha mai e nā Honorable Council Members,

Approving the Office of Economic Revitalization's (OER) proposed budget is a vital investment in essential and sensible programs aimed at fostering fair economic growth within our County. A mere glance at the latest Alice report underscores the urgency of achieving equitable economic development. For instance, 75% of kanaka 'ōiwi 'ohana live below the Alice poverty threshold. 75%! Recent findings have highlighted Honolulu not only as the most unaffordable major U.S. city but also as the world's fourth least affordable, trailing only Hong Kong, Sydney, and Vancouver.

The OER has delivered on their mission for our County over the past few years, such as how it managed its groundbreaking efforts to channel nearly \$400 million in pandemic relief funds. As the OER concludes these initiatives, it is embarking on new programs aimed at continuing the creation of much-needed good jobs, including:

1. A new grants contractor to target much needed federal co-funding
2. The Small Business Loan Initiative (HUD CDBG Section 108 funded)
3. Incubator and Accelerator funding
4. Digital Equity projects
5. The Oahu Business Connector (OBC) designed to accelerate Inclusive Entrepreneurship

I end with a personal story of just how important City funding is to foster equitable economic development. I co-founded the Purple Mai'a Foundation (PMF) a decade ago. At that time, computer science education was not equitable. Just three public high schools offered more than introductory courses. We kicked off PMF with City workforce funding that we used to hire our first employee. Since then, we've evolved into a diverse organization investing over \$4 million annually in STEM education, STEM workforce development, and entrepreneurial capacity building. For instance, our workforce development program has graduated eight cohorts with average starting salaries of \$88,500. Last month, without our solicitation, a continental donor gifted us \$2,000,000 to expand what we do here for more of our residents. City support was absolutely vital in facilitating the launch of Purple Mai'a during our formative years.

Mahalo a nui a me ke aloha pumehana,



Olin Kealoha Lagon

Chair, Economic Revitalization Commission & Serial Social Entrepreneur

My name is Katie Petronio, the hockey community knows me as 'Boo', I was born and raised in Mililani and my family was one of the original plank holders of Mililani Inline Hockey Association (MIHA). I moved to the mainland when I was 14, was recruited to play on an elite Tier 1 Women's U19 team which competed internationally prior to being recruited to play hockey at Bowdoin College in Maine. I am a LtCol in the USMC working at Camp Smith, yet I know I owe much of my life success to MIHA and the amazing community of hockey players who devoted every afternoon to linking up at 10 acres and training till the lights came on....and we loved it.

Lately we have been posting old MIHA team photos on facebook and it dawned on me that we are all very successful and respectable members of society. At first, I thought that was coincidence but no, it's not. We have become Professors, nurses, business owners, firefighters, teachers, work in corporate and a respectable amount of Civil Servants and DoD members. This is not be accident, see the same characteristics and traits you learn in team sports, are the same skills you need to be successful in the business sector; team work, unselfishness, resilience, commitment, overcoming adversity, reliability, mental and physical toughness. Its more than a game, it's a road map to character development that will ensure your success in life, and our youth need to experience this.

I am fortunate to have been born in the 80's prior to cell phones, IPADs, free play video games as our youth better reflect zombie than the next great generation. In 2022, DoD conducted a study on military aged youth and found that 77% of our population is not qualified to serve with out waivers for their poor physical fitness, drug use and mental health waivers. That's beyond concerning, we need to get our youth out of the house, away from devices and focused on healthy habits such as team sports that are affordable and accessible. Prior to HIHI standing up, there were two program on island, both were costly and both presented limited court time; one day of practice and one day of games a weekend. Youth looking for additional skate time had to pay \$15 (both parents and kids) which quickly adds up to 50-100\$ a week. This created an economic barrier for some families who could not afford extra access. In addition, with dual working families, the windows for available skate time were not conducive to those who work later in the evening or in town.

Once HIHI was established, we immediately saw an increase in youth and adult participation outside of their scheduled practice hours because the court is open and FREE to the public and not run on strict operating hours. Its evident that our youth skill base has grown tremendously because they have drastically increased their court time. With that said, the rink surface presents another set of challenges, due to the rough finish, players are wearing out their wheels, shin pads, sticks and pants/shorts during falls driving up the sustainability/cost per player. While the season is very low cost, the course surface of the rink demands frequent wheel and stick replacements in addition to shorts. Players to often get large scrapes on their sides when they fall resulting in a reasonable amount of tears and timid players. Tiles would

greatly reduce the rate of equipment replacement and allow for fast practices with the correct puck while easing the pain of impact. This is an imperative upgrade if we want to create an environment where the youth and adult players can compete overseas.

The Math is pretty simple, we can invest in rink improvements that will promote healthy activity for players of all ages, create community engagements, and develop youth sports that are affordable and accessible or we can miss this opportunity and invest 10 years down the line on drug rehabilitation, homelessness, mental health issues, unemployment, suicide, obesity, etc.

Hawaiian Isle Productions Inc
2340 Hoalu Place • Honolulu, HI 96822

Chair Radient Cordero and
Members of the Budget Committee
Honolulu City Council
Honolulu Hale
Honolulu, HI 96813

Aloha Budget Chair Cordero, Vice-chair Weyer and members of the committee:

I am testifying in strong support of restoring the funding for the Honolulu Film Office.

I am local Location Manager who for more than 25+ years has worked on big budget feature films like PEARL HARBOR, television series like LOST and the new HAWAII FIVE-0; and countless Hallmark movies and commercials. When I heard there were proposed cuts to the film office, I was in disbelief. They work so diligently and are really good at what they do. Our success as an industry is due in large part to the knowledge and understating of how to work collaboratively with the industry.

Frankly, I just can't see how we can have an industry here in Honolulu without it. It would be like expecting the Honolulu Marathon or parades to be coordinated and permitted without a Street Usage Office.

The film industry is often like trying to fit a square peg in a round hole... we routinely ask for unusual things, and we as an industry rely on the film office's expertise to figure out how to make our logistically and creatively complex requests work for our shows and the community, and do it in the quick turnaround timeframes that the industry demands.

In addition, we often work hand-in-glove with the film office to attract projects, working closely together at the early stages of development to put Hawaii's best foot forward when a studio or streamer is trying to decide where they will shoot their film. Be it gathering visual data or solving creative challenges that address their needs to bring the work into town, the film office has become an invaluable partner.

Based on my strong first-hand knowledge of what the office does, I respectfully request the restoration of the funding so that the Honolulu Film Office can continue to do its invaluable work that helps our industry thrive.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'James Triplett', with a stylized flourish at the end.

James Triplett, Location Manager