

RES24-062
Testimony

MISC. COMM. 160

COUNCIL

COUNCIL Meeting

Meeting Date: Apr 17, 2024 @ 10:00 AM

Support: 10

Oppose: 0

I wish to comment: 0

Name: Tri Bourne	Email: tribourne@gmail.com	Zip: 96825
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 12, 2024 @ 05:25 AM
Testimony: Aloha, My name is Tri Bourne. I was born and raised on Oahu, and I was fortunate enough to be raised around the Great Volleyball community in Hawaii who helped set the foundation for me to become a world-class Beach Volleyball player and Olympian. I wanted to submit my written testimony and support of building more Beach Volleyball courts for the Hawaiian community. I have a unique perspective in that Volleyball has been a major driving force in my life and my career. Over the last two decades, I have been traveling the world, and seeing how the Volleyball community in Hawaii stands out amongst the rest of the volleyball communities around the world. Hawaii volleyball is truly unique and we easily have one of the greatest wells of knowledge, skill, and passion for the sport. Volleyball is truly a sport of the people Hawaii. I personally would not be where I am today if I did not have access to the private courts at the Outrigger Canoe club. There is simply not enough access for the Hawaii community to realistically go out and play without fighting for the small amount of space at Queen Beach, where you would have to set up your own net system. Volleyball is growing hugely in the US and globally. Especially at the collegiate level where our youth athletes can get scholarships and further their education. So allowing our community and more importantly, the youth more opportunities to play is extremely important. We need people who don't have access to the private courts at Outrigger Canoe club to have equal opportunity to play. The sport is an amazing representation of Hawaii and its people. Spending time together, being active and in nature, is a large part of our DNA as a community. I support building more sand courts! I will personally use the courts to share my love and knowledge of the sport with our community. Please feel free to reach out if you need anything else from me. Aloha, Tri Bourne		
Name: Troy Palencia	Email: troy.palencia@gmail.com	Zip: 96730
Representing: Team Hawaii Beach	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 15, 2024 @ 12:59 PM
Testimony: Our organization is highly involved with the youth and adult Beach Volleyball community.. Due to the shortage of large enough beaches there is an urgent need to build more sandvolleyball, courts in city parks for all to enjoy. Mahalo, Troy Palencia		
Name: Elmer Kaai	Email: elmerk@hawaii.edu	Zip: 96822
Representing: University of HawaiË»i at Manoa	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 15, 2024 @ 02:07 PM
Name: Craig Inaba	Email: hawaiiiboy65@yahoo.com	Zip: 96822
Representing:	Position:	Submitted:

Self	Support	Apr 15, 2024 @ 04:34 PM
Testimony: Beach volleyball is the fastest growing collegiate girl's sport. By building a community training center for beach volleyball, you will give hawaii girls a greater chance to develop their skills and improve their chances of getting college scholarships. Beach volleyball should be a sport where hawaii kids excel. Building community courts is exactly what they need to do so.		
Name: Sherry & Kevin Wong	Email: spikeandserve1@gmail.com	Zip: 96816
Representing: Spike and Serve Volleyball	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 15, 2024 @ 06:41 PM
Testimony: Aloha City Council, Since 2011, after my husband retired from his professional career, we began giving back to the community by providing positive coaching and mentoring, hosting Hawaii's top beach tournaments and other community-minded endeavors for beach and indoor volleyball. It is our greatest joy to help keiki chase their dreams and achieve their goals. We support building more beach courts in different communities on O'ahu. This has the potential to make a positive impact in so many ways with equal accessibility for all. Mahalo for your time, and thank you for all you do. Sincerely, Sherry and Kevin Wong www.spikeandserve.com		
Name: Michael Lau	Email: mikelau61@gmail.com	Zip: 96814
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 15, 2024 @ 08:01 PM
Testimony: With the growth of Beach/Sand Volleyball from our own Hawaii Beach Volleyball Team and the start up of High School Beach /Sand Volleyball starting their inaugural year now, I feel that constructing more sand courts in City and County Parks will enhance the growing interest of this sport. Let alone that Hawaii is known for it's beautiful sandy beaches, what a great tourism piece this would be to have an island/state filled with more Sand Courts not only for the locals but visiting tourist to appreciate and be of public use.		
Name: Kahala Kabalis Hoke	Email: kahala.kabalishoke@chaminade.edu	Zip: 96734
Representing: Chaminade University Women's Beach Volleyball	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 16, 2024 @ 09:37 PM
Testimony: Aloha! My name is Kahala Kabalis Hoke, Head Coach for Women's Beach Volleyball at Chaminade University and I am testifying today in support of RES24-062 for the construction of additional beach courts in city parks. This year Chaminade University and Hawaii Pacific University participating in its inaugural year of Beach Volleyball. The sport is growing tremendously in popularity throughout the country and the love is growing here in Hawaii. Our programs currently award limited scholarship due to its infancy, however in the coming years I can see our budgets increasing and more athletic scholarship opportunities to play beach volleyball as a means to help pay for college. In addition to the scholarship incentives beach volleyball can provide locally, colleges throughout the nation are now adding beach volleyball or looking to add in the near future with scholarship opportunities for our up and coming youth beach volleyball players. Regarding court time... for both locals and our college athletes, court time is very limited for practices, matches, or free play. There is a very long wait at Ala Moana for court time, and to get a court at Queen's beach you need to be there before the sun comes up to get your "first come first serve" court grab. It would be wonderful to have additional courts on island to be able to practice, free play, have potential matches, and enjoy the game with the community. Thank you for this opportunity to testify. Kahala Kabalis Hoke, Chaminade University Beach Volleyball		

