

BILL013(24)
Testimony

MISC. COMM. 167

COUNCIL

COUNCIL Meeting

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

Support: 102

Oppose: 7

I wish to comment: 16

Name: Emily Perry	Email: emily.perry@tpl.org	Zip: 96813
Representing: Trust for Public Land	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 12, 2024 @ 03:35 PM
Name: Luciano Minerbi	Email: lucianominerbi@gmail.com	Zip: 96826
Representing: Self	Position: I wish to comment	Submitted: Apr 15, 2024 @ 09:17 AM
Name: Laura Ruby	Email: lruby@hawaii.edu	Zip: 96826-5002
Representing: Self	Position: I wish to comment	Submitted: Apr 15, 2024 @ 11:01 AM
Name: Janet Rensel	Email: janrensel@gmail.com	Zip: 96826
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Apr 15, 2024 @ 11:31 AM
Name: Adeline Porter	Email: anmp12@gmail.com	Zip: 96826
Representing: Self	Position: I wish to comment	Submitted: Apr 15, 2024 @ 04:09 PM
Name: Denise Antolini	Email: antolinid@gmail.com	Zip: 96712
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 15, 2024 @ 05:02 PM
Testimony: April 17, 2024 Council Meeting Bill 13 - \$500,000 CIP budget addition for North Shore Ocean Safety Center planning and design Aloha Council Chair Waters and Members, I am a resident of Ppkea, Oahu. I am in STRONG SUPPORT of Bill 13, as unanimously supported by the Budget Committee on April 1, 2024, to add \$500,000 to the capital budget for planning and design of the "Ocean Safety First Responder Center - North Shore District." We <i>*desperately need*</i> these new EMS/ambulance services and a relocated/upgraded Lifeguard District Headquarters on the North Shore. Council support for planning and design funding would perfectly align with the <i>*Mayor's initiative*</i> to create such a co-located facility for EMS and Ocean Safety. Over one year ago, on March 15, 2023, HESD Director Dr. Jim Ireland and OSD Chief John Titchen made a presentation to the Sunset Beach Community Association to ask our community to support their initiative for a new co-located EMS-Lifeguard District Station center on the North Shore. The SBCA and community strongly supported the City's initiative, even if the location was still to be determined, and expressed a strong preference for siting the center at Sharks Cove/Ppkea. At the April 1, 2024 Budget Committee hearing, HESD Director Dr. Jim Ireland supported this addition to the Mayors budget. In		

response to Councilmember Weyer asking if he supported the budget request, Dr. Ireland stated "We do, I do." He added: "We know that Ocean Safety's headquarters on the North Shore is not acceptable. . . it's an old house and . . . we decided, and Mayor is very supportive of building a new district headquarters for Ocean Safety." "We know probably within the next three budget cycles we need to fund an ambulance for the North Shore for Sunset Beach, cutting the distance between Kahuku and Waialua." "We thought we could house the facility in the same place . . . with separations to account for different response needs [of EMS and OSD]." "While the site has not been decided yet, we are very supportive." "There's no doubt we need the facility there – we need an ambulance there in that facility." "We are taking to heart what the community has told us overwhelmingly where they want it." "We want a presence there."

We are so grateful for the Mayor and Dr. Ireland's support for this project. Indeed, the need is urgent.

Regarding EMS, the nearest ambulance to Sunset/Ppkea is either Kahuku or Waialua - at least 20-30 minutes away depending on traffic. And if those ambulances are called away, then the response time can be 60 minutes or more. Life hangs in the balance.

Regarding Ocean Safety, the current condition of the "Rock Piles" District 3 (Ka'ena to Kneohe) Ocean Safety Office is absolutely deplorable - and our world class North Shore Lifeguards deserve a new district headquarters that respects and supports their vital role in protecting this very large rural district, our residents, and visitors.

The community support for this proposed center is overwhelming. On December 13, 2023, the Mayor and all Councilmembers received hard copies of a citizen's Petition asking the City to acquire the commercially zoned "Sharks Cove" parcels (next to Foodland) as the ideal location for the new North Shore First Responder Center. In just three weeks, over 5,618 people signed that Petition to you. Currently *over 7400 people* have responded in support of the North Shore First Responder Center!

We humbly ask you to support Bill 13's \$500,000 CIP "add" even if the specific site location remains open - the acquisition and location efforts can continue while this budget for the initial planning phase is put into place.

Please keep this CIP request in the approved "add" list as the budget moves forward.

Mahalo,

Denise Antolini

Name: Kekoa Ramos-Helms	Email: kekoaramoshelmss9@gmail.com	Zip: 96712
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 15, 2024 @ 08:09 PM

Testimony:

Aloha Council Chair Waters and Council Members,

I am a resident of Pupukea.

I am in **STRONG SUPPORT** of the Budget Committee's recommendation to adopt the amendment proposed by Councilmember Weyer to add \$500,000 to the capital budget for planning and design of the Ocean Safety First Responder Center - North Shore District.

We desperately need these EMS/ambulance services and new Lifeguard District Office on the North Shore because it would keep the people in Pupukea, Sunset Beach, and Haleiwa safer.

Mahalo,

Kekoa Ramos-Helms

Name: Hunter Hancock	Email: hancockh96@gmail.com	Zip: 96712
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 15, 2024 @ 08:12 PM

Testimony:
As a resident born and raised on the North Shore I have seen our amazing waterman and service men and women at work and have also seen members of our community lost to the large waves and medical isolation that we have here on the North of Oahu. For that reason I support the First Responder center in my community and see it as far more valuable than another resource for tourists that are causing increased traffic and ruining our roads and over populating our beaches.

Name: Alicia Hill	Email: thehillshouse4@icloud.com	Zip: 96712
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 15, 2024 @ 08:18 PM

Testimony:
I am a resident of Pupukea.

I am in **STRONG SUPPORT** of the Budget Committee's recommendation to adopt the amendment proposed by Councilmember Weyer to add \$500,000 to the capital budget for planning and design of the Ocean Safety First Responder Center - North Shore District.

We desperately need these EMS/ambulance services and new Lifeguard District Office on the North Shore because (add how you and your 'ohana would benefit from co-located EMS/ambulance services and a new Lifeguard District office located at Sharks Cove/Ppkea).

We do not have the infrastructure to sustain a mall. We need this to go through for our First Responders. Being that the hospitals are so far away.. we can benefit with the ambulance services right down the road. Timing is everything to save a life.

Name: Audrey Higbee	Email: Greendolphin@gogtt.net	Zip: 96712
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 15, 2024 @ 08:20 PM

Testimony:
Aloha Council Chair Waters and Council Members,

I am a resident of North Shore, Pupukea.

I am in **STRONG SUPPORT** of the Budget Committee's recommendation to adopt the amendment proposed by Councilmember Weyer to add \$500,000 to the capital budget for planning and design of the Ocean Safety First Responder Center - North Shore District.

We desperately need these EMS/ambulance services and new Lifeguard District Office on the North Shore because we snorkel and swim at Sharks Cove and Three Tables nearly every day. My partner, Dr. Chiboola Malaambo, and I are retired medical professionals. On several occasions we have provided first assistance to people who have injured themselves on the rocks while they have had to wait over 30 minutes for ambulances to arrive. For the health and safety of all those who come to this magnificent area, we know the importance of taking this action to initiate planning and design of the Ocean Safety Center.

Mahalo, Audrey Higbee, MSN and Dr. Chiboola Malaambo

Name: Feora Cadina	Email: feora.cadina@gmail.com	Zip: 96731
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 15, 2024 @ 08:38 PM

Testimony:
Aloha Council Chair Waters and Council Members,

I am a resident Kahuku, Oahu.

I am in **STRONG SUPPORT** of the Budget Committee's recommendation to adopt the amendment proposed by Council member

Weyer to add \$500,000 to the capital budget for planning and design of the Ocean Safety First Responder Center - North Shore District. We desperately need these EMS/ambulance services and new Lifeguard District Office on the North Shore because we deserve to have adequate lifesaving services available for all the residents and visitors that come to the North Shore everyday. The resources are so thin that in an emergency situation, EMS/ambulance are often delayed, with potentially catastrophic repercussions. Having a Ocean Safety First Responder Center at Pupukea just makes sense; it will be an asset, and will ensure that our community is safer. I ask that you please consider the true value in supporting this bill. It not only serves our community but also all of those who visit the North Shore.

Mahalo,
Feora Cadina

Name: Leslie Smith	Email: aloha48hi@gmail.com	Zip: 96744
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 15, 2024 @ 08:51 PM

Testimony:
Aloha Council Chair Waters and Council Members,

I am a resident of Kaneohe and an active volunteer on Oahu, who spends hours each weekend on beaches across the island, to include North Shore beaches of Sharks Cove, Lanikea, Turtle Bay, Elbows, and Kaena Point.

I am in **STRONG SUPPORT** of the Budget Committee's recommendation to adopt the amendment proposed by Councilmember Weyer to add \$500,000 to the capital budget for planning and design of the Ocean Safety First Responder Center - North Shore District.

We desperately need these EMS/ambulance services and new Lifeguard District Office on the North Shore because every weekend I see people who are so excited to be in Hawaii that they disregard common sense, or maybe they think they are stronger than the Moana, but they risk life and I think, even if I'm strong enough to help, what options are next. People respect Hawaiian lifeguards and having a professional center on the North Shore shows the world what Hawaiians stand for.

Mahalo, leslie

Name: Randall Nakamura	Email: rnakamuracontracting@gmail.com	Zip: 96712
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 15, 2024 @ 08:55 PM

Testimony:
Aloha...I was born and raised on Oahu Hawaii in1954...have lived at Waimea Bay for 46 years and have been a witness to the changes of the amount of people that now frequent this specific recreational area...there is a definite and urgent need for a accessible

Name: Jodie Lerner	Email: jodielerner@hawaiiantel.net	Zip: 96712
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 15, 2024 @ 09:03 PM

Testimony:
I support the Budget Committee recommendation for \$500,000 in CIP for the planning and design of the Ocean Safety First Responder Center - North Shore District.

Name: Hanna Readman	Email: hanna.readman@gmail.com	Zip: 96740
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Apr 15, 2024 @ 09:05 PM

Testimony:
Adding a mall in this area will NOT be beneficial to the community. The traffic that persists daily already without the presence of a

shopping mall is awful. Increasing the amount of people incoming into the area even more will make this congestion significantly worse and decrease the quality of life of the local residents who need to commute to work and take their kids to school.

Name: Madeline Anzivino	Email: anzivino@hawaii.edu	Zip: 96712
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 15, 2024 @ 09:08 PM

Testimony:
I support the Budget Committee recommendation for \$500,000 in CIP for the planning and design of the Ocean Safety First Responder Center - North Shore District.
Ocean Safety is the bread and butter of both Hawai'i's tourism AND local community, let's start acting like it and provide the proper facilities needed to execute daily lifesaving duties.

Name: Samson Talboys	Email: samsontalboys21@gmail.com	Zip: 96712
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 15, 2024 @ 09:08 PM

Testimony:
I live only two streets away from the location of the proposed sharks cove first responders center. I fully and undoubtedly support the decision to open a first responders center rather than a shopping center in this location. There is no need for a retail space in this area as Hale'iwa and kahuku/laie are on either side and not a far distance at all. A first responders unit however would increase the safety of everyone around rather than cause more congestion in the surrounding area.

Name: Luna Courtois	Email: lunalei123@gmail.com	Zip: 96712
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 15, 2024 @ 09:11 PM

Testimony:
Please proceed with the ocean safety center!!!! We do not need a mall on the north shore. People come to the north shore to escape the business and crowd of everywhere else in the island. Please don't ruin what north shore is. It's such special place, and people from all over the world see that. Haleiwa and Laie are perfect for whoever wants to get their shopping fix in. Please let sharks cove become an ocean safety center. I believe this will also be the best options since Sharks Cove is one of the more dangerous places year-round, people are always getting hurt at Sharks Cove during the summer and during the winter, having first responders right across the street is going to be very beneficial for the community and the tourist that visit.

Name: Hannah Garcia	Email: hrg@hawaii.edu	Zip: 96816
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 15, 2024 @ 09:11 PM

Testimony:
I support putting a safety center across from sharks cove due to the lack of safety centers in the area. The ocean is very dangerous and at times can put our community in danger at a moments notice. Having a safety center here, closer to the most popular surf spots, would be option that best helps the community and visitors. NS does not need big developments.

Name: Auden Ho	Email: auden.ho@imua.ksbe.edu	Zip: 96762
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Apr 15, 2024 @ 09:16 PM

Testimony:
Aloha Council Chair Waters and Council Members,
I am a resident of La'ie on the north shore of Oahu. I grew up on north shore and it has become a very special place to me. I am in **STRONG SUPPORT** of the Budget Committee's recommendation to adopt the amendment proposed by Councilmember Weyer to add \$500,000 to the capital budget for planning and design of the Ocean Safety First Responder Center - North Shore District. We desperately need these EMS/ambulance services and new Lifeguard District Office on the North Shore because I feel that the

community would greatly benefit from co-located EMS/ambulance services and a new Lifeguard District office located at Sharks Cove/Pūpūkea). This is because of the how dangerous the ocean can get during swells and winter, especially for tourists who have no idea how to deal with that kind of situation or environment. With a mall being added in Ppkea, this would also greatly impact the environment and the ocean in a negative way. More people=more emissions=more pollution. Considering this is RIGHT next to the ocean. As a native Hawaiian, it hurts me to see the land being developed further, especially in this way. Please reconsider putting the funds towards something that could greatly benefit the community.

Mahalo, Auden Ho.

Name: Lucy Mckenzie	Email: lcmckenzie03@gmail.com	Zip: 96822
Representing: Self	Position: I wish to comment	Submitted: Apr 15, 2024 @ 09:19 PM

Testimony:
Support the OCEAN SAFETY budget plans to help the north shore community.

Name: Debbie Brown	Email: Brownbaum@gmail.com	Zip: 96712
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 15, 2024 @ 09:20 PM

Testimony:
Yes for Sharks cove responder center....NO to mall..

Name: Eric Jamieson	Email: ezj414@gmail.com	Zip: 96712
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 15, 2024 @ 09:21 PM

Testimony:
I support the Budget Committee recommendation for \$500,000 in CIP for the planning and design of the Ocean Safety First Responder Center - North Shore District

Name: Taylor Dewey	Email: taylorrdeewey@gmail.com	Zip: 96712
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 15, 2024 @ 09:28 PM

Testimony:
Please please do not support the development of a mall. Rather a center for first responders would be a great addition to the north shore.

Otherwise, please keep the country country. The island has already grown so much and before we know it, there will be no land left.

Name: Charisse Bottomly	Email: charissemd@gmail.com	Zip: 96717
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 15, 2024 @ 09:34 PM

Testimony:
Aloha Council Chair Waters and Council Members,

I am a resident of Hau'ula,

I am in STRONG SUPPORT of the Budget Committee's recommendation to adopt the amendment proposed by Council Member Weyer to add \$500,000 to the capital budget for planning and design of the Ocean Safety First Responder Center - North Shore District.

We desperately need these EMS/ambulance services and new Lifeguard District Office on the North Shore because our 'ohana would really benefit from co-located EMS/ambulance services and a new Lifeguard District office located at Sharks Cove/Ppkea as I work in the medical field and from experience needing emergency medical help myself in the past which is a long distance.

