HONOLULU CITY COUNCIL

KE KANIHELA O KE KALANA O HONOLULU

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

No. **24-81, CD1**

RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES TO PROVIDE 24/7 OPERATIONAL SERVICE AT THE WAI'ANAE CONVENIENCE CENTER AND URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION TO CONTINUE THEIR HARD WORK AND MAINTENANCE AT LEEWARD O'AHU PARKS AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES.

WHEREAS, refuse drop-off facilities operated by the City and County of Honolulu ("City") play a critical role in the City's efforts to reduce illegal dumping; and

WHEREAS, the City provides public refuse drop-off locations for residential use at six convenience centers and three transfer stations, which are operated by the Department of Environmental Services ("ENV"); and

WHEREAS, refuse convenience centers and transfer stations are used for the disposal of a variety of household waste, including furniture, automotive batteries, tires, bulky items, large metal appliances, propane tanks, and green waste, and residents are allowed to dispose of up to two loads of household waste per day at these disposal sites; and

WHEREAS, the City operates refuse facilities on the Leeward Coast, including the Wai'anae Convenience Center ("WCC"), one of the busiest convenience centers in the City, which operates daily from 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.; and the Waimanalo Gulch Sanitary Landfill ("WGSL"), which is currently the City's only permitted public municipal solid waste landfill; and

WHEREAS, on November 1, 2019, the State of Hawai'i Land Use Commission adopted an amendment to the City's special use permit for the WGSL, subject to certain conditions requiring that the WGSL close no later than March 2, 2028 and that the City identify, by December 31, 2022, an alternative municipal solid waste landfill site on O'ahu to be used upon the closure of the WGSL; and

WHEREAS, compliance with the No Pass Zone established by the Board of Water Supply and Act 73, Session Laws of Hawaii 2020—which requires a one-half mile buffer zone between the construction or expansion of a waste or disposal facility and any residential, school, or hospital property—has complicated and prolonged the City's process for selecting alternative replacement sites for the WGSL; and

WHEREAS, the nine-member Landfill Advisory Committee, which was appointed by Mayor Rick Blangiardi pursuant to Section 4-103, Revised Charter of the City and

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County of Honolulu 1973 (Amended 2017 Edition), as amended, to advise the City in evaluating and scoring six potential landfill sites to select a new landfill site to replace the WGSL, ultimately did not recommend any of the six sites upon the conclusion of its last meeting in June 2022; and

WHEREAS, the City has failed to provide alternative landfill sites and, to date, lacks any realistic option to consider as a proposed future landfill site to replace the WGSL; and

WHEREAS, by a letter dated December 22, 2022, the ENV made a request to the City Planning Commission for a two-year extension of the condition that the City must identify, by December 31, 2022, an alternative landfill site to be used upon the closure of the WGSL; and

WHEREAS, at a contested case hearing held before the City's Planning Commission on February 7, 2024, proposed Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Decision and Order were submitted by interested parties for the Commission's deliberation, and a decision on the ENV's request for an extension had been expected by March 28, 2024; and

WHEREAS, residents have cited issues with the WCC, such as limited operating hours, unreasonably strict limits on types of acceptable refuse, and inadequate capacity, which have contributed to increased illegal dumping in the community; and

WHEREAS, the City Council ("Council") finds that due to the high volume of unpermitted camping at Leeward O'ahu parks, these parks suffer from a substantial accumulation of large amounts of trash, litter, and debris far greater than the capacity at parks that are not used for such purposes; and

WHEREAS, the Council believes that implementing continuous operational service at the WCC and increasing park grounds staffing and maintenance at City parks on the Leeward Coast will better serve Leeward O'ahu residents and are in the best interest of the City; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City and County of Honolulu that it urges the Department of Environmental Services to provide 24-hours-a-day, seven-days-a-week operational service at the Wai'anae Convenience Center and urges the Department of Parks and Recreation to continue their hard work and maintenance at Leeward O'ahu parks and recreational facilities; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Environmental Services is requested to:

1. Commit to at least four (approximately quarterly) cleanups a year as designated by the Council District 1 community;

2. Review and evaluate options for leasing property to create a new convenience center, to be managed and operated by the City, to accommodate the need for additional refuse bin space in Wai'anae; and

3. Provide a communication to the Council regarding alternative sites being considered for a new landfill and any impacts of those sites to the Board of Water Supply No Pass Zone or to Act 73, Session Laws of Hawaii 2020; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Administration is requested to reconvene the Landfill Advisory Committee to identify a future site for a landfill, in the interest of promoting transparency and regular reporting on the landfill site selection process; and

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BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Mayor, the Managing Director, the Director of the Department of Environmental Services, and the Director of Parks and Recreation.

INTRODUCED BY:

Andria Tupola

DATE OF INTRODUCTION:

April 1, 2024
Honolulu, Hawai'i

Councilmembers

CITY COUNCIL
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU
HONOLULU, HAWAII

CERTIFICATE

RESOLUTION 24-81, CD1

Introduced: 04/01/24 By: ANDRIA TUPOLA Committee: HOUSING, SUSTAINABILITY AND HEALTH (HSH)
COUNCIL (CCL)

Title: URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES TO PROVIDE 24/7 OPERATIONAL SERVICE AT THE WAI'ANAE CONVENIENCE CENTER AND URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION TO CONTINUE THEIR HARD WORK AND MAINTENANCE AT LEEWARD O'AHU PARKS AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES.

Voting Legend: * = Aye w/Reservations

04/01/24	INTRO	Introduced.
05/01/24	HSH	Postponed to a date and time to be determined by the Committee Chair. 4 AYES: KIA'ĀINA, OKIMOTO, TULBA, WEYER 1 ABSENT: DOS SANTOS-TAM
05/22/24	HSH	Reported out for adoption as amended in CD1 form. CR-182 5 AYES: DOS SANTOS-TAM, KIA'ĀINA, OKIMOTO, TULBA, WEYER
06/05/24	CCL	Committee report and Resolution as amended were adopted. 7 AYES: CORDERO, DOS SANTOS-TAM, KIA'ĀINA, SAY, TUPOLA, WATERS, WEYER 2 ABSENT: OKIMOTO, TULBA

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

GLEN I. TAKAHASHI, CITY CLERK

TOMMY WATERS, CHAIR AND PRESIDING OFFICER