Name: Daniel Alvarez	Email: kuniagym@gmail.com	Zip: 96913
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 17, 2024 @ 05:31 AM
Testimony: Honolulu's City Council, I urge you to consider the installation of beach volleyball courts in our city parks. Beach volleyball is not only the fastest-growing sport in NCAA history but also perfectly suited to Hawaii's year-round favorable weather. With ample space available in most parks, these courts wouldn't detract from other sports but rather enhance our recreational offerings. Additionally, beach volleyball is a lifelong sport accessible to athletes of all ages. Investing in these courts would promote healthy, active lifestyles for our community. Thank you for your consideration.		
Name: Kawika Shoji	Email: kawikashoji@gmail.com	Zip: 96822
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 17, 2024 @ 09:43 AM
Testimony: Dear City Council Members, Volleyball is a part of our Sports DNA in Hawaii. Let's build more sand courts and make the sport (and exercise in general) more accessible for everyone in our state. This is a no brainer, one that will facilitate positive outcomes for kids and adults in the athletic, academic, social, and health realms for many generations to come. Aloha, Kawika Shoji		
Name: Sontaya Fujikake	Email: yayafujikake@yahoo.com	Zip: 96821
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 17, 2024 @ 09:59 AM
Testimony: I urge the city and county to provide more beach/sand volleyball courts.		



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

‘ŌNAEHANA KULANUI O HAWAII

Legislative Testimony

Hō'ike Mana'o I Mua O Ka 'Aha'ōlelo

Testimony Presented Before the
Honolulu City Council
Wednesday, April 17, 2024; 10:00 am
By

Evan Silberstein, JD
Head Coach
University of Hawai'i Women's Beach Volleyball
And

Craig Angelos, JD
Athletic Director,
Office of Intercollegiate Athletics
And

Michael Bruno, PhD
Provost
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

RESOLUTION 24-062 – URGING THE CITY ADMINISTRATION TO CONSTRUCT
ADDITIONAL BEACH/SAND VOLLEYBALL PARKS AT CITY PARKS

Chair Waters, Vice Chair Kia'āina and members of the Honolulu City Council:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony in support of Resolution 24-062. The University of Hawai'i at Mānoa (UH Mānoa) supports this resolution.

UH Manoa greatly appreciates the City Council's time and energy in deliberation of this important matter and urge its passage. As someone that's been absorbed in the sport of beach volleyball over the last 30 years, as a player and in coaching, I have seen the growth of volleyball in the United States, at all levels, ranging from recreational activities to major sporting events. In Hawai'i, volleyball is not simply another sporting activity, for many, it is the fabric of their lifestyle.

With regards to the sport of beach volleyball, thanks to the visionary efforts by George "Dad" Center and Duke Kahanamoku in 1915, the sport of beach volleyball began. Since that time Hawai'i's beaches have been renowned world over for this sport. More recently, the game has experienced explosive growth in the most unlikely of places, collegiate women. In this arena, the University of Hawai'i has excelled and delivered great pride and success with our results on the sand from Queens Beach all the way to Gulf Shores, Alabama.

Corollary to the collegiate growth of the beach game, we have seen a massive youth movement across the United States and the world over with many countries sending their best to institutions in America to compete in the NCAA. Many states are witnessing

ballooning interest in the game at the club and also at the high school level for over a decade now, such as Arizona, Texas, Colorado, Georgia, Florida and California. However, in Hawai'i, where volleyball is a lifestyle, it has fallen behind in this arena.

While the University of Hawai'i has been a prominent leader in this movement at the collegiate level since the outset of the game in 2011, our local community is lagging behind other states in providing opportunities for our keiki to compete. Limited access to beach/sand volleyball courts is the primary reason for this obstacle. Passing this resolution will be a pivotal and important step forward for O'ahu to provide opportunities for our local community throughout their lifetime to not only learn the basics of the game, but to also go on and seek next level opportunities for college level play and study across the U.S.

Thank you for your favorable consideration of this resolution.