Mahalo,

Charisse Bottomly

Name: Brian Emmons	Email: brimohi@msn.com	Zip: 96712
Representing: Self	Position: I wish to comment	Submitted: Apr 15, 2024 @ 09:35 PM

Testimony:

Aloha Council Chair Waters and Council Members,

I am a resident of Sunset Beach.

I am in STRONG SUPPORT of the Budget Committee's recommendation to adopt the amendment proposed by Councilmember Weyer to add \$500,000 to the capital budget for planning and design of the Ocean Safety First Responder Center - North Shore District.

We desperately need these EMS/ambulance services and new Lifeguard District Office on the North Shore. The present North Shore Lifeguard office is not only inadequate, it is an embarrassment, and an indignity to City employees and the public. Improved ambulance response times for residents AND our MANY visitors, would be a great benefit of co-located EMS/ambulance services and a new Lifeguard District office located at Sharks Cove/Ppkea.

Mahalo, Brian Emmons, Captain, Honolulu Fire Department, retired.

Name: Cobian Dewey	Email: cobiandewey@icloud.com	Zip: 96712
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 15, 2024 @ 09:39 PM

Testimony:

I support the Budget Committee recommendation for \$500,000 in CIP for the planning and design of the Ocean Safety First Responder Center - North Shore District.

Name: Kat Kamalani	Email: katkamalani@gmail.com	Zip: 96713
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 15, 2024 @ 09:44 PM

Testimony:

We do NOT want a shopping center here

Name: Eliza Rossi	Email: elizarossi26@gmail.com	Zip: 96822
Representing:	Position:	Submitted:

Self	Support	Apr 15, 2024 @ 09:46 PM
Testimony: Aloha As a resident of Honolulu, I strongly support the budget committees recommendation to adopt the amendment proposed by council member weyer to add \$500,000 to the capital budget for planning and design of the ocean safety first responder center - north shore. Mahalo		
Name: Ehren Ho	Email: ehrenho42@gmail.com	Zip: 96762
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 15, 2024 @ 09:56 PM
Testimony: "I Ehren Ho support the Budget Committee recommendation for \$500,000 in CIP for the planning and design of the Ocean Safety First Responder Center - North Shore District."		
Name: Mikayla Shrader	Email: mshrader019@gmail.com	Zip: 96791
Representing: Self	Position: I wish to comment	Submitted: Apr 15, 2024 @ 10:00 PM
Testimony: I support the Budget Committee recommendation for \$500,000 in CIP for the planning and design of the Ocean Safety First Responder Center - North Shore District.		
Name: Emily Hancock	Email: emilymichellehalls@gmail.com	Zip: 96712
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 15, 2024 @ 10:22 PM
Testimony: Aloha Council Chair Waters and Council Members, I am a resident of Paumal. I am in STRONG SUPPORT of the Budget Committee's recommendation to adopt the amendment proposed by Councilmember Weyer to add \$500,000 to the capital budget for planning and design of the Ocean Safety First Responder Center - North Shore District. We desperately need these MS/ambulance services and new Lifeguard District Office on the North Shore because we are so isolated from good healthcare and are a very active community, where accidents happen quite often. We don't have the infrastructure to cater to more tourists. The wants and needs of the local community come FIRST. Mahalo, Emily Hancock		
Name: Natasha Dean	Email: natashacdeanking@gmail.com	Zip: 90210
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 15, 2024 @ 10:42 PM
Testimony: I support the Budget Committee recommendation for \$500,000 in CIP for the planning and design of the Ocean Safety First Responder Center - North Shore District		
Name: Sean Cervone	Email: ridenj716@aol.com	Zip: 96712

Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 15, 2024 @ 10:51 PM
Testimony: I am a resident of Haleiwa. I am in STRONG SUPPORT of the Budget Committee's recommendation to adopt the amendment proposed by Councilmember Weyer to add \$500,000 to the capital budget for planning and design of the Ocean Safety First Responder Center - North Shore District. We desperately need these EMS/ambulance services and new Lifeguard District Office on the North Shore because of how highly sought out water based activities (e.g surfing, SCUBA, etc) are in our area. We are very isolated from proper hospital services and response times are crucial to saving the lives of our visitors and residents. If we are to sit back and actually think about the heroism and importance of the North Shore lifeguards it is easy to see how much they deserve the tools they need to do what they do for the public. These are daily heroes and when given the tools they need they are an amazing asset to the safety of the general public. In my option some additional money should be allocated to increasing their wages. In addition, the infrastructure (of the NS) cannot support this area being used for more stores and any "mall" type of setup. It is imperative this money be allocated for the first responder center to maintain the safety of what drives tourism and livelihood to this unique location. Thank you sincerely, Sean Cervone		
Name: Lauren Sussmann	Email: ldsussmann@gmail.com	Zip: 96819
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 15, 2024 @ 11:15 PM
Testimony: I support budget committee recommendation for 500,000\$ in CIP for planning and design of the ocean safety first responder center- north shore district		
Name: Pumehana Rochlen	Email: pumehana-rochlen@gmail.com	Zip: 96825
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Apr 15, 2024 @ 11:28 PM
Testimony: direct funding toward necessary infrastructure		
Name: Gary Gunder	Email: gary@tinroofranch.org	Zip: 96712
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 15, 2024 @ 11:39 PM
Testimony: I support the Budget Committee recommendation for \$500,000 in CIP for the planning and design of the Ocean Safety First Responder Center - North Shore District		
Name: Dave Druz	Email: ddruz@aol.com	Zip: 96712
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 15, 2024 @ 11:44 PM
Testimony:		

I support the Budget Committee recommendation for \$500,000 in CIP for the planning and design of the Ocean Safety First Responder Center - North Shore District.		
Name: Luann Casey	Email: luann@tinroofranch.org	Zip: 96712
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 16, 2024 @ 12:09 AM
Testimony: Aloha Council Chair Waters and Council Members, I am a 30 year resident of the North Shore of Oahu. (Haleiwa) I am in STRONG SUPPORT of the Budget Committee's recommendation to adopt the amendment proposed by Councilmember Weyer to add \$500,000 to the capital budget for planning and design of the Ocean Safety First Responder Center - North Shore District. As a retired Nurse, I have seen firsthand how desperately we need these EMS/ambulance services and new Lifeguard District Office on the North Shore because. Mahalo, Luann Casey RN BSN		
Name: April Figueroa	Email: april.figueroa7@gmail.com	Zip: 96712
Representing: Self	Position: I wish to comment	Submitted: Apr 16, 2024 @ 02:56 AM
Testimony: Provide local residents with jobs that will sustain their families and support the community and tourism industry by providing a safe and secure environment Tourists want a chance to get away, not just shop Profits from shops will not be shared and will drive up the cost of living while only providing minimum wage jobs that will strangle the community and not allow anyone to thrive		
Name: Paige Jordan	Email: paigejordan123@gmail.com	Zip: 96734
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 16, 2024 @ 03:19 AM
Testimony: I support the Budget Committee recommendation for \$500,000 in CIP for the planning and design of the Ocean Safety First Responder Center - North Shore District.		
Name: Megan Bark	Email: meganbark@aol.com	Zip: 96712
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 16, 2024 @ 04:50 AM
Testimony: I support the budget committee recommendation to allocate \$500,000 to first responder facility at Sharks Cove on North Shore.		
Name: Carubie Rodgers	Email: waikiki328@gmail.com	Zip: 96815
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 16, 2024 @ 05:14 AM
Testimony: Stop encouraging the growth of tourism and support the existing local community and more importantly the open wild spaces and		

the coral reefs that work to protect our investments from erosion. There are already too many careless tourists coming and (unintentionally) destroying this space. The government so far has proven incapable of protecting these areas.
I support the Budget Committee recommendation for \$500,000 in CIP for the planning and design of the Ocean Safety First Responder Center - North Shore District.

Name: Erin Hagan	Email: erinhagan@hotmail.com	Zip: 96791
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 16, 2024 @ 06:12 AM

Testimony:
Aloha Council Chair Waters and Council Members,

I am a resident of Waialua.

I am in **STRONG SUPPORT** of the Budget Committee's recommendation to adopt the amendment proposed by Councilmember Weyer to add \$500,000 to the capital budget for planning and design of the Ocean Safety First Responder Center - North Shore District.

We desperately need these EMS/ambulance services and new Lifeguard District Office on the North Shore.

Mahalo,
Erin

Name: Jane Harper	Email: jane.marvista+ehawaii.gov@gmail.com	Zip: 96734
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 16, 2024 @ 06:51 AM

Testimony:
Aloha Council Chair Waters and Council Members,

I am a resident of (which area of Oahu).

I am in **STRONG SUPPORT** of the Budget Committee's recommendation to adopt the amendment proposed by Councilmember Weyer to add \$500,000 to the capital budget for planning and design of the Ocean Safety First Responder Center - North Shore District.

We desperately need these EMS/ambulance services and new Lifeguard District Office on the North Shore because (add how you and your 'ohana would benefit from co-located EMS/ambulance services and a new Lifeguard District office located at Sharks Cove/Ppkea).

Mahalo,
Jane Harper

Name: Sevilla Leuteneker	Email: sevillal@hawaii.edu	Zip: 96730
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 16, 2024 @ 07:10 AM

Testimony:
I support the Budget Committee recommendation for \$500,000 in CIP for planning and design of Ocean Safety First Responder Center- North Shore District

Name: Margaret Murchie	Email: Margaret@margaretm.com	Zip: 96816
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Apr 16, 2024 @ 07:19 AM

Testimony:

Re: Item 2020105. This elaborately designed pedestrian bridge from past administration's plans is not in keeping with the scenic beauty of the Ala Wai. The "planners" have been funded by federal money to keep their "jobs". Now they are asking the public to chip in with \$61,738 million of estimated cost. The proposers, Complete Streets, say that they have had plenty of community outreach but I don't believe that to be true. I doubt if neighboring buildings were polled they would likely be aware of the scale of this proposed design and would prefer something more modest and less expensive. Honolulu has lots of important issues that need our attention. I support a full EIS and "no action" alternative before any decisions are made with specified amount of money only appropriated for full EIS and then less expensive modifications to the bridge idea. I think that the public, as a whole, will be horrified by this complete waste of our money, much like the public outcry on salary raises. I am in support of a bridge but please make this particular, overly designed project in current form go away. Way too much money already spent. Complete Streets Ala Wai is a complete disaster in my opinion.

Name:

Alex Logsdon

Email:

alexlogsdon20@gmail.com

Zip:

96712

Representing:

Self

Position:

Support

Submitted:

Apr 16, 2024 @ 07:26 AM

Testimony:

A emergency response center at sharks cove should be a top priority for the budget this year. We need to prioritize safety for our community and the guests of the island. Please protect and keep the north shore safe.

Name:

Debbie Gowensmith

Email:

debbie_ccn@yahoo.com

Zip:

80210

Representing:

Self

Position:

Support

Submitted:

Apr 16, 2024 @ 07:45 AM

Testimony:

I am a former resident of the 96815 Zip Code and have supported (and continue to support) a North Shore community nonprofit organization as an advisory board member and general kako'o. In that role over the past 20 years, I have had opportunities to interview, survey, talk story with, observe, and follow the news of North Shore community members. With this history in mind, I STRONGLY support the Budget Committee recommendation for \$500,000 in CIP for the planning and design of the Ocean Safety First Responder Center - North Shore District. By approving this funding for a First Responder Center, the Council can show that it understands what the communities of the North Shore want and need. Also, this Center aligns with the North Shore Sustainable Communities Plan, whereas alternative ideas for that space do not. Please allocate this funding for the Ocean Safety First Responder Center on the North Shore. Mahalo.

Name:

Neil Gowensmith

Email:

nilsynils@yahoo.com

Zip:

80210

Representing:

Self

Position:

Support

Submitted:

Apr 16, 2024 @ 07:49 AM

Testimony:

Aloha, I am a former resident of the 96815 Zip Code and have followed and supported North Shore organizations over the past 20 years because of relationships with community members there. Because of this, I strongly support the Budget Committee recommendation for \$500,000 in CIP for the planning and design of the Ocean Safety First Responder Center - North Shore District. Mahalo.

Name:

Carlye Pollack

Email:

carlyepollack@gmail.com

Zip:

96707

Representing:

Self

Position:

Support

Submitted:

Apr 16, 2024 @ 08:05 AM

Testimony:

I support the Budget Committee recommendation for \$500,000 in CIP for the planning and design of the Ocean Safety First Responder Center - North Shore District.

Name:

Faith Fairing

Email:

faithfairing@gmail.com

Zip:

96712

Representing:

Position:

Submitted:

Self	Support	Apr 16, 2024 @ 08:13 AM
Testimony: I strongly support this decision to make sharks cove a first responder place for our community! NO SHOPPING MALL.		
Name: Rachel Morgan	Email: racheljmorgan6@gmail.com	Zip: 96744
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 16, 2024 @ 08:17 AM
Testimony: Aloha Council Chair Waters and Council Members, I am a resident of Kne 'ohe. I am in STRONG SUPPORT of the Budget Committee's recommendation to adopt the amendment proposed by Councilmember Weyer to add \$500,000 to the capital budget for planning and design of the Ocean Safety First Responder Center - North Shore District. We desperately need these EMS/ambulance services and new Lifeguard District Office on the North Shore because as tourism grows on our Island it is critical to keep our locals and visitors safe with updated facilities and infrastructure. North Shore hosts some of the top international surf competitions every year, and the spectators and surfers that travel here have the right to feel safe. Mahalo, Rachel Morgan		
Name: Alana Freitas	Email: alanafreitas3@gmail.com	Zip: 96816
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 16, 2024 @ 08:19 AM
Testimony: Aloha Council Chair Waters and Council Members, I am a resident of Honolulu and I am in STRONG SUPPORT of the Budget Committee's recommendation to adopt the amendment proposed by Councilmember Weyer to add \$500,000 to the capital budget for planning and design of the Ocean Safety First Responder Center - North Shore District. I believe these services will significantly benefit the people living here, which should be the priority when considering what projects to fund. I hope you will consider this in your decision. Mahalo, Alana Freitas		
Name: Kaitlyn Ehlers	Email: ehlers.kaitlyn@gmail.com	Zip: 96822
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 16, 2024 @ 08:27 AM
Testimony: Support		
Name: Diann Lynn	Email: dklynn2@comcast.net	Zip: 96826
Representing: Self	Position: I wish to comment	Submitted: Apr 16, 2024 @ 08:38 AM
Testimony:		

TESTIMONY PERTAINING TO PROPOSED ALA WAI PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE

16 Apr 2024

I am writing to comment on the proposed Honolulu City Council Bill 13(24) CD1 on the Executive Capital Budget and Program for FY2024-25, specifically with regard to the Ala Wai Bridge funding (item #2020105).

I am a M'ili'ili resident of a condominium located on the Ala Wai Canal, very near the proposed location of the bridge, and would be directly affected by this project in many ways. I have attended numerous meetings pertaining to the concept and design for a pedestrian / bike access bridge between Waikk and the mauka side of the canal over the past several years.

I remain 100% in favor of the proposed, additional (restricted) pedestrian / bike access but have grown to agree with an increasing number of community members that the project has not been adequately and completely vetted, for both community and physical impacts, by the current Draft Environmental Assessment. I feel strongly that the current (in my opinion significantly over-designed) project should be held in abeyance pending a full Environmental Impact Statement, which would more completely examine all (cultural, historic, economic, social, safety, security, transportation, community, etc.) aspects of the design, construction and life-cycle (including maintenance) of such a bridge.

