

RES24-226

Testimony

MISC. COM. 415
ZONING (ZON)

James Pietsch
1264 Mokukua Drive
Kailua, HI 96734

August 26, 2024

Office of the City Clerk
Attention: Information Section
530 South King Street, Room 100
Honolulu, HI 96813

Re: Testimony of James Pietsch in Support of Approval for 2024/SMA-44 and 2024/SV-1

Aloha, Chair Say, Vice Chair Dos Santos-Tam, and Committee Members:

My names is James Pietsch, and I have been a resident of Lanikai for over 20+ years and have been spent over 70 years coming to Lanikai. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on the Smiths' special management area major permit (2024/SMA-44) and shoreline setback variance (2024/SV-1) applications (the "Applications"). I submit this testimony in strong support of the Applications. As discussed below, the Applications should be approved.

The Smiths seawall and revetment are part of an existing hardened shoreline that fronts more than 100 parcels. These structures are lawfully in place and have been for decades, with the Smiths' seawall being in place since before World War II. The Applications propose to keep the seawall and revetment in sound condition. That maintains the status quo.

Given the developed environment in Lanikai, we can't simply remove these structures or willfully let them fail. The Smiths' seawall and revetment are a link in a chain and removing them (or letting them fail) will likely cause neighboring structures to fail, one by one. That's not a desirable policy.

Upon review of their seawall, it just needs a repair and fortification of the structure from within the property. The upgrade does not exceed the boundaries of their property however, it will need attention very soon.

While we need to develop and implement a plan for what we eventually do with existing hardened shorelines like Lanikai, we also need to acknowledge that we don't have such plans right now. We can't allow existing structures to fail in the interim. That's forced dilapidation.

I strongly urge this Committee to recommend approval of the Applications so that we can maintain the status quo and avoid the consequences of inaction. That's sound and sensible policy.

Sincerely,



James W. Pietsch

September 1, 2024

Office of the City Clerk
Attention: Information Section
530 South King Street, Room 100
Honolulu, HI 96813

Re: Testimony of Alesia Barnes in Support of Approval for 2024/SMA-44 and 2024/SV-1

Aloha, Chair Say, Vice Chair Dos Santos-Tam, and Committee Members:

My name is Alesia Barnes, and I am a resident of Lanikai and a neighbor of the Applicants. I have been a resident of Lanikai since 2007. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on the Smiths' special management area major permit (2024/SMA-44) and shoreline setback variance (2024/SV-1) applications (the "Applications"). I submit this testimony in strong support of the Applications. As discussed below, the Applications should be approved.

The Smiths seawall and revetment are part of an existing hardened shoreline that fronts more than 100 parcels. These structures are lawfully in place and have been in place for decades, with the Smiths' seawall being in place since before World War II. The Applications propose to keep the seawall and revetment in sound condition protecting their home.

Given the developed environment in Lanikai, we can't simply remove these structures or willfully let them fail. The Smiths' seawall and revetment are a link in a chain and removing them (or letting them fail) will likely cause neighboring structures to fail, one by one. That's not a desirable policy.

While we need to develop and implement a plan for what we eventually do with existing hardened shorelines like Lanikai, we also need to acknowledge that we don't have such plans in place right now. We can't allow existing structures to fail in the interim. That's forced dilapidation.

I strongly urge this Committee to recommend approval of the Applications so that we can maintain the status quo and avoid the consequences of inaction. That's sound and sensible policy.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alesia Barnes', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Alesia Barnes
1586 Mokulua Drive
Kailua, HI 96734
(808) 397-7928

September 1, 2024

Office of the City Clerk
Attention: Information Section
530 South King Street, Room 100
Honolulu, HI 96813

Re: Testimony of Alesia Barnes in Support of Approval for 2024/SMA-44 and 2024/SV-1

Aloha, Chair Say, Vice Chair Dos Santos-Tam, and Committee Members:

My name is Robert Reish, and I am a resident of Lanikai and a neighbor of the Applicants. I have been a resident of Lanikai since 2004. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on the Smiths' special management area major permit (2024/SMA-44) and shoreline setback variance (2024/SV-1) applications (the "Applications"). I submit this testimony in strong support of the Applications. As discussed below, the Applications should be approved.

The Smiths seawall and revetment are part of an existing hardened shoreline that fronts more than 100 parcels along Lanikai. These structures are lawfully in place and have been in place for decades, with the Smiths' seawall being in place since before World War II. The Applications propose to keep the seawall and revetment in sound condition keeping the land and home safe from erosion.

Given the developed environment in Lanikai, we can't allow these structures to fail as they protect our homes and our community. The Smiths' seawall and revetment are a link in a chain and removing them or letting them fail will also cause neighboring structures to fail, one by one. That's not a desirable policy.

While we need to develop and implement a plan for all of our beautiful islands and what we eventually will do with existing hardened shorelines like Lanikai, we also need to acknowledge that we currently don't have such plans in place. However, we cannot allow existing structures to fail in the interim as that would be a tragedy for all of our homes.

I strongly urge this Committee to recommend approval of the Applications so that we can maintain the status quo and avoid the consequences of inaction. That's a sound and sensible policy.

Sincerely,



Robert Reish
1586 Mokulua Drive
Kailua, HI 96734
(808) 397-7928

