RES24-248
Testimony

MISC. COMM. 506

COUNCIL

COUNCIL Meeting

Meeting Date: Nov 7, 2024 @ 10:00 AM

Support: 2

Oppose: 0

I wish to comment: 0

Name:	Email:	Zip:
Philip Ganaban	ganabanphilip@gmail.com	96792-2903
Representing:	Position:	Submitted:
Self	Support	Nov 6, 2024 @ 07:32 AM
Name:	Email:	Zip:
Darius Kila	repkila@capitol.hawaii.gov	96813
Representing:	Position:	Submitted:
Self	Support	Nov 6, 2024 @ 11:32 AM

As a professional with a decade-long background in low-voltage network systems and an undergraduate degree in Cyber Security and Emergency Management, I firmly support implementing surveillance cameras on the west side of Oahu to enhance public safety and aid in emergency response efforts. My extensive experience includes designing and managing camera and network systems for critical institutions, such as the Youth Challenge Academy, where I served as the Management Information Systems Analyst. I also contributed to significant infrastructure projects for the Department of Defense State of Hawaii. Working closely with DOD State Chief Information Officer Querubin, I played an essential role in rebuilding Homeland Security networks at Restaurant Row in 2016, ensuring that emergency management connections were reliably updated across all islands.

Honolulu City Chief Information Officer Mark Wong also introduced us to the capabilities of the city's surveillance system, particularly regarding its potential use for emergency management and strategic coverage in critical locations. His insights emphasized how these systems could provide valuable support during natural disasters or emergencies. Based on my background and these professional insights, I can confidently assure you that implementing networked surveillance cameras on the west side would serve multiple vital functions beyond crime prevention. Such a system could be a powerful tool for real-time situational awareness during natural disasters or emergencies, such as monitoring brush fires, assessing weather impacts, and tracking storms in progress.

Moreover, with the consent of private residents, it would be possible to integrate

privately owned security cameras facing public areas into the city's network, creating a cooperative approach to community safety. This collaborative model would improve surveillance coverage and empower residents to contribute directly to safeguarding their neighborhoods. We can create a safer, more connected, and resilient West Side community by adopting these enhanced surveillance capabilities.

Very respectfully

Philip Ganaban

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Hale o nā Luna Makaʻāinana

STATE OF HAWAIʻI
STATE CAPITOL
415 SOUTH BERETANIA STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAIʻI 96813

November 6, 2024

Meeting: November 7, 2024, 10:00 a.m.

City and County of Honolulu Council
City County Chamber

RE: Testimony Relating to RESOLUTION 24-248
AUTHORIZING THE USE OF OVERT VIDEO MONITORING IN THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU IN WEST OʻAHU

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

I am Darius Kila, and I am the current Representative for House District 44, which encompasses Honokai Hale, Nānākuli and Maʻili.

I am in STRONG SUPPORT of RESOLUTION 24-248, which seeks to use video monitoring in West Oʻahu.

In the past few months, there has been a spate of violence, including an incident which occurred on October 6, 2024, which an employee from Wendy's was stabbed by a customer. There are also thefts, drug dealing and usage, assaults, and robberies occurring on a daily basis. The increase in criminal activities in West Oʻahu has created an atmosphere of fear and distrust among residents, businesses, and visitors to the area.

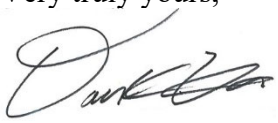
West Oʻahu is a part of HPD's District 8, which begins in Kapolei and runs through to Kaena Point. District 8 is sorely shorthanded, and stretched thin with patrolling this area. While there is a substation located in Waiʻanae, the substation is unfinished and is manned by just one person to take in complaints from walk-ins to the substation. Video monitoring in West Oʻahu will assist law enforcement in monitoring the area for illicit and/or dangerous activities occurring in the area, and allow HPD to dispatch officers to the occurrences.

Representative Darius K. Kila
House District 44—Honokai Hale, Nānākuli, Ma'ili
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 436 / Honolulu, HI 96813
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West O‘ahu is often overlooked when resources are distributed, and as a result, criminal activity has escalated within the past few years. Having video monitoring is not a panacea to everything; however, having video monitoring is a valuable tool that can assist HPD in monitoring the area and responding quicker to any criminal activity occurring at that moment.

I strongly support this Resolution and urge that the Honolulu council pass this Resolution to implement video monitoring in West O‘ahu.

Very truly yours,



Darius K. Kila
Representative, House District 44