I am aware that there have been a number of cogent, descriptive testimonies already submitted to the City, including by The Outdoor Circle, urban design professionals and others. Some significant effects which I do not feel have been sufficiently addressed include, for example, the City's own land use ordinances and design guidelines regarding historical preservation (including view-plane) effects of a tower bridge. Socially, the impacts on the mauka side park, community gardens, elementary school and parking areas would be significantly and negatively affected by the currently-proposed bridge. Interfaces between this project and other, ongoing ones such as USACE Ala Wai flood control and the City's Complete Streets projects also do not seem to me to have been adequately considered.

While I personally strongly favor a low-profile bridge that would have minimal impact on the communities on both sides of the canal, I agree that a "no action" alternative should also be included in the more comprehensive review.

Regardless of any FONSI that might possibly result from the current Draft EA, I urge the Council to use the current budget opportunity to fund a full EIS to completely vet the project, instead of proceeding apace with the design and construction as currently planned.

Name: ANN MISURA	Email: MISURA@HAWAII.RR.COM	Zip: 96712
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 16, 2024 @ 08:40 AM

Testimony:

I support the Budget Committee recommendation for \$500,000 in CIP for the planning and design of the Ocean Safety First Responder Center - North Shore District.

Name: Paul Misura	Email: MISURA@HAWAII.RR.COM	Zip: 96712
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 16, 2024 @ 08:42 AM

Testimony:

I support the Budget Committee recommendation for \$500,000 in CIP for the planning and design of the Ocean Safety First Responder Center - North Shore District.

Name: Joe Wilson	Email: qwavesjoe@yahoo.com	Zip: 96712
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 16, 2024 @ 09:18 AM

Name: Bianca isaki	Email: BIANCA@KAHEA.ORG	Zip: 96744
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Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 16, 2024 @ 09:24 AM
Testimony: Aloha Council Chair Waters and Council Members, I am a resident of Kane`ohe. I am in STRONG SUPPORT of the Budget Committee's recommendation to adopt the amendment proposed by Councilmember Weyer to add \$500,000 to the capital budget for planning and design of the Ocean Safety First Responder Center - North Shore District. We desperately need these EMS/ambulance services and new Lifeguard District Office on the North Shore because there's no hospital until Wahiawa and the medical care given there is terrible. Basically we have to drive all the way to Pali momi to get real help when there's an emergency. Mahalo, Bianca Isaki		
Name: Jessica Horin	Email: jessie_horin@hotmail.com	Zip: 96712
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 16, 2024 @ 09:29 AM
Testimony: Aloha Council Chair Waters and Council Members, I am a resident of Sunset Beach, Oahu. I am in STRONG SUPPORT of the Budget Committee's recommendation to adopt the amendment proposed by Councilmember Weyer to add \$500,000 to the capital budget for planning and design of the Ocean Safety First Responder Center - North Shore District. We desperately need these EMS/ambulance services and new Lifeguard District Office on the North Shore because this 7 mile stretch is world famous, thousands of visitors, some of the worlds most dangerous surf - yet there is one road in - limited resources at best.. we have some of the best lifeguards and first responders in the world, we need to provide them modern facilities and support to do their job. It is well overdue and a necessity to keep our community and visitors safe. Mahalo, Jessica Horin		
Name: William Saunders	Email: BRainbow@aol.com	Zip: 96816
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 16, 2024 @ 09:36 AM
Testimony: I support the appropriation for a first responder center across command Highway from Sharks Cove. This is a much-needed facility on the North Shore where lifeguards perform so many courageous rescues of residents and tourists alike. We need quick access to ambulance services all year round, but especially in the winter months when the waves are big and the roads are crowded.		
Name:	Email:	Zip:

Ayesha Liquorish	hakuleihaleiwa@gmail.com	96712
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 16, 2024 @ 09:45 AM
Testimony: It took almost 2 hours for an ambulance to get to my home near sunset beach when I broke my leg. Then they took me to kahuku hospital, said I needed surgery at castle hospital and had to wait another 2 hours for the ambulance again. I decided to put all my seats down and have my husband take me in our minivan instead. The North Shore NEEDS This first responder center at Sharks cove. It will save lives.		
Name: Evan Hodges	Email: evan_hodges@outlook.com	Zip: 96782
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 16, 2024 @ 10:19 AM
Testimony: Hello, my name is Evan Hodges and I am an Ocean Safety Officer for the City and County of Honolulu. I am in STRONG SUPPORT of the Budget Committee's recommendation to adopt the amendment proposed by Councilmember Weyer to add \$500,000 to the capital budget for planning and design of the Ocean Safety First Responder Center - North Shore District. We desperately need these EMS/ambulance services and new Lifeguard District Office on the North Shore. This is an area with the most powerful and dangerous beaches but is relatively remote to most advanced healthcare on the island. Thank you for your time and for reading my testimonial.		
Name: Crysta Tapa	Email: crystaylorphoto@gmail.com	Zip: 96701
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 16, 2024 @ 11:51 AM
Testimony: I support the Budget Committee recommendation for \$500,000 in CIP for the planning and design of the ocean safety first responder center - north shore distruct		
Name: Tyler Watkins	Email: tylerwatkins34@gmail.com	Zip: 96734
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 16, 2024 @ 11:53 AM
Testimony: I support the development of a first responder center for the island over the development of a shopping center.		
Name: Diane Anderson	Email: sundancerealty@hawaii.rr.com	Zip: 96712
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 16, 2024 @ 12:14 PM
Testimony: Aloha, I am a long time resident of Kawailoa on the North Shore of Oahu. I am a senior, a widow and I live alone. I fully support this much needed First Responder Center. I strongly support Councilmember Matt Weyer's request for the \$500,000 in CP funds for the planning and design of the North Shore Ocean First Responder Center. Please vote YES to support this request. Mahalo Nui, Diane Anderson		
Name: Madeline Walsh	Email: maddy.walsh.12@gmail.com	Zip: 96712
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 16, 2024 @ 12:24 PM

Name: Daniela Minerbi	Email: daniela.minerbi@gmail.com	Zip: 96826
Representing: Self	Position: I wish to comment	Submitted: Apr 16, 2024 @ 12:25 PM
Testimony: I thank the City Council for this opportunity. I request the Ala Wai Bridge Project be held in abeyance until a full EIS (Environmental Impact Statement) is completed and amend the appropriation amount to \$500,000 or cost of EIS. Sincerely, Daniela Minerbi Moiiliili resident		
Name: Joan Koff	Email: joankoff@yahoo.com	Zip: 96822
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 16, 2024 @ 12:45 PM
Testimony: I support the Budget Committee recommendation for \$500,000. in CIP for the planning and design of the Ocean Safety First Responder Center-North Shore District. This is a program which offers direct benefit to the community and visitors alike. With miles of scenic yet treacherous shorelines, folks get into trouble. Having first responders and an ambulance sheltered nearby will greatly enhance efforts to provided a safer experience. Also, there are increasing numbers of elderly and very young folks and unknowing on these beaches or on rocky slippery hikes. We can better protect these more vulnerable groups with added emergency presence. The alternative of tourist shops and eateries will not only degrade the area, but add to traffic congestion in this pristine area.		
Name: Richard Lantz	Email: ricklantz12@gmail.com	Zip: 96712
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 16, 2024 @ 12:46 PM
Testimony: Aloha Council Chair Waters and Council Members, I am a resident of Sunset Beach and I am in STRONG SUPPORT of the Budget Committee's recommendation to adopt the amendment proposed by Councilmember Weyer to add \$500,000 to the capital budget for planning and design of the Ocean Safety First Responder Center - North Shore District. We desperately need these EMS/ambulance services and new Lifeguard District Office on the North Shore. We need to invest in infrastructure for safety services. Please support this bill that will serve all island residents and visitors alike. Mahalo		
Name: Emily Bogdanoff	Email: emilybogdanoff@gmail.com	Zip: 96822
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 16, 2024 @ 01:16 PM
Testimony: Aloha Council Chair Waters and Council Members, I am a resident of Honolulu, grew up in the north shore, I am in STRONG SUPPORT of the Budget Committee's recommendation to adopt the amendment proposed by Councilmember Weyer to add \$500,000 to the capital budget for planning and design of the Ocean Safety First Responder Center - North Shore District. We desperately need these EMS/ambulance services and new Lifeguard District Office on the North Shore because (add how you		

and your 'ohana would benefit from co-located EMS/ambulance services and a new Lifeguard District office located at Sharks Cove/Ppkea).

Mahalo,
Emily Bogdanoff

Name: Anne Escobar	Email: anne25elizabeth@gmail.com	Zip: 96712
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 16, 2024 @ 01:20 PM

Testimony:

Aloha Council Chair Waters and Council Members,

I am a resident of Sunset Beach, North Shore Oahu.

I am in STRONG SUPPORT of the Budget Committee's recommendation to adopt the amendment proposed by Councilmember Weyer to add \$500,000 to the capital budget for planning and design of the Ocean Safety First Responder Center - North Shore District.

We desperately need these EMS/ambulance services and new Lifeguard District Office on the North Shore to support our residents and tourism. Ocean safety is a priority in our community for our keiki and families. We are remote and far from Queens, Kapiolani, Straub hospitals in town. We need adequate support for our first responders on the North Shore who save lives in a remote location every day.

Mahalo,
Escobar Ohana

Name: Michelle Matson	Email: MSMatson808@gmail.com	Zip: 96815
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Apr 16, 2024 @ 01:25 PM

Name: Catharine Lo Griffin	Email: catharine.lo@gmail.com	Zip: 96791
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 16, 2024 @ 01:28 PM

Testimony:

I support the Budget Committee recommendation for \$500,000 in CIP for the planning and design of the Ocean Safety First Responder Center - North Shore District.

Name: Gregory Misakian	Email: greg.misakian@sbcglobal.net	Zip: 96815
Representing: Self	Position: I wish to comment	Submitted: Apr 16, 2024 @ 01:45 PM

Name: Brittany Haines	Email: brittanyhaines19@gmail.com	Zip: 96712
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 16, 2024 @ 01:50 PM

Testimony:

I support the budget committee recommendation to go towards the Ocean Safety First Responder Rescue Center - North Shore District.

Name: Hannalore Aiwohi	Email: laiwohi@me.com	Zip: 96712
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Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 16, 2024 @ 01:59 PM
Testimony: I support the Budget Committee recommendation for \$500,000 in CIP for the planning and design of the Ocean Safety First Responder Center - North Shore District.		
Name: ALAN LENNARD	Email: alan.lennard.808@gmail.com	Zip: 96712
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 16, 2024 @ 02:26 PM
Testimony: Aloha Council Chair Waters and Council Members, I am a resident of North Shore of O'ahu. I am in STRONG SUPPORT of the Budget Committee's recommendation to adopt the amendment proposed by Councilmember Weyer to add \$500,000 to the capital budget for planning and design of the Ocean Safety First Responder Center - North Shore District. We desperately need these EMS/ambulance services and new Lifeguard District Office on the North Shore because (add how you and your 'ohana would benefit from co-located EMS/ambulance services and a new Lifeguard District office located at Sharks Cove/Ppkea). Mahalo, Alan Lennard		
Name: Christina Countryman	Email: christinacountryman@hotmail.com	Zip: 96712
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 16, 2024 @ 02:56 PM
Testimony: I support the Budget Committee recommendation for \$500,000 in CIP for the planning and design of the Ocean Safety First Responder Center-North Shore District.		
Name: Crystal Dombrow	Email: crystal.dombrow@gmail.com	Zip: 96817
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 16, 2024 @ 03:05 PM
Testimony: I strongly support the Budget Committee recommendation for \$500,000 in CIP for the planning and design of the Ocean Safety First Responder Center - North Shore District. It's desperately needed as there is no local medical infrastructure to support the world class surf in that region.		
Name: Larry McElheny	Email: lkmcelheny@gmail.com	Zip: 96712
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 16, 2024 @ 03:13 PM
Testimony: Aloha Chair Waters and Council Members I am in STRONG SUPPORT of the amendment proposed by Councilmember Weyer to add \$500,000 to the capital budget for planning and design of the "Ocean Safety First Responder Center - North Shore District."		

We desperately need these EMS/ambulance services and a new Lifeguard District Office on the North Shore.

The Hanapohaku property next to Foodland is the ideal location for these proposed services.

Locating the "First Responder Center" directly across from Sharks Cove will ultimately accomplish two complementary and compelling objectives:

By centrally locating emergency services near where accidents occur, response times will be reduced considerably, increasing public safety and saving lives.

Protecting the open space environment at this location from intense private commercial development will help preserve the cherished rural character of one of the most unique places on the planet.

Sincerely,
Larry McElheny
(808) 237-9354

Name: GIL RIVIERE	Email: gil@gilriviere.com	Zip: 96791
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 16, 2024 @ 03:30 PM

Testimony:
I SUPPORT the appropriation for the OCEAN SAFETY FIRST RESPONDER CENTER. This is an important facility and perfectly located for the North Shore. Thank you for moving this project forward.

Name: Chip Hartman	Email: seachip@yahoo.com	Zip: 96712
Representing: Self	Position: I wish to comment	Submitted: Apr 16, 2024 @ 03:33 PM

Testimony:
Aloha Council Members,
I am a resident in the Sunset Beach area and SUPPORT all efforts to plan and design an Ocean Safety First Responder Center - North Shore District next to the Foodland grocery store. Our area is in need of this kind of infrastructure for residents and visitors alike.
Mahalo, Chip Hartman
59-208 Kamehameha Hwy.

Name: kaiya daniel	Email: kaiyakdaniel@gmail.com	Zip: 96740
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 16, 2024 @ 03:35 PM

Testimony:
I support. I don't want a mall over sharks cove

Name: Julia Cornella	Email: juliacornella7@gmail.com	Zip: 85377
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 16, 2024 @ 03:38 PM

Testimony:
It should not be made a shopping mall as it should remain as something that supports nature

Name: William Howes	Email: bhmahiai@gmail.com	Zip: 96712
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 16, 2024 @ 03:45 PM

Testimony: I support the budget committee's recommendation for \$500,000 in CIP for the planning and design for the northshore ocean safety first responder center - north shore district.		
Name: Mai Sack	Email: maileialicia@gmail.com	Zip: 96730
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Apr 16, 2024 @ 04:13 PM
Testimony: I do not support this. Our roads do not allow for this much traffic. Keep the country country		
Name: Philip Kitamura	Email: philipki@hawaii.edu	Zip: 96782
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 16, 2024 @ 04:31 PM
Testimony: I support the Budget Committee recommendation for \$500,000 in CIP for the planning and design of the Ocean Safety First Responder Center - North Shore District.		
Name: William Quinlan	Email: nimboy44@aol.com	Zip: 96712
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 16, 2024 @ 04:45 PM
Testimony: I am a resident of Haleiwa, (Velzyland/Pupukea) I am in strong support of the Budget Committee's recommendation to adopt the amendment proposed by Councilmember Weyer to add \$500,000 to the capital budget for planning and design of the Ocean Safety First Responder Center - North Shore District. Our community desperately needs these EMS/ambulance services and new Lifeguard District Office on the North Shore because the closest ambulance stations to our area are too far away to give timely response to emergencies in our area. Mahalo, Bill Quinlan		
Name: ANGELA HUNTEMER	Email: ahuntemer@aol.com	Zip: 96731
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 16, 2024 @ 05:20 PM
Testimony: Aloha Council Chair Waters and Council Members, I have lived on the North Shore and now Kahuku for 25 years. I am in STRONG SUPPORT of the Budget Committee's recommendation to adopt the amendment proposed by Councilmember Weyer to add \$500,000 to the capital budget for planning and design of the Ocean Safety First Responder Center - North Shore District. We really need these EMS/ambulance services and new Lifeguard District Office on the North Shore because there are so many accidents where people have to wait too long for help. Thank you, Angela Huntemer Kahuku		
Name: Allison Pettersson	Email: allypson@gmail.com	Zip: 96826
Representing: Self	Position: I wish to comment	Submitted: Apr 16, 2024 @ 06:44 PM
Testimony: Aloha Chair Waters, Vice-Chair Kia'Aina and Council Members,		

My name is Allison Pettersson and have been an owner occupant at the Marco Polo condominium for 24 years and am also a member of the Ala Wai Mauka community group. As an engaged resident invested in the well-being of our community, I've attended meetings regarding the proposed Ala Wai Bridge project. After participating in multiple discussions, I've become increasingly aware of and deeply concerned about the potential impacts it may have.

