BILL001(25)
Testimony

MISC. COMM. 25

COUNCIL

COUNCIL Meeting

Meeting Date: Jan 29, 2025 @ 10:00 AM

Support: 20

Oppose: 0

I wish to comment: 0

Name:	Email:	Zip:
Steve Haumschild	steve@lanikaibrewing.com	96734
Representing:	Position:	Submitted:
Lanikai Brewing Company LLC	Support	Jan 23, 2025 @ 06:41 PM

Name:	Email:	Zip:
Peter Gannon	psg5062@gmail.com	96734
Representing:	Position:	Submitted:
Self	Support	Jan 23, 2025 @ 07:38 PM

Testimony:

I am strongly in favor of more outdoor dining options!

Name:	Email:	Zip:
Al Darling	al@lanikaibrewing.com	96734
Representing:	Position:	Submitted:
Lanikai Brewing Company	Support	Jan 24, 2025 @ 07:10 AM

Testimony:

Aloha Members of the City Council of Honolulu,

As a Co-Founder and part owner of Lanikai Brewing Company, I first want to express our sincere gratitude for your support of the outdoor dining services program.

During and after Covid, businesses like ours made significant sacrifices to keep the doors open and continue to pay our employees, and the pilot program for outdoor dining services was a critical factor in being able to do this.

We have implemented this in a responsible manner, keeping the sidewalks accessible and clean, with ADA compliance maintained throughout its use.

Base on the overwhelming success of the program, and appreciation of the community, we graciously request your strong support of Bill 1 to make this a permanent feature.

Mahalo,

Al Darling, CFO

Lanikai Brewing Company

Name:	Email:	Zip:
Raymond E Kelsall	raymondk@konosnorthshore.com	96813
Representing:	Position:	Submitted:

The Surfing pig	Support	Jan 24, 2025 @ 01:34 PM
Name: Samantha Hall	Email: sam@lanikaibrewing.com	Zip: 96734
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Jan 24, 2025 @ 02:17 PM

Testimony:

Hawaii is home to the most beautiful scenery! People come from all over to see this place and have a moment basking in all her glory. Why limit people's access to this while dining at an establishment. It is a MAJOR draw for tourists to patronize a bar/restaurant if they can also sit out and enjoy the sunshine. All of my favorite restaurants have outdoor seating. I don't feel enough places have this option and I think overall it helps local business. Keep outdoor seating forever!

Name: Rory Brandt	Email: rsbrandt@me.com	Zip: 96816
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Jan 24, 2025 @ 02:50 PM

Testimony:

Outdoor public sidewalk

spaces shared with restaurants enhances not only the patrons and business owners but helps create a thriving visually busy community. It’s a way of being more inviting to people with special needs involving outdoor spaces and safety as well a secondary sign for tourists that these places are open for business.

Name: Matthew Harris	Email: drparrothead@yahoo.com	Zip: 96734
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Jan 24, 2025 @ 03:12 PM

Testimony:

Dear City Council,

As a decade long Kailua resident, I strongly support this bill. The ability to use outdoor spaces for seating by local businesses greatly adds to the character and quality of living in this beautiful town. The temporary measure provided the opportunity for this benefit to prove its worth, and to me the answer is clear. Passing this bill is a win for local residents and businesses alike and adds to a thriving community. Please vote yes for this bill.

Mahalo,

Matthew Harris

Name: Chris Wickham	Email: chriswickham45@gmail.com	Zip: 96744

Representing:	Position:	Submitted:
Self	Support	Jan 24, 2025 @ 03:44 PM

Testimony:

I have participated in outdoor dining at Lani Kai brewpub. It is a great way to experience Hawaii at your favorite business!

