RES24-267
Testimony

MISC. COMM. 12

PUBLIC SAFETY & CUSTOMER SERVICES (PS)

PUBLIC SAFETY & CUSTOMER SERVICES (PS) Meeting

Meeting Date: Jan 16, 2025 @ 01:00 PM

Support: 1

Oppose: 2

I wish to comment: 0

Name:	Email:	Zip:
Eric Chang	ericchang1945@gmail.com	96821
Representing:	Position:	Submitted:
Self	Oppose	Jan 14, 2025 @ 10:27 AM

Testimony:

Bad idea.

Look what happened in Waianae. New police substation, barely used. Do not waste tax pay dollars on this.

https://www.civilbeat.org/2023/03/why-a-16m-waianae-police-station-sits-largely-empty-7-years-after-it-opened/

Name:	Email:	Zip:
Sarah Miranda	snbm95340@yahoo.com	96789
Representing:	Position:	Submitted:
Self	Support	Jan 14, 2025 @ 08:34 PM

Testimony:

As a resident of Mililani for the last 6 years, I am concerned about the number of violent acts, some fatal, that have occurred in the last couple of years. I would feel safer if I knew there were police officers closer at hand to respond to emergency calls when these situations arise. I also know that the sentinel effect works, simply having a sub station in Mililani would deter some of the criminal activity that has been occurring. Thank you.

Name:	Email:	Zip:
Jeremy Garrett	jeremygarrett67@gmail.com	96789
Representing:	Position:	Submitted:
Self	Oppose	Jan 16, 2025 @ 01:30 AM

Testimony:

My name is Jeremy Garrett, and my parents have been Mililani Town residents for nearly 40 years. I'm writing to express my opposition to the resolution to build a new HPD substation in Mililani. While I appreciate the Council's desire to address a recent increase in criminal activity, specifically that of a violent nature in the community, I don't think this proposal best addresses the issue for the following reasons.

1. HPD has nor requested a new facility. In a KHON news story from October 31, 202, HPD Deputy Chief Keith Horikawa stated that current facilities are adequately meeting the needs of the community.

2. HPD staffing is of higher priority than a new facility. Hawaii News Now reported, on September 19, 2024, that officer vacancies have increased at HPD nearly every year since 2016 to a high of 424 in 2024. Instead of investing millions of dollars in a new building, funds should be put towards recruitment, retention, and training. I believe a fully staffed and well trained department would make a greater impact on crime than the proposed substation might.

3. Benefits to the community are in questions. As reported by Honolulu Civil Beat and KITV Island News in March 2023 and September 2024, respectively, a new HPD substation was built in Wai'anae in 2016 and it remains unfinished and understaffed 8 years later. Meanwhile, crime has not decreased and public safety is still a major issue for that community. Given this example, the Council would be well served to deliberately assess the core drivers of crime in Mililani, as well as HPD's organizational needs before approving another multimillion dollar infrastructure project.

Thank you for your time and consideration.