Therefore, I respectfully ask that you please hold the Ala Wai Bridge Project in abeyance until a full EIS is completed and that the amount appropriated be amended to \$500,000.00 or the cost to fully fund an EIS.

Your consideration of this request is very much appreciated.

Mahalo,
Allison Pettersson

Name: Deborah King	Email: dking0923@gmail.com	Zip: 96815
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 16, 2024 @ 06:52 PM

Testimony:

Aloha Council Chair Waters and Council Members,

I am a resident of Honolulu.

I am in STRONG SUPPORT of the Budget Committee's recommendation to adopt the amendment proposed by Councilmember Weyer to add \$500,000 to the capital budget for planning and design of the Ocean Safety First Responder Center - North Shore District.

We desperately need these EMS/ambulance services and new Lifeguard District Office on the North Shore because it would benefit all of us by responding quicker from co-located EMS/ambulance services. I have traveled this highway during peak periods and I know that it is heavily populated. Having services nearby saves lives. A new Lifeguard District office located at Sharks Cove/Ppkea can also help us mlama our 'ina by monitoring the coral, sea life, native plants/trees, native birds and other activity in the area. Thank you for considering my testimony.

Mahalo,

Deborah W. King

Name: Andrea Woods	Email: andreaswimsunset@yahoo.com	Zip: 96712
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 16, 2024 @ 07:15 PM

Testimony:

Aloha Council Chair Waters and Council Members,

I am a resident of the Sunset Beach area of Oahu's North Shore.

I am in STRONG SUPPORT of the Budget Committee's recommendation to adopt the amendment proposed by Councilmember Weyer to add \$500,000 to the capital budget for planning and design of the Ocean Safety First Responder Center - North Shore District.

We desperately need these EMS/ambulance services and new Lifeguard District Office on the North Shore because (add how you and your 'ohana would benefit from co-located EMS/ambulance services and a new Lifeguard District office located at Sharks Cove/Ppkea).

Mahalo,
Andrea Woods

Name: MICHAEL TAKAHASHI	Email: mikesurfsunset@yahoo.com	Zip: 96712
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 16, 2024 @ 07:38 PM
Testimony: Aloha Council Chair Waters and Council Members, I am a resident of the north shore of Oahu. I am in STRONG SUPPORT of the Budget Committee's recommendation to adopt the amendment proposed by Councilmember Weyer to add \$500,000 to the capital budget for planning and design of the Ocean Safety First Responder Center - North Shore District. We desperately need these EMS/ambulance services and new Lifeguard District Office on the North Shore because (add how you and your 'ohana would benefit from co-located EMS/ambulance services and a new Lifeguard District office located at Sharks Cove/Ppkea). Mahalo, Mike Takahashi		
Name: Winston Welch	Email: winston@outdoorcircle.org	Zip: 96815
Representing: The Outdoor Circle	Position: I wish to comment	Submitted: Apr 16, 2024 @ 08:16 PM
Name: Anuheia Potter	Email: anuheapotter@gmail.com	Zip: 96712
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 16, 2024 @ 08:25 PM
Testimony: I support the Budget Committee recommendation for \$500,000 in CIP for the planning and design of the Ocean Safety First Responder Center - North Shore District.		
Name: Noah Ah Mook Sang	Email: noahams@icloud.com	Zip: 96712
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 16, 2024 @ 08:27 PM
Testimony: I support the Budget Committee recommendation for \$500,000 in CIP for the planning and design of the Ocean Safety First Responder Center - North Shore District.		
Name: Madeline Metzger	Email: madelinemetzger1@gmail.com	Zip: 96816
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 16, 2024 @ 08:31 PM
Testimony: The community does not want a mall at sharks cove		
Name: Madeleine Swart	Email: swartmadi@gmail.com	Zip: 96822
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 16, 2024 @ 08:42 PM
Testimony: I support the new first responder station at shark's cove		

Name: Pueo Franz	Email: pueofranz@gmail.com	Zip: 96712
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 16, 2024 @ 08:46 PM
Testimony: I am in strong support of the Budget Committee's recommendation for \$500,000 in CIP for the planning and design of the Ocean Safety First Responder Center - North Shore District. Mahalo, Pueo Franz		
Name: Brooke Roy	Email: brookeroy10@gmail.com	Zip: 96712
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 16, 2024 @ 09:12 PM
Testimony: Aloha Council Chair Waters and Council Members, My name is Brooke Roy, and I've had the privilege of calling the area a mile down from Sharks Cove at Ke Iki Beach my home for the past 30 years. Born and raised here, my roots and affection for our community run deep. Today, I stand in strong support of the Budget Committee's recommendation to approve the amendment proposed by Council member Weyer, allocating \$500,000 to the capital budget for the planning and design of the Ocean Safety First Responder Center - North Shore District. Over the years, I've witnessed the tragic loss of more than 10 individuals along our coastline. The indescribable pain and helplessness that their families, friends, and our community have felt, waiting for emergency services to arrive, is something that haunts me. In recent years, this issue became even more personal. I've found myself desperately waiting for an ambulance on two heart-wrenching occasions. The first, when my father had a severe fall, resulting in a head injury and seizures right in our kitchen. The second, an even more devastating moment, was when he drowned while surfing at Puena, a spot not far from Sharks Cove. The agony of those waits, the fear and desperation, is something I wouldn't wish upon anyone in our community. The establishment of an EMS/ambulance service and a Lifeguard District Office is not just a matter of convenience; it's a lifeline. It represents a beacon of hope and a measure of safety that could very well mean the difference between life and death. Too often, we've seen developers prioritize malls, profit, and tourism over the well-being and needs of the community. It's time to make a different choice—one that puts the safety and lives of the people of Hawai'i first. I implore you, please support the planning and design of the Ocean Safety First Responder Center. Let's ensure that our community is a place where safety is not just hoped for but guaranteed. Mahalo for your time and consideration.		
Name: Rexann Dubiel Shanahan	Email: dubielsdesign@hotmail.com	Zip: 96712
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 16, 2024 @ 09:14 PM
Testimony: I wholeheartedly support Bill 13 (24.) I have lived on the North Shore for 50 years and have taught at Sunset Beach Elementary for 36 of those years. I implore you to continue to approve the \$500,000 our Councilman Matt Weyer has requested for a First Responder Center in our community. We need to support our First Responders (some of which are my former students.) An ambulance in our neighborhood is critical to residents and visitors alike; our lives depend on this service, a mini-hospital on wheels. The lifeguards and firemen do their best, but we have lost lives because an ambulance was attending to other emergencies in the neighboring towns of Waialua and Kahuku. Please, understand our plight. Thank you.		
Name: MARGARET PRIMACIO	Email: stibbardm003@hawaii.rr.com	Zip: 96731

Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 16, 2024 @ 09:23 PM
Testimony: Good Afternoon Chair Waters and Council Members, I'm writing in support of Bill 13, 2024 CIP Budget for a line item for planning and design funds of \$500,000 for a First Responders Center, North Shore District which would include an EMS unit and a lifeguard station. These needed services add greatly to the health and safety of our North Shore residents and visitors alike. Our families can be assured the professional emergency care needed should a personal or area crisis occur. Your consideration of support for this measure is appreciated. Mahalo nui, Margaret Primacio Kahuku Resident		
Name: Kimberly Anguiano	Email: k.anguiano@gmail.com	Zip: 96717
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 16, 2024 @ 09:27 PM
Testimony: I support the Budget Committee recommendation for \$500,000 in CIP for the planning and design of the Ocean Safety First Responder Center - North Shore District		
Name: Tahnei Roy	Email: tahneiroy@yahoo.com	Zip: 96712
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 16, 2024 @ 09:33 PM
Testimony: Aloha Council Chair Waters and Council Members, My name is Tahnei Roy, and I am from the North Shore of O'ahu, having grown up just a few streets away from Sharks Cove. Today, I come before you to express my strong support for the Budget Committee's recommendation, as proposed by Councilmember Weyer, to allocate \$500,000 to the capital budget for the planning and design of the Ocean Safety First Responder Center - North Shore District. This initiative isn't just a project; it's a lifeline for our burgeoning community. The need for an EMS/ambulance service and Lifeguard District Office on the North Shore cannot be overstated. Over the years, I have been a firsthand witness to many drownings and emergencies where the delayed response of ambulance services tragically cost lives. When it comes to saving a life, every minute, every second, is crucial. The proposed Ocean Safety First Responder Center is not just an investment in infrastructure; it's an investment in the safety and well-being of our community. It's about prioritizing the lives of our residents over the construction of yet another tourism mall. I strongly urge you to support this amendment. By funding the planning and design of the Ocean Safety First Responder Center, we are taking a significant step towards safeguarding our community and ensuring that help is never too far away when needed. Mahalo, Tahnei Roy		
Name: Jessica dos Santos	Email: nrtshrlv@gmail.com	Zip: 96731
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 16, 2024 @ 09:52 PM
Testimony: Aloha Council Chair Waters and Council Members, My name is Jessica dos Santos and I am a life-long resident of Kahuku, born and raised. I strongly support Council Member Weyer's amendment to allocate \$500,000 for planning the Ocean Safety First Responder Center in the North Shore District. We've seen enough of unsustainable tourism and traffic problems. Building a mall at Sharks Cove would only make things worse. Instead, let's focus on what matters: the well-being of our community and our environment. We need a first responder's center here in the North Shore. It'll provide essential services and keep us safe, especially in emergencies.		

Please, listen to the majority who oppose more unsustainable development. Let's invest in initiatives that truly benefit our community and preserve our island's beauty.

Mahalo,

Jessica dos Santos

Name: Lee Roy	Email: leeroy@hawaii.rr.com	Zip: 96712
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 16, 2024 @ 10:03 PM

Testimony:

Aloha Council Chair Waters and Council Members,

My name is Lee Brooke Roy. For 45 years, I've called Hale'iwa my home, living just a short distance from the beautiful Sharks Cove.

Today, I stand in strong support of the Budget Committee's recommendation to approve the amendment proposed by Council member Weyer, allocating \$500,000 to the capital budget for the planning and design of the Ocean Safety First Responder Center - North Shore District.

Our community's need for enhanced EMS/ambulance services and a new Lifeguard District Office on the North Shore has never been more urgent. As the population in this area continues to grow and attract more visitors, the demand on our emergency services has intensified. Regrettably, I have witnessed too many occasions where the delayed response of ambulances has resulted in deaths.

Additionally, the dedicated lifeguards, who tirelessly serve our community every single day, are in dire need of improved facilities. They deserve a dedicated space where they can effectively train new recruits, securely store their equipment, and streamline their operations to better protect and serve our community.

Mahalo,

Lee Brooke Roy

Name: Marvin Heskett	Email: mhesketts@mac.com	Zip: 96816
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 16, 2024 @ 10:28 PM

Testimony:

Aloha Council Chair Waters and Council Members,

I am a resident of the Palolo Valley.

I am in **STRONG SUPPORT** of the Budget Committee's recommendation to adopt the amendment proposed by Councilmember Weyer to add \$500,000 to the capital budget for planning and design of the Ocean Safety First Responder Center - North Shore District.

My son received a serious injury last year while surfing at Waimea Bay. The lifeguards did an excellent job stabilizing him but there was no ambulance nearby to transport him to the nearest hospital for care he needed. Luckily, a fellow surfer was able to transport him and he made it through the injury.

We desperately need these EMS/ambulance services and new Lifeguard District Office on the North Shore located at Sharks Cove/Ppkea.

Mahalo,

Marvin Heskett

Name: Christopher Moffett	Email: sunsetcjm@gmail.com	Zip: 96712
Representing:	Position:	Submitted:

Self	Support	Apr 17, 2024 @ 06:39 AM
Testimony: Aloha Council Chair Waters and Council Members, I am a resident of Sunset Beach, I am in STRONG SUPPORT of the Budget Committee's recommendation to adopt the amendment proposed by Councilmember Weyer to add \$500,000 to the capital budget for planning and design of the Ocean Safety First Responder Center - North Shore District. We desperately need these EMS/ambulance services and new Lifeguard District Office on the North Shore because as a Kupuna, my family and I will have a quicker response because there will be less traffic congestion. EMS/ambulance services and a new Lifeguard District office located at Sharks Cove/Ppkea. Mahalo, Christopher Moffett		
Name:	Email:	Zip:
Brenda Jill Moffett	sunsetcj@pixi.com	96712
Representing:	Position:	Submitted:
Self	Support	Apr 17, 2024 @ 06:46 AM
Testimony: Aloha Council Chair Waters and Council Members, I am a resident of Sunset Beach, I am in STRONG SUPPORT of the Budget Committee's recommendation to adopt the amendment proposed by Councilmember Weyer to add \$500,000 to the capital budget for planning and design of the Ocean Safety First Responder Center - North Shore District. We desperately need these EMS/ambulance services and new Lifeguard District Office on the North Shore because as a Kupuna, myself and family would have quicker life saving response having EMS/ambulance services and a new Lifeguard District office located at Sharks Cove/Ppkea. Mahalo, Brenda Moffett		
Name:	Email:	Zip:
Jun Look	junlook@yahoo.com	96826
Representing:	Position:	Submitted:
Self	I wish to comment	Apr 17, 2024 @ 06:49 AM
Testimony: The Ala Wai bridge will have impact on the community. An EIS is critical. I support a bridge, with low or no tower. But due diligence must been done so we do not make an environmental mistake.		
Name:	Email:	Zip:
Wendy Tsue	tsueeit@gmail.com	96712
Representing:	Position:	Submitted:
Self	Support	Apr 17, 2024 @ 07:42 AM
Testimony: I support first responder facility Against shopping mall		

Name: Denny Roy	Email: royd@eastwestcenter.org	Zip: 96826
Representing: Self	Position: I wish to comment	Submitted: Apr 17, 2024 @ 07:58 AM
Testimony: I strongly urge that the city government NOT make a final decision on proceeding with building a new pedestrian bridge across the Ala Wai Canal before conducting a proper environmental impact assessment. Therefore the funds allotted for this project should be changed to the cost of funding an environmental impact assessment. Doing otherwise would open the city up to future lawsuits, possibly resulting in the eventual cancellation of the project after wasting large amounts of taxpayer money. Thanks for your consideration.		
Name: Brittney Roy	Email: brittneyroy808@gmail.com	Zip: 96826
Representing: Self	Position: I wish to comment	Submitted: Apr 17, 2024 @ 08:06 AM
Testimony: Dear City Council members: Please respect the wishes of the residents of the community that would live next to the proposed bridge. They unanimously oppose some aspects of the bridge proposal. They also strongly support that the city first carry out an environmental impact study before making any final decision to begin the project. That is the least the city can do after forcing this project upon us against the will of so many local residents.		
Name: Goretti Allen	Email: allengoretti11@gmail.com	Zip: 96720
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 17, 2024 @ 08:38 AM
Testimony: I am in support of the Budget Committee's recommendations for 500,000 in CIP for the planning and design of the Ocean Safety First Responder Center- North Shore District Mahalo, Goretti A		
Name: Goretti Allen	Email: allengoretti11@gmail.com	Zip: 96720
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 17, 2024 @ 08:42 AM
Testimony: I am in support of the Budget Committee's recommendations for 500,000 in CIP for the planning and design of the Ocean Safety First Responder Center- North Shore District Mahalo, Goretti A		
Name: Raynae Fonoimoana	Email: Khcc532@gmail.com	Zip: 96717
Representing: Ko'olauloa Hawaiian Civic Club	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 17, 2024 @ 08:58 AM
Name: Scott Garlough	Email: sgarlough@kkv.net	Zip: 96819-3038
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 17, 2024 @ 09:08 AM
Testimony: Aloha Council Chair Waters and Council Members,		

I am a resident of Kahaluu.