Name:	Email:	Zip:
Samantha Barnes	samanthakai07@gmail.com	96734
Representing:	Position:	Submitted:
Lanikai brewing company	Support	Jan 24, 2025 @ 04:29 PM

Testimony:

SUPPORT

Name:	Email:	Zip:
marilee Owens	marileekowens@gmail.com	96744-3756
Representing:	Position:	Submitted:
Self	Support	Jan 24, 2025 @ 08:42 PM

Testimony:

I support outdoor dining for healthy living and eating. This allows for safety when dining reduces over crowding in restaurants and breweries.

Name:	Email:	Zip:
Annabelle Walters	annabellegrace512@gmail.com	96734
Representing:	Position:	Submitted:
Self	Support	Jan 25, 2025 @ 11:21 AM

Testimony:

Aloha,

I am writing in strong support of Bill 001 (25), which would allow the continuation of the outdoor dining program. This initiative has been a lifeline for many local businesses and has provided a unique and enjoyable dining experience for residents and visitors alike.

The program not only enhances the vibrancy of our neighborhoods but also supports local businesses by increasing their capacity to serve patrons safely and comfortably. Outdoor dining has become a valued feature in our community, offering fresh air, additional seating, and a welcoming atmosphere.

Making this pilot program permanent would create significant positive impacts for restaurants and help sustain the local economy. I urge the council to pass this bill and continue to support small businesses and the communities they serve.

Mahalo,

Annabelle

Name:	Email:	Zip:
Paul Johnson	paulcitizensns@yahoo.com	93314
Representing:	Position:	Submitted:
Self	Support	Jan 26, 2025 @ 09:36 AM

Testimony:

In full support of the ordinance allowing outdoor dining in limited and needed spaces.

Name:	Email:	Zip:
Mallory Ladehoff	mjladehoff@gmail.com	96744
Representing:	Position:	Submitted:
Self	Support	Jan 26, 2025 @ 09:55 AM

Testimony:

We really enjoy the outdoor seating around Kailua town. One of the best aspects (in my personal opinion) of Kailua is how pet friendly it is.

Name:	Email:	Zip:
Malia Haumschild	maliahaumschild@gmail.com	96734
Representing:	Position:	Submitted:
Self	Support	Jan 26, 2025 @ 03:21 PM

Testimony:

Aloha, City Councilmembers,

I fully support Bill 1 Relating to Public Spaces. Mahalo in advance for supporting small business through passage of this bill!

Na‘u me ka mahalo,
Malia Haumschild

Name:	Email:	Zip:
Algernon Allen	fallen@elfelf.com	96746
Representing:	Position:	Submitted:
Self	Support	Jan 27, 2025 @ 02:01 PM

Testimony:

I support BILL 001 (25) relating to public places - in Hawaii is only makes sense to use our beautiful outdoor spaces. Not only does this enhance customers experience, it is healthier and safer. It also reduces the use of air conditioning and so saves energy. Please allow for more outdoor public spaces.

Name:	Email:	Zip:
Ikuko Sugiura	ikuko.pioneer@hawaii.twcbc.com	96813
Representing:	Position:	Submitted:
Monsarrat Planning dba Pioneer Saloon	Support	Jan 28, 2025 @ 07:12 AM

Testimony:

Our sales go up by the pilot program.

Name:	Email:	Zip:
Zach Glander	glanderz@konosnorthshore.com	96821-1342
Representing:	Position:	Submitted:
The Surfing Pig Hawaii	Support	Jan 28, 2025 @ 07:37 AM

Name:	Email:	Zip:
Ted Kefalas	tkefalas@grassrootinstitute.org	96813
Representing:	Position:	Submitted:
Grassroot Institute of Hawaii	Support	Jan 28, 2025 @ 10:29 AM

Name:	Email:	Zip:
Chuck Bussler	chuck@fetehawaii.com	96817
Representing:	Position:	Submitted:
Fete restaurant	Support	Jan 28, 2025 @ 02:55 PM

Testimony:

Hi, my name is Chuck Bussler. I am the managing partner for Fête restaurant at 2 North Hotel St in Chinatown. I own the restaurant with my wife, Chef