Resolution 24-176
Testimony

MISC. COM. 582
Council

Testimony -
-FOR RES 24-176

12/10/2024.

TO: C.M. Tommy Waters

DEAR HONOLULU CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS.

ALOHA. I AM A LIFELONG RESIDENT OF KA-IMU-KI, (50+ YRS.) & O'AHU. I CURRENTLY RESIDE IN PAUOA, NEAR PŪ'O-WAINA. AMONG THE MANY THINGS DONE WHILE GROWING UP IN KA-IMU-KI I ATTENDED K.C.C., AND WORKED AT THE HAWA-I'I FILM STUDIO FOR ALMOST 40 YEARS. I ALSO TESTIFIED FOR STUDIO EXPANSION.

I DID ALOT OF EARLY WORK ON HAWA-I'IAN PLANT GARDENS. I PROPOSED THE MAU'U-MAE NATURE PARK, AND HELPED PLANT TREES AND WORK ON THE TRAIL THERE. IT WAS AMONG SEVEN OR SO HAWA-I'IAN GARDENS OR TREE GROVES THAT I CONTRIBUTED TO CREATING —

- BETWEEN 1972 AND 2000, INCLUDING WAI-KIKI AQUARIUM AND PUʻU ʻO KA-IMUKI MINI PARK.

I AM WRITING THIS TESTIMONY TO GIVE MY FULL ENDORSMENT AND SUPPORT TO THE EFFORT TO PRESERVE, PURCHASE, AND RESTORE THE QUEEN THEATER!

SINGLE THEATERS WERE AND ARE AN IMPORTANT PART OF OUR CULTURE, AND SHOULD BE INCLUDED IN HISTORIC PRESERVATION EFFORTS.

THERE WOULD BE MANY USES FOR THIS RESTORED THEATER. BESIDES SHOWING MOVIES, AND FEATURING STAGE PLAYS AND SHOWS, IT CAN BE USED FOR COMMUNITY MEETINGS, LECTURES, & OTHER EDUCATIONAL EVENTS.

We have recently seen the closure of multi-plex theaters, such as Koko Marina and Kukui Grove theaters on Kaua'i. The only theater on Kaua'i is in Wai-mea. That's a long way to drive, say from Kapa'a, to go see a movie.

Los Angeles regrets, in hind sight, the lack of preservation of some of the theaters that were important to the history of the enter-tainment industry. Martin Scorsese and Steven Spielberg have made a documentary on some current efforts to preserve some of the important old theaters there in L.A..

By saving the Queen Theater,

— AND NOT LETTING IT SUFFER THE FATE OF MANY OTHER OLD THEATERS. SUCH AS THE HALE ʻIWA THEATER, WE WOULD BE DOING OUR SMALL PART IN PRESERVING THIS IMPORTANT ASPECT OF ART, EDUCATION, AND STORY TELLING ETC., IN OUR CULTURES.

MAHALO FOR YOUR TIME, AND KIND CONSIDERATION OF THIS ISSUE!

Aloha nō!

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