I am in STRONG SUPPORT of the Budget Committee's recommendation to adopt the amendment proposed by Councilmember Weyer to add \$500,000 to the capital budget for planning and design of the Ocean Safety First Responder Center - North Shore District.

We desperately need these EMS/ambulance services and new Lifeguard District Office on the North Shore because (add how you and your 'ohana would benefit from co-located EMS/ambulance services and a new Lifeguard District office located at Sharks Cove/Ppkea).

Mahalo,
Scott Garlough

Name: dana miller	Email: dana.miller@icloud.com	Zip: 96734
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 17, 2024 @ 09:15 AM

Testimony:
I support the funding the planning of a first responder center to serve the North Shore community

Name: Patagonia Honolulu	Email: Taylor.Eastburn@patagonia.com	Zip: 96734
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 17, 2024 @ 09:17 AM

Testimony:
I support the Budget Committee recommendation for \$500,000 in CIP for the planning and design of the Ocean Safety First Responder Center - North Shore District.

Name: Tracy A Hollum	Email: tahollum@me.com	Zip: 96712
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 17, 2024 @ 09:26 AM

Testimony:
I support the Budget Committee recommendation for \$500,000 in CIP for the planning and design of the Ocean Safety First Responder Center - North Shore District.

Aloha Council Chair Waters and Council Members,

I am a long time resident of Pupukea and am in STRONG SUPPORT of the Budget Committee's recommendation to adopt the amendment proposed by Council-member Weyer to add \$500,000 to the capital budget for planning and design of the Ocean Safety First Responder Center - North Shore District.

We desperately need these EMS/ambulance services and new Lifeguard District Office on the North Shore because our families will greatly benefit by having the First Responder Center at Sharks Cove due to its central location. We need centers such as this one to help and support our community family and NOT one to negatively impact our community such as a shopping mall.

Mahalo, Tracy A. Hollum		
Name: James Frisbie	Email: frisbiej001@hawaii.rr.com	Zip: 96791
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 17, 2024 @ 09:42 AM
Testimony: Please support the First Responders concept for Shark's Cove North Shore. This community supported concept increases safety protections for local residents, tourists and marine wildlife. We need improved ambulatory services. This will help. Thank you for helping to save lives and increase safety services.		
Name: julie tilley	Email: julietilley8@gmail.com	Zip: 96712
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 17, 2024 @ 09:42 AM
Testimony: I support the Budget Committee recommendation for \$500,000 in CIP for the planning and design of the Ocean Safety First Responder Center - North Shore District.		
Name: cale tilley	Email: caletilley3@hotmail.com	Zip: 96712
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 17, 2024 @ 09:44 AM
Testimony: I support the Budget Committee recommendation for \$500,000 in CIP for the planning and design of the Ocean Safety First Responder Center - North Shore District.		



HAWAII

1164 Bishop St., Ste. 1512
Honolulu, HI 96813
tpl.org

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Dr. Rachel Sprague
Pūlama Lāna'i

Jan Sullivan
Oceanit

Honolulu City Council
530 S King St.
Honolulu Hale, Room 202
Honolulu, HI 96813

Testimony for the Honolulu City Council
Wednesday, April 17, 2024 at 10:00 AM

RE: BILL 13 (2024) – EXECUTIVE CAPITAL BUDGET AND PROGRAM FOR FY2025

Dear Council Chair, Vice Chair, and members of the committee,

My name is Emily Perry, and I am the Parks for People Program manager for the Hawai'i Trust for Public Land (TPL) office. I am testifying in strong support of Project Number 2020076 'A'ala Park Improvements to "plan, design, and construct sustainable and resilient park improvements" for the full request amount of \$250,000. The park improvements at 'A'ala Park will improve the health and quality of life for the surrounding communities.

'A'ala Park is a beautiful park with a storied history reflective of Hawai'i's history and ethnic diversity. Community led park improvements, programming, and usage provide an opportunity to uplift community voices and empower residents to improve their health and quality of life. Study after study reveals that access to the outdoors and green space improves human health, happiness, and well-being, beyond the measurable benefits of reducing pollution, cooling air temperatures, and filtering stormwater. By building, improving, and activating quality parks in underserved areas and partnering with local residents, we are investing not only in economic growth, but in community growth.

TPL has engaged with over 1,000 community members on the future of 'A'ala Park and worked with the University of Hawai'i Community Design Center to transform the community vision into a final Proof on Concept which can be seen at the [link here](#). TPL has since been working with the Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) to refine the vision to elements which can be implemented in this first phase of park improvements. The funds for Project Number 2020076 'A'ala Park Improvements would support the partnership between DPR and TPL to plan, design, and construct the community's vision for the park.

Mahalo,

Emily Perry, Parks for People Program Manager
Trust for Public Land

April 15, 2024

Testimony on Executive Capital Budget Bill 13 CD1 pertaining to the Ala Wai Bridge funding Item # 2020105 April 17, 2024

Luciano Minerbi

Professor Emeritus of Urban and Regional Planning

lucianominerbi@gmail.com

I testify in support to provide \$500,000 for a full EIS, including the no-action alternative for the proposed Ala Wai Canal pedestrian bridge at University Avenue and Kalaimoku Street because the C&C Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) and Anticipated Finding of No Significant Impact for the proposed Ala Wai Bridge Project (March 16, 2021) and Ala Pono on Ala Wai Crossing Ala Wai Alternative Analysis – Public Review Draft (November 2019) ignore or do not address adequately many significant potential adverse impacts affecting the people and the site at the University Avenue project location.

The EA and Alternative Analysis are seriously defective procedurally and substantially for not accounting the reasons outlined below therefore the bridge project should be held in abeyance until a full EIS is completed.

RECORD OF PAST OPPOSITION TO THE BRIDGE

The residents of the McCully Moiliili neighborhood over the past decades have consistently expressed their opposition to such a bridge, as shown in Minutes of Neighborhood Board No 8 of McCully Moiliili. Neighborhood Boards' testimonies, newsletters, and minutes of community events refer to the pedestrian bridge pro and cons, and resolutions were voted against the bridge in the 1970 and 1980s by the Manoa, Moiliili, and Waikiki Neighborhood Boards.

Recent testimonies in the 1990 and 2000s, including the Waikiki Livable Community Project Public Workshop Minutes of October 29, 2002, specifically raise issues of traffic congestion, insufficient parking, and concerns about public safety, antisocial behavior and crime that must be addressed before the bridge is built, or it will exacerbate these matters. But this information has been totally ignored in C&C bridge planning.

PUBLIC SAFETY FOR THE SCHOOL CHILDREN

The safety of Ala Wai Elementary School children is paramount. They must be protected from adverse impacts related to drug and prostitution activities, and child-predators that will come across the proposed pedestrian bridge from the Waikiki district, which is known to have a high crime record and human trafficking. Waikiki crime will spill over into Moiliili.

The principal of the Ala Wai Elementary School outlines the safety concerns due to the bridge for kids on and off campus raised by the staff, and the parents that remain unaddressed (Attached letter by school principal of October 13, 2023).

Homeless are already loitering and sleeping along the Ala Way Elementary school fence and the Ala Wai People's Garden. School personnel keep telling them they cannot stay there close to the children. A bridge open 24 hours is likely to increase this behavior as homeless do stay under and around the Ala Wai Canal bridges.

PUBLIC SAFETY FOR THE PEOPLE AND THEIR ALA WAI GARDEN

There could be increasing loitering and stealing in people's cherished Ala Wai People's Garden. Homeless already attempt to stay overnight there. The People's Garden is a great asset to be taken care of and managed without outside encroachment.

CONFLICT WITH C&C PARK PERMITTED TIME REGULATION

Because of past antisocial behavior, and disturbances ranging from noise, loitering and crime, the Ala Wai Neighborhood Park entrance is now chained from 10:00 pm to 5:00 am. No cars can park there during the night (they are towed away) and people cannot stay there during the night. This greatly decreases crime activities, which are much lower than in the past.

A bridge open 24 hours is in conflict with this appropriate municipal C&C ordinance for this park and it will possibly attract unwanted encounters with antisocial behavior and crime events, particularly in the middle portion of its long span in the night.

ENCROACHMENT ON PARK CONVIVIALITY

The proposed bridge decreases the likelihood of safety and peaceful gatherings for all the current users of Ala Wai Neighborhood Park: children, youth, parents, kupuna, and ethnic minorities who live in the very diversified and peaceful neighborhood of Moiliili.

Ala Wai Neighborhood Park on the University Avenue side of the canal is multifunctional: kayaking, canoe and their hale, peoples' garden, children's playground, basketball court, baseball field, exercise site, picnic sites, the pavilion and restrooms. All these activities to function require parking stalls.

Current parking serves all the above recreational park-related activities. Moreover, there is parking usage by visitors to the Ala Wai Elementary School and Iolani High School. The proposed bridge will reduce the current parking by 19 stalls, a major adverse impact for the above-mentioned current uses.

DISREGARD FOR CULTURAL ETHNIC AND MINORITY NEEDS

This small Ala Wai Neighborhood Park, secluded due to its location in a dead-end street, along with its multifunctional assets is one of a few, precious, affordable places for islanders to come together and be able to express their culture because they use the park for their village encounters, intergenerational gatherings, and extended family meetings. These highly social events, which maintain and build small communities, are a great asset for the C&C and should not be encroached on by increased traffic and congestion generated by the proposed bridge as explained below.

INCREASED PARKING COMPETITION

The pedestrian and bicycle bridge will substantially exacerbate vehicular traffic congestion, pollution, and parking stalls competition because mauka residents will drive down trying to park their cars at the Ala Wai Neighborhood Parking Lot and then walk or bike to Waikiki, exacerbating competition with the legitimate park users.

INCREASED TRAFFIC CONGESTION

Along with the above-mentioned problems, this bridge will greatly increase traffic congestion and pollution. It will transform the quiet end of University Avenue into a thoroughfare, adding congestion on that street and the adjacent Hihiwai Street, which are already jammed by the daily traffic of

Iolani School and Ala Wai Elementary School.

During school hours and school events right now, we have excessive traffic congestion on University Avenue, Hihiwai Street and Kamoku Street, with vehicles backing up all the way to Kapiolani Avenue.

Congestion is so elevated that currently it requires 1, 2, even 3 police officers to manage traffic. During those times residents are unable to leave their buildings or return to them by car. The bridge will greatly exacerbate this traffic congestion.

THE BRIDGE IS NOT AS SUITABLE FOR TSUNAMI EMERGENCY EVACUATIONS AS CLAIMED

Waikiki tsunami evacuation should be to the upper-floors of buildings and should not encourage people to run on foot to no particular destination in the mauka direction.

“Evacuation options by foot and by bike for both residents and tourists are imperative in the event of a tsunami or emergency” (page 8 of C&C Nov 2019 Ala Pono on Ala Wai Crossing Ala Wai Alternative Analysis – Public Review Draft) is an irresponsible statement by the C&C because *“vertical evacuation”* is instead recommended by the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency in its Waikiki evacuation map instructions, which clearly show Waikiki 2 feet higher than Moiliili. Also, Diamond Head and Kapahulu are in the green “Safe Zone” and are much closer to Waikiki than lower Moiliili and would therefore provide better options.

Moreover, the map correctly shows that the tsunami wave will travel along the Ala Wai Canal and even mauka up the Palolo Manoa, Hausten and Makiki canals and will endanger the users of the proposed bridge in that tsunami event.

GOVERNMENT WAS NOT TRANSPARENT

DTS may be using the proposal of the pedestrian and bike lanes across the Ala Wai Canal to create the precedent to then add vehicular lanes to the bridge. The government has wanted to build a vehicular bridge here for decades but has encountered sustained opposition to that by the neighborhood boards. Residents should be also vigilant about the oversized bridge design to monitor that the pedestrian lane is not purposely oversized precisely to morph into a vehicular one.

DISREGARD FOR OTHER ALTERNATIVES

The C&C did not properly research and engage the residents about the above impacts and concerns, and its EA document did not explore adequately other alternatives that were suggested at community meetings like improved pedestrian and bike lanes provided at the nearby, existing McCully bridge--- rather than building a new one at University Street. These are some of the specific and substantial potential impacts by the proposed AlaWai bridge that must be properly documented by the C&C in its full EIS.

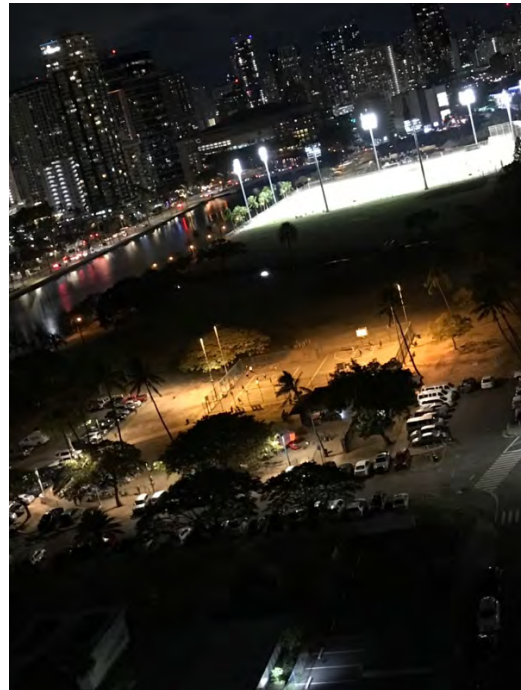
Respectfully submitted.



ALA WAI PARK RANGE OF USES
POSSIBLY CONGESTED, IMPAIRED AND DISPLACED BY THE NOT PONO PROPOSED BRIDGE
WHERE THE C&C WILL TELL THEM TO GO?



WATER ORIENTED ACTIVITIES LIKE A REGATTA
FULLY USE THE PARKING DURING A DAY EVENT
(PHOTO LAURA RUBY)



PACIFIC ISLANDERS EVENING GATHERING
FULLY USE THE PARK DURING EVENING
EVENTS (PHOTO LUCIANO MINERBI)



PACIFIC ISLANDERS MEET AS EXTENDED FAMILIES
IN EVENING EVENTS NEAR THE CANOE HALAU
AND FULLY USE THE PARKING
(PHOTO DANIELA MINERBI)



PACIFIC ISLANDERS MEET AS FAMILY
ON THE GREEN WITH THEIR CHILDREN
(PHOTO DANIELA MINERBI)



ISLANDER ADULTS MEET CLOSE TO YOUTH COURT (PHOTO DANIELA MINERBI)



YOUTH AND ADULTS CAN INTERACT ON THE GREEN AT SPECIAL EVENTS, CELEBRATION AND SPORTS (PHOTO DANIELA MINERBI)





THE COVERED HALAU AND RESTROOM NEAR THE PLAYGROUND ALLOW SUPERVISING THE CHILDREN BUT IT IS USED ALSO FOR DANCE, EXERCISES, TRAINING AND MEETINGS





ALL THESE EVENTS ARE POSSIBLE BECAUSE OF DAY AND EVENING
PARKING AVAILABILITY (PHOTO DANIELA MINERBI)



EASILY 2 DOZEN AWC STUDENTS AND PARENTS RACE TO THE PARK PLAYGROUND AFTER SCHOOL. THINK OF THE
DANGER CROSSING THE VEHICULAR EVEN MORE CONGESTED AREA (PHOTO LAURA RUBY)



THREE POLICE OFFICERS ARE NEEDED EVERY MORNING TO REGULATE TRAFFIC AT IOLANI SCHOOL:
TWO ON KAMOKU STREET AND ONE ON HIHIWAI STREET. A FOURTH ONE IS AT LA'AU STREET.
THE OFFICERS WEAR THE REFLECTIVE VEST. (PHOTO BY JANET RENSEL TAKEN NOV 2, 2023)



THE WAIKIKI SURF CLUB USES THE ALA WAI PARK, THE CANOE HALAU, AND THE PARKING
MANY YOUNG PEOPLE PARTICIPATE IN THE CLUB ACTIVITIES AT THE SITE.
(PHOTO WAIKIKI SURF CLUB)



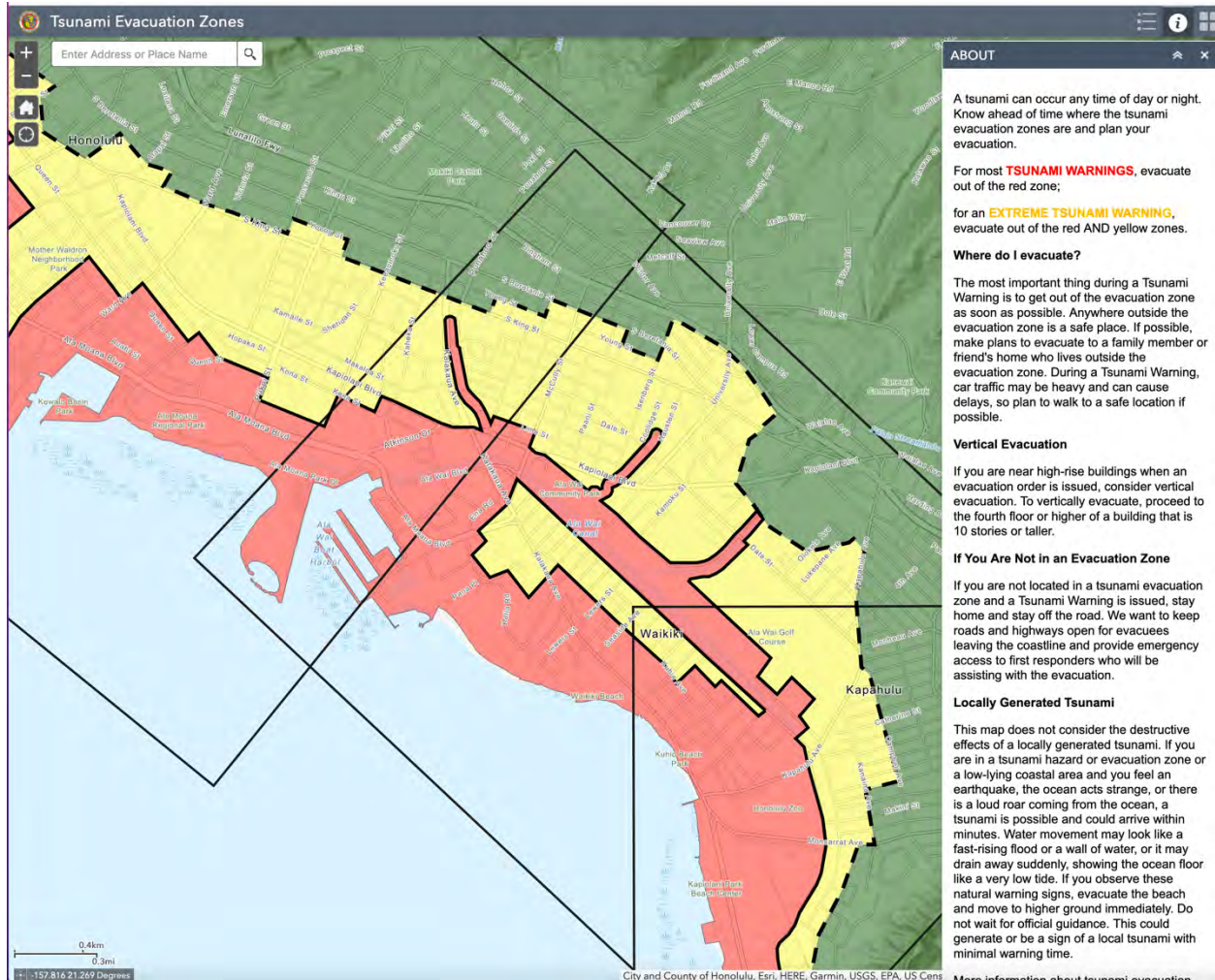


Fig. 6 Waikiki Tsunami Evacuation Map appropriately includes the entire Ala Wai Canal and the Kalakaua and Hausten Ditches and Manoa-Palolo canals in recent issues of the Official Hawaiian Telecom Directory such as those of the years 2022-2023.

CRIME STATISTICS
COMPARING WAIKIKI AND MCCULLY MOILIILI
POPULATION ESTIMATE 2017-2021

McCully-Moiliili has more resident population than Waikiki, it has less total crime than Waikiki and lower crime rate per capita than Waikiki. Explanatory factor that crime rate is higher in Waikiki than in McCully-Moiliili is that tourism attracts crime, so much so that that a satellite police station operating 24 hours must be permanently located in Waikiki to manage crime.

MCCULLY-MOILIILI (2021)	26,740 People	Total 1,781 crimes equal to 0,07 crimes per persons
WAIKIKI (2021)	18,936 People	Total 3,086 crimes equal to 0,16 crimes per persons
WAIKIKI (2021)	18,936 People + 57,133 average daily visitors	= 76,069 total equal 0.04 crime per person

Comparing total crimes in 2021 between Waikiki (3,086 crimes) and McCully Moiliili (1,781 crimes) gives a difference of 1,305 total crimes impacting Waikiki neighborhood.

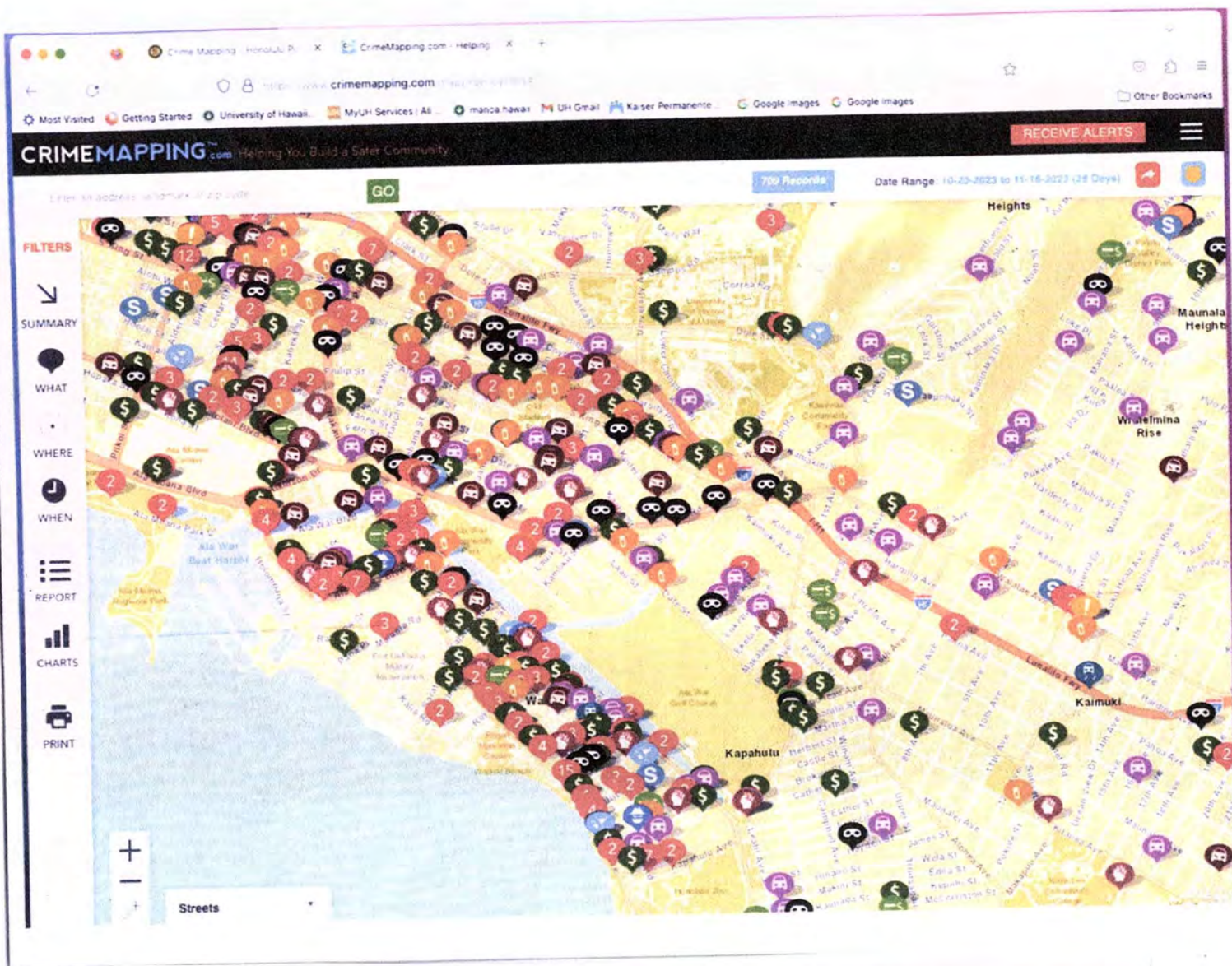
Comparing total crimes in 2022 between Waikiki (2,974 crimes) and McCully Moiliili (1,549 crimes) gives a difference of 1,425 total crimes impacting Waikiki neighborhood.

Note 1: Beat 178 pertains to District 1 (Downtown Honolulu) and it is split between Makiki and McCully-Moiliili; so the total numbers of crimes pertaining to Moiliili alone are actually a little lower than those listed in the table below.

Note 2: Beat 753, 754, 755 belong to District 7 (East Honolulu)

Source of crime data: Honolulu Police Department 2022 Annual Report.

Source of population and tourism data: State of Hawaii DBEDT, 2021-2022.



TESTIMONY
REQUEST FOR A FULL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT (EIS) FOR THE
ALA WAI CANAL AND UNIVERSITY AVENUE AND KALAIMOKU STREET
RESIDENTIAL NEIGHBORHOODS SITE

This testimony is in regard to the Executive Capital Budget Bill 13 (2024) CD1 (item #2020105) which states that “The design phase of the project must include consideration of a bridge design with a lower height and width.”

WHEREAS, a full Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is holistic, and the need for this document is to address any reasonable alternatives, review of impacted human environment, and assess reasonable future development within the project area;

WHEREAS, important aspects of the proposed site for a proposed bridge over the Ala Wai Canal will not be disclosed until a full EIS is completed;

WHEREAS, before any building on the site, the facts that need to be settled regarding the location are:

- the Ala Wai Canal and Promenade and the *Malia* koa canoe are on the Hawaii State and National Registers of Historic Places;
- the Diamond Head Special District boundary prohibits excessive building in this site (1990 Code, Ch. 21, Art. 9, § 21-9.30-5) (Added by Ord. 99-12; Am. Ord. 03-37) ([Exhibit 21-9.5](#))
- Waikiki Special District (21-9.80-3) ([Exhibit 21-9.13](#)) (21-9.80-4) (b-6 heights) (and F 6 F urges human scale);
- other ordinances concerning the site--(21-9-10 [a] flood hazard areas); (21-9-20-2 major permits); 21-9.20-5 Design Advisory Committee); and
- the Land Ordinance Zoning Map Height Limit--“0-build” designation of the site indicates that no vertical constructions take place within the site. (Ap. 21-C #3 Zoning Maps);

WHEREAS, an EIS assesses the potential impact of these actions which “significantly affecting the quality of the human environment.”--This is needed to assure conformity to the regulations at this site;

WHEREAS, the EIS is mandated by federal law for certain projects, specifically receiving federal tax dollars. The National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) mandate is broader. Federal tax dollars are required to assess the impact of a proposed project on the physical, cultural, historical, and human environments affected by the proposed project. The site EIS is required to assess the cumulative impacts, and it is holistic.

WHEREAS, the proposed bridge Draft Environmental Assessment (DEA) over the Canal states that 1,500 to 4,000 individuals will cross over the bridge in any one day which suggests that those people will not only impact the Moiliili mauka neighborhoods but also impact the Waikiki and Manoa neighborhoods;

BE IT RESOLVED, that the pending Ala Wai Mauka Community Association group suggests that the C&C seriously respects the community's wishes, thus this 2024 testimony urges the City and County of Honolulu to prepare a full EIS (approximately \$500,000) before any further planning or design takes place for this site which includes the Ala Wai Canal and Promenade and the two University Avenue and Kalaimoku Street residential neighborhood communities.

Submitted by
Laura Ruby
808 366-0847
lruby@hawaii.edu

TO: Honolulu City Council

FROM: Jan Rensel and Alan Howard, 40-year residents of Iolani Court Plaza, 2499
Kapiolani Blvd, Honolulu 96826

DATE: April 15, 2024

RE: HCC Bill 13 (2024), CD 1, project 2020105 Ala Wai Bridge

Before any decision can be made regarding funding for the City and County of Honolulu Department of Transportation Services' proposed new bicycle-pedestrian bridge across the Ala Wai Canal (connecting University Avenue and Kalaimoku Street), a full Environmental Impact Statement is needed, including a no-action alternative.

The March 2021 Draft Environmental Assessment (DEA) with its "Anticipated Finding of No Significant Impact" for this project does not discuss potential impacts on the safety and well-being of residents on either side of the canal and users of the schools, parks and gardens in the areas immediately adjacent to the bridge on the mauka side. Rather, it downplays people's concerns regarding the potential for increased traffic and parking problems and, especially, increased crime and other threats to safety and quality of life.

The body of the 2021 DEA only mentions the word "crime" in the phrase "anti-crime lighting"; and in the comments section, all questions raised about safety monitoring and security measures or the potential spread of crime and homeless camping from Waikiki to McCully/Mo'ili'ili are met by repeating one or more of the following statements about passive fixes through design features and possible use of equipment "under consideration":

- The bridge has been designed to preserve visual access for police from one end to the other to the extent possible.
- The bridge will include pedestrian scale lighting.
- Security cameras, lighting, and other safety measures are also under consideration for the bridge.

One exception: When the Waikiki Surf Club noted that the Hawaiian outrigger canoes stored on the mauka side of the canal had been vandalized in 2017, the CCH acknowledged a need to discuss security mitigation options. However, these options should be spelled out in the full EIS.

The other stock answer invoked in the DEA in response to any safety concerns is: "Increased pedestrian traffic facilitates natural surveillance, one of the fundamental goals of Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED). Studies have shown that increased traffic discourages crime." This statement reflects an over-simplified understanding of CPTED, despite recent reviews of the approach calling for recognition of variability and complexity of circumstances (see, for instance, Cozens and Love 2015).

And Waikiki's own experience provides counter evidence to the blanket assertion "increased traffic discourages crime." We have regularly read reports in the local media such as the following, directly linking increased traffic with crime in Waikiki: "Crimes reported to the Honolulu Police Department within 1 mile of the Waikiki ZIP code 96815 have more than doubled from November to March as the economy has opened up, increasing visitors and other traffic." (*Honolulu Star-Advertiser*, 4/18/21, B2)

In fact, since its post-pandemic reopening, Waikiki has ramped up intensive efforts to counter crime, including Weed & Seed (announced in May 2022), Safe & Sound Waikiki (announced in September 2022) and a six-month pilot project in the latter half of 2023 using \$450,000 in federal post-pandemic recovery funds to hire off-duty police officers to serve a security guards from 8 pm to 4 am, seven nights a week (Hawaii News Now, 7/11/23).

These major crime-prevention initiatives, all of which postdate the 2021 DEA, attest to the seriousness and persistence of the crime problem in Waikiki. Police District 6 (Waikiki) is the only patrol district showing no increase in offenses so far in 2023, but "no increase" also means that the extraordinary efforts are only managing to hold crime numbers steady, not decrease them.

The McCully/Mo'ili'ili neighborhood immediately adjacent to the proposed bridge currently has a much lower level of criminal activity than Waikiki. Per the 2022 Annual Report of the Honolulu Police Department, Waikiki had more incidents of crime than McCully/Mo'ili'ili in 2021 (3,086 vs. 1,781) and 2022 (2,974 vs. 1,549; see also CrimeMapping.com, linked from the HPD website).

Furthermore, the 2021 DEA also does not mention that the proposed bridge is intended to remain open at all times, 24/7. It is counter-intuitive to trust that increasing traffic during overnight hours could discourage crime in the area. Besides the barrier provided by the canal itself, two no-cost city provisions—the overnight closure of the the Ala Wai Neighborhood and Ala Wai Community Parks and the shared pathway between them, and the prohibition of motorized vehicles along that pathway—currently contribute significantly to keeping the area safe and quiet overnight. And in fact a chain is used across the entrance to the parking lot of the Neighborhood Park to prevent access during the park's closed hours—in contrast to the situation reported in the DEA in 2021.

Citing a 2015 US Census "Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics" study (LEHD), the 2021 DEA estimates that 3,000 more commuters a day would use the proposed bridge at this location. (It would be helpful if the full EIS provides more information on how that very specific information was derived from the census data.) The DEA acknowledges that the presence of the bridge may thus increase the usage of the Ala Wai Neighborhood Park and its comfort station and thereby necessitate additional unspecified costs on the part of the CCH Department of Parks and Recreation. However, the DEA declines to provide an estimate of the increased usage or costs, claiming that to do so would be "speculative."

But it is the very purpose of an impact study to provide information about such possible impacts either by drawing on existing studies of comparable situations or by conducting new studies. For instance, a new observational study counting the numbers of bicyclists and pedestrians crossing the McCully Bridge in both directions at various times of day and night would provide important data to estimate usage, especially during the proposed overnight hours—and to propose and discuss alternatives in order to mitigate impacts in the parks and residential areas, including having barriers closed at both ends of the proposed bridge during the parks' closed hours, and directing people wishing to cross at that time to the other existing bridges.

The EIS also should acknowledge the potential for increased, permanent personnel costs for the HPD and the CCH Department of Parks and Recreation due to the increased traffic and park usage. And the HPD might need to develop plans to coordinate efforts between police districts in order to deal with suspected criminals using the bridge to escape pursuit in one district by fleeing to the other.

Finally, the 2021 DEA does not mention, but city officials have acknowledged, that they do not plan to limit electric bicycles, skateboards, scooters, etc. from using the proposed bridge, suggesting that it would be impractical to do so. This raises the question, Would it also be impractical to stop mopeds (not to mention motorcycles), which would be louder (disrupting residents' sleep at night) as well as potentially more dangerous to bicyclists and pedestrians alike at all times when the bridge is in use? If so, that is an additional problem that should be addressed in the full EIS.

Thank you for your consideration of our concerns.

Source cited:

Cozens, Paul, and Terence Love. 2015. A Review and Current Status of Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED). *Journal of Planning Literature* 30(4): 393-412.

Honolulu City Council

Wednesday, April 17, 2024, 10:00 AM

Written Testimony

Re: Bill 13 (2024) CD1, Project # 2020105

To: Chair Waters, Vice-Chair Kia'Aina and Council Members,

My name is Adeline Porter, a member of the Ala Wai Mauka community group. I, along with my husband, have been owner-occupants of the Ala Wai Cove for the past fifty (50) years. The issues pertaining to the proposed Ala Wai Bridge are very important to us. Hence, I humbly ask that you please:

1. Hold the Ala Wai Bridge Project in abeyance until a full EIS is completed.
2. Amend the appropriation amount to \$500,000.00 or to the cost of EIS.

I truly appreciate your earnest consideration regarding this issue.

Submitted by:
Adeline Porter
member, Ala Wai Mauka community

Honolulu City Council
April 17, 2024

Aloha Council Members,

I am a resident of the Kaunala (Velzyland) neighborhood of North Shore O'ahu and District 2, and I write in **STRONG SUPPORT** of the Budget Committee's recommendation to adopt the amendment proposed by Councilmember Weyer to add \$500,000 to the capital budget for planning and design of the Ocean Safety First Responder Center – North Shore District.

As a region whose infrastructure has been overburdened and neglected for far too long, improvements in these EMS/ambulance services and new Lifeguard District Office on the North Shore are desperately needed for local residents and visitors alike.

We hope we can count on our City Council to make these critical investments now.

Thank you for your consideration,



TO: Honolulu City Council
FROM: Madeline Walsh
DATE: April 16th, 2024
RE: Testimony in **Strong Support** for Bill 13(2024), CD1 - Ocean Safety First Responder Center

Aloha Chair Waters, Vice Chair Kia‘āina, and Members of the Committee,

I was born and raised on the North Shore of O‘ahu, and I testify in **STRONG SUPPORT** of Bill 13, adding \$500,000 to the capital budget for planning and design of the “Ocean Safety First Responder Center - North Shore District.”

I am testifying in strong support for (1) the safety of our local watermen, (2) the safety of the North Shore’s tourists, and (3) the avoidance of the “Rural Community Commercial Center” in the Shark’s Cove area that would do much more harm to the community than good.

Enjoying the ocean can bring devastating consequences, and our community has seen its fair share of ocean-induced medical emergencies, for local watermen and tourists alike. Given the danger that peak winter swells can bring, we need a responsive safety center in the heart of this area - prioritizing timeliness, familiarity, and proactiveness. An Ocean Safety First Responder Center in Pūpūkea is just what the community needs to ensure that residents and visitors are taken care of in the event of an emergency.

Further, a “Rural Community Commercial Center” with a surf shop, retail and restaurant area, credit union, etc. will just bring more congestion to an already increasingly congested area of the island. Our community exists on both sides of a two-lane road that is clogged by visitors every single day. There are several commercial centers, restaurants, and shopping areas just fifteen minutes away from Pūpūkea, making this “Rural Community Commercial Center” unnecessary, as most residents of this rural area would like to keep it *rural*.

If development is inevitable on our side of the island, I urge the Council to implement safety measures for our community rather than a commercial center.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Mahalo,
Madeline “Maddy” Walsh
maddy.walsh.12@gmail.com

**City Council Meeting and Public Hearing
April 17, 2024**

Relating to Executive Capital Budget Bill 13, CD1, Item #2020105

**Testimony in Strong Opposition to the
City Administration's Accelerated Ala Wai Bridge Funding**

City Council Chair Waters, Vice Chair Kai'aina and Councilmembers:

This testimony is in strong opposition to Executive Capital Budget Item #2020105 relating to fast-tracked, premature city funding of a highly controversial bridge proposed to tower 170 feet over the Ala Wai Canal and impede upon its historic passive pedestrian Promenade, both listed on the Register of Historic Places.

This wasteful funding would appropriate nearly \$62 Million from public taxpayer earnings to force-fully fund a long-disputed pedestrian and bicycle bridge over the historic Ala Wai Canal between the Waikiki resort area and the established neighborhoods of McCully-Mo'ili'i, where many residents are fearful of the proposed bridge's significant adverse impacts on the contiguous public park, public school and the associated community parking caused by the proposed bridge access into Waikiki together with the threat of intrusive criminals fleeing afoot from Waikiki across the proposed bridge and into the mauka neighborhoods, with HPD patrol vehicles in pursuit ultimately blocked and restricted by the proposed pedestrian/bicycle bridge.

Moreover, the adverse effects of the towering visual blight and obtrusive LED-illuminated Las Vegas commercialized design of the proposed bridge representing a gaudy monument to its past and present promoters imposes an intense insult to the Hawaiian cultural and recreational history of the Waikiki ahupua'a at this location, and to the designated Diamond Head Special District and its protected view planes spanning the length of the Ala Wai Canal to the Manoa-Palolo stream.

Therefore, the glaring absence of due diligence in addressing the environmental impacts of this special-interest proposal calls for a full and complete Environmental Impact Study (EIS) disclosure document in accordance with the National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA) and the Hawaii Environmental Policy Act (HEPA) in the larger public interest, and corrective planning and design before any construction is considered by the Honolulu City Council for public funding.

Notably the [Resolution Requesting a Full EIS for the Proposed Ala Wai Bridge](#) adopted by the elected Diamond Head-Kapahulu-St. Louis Heights community district board calls for the required comprehensive EIS disclosure document that must serve to inform the project promoters of the *cumulative* environmental impacts of the proposed bridge including the significant adverse visual and physical impacts on the historic Ala Wai Canal and Promenade, and to disclose in the larger public interest the clear alternatives to construction of the proposed bridge at the proposed location.

Thus, the Honolulu City Council should not be forging ahead with this incompatible proposal blindly guided by administrative drumbeats and special interests by skipping over lawfully-required due diligence and disclosures; and must instead allocate only the amount needed for a full and complete EIS at this time - in lieu of dumping into this proposal \$62 Million in public taxpayer dollars most needed elsewhere for truly necessary purposes.

Michelle S. Matson

Testimony Submitted for the Honolulu City Council Regular Meeting

Wednesday, April 17, 2024 at 10:00 AM

Comments for: Bill 13(24) CD1 - 2020105

Aloha Chair Waters, Vice Chair Kia’aina, and Members of the City Council,

My name is Gregory Misakian and I currently serve as the Sub-District 2 Vice Chair of the Waikiki Neighborhood Board, the President of the Kokua Council, and a Director on my condominium associations Board.

I am providing testimony on behalf of myself as an individual.

I currently reside in very close proximity to where the proposed Ala Wai bridge will be built, if this project moves forward. The proposed 180-foot-tall cable-stayed bridge, if constructed, will be in my direct view path from my lanai and windows. The negative impact to me (and other residents who have shared concerns) has been communicated numerous times at numerous meetings that I have participated in since last year. This proposed project will have an adverse impact to me and many other residents throughout the surrounding area. The serene and majestic views that we all cherish will forever be lost to a massive steel and concrete structure if the proposed bridge design moves forward.

I have participated in numerous meetings and discussions regarding the proposed Ala Wai Pedestrian Bridge Project and it has been very clear to me that the “majority” of the public does not support a large cable-stayed tower bridge, yet City and County elected officials and numerous staff at the DTS continue to ignore the public’s concerns.

I have spent a considerable amount of time researching the proposed bridge design and the Draft EA report, and my take away is that a full Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is required.

Below is the information captured from the proposed budget, so it is clear to the public what my testimony pertains to. I have also included proposed budget allocations regarding the Canoe Halau and the Clubhouse.

DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION

2020105	ALA WAI BRIDGE	6,000,000 D	12,348,000 HI	61,737,000
		50,625,000 C	49,389,000 FG	
		5,112,000 I		

Design, construct, and inspect a new pedestrian and bicycle bridge over the Ala Wai Canal between Waikiki, Ala Moana, and McCully/Moiliili neighborhoods. The design phase of the project must include consideration of a bridge design with a lower height and width.

BRIDGES, VIADUCTS, AND GRADE SEPARATION

Design and Construction

2020105 ALA WAI BRIDGE

Amend description as follows: "Design, construct, and inspect a new pedestrian and bicycle bridge over the Ala Wai Canal between Waikiki, Ala Moana and McCully/Moiliili neighborhoods. The design phase of the project must include consideration of a bridge design with a lower height and width."

2024079 ALA WAI COMMUNITY PARK CANOE HALAU

100,000 P	1,000,000 GI	1,000,000
100,000 D		
790,000 C		
10,000 I		

Plan, design, construct, and inspect sustainable and resilient improvements to the canoe halau.

2002117 ALA WAI COMMUNITY PARK - CLUBHOUSE

300,000 D	300,000 GI	300,000
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Design sustainable and resilient improvements to the existing historic clubhouse.

Some Additional Thoughts and Concerns that I Have Shared Previously.

This is a controversial project with differing opinions. The current proposed 180-foot-tall cable-stayed 20-foot-wide bridge, at a cost of over \$60 Million (including Federal funds available), has fueled a great deal of discussion and debate. The Waikiki Neighborhood Board in 2016 had supported a simple bridge design at a cost of \$5-11 Million.

The McCully-Mo'ili'ili Neighborhood Board adopted a resolution at their June 2021 Board meeting against the proposed 180-foot-tall tower/cable-stayed bridge with two key statements made:

BE IT RESOLVED, the McCully-Moiliili Neighborhood Board No. 8 finds that while the Project may serve important needs, the design is incompatible with the Ala Wai Neighborhood Park and surroundings, the historic character of the Ala Wai Canal, and the Diamond Head Special District objectives; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board urges the City not to proceed further on the Project unless a satisfactory design solution is offered to the McCully-Moiliili community with more opportunities for input and dialog regarding Project impacts; and

The Diamond Head Neighborhood Board adopted a Resolution in January of this year requiring a full Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

Some Important Facts

The Waikiki Special District and the Diamond Head Special District encompass the Ala Wai Canal. While the Diamond Head Special District was established in the early 1970s, with the principal goal to protect and preserve existing prominent public views of Diamond Head, the Waikiki Special District's main objective is to promote a Hawaiian sense of place.

In the Waikiki Special District Design Guidelines, it states:

A great contributor to our sense of place and quality of life is the variety and quality of public views. Waikiki has a number of significant vistas or landmarks, the mountains, and the ocean that are internationally known and contribute to the magic of Waikiki. Views of Diamond Head from as many public vantage points as possible, but especially from Ala Wai Blvd and the Punchbowl lookout.

Accordingly, the view of Diamond Head from Ala Wai Blvd., between McCully St. and Kapahulu Ave., is identified as a significant public view of a Waikiki landmark. Cited in the Land Use Ordinance **(§21-9.80-3(a)(7))**

Also, per the Land Use Ordinance – development should preserve, maintain, and enhance these views whenever possible.

Diamond Head is the “icon” of Waikiki. The tower bridge, as proposed, will distract from the view plane of Diamond Head and its natural beauty.

I ask all City Council Members, the Mayor’s Office, and DTS Staff, that you work together with the community and stakeholders that live, work, and play on all sides of the Ala Wai Canal and the entire Watershed area, to find a more balanced and sustainable solution for a pedestrian bridge that complies with the Waikiki Special District Design Guidelines.

Mahalo,

Gregory Misakian

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May 16, 2024

RE: Relating to Executive Capital Budget Bill 13, CD1, Item #2020105 for Proposed Ala Pono Bridge Project Design and Funding Opposition and requesting a FULL EIS before any funding proceeds in budget

Dear Chair Waters and City Council Members,

Summary: The Outdoor Circle would like to take this opportunity to register its opposition to the proposed Ala Pono Bridge across the Ala Wai Canal as presented in the Draft EA and state its opposition to funding project design and construction until further review and a Full EIS has taken place.

There are several important reasons for opposition to the project, but first is that any huge public project like this should automatically require an EIS to ensure maximum community concerns be addressed, especially given the sheer number of permits required for the project as listed on page 1 of the Draft EA. This project has simply not engaged the community and relevant stakeholders in a robust and meaningful fashion to justify its progress at this time and thus it has seemingly been presented with a great deal of community opposition based on the one community hearing held after the Draft EA was presented.

The slides of the Draft EA presentation were not made available until after a full week, leaving the public with two weeks to pour over hundreds of pages of materials on a project of major significance and expense. This alone does not help to engender trust on the issue with the public either, and an entire series of consultative (not just informative) meetings should have been held for a significant period of time with all stakeholders. This rush to finish with a Draft EA is not acceptable to the public, especially during the time of COVID and limited engagement possibilities. Given the many questions around this, the city should be in no rush to start this project or move forward with this proposal at this time.

The Outdoor Circle was listed in the Draft EA in Table 7-2 (Agencies, Organizations, and Individuals Contacted During the Pre-Consultation of the Draft EA) as one such party contacted, as were over 220 others, but we have no record of that contact. A more careful look of the only 26 responses from those that did reply were overwhelmingly city and state agencies. Even individuals and organizations that might purportedly support this project did not comment, which leads us to question how and what materials were delivered and what follow up was made, if any, for comments, questions and concerns.

Those listed who did NOT respond (according to this Draft EA) included the USACE (with a major project for the area), the USFWS, the EPA, DAGS, the AG, DBEDT, Land Use Commission, Department of Health--Clean Water Branch, Department of Health--Wastewater Branch, DNLR Historic Preservation Division, DNLR Office of Conservation and Coastal Lands, Department of Transportation--Highways Division Planning Branch, Department of Transportation Statewide Transportation Planning Office, Hawaii Tourism Authority, Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization, NO Office at University of Hawaii (of the 8 contacted), the Department of Budget and Fiscal Services, the Department of Emergency Services, the Department of Design and Construction and many others. In addition, NOT ONE US Senator or Representative, NOT ONE of dozens of State Senators or Representatives, nor ANY of the City Council Members responded. Only ONE Neighborhood Board responded. Organizations that did NOT respond include AARP, Sierra Club, The Outdoor Circle, United Public Workers, Unite Here Local 5, Hawaii Bicycling League, Waikiki Transportation Stakeholder Oversight Committee, Waikiki Transportation Management Association, Better Block Hawaii, Waikiki Business Improvement District, Hawaii Thousand Friends, UH Department of Urban Planning, National Disaster Preparedness Training Center, Sustainable Transportation Coalition of Hawaii, or Blue Planet. How could so many individuals, organizations and agencies with a vested interest in this project NOT respond to this and why was no concerted effort made to engage these same individuals and entities, many of whom needed to be involved with this deeply? If these individuals, organizations and agencies were involved later, how would we know?

Notably, the ONE "Citizens Groups" who answered (but listed under "Businesses" for some reason) did indicate that this project had an adverse effect on historic properties such that an MOA was required and they were awaiting a formal letter from the Federal Highway Administration as the project uses their Visual Impact Assessment and is triggered by the use of federal funds.

The current proposed project all but assumes that the bridge should be built with seemingly little consideration of the "no action" course of possibility, leading the public to reasonably view this as a fait-accompli, which rightly causes alarm and outrage from many quarters. The Planning Phase Preliminary Alternatives listed "Enhanced Existing Crossings" for this project, which were three absolute non-starters: a tunnel, an aerial tram or an aqua-bus. That left this project proposal as the only real "option" to pursue, rather than well-crafted and easily-implemented "Enhanced Existing Crossings" of the aforementioned McCully Pedestrian and Bicycle improvements plan made in 2015 for \$1.58 million that was sidelined.

With this massive Draft EA being presented on March 15th, 2021 and having ONE public meeting on March 30th, 2021 for a presentation with Draft EA comments due three weeks later does not allow for proper public input and denies the public a meaningful opportunity for those wishing to appropriately weigh in on these matters with some thoughtful comments.

Those who have had a chance to look through this document would realize that the community has not been adequately engaged, despite the appearance of being so, and in all fairness probably had the desire to do so, and we do not question the good work or motives of the people at DTS in this matter.

One of the very rationales for the bridge might also be called into question regarding emergency evacuation from Waikiki. In a tsunami event coming from the Big Island, much of the surrounding area mauka and makai of the canal will be underwater, so those seeking to escape Waikiki would be trapped somewhere between Waikiki and the H1 or beyond in about 20 minutes from first warning. If there were a tsunami from Alaska or Japan, there is a six-or-seven hour time frame to take action. And that action recommended for tsunamis is then is a vertical evacuation in place above the 4th floor of a reinforced building. Similarly, any mass floods affecting the Ala Wai Canal would not allow for those to either get to this bridge or get off this bridge, since both sides, but certainly the mauka side, would be under water. USACE most-recent plans shows much of the mauka side of the canal would still be flooded in many rare or large-scale storm events, so people would not be leaving Waikiki to go into a disaster zone. In a missile attack, we should head to fallout shelters where they exist, but the McCully neighborhood does not have these. While there may be other scenarios needing emergency evacuations of the population away from Waikiki, the McCully and Kalakaua Bridges are a short distance away.

This project does not seem to have had much, if any, recent communication with the USACE with their plans, also changing massively over the last year. Were these taken into consideration in this bridge planning? No, It is not possible to have done so, since the Draft EA was completed years before the latest (and dreadful) USACE version of flood control which would result in a massive walled-off Ala Wai Canal.

The proposed Ala Pono bridge design we are told, did not allow for a column or post to be placed in the middle of the canal and span the canal with a lower-rise crossing like the McCully bridge as was presented in earlier renderings due to concerns about debris from a flood from the Makiki-Palolo Stream channel and concern for canoes. However, the bridges at McCully and Kalakaua and Ala Moana all have much lower spans that are almost completely submerged in high tides currently and would certainly become obstructed with any mass debris in their narrower and shallower design, and this proposed bridge would not seem to pose an obstruction like those would be in such an event due to its proposed elevation.

***All that said*, our primary concern beyond lack of public involvement is one of visual considerations, from the 180-foot high bridge design to the obstruction of the legally protected Diamond Head Scenic Protected view plane, which is surprisingly omitted from the DEA, especially regarding negative visual effects listed on pages 51 – 54.**

However, the DEA is correct in its findings on page 53 that:

“The bridge, particularly the tower, may also result in effects on visual resources in the vicinity of Ala Wai Canal. Views from surrounding schools, parks, playing fields, and buildings on the mauka side may be slightly altered or obstructed. The open view plane of the Ala Wai Canal from McCully Street Bridge looking toward Diamond Head would be altered. However, the proposed bridge is not anticipated to disrupt the entire viewshed due to the proposed open, cable-stayed bridge type and design.”

We agree that the “effects on visual resources” or as most of us understand it, the view plane, would be obstructed, but more important, the design does not take into account the overall change this would be for the historic view plane from McCully Street and Ala Wai Community Park towards Diamond Head which is unimpeded and protected by law. Ala Wai Community Park is specifically mentioned as a “prominent public vantage point from which public views of Diamond Head exist” and is within the boundaries of the Diamond Head Special District. It does not matter that this would not “disrupt the entire viewshed” since that is a self-serving definition. Has the City considered the provisions of ROH Sections 21-9.40-3 (a) 1 and (b) (6) on “Prominent Public Vantage Points,” Sec. 21-9.40-4 (b) (2) (A) and (B) “Design Controls on Heights,” Table 21-9.2 “Required Permit Special Conditions” regarding “Major above-grade infrastructure.” We do not see mention of these concerns in the Draft EA. This proposed project is also at the entrance to the Waikiki Special Design District and may merit special consideration for that as well.

The Draft EA goes on to state:

“The bridge was designed to be consistent with the project area’s current visual character and is intended to mimic the natural environment in Honolulu.”

This bridge proposal, while certainly a beautiful design and signature piece of engineering, is not consistent with the area’s current visual character, and does not “mimic” the natural environment in Honolulu, unless white painted steel and concrete and cable spans are part of the natural environment. It is simply the wrong design for this area and out of character with the canal and its current bridges.

Designs shown to one of the two visits made prior to 2021 Draft EA to Neighborhood Board #5 depicted a low-rise bridge that was similar to the others crossing the Ala Wai at McCully and Kalakaua. Perhaps other designs were presented, but the board generally expressed great dismay when presented with the current design in the Fall of 2020 at the board meeting.

In other places on the March 30th 2021 DTS presentation, it was mentioned that art and colored LED lights could be utilized for certain events as well, but art on

the bridges is not consistent with the area, nor would lights over the canal which is dark now, and colored lights, especially those that change colors, would seem to violate the current Diamond Head Special District guidelines as well as seen in ROH Ch 9.

Furthermore, the Draft EA continues and seemingly directly contradicts the paragraphs above, and also brings into question the following:

“The analysis performed in the VIA (Appendix A) states that it is the position and shape of the proposed bridge that may contrast sharply with existing conditions. However, only some viewers—primarily those who inhabit the area as permanent neighbors (typically residents) or permanent travelers (typically commuters)—would notice the contrast. Transitory neighbors and travelers (typically tourists) would not be aware of that contrast. The artificial visual character of the canal defines it as a modern constructed visual resource. Constructing a bridge in the project area would result in the addition of another modern visual resource of similar height, scale, color, and materials to the existing high rise buildings in the area. Consequently, the proposed new bridge would not be in stark contrast with other structures visible in the vicinity of the canal. Nonetheless, effects on aesthetics and visual resources in the project area would be adverse, though not substantial.”

We are unsure how “effects on aesthetics and visual resources” can be listed as both *adverse*, (which Merriam-Webster defines as synonyms as “counter, disadvantageous, hostile, inimical, negative, prejudicial, unfavorable, unfriendly, unsympathetic, untoward”) and *not substantial* in the same sentence. Also, every person walking, biking, driving or living near this structure would be included in the definition of “some viewers” who would notice the contrast, which is literally everyone *but* tourists.

The Draft EA ends page 53 and begins page 54 with:

“Since the project would result in adverse effects to visual resources, avoidance and minimization measures would be required to lessen the effects of the new bridge, makai ramp, and mauka landing.

The proposed avoidance and minimization measures incorporate design features and methods to avoid permanent adverse visual impacts and include the following....”

And then goes on to list some efforts to minimize these adverse visual effects. *However, since this is a permanent structure, the adverse visual impacts are, by definition, permanent. And while we appreciate this acknowledgement, the proposed remedies cannot ameliorate a 180-foot high, lighted structure spanning the canal in the protected scenic view plane. It is what it is.* Another effort suggests potential deterrents for the attractive nuisance the bridge would create for graffiti.

The Draft EA has a huge amount of information for the average person to wade through. That said, the Community Engagement Report seems to have been designed with the expectation that a bridge would be built, and the meetings presented as “Ala Wai Crossing Alternatives.” So those who showed up to these meetings typically would have had a built-in preference for some kind of bridge. Those who express opposition to the bridge mention crime, parking and social issues coming over from Waikiki, which are still issues of concern to the mauka community. The Community Engagement Report has a wonderful plan of execution, but when so many people still feel left out or are just finding out about this project who live next to the site, there is a failure to really deeply engage and make sure that voices are heard by repeated outreach, similar to the lack of input by the various community groups who were inadequately contacted. The end result is that the public feels disenfranchised, ignored and marginalized.

The City DTS did an excellent plan at 1/20th the cost to improve the safety for pedestrians and bicyclists in the same area at McCully Bridge in June of 2015 and nothing has changed since then in the area that we are aware of, and we would suggest that the City focus its efforts there and on that Complete Streets Projects (which in general we support) in the area surrounding Waikiki first to maximize benefits with faster results and at much lower fiscal outlay and much less controversy.

We appreciate the intent of DTS and all those involved in compiling the massive Draft EA, but we suggest that we revisit the project and take into consideration the many comments, especially those that are not favorable to the bridge, into serious consideration and have a FULL EIS where these issues can be more fully explored. The adverse visual effects on the protected view plane of this proposed bridge are enough on their own to not proceed with this design, but there are many other serious community concerns as well. *- Moving forward on this project at this time is premature and rushed, and DTS has many projects in this very area that are in need of attention that will be much more easily accepted by the public and provide immediate benefit.

We sincerely look forward to working with you on this and other projects of the Complete Streets Project. But for the many reasons listed in this letter, we regretfully cannot support this bridge crossing as presented in the Draft EA, and ask that you withhold further funding for this project in the current budget proposal.

Mahalo nui loa for your consideration,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'W. Welch', with a stylized, flowing script.

Winston Welch, Executive Director



April 17, 2024



P.O. BOX 532

HAU'ULA, HI 96717

Aloha Council Chair Waters and Council Members,

We are members of the Ko'olauloa Hawaiian Civic Club and residents of the Ko'olauloa moku. Our 'ohana have lived on the North Shore for generations. Culturally our kai (ocean) is used for multiple purposes, healing of our body (kino), mind (ma'nao) and soul ('uhane), food sustainability (gathering of limu, shellfish and fish); and recreation and enjoyment (exercise for the body, mind and soul). The KAI (ocean) sustains our ola (lives), and the KAI (ocean) takes our ola (lives) we have seen tragedy strike our Lahui because of the lack of First Responders in our moku.

We the (Ko'olauloa Hawaiian Civic Club membership) **STRONGLY SUPPORT** the Budget Committee's recommendation to adopt the amendment proposed by Councilmember Weyer to add \$500,000 to the capital budget for the planning and design of the Ocean Safety First Responder Center - North Shore District.

Me ka ha'aha'a,

Raynae Fonoimoana

Raynae Fonoimoana
Ko'olauloa Hawaiian Civic Club
Pelekikena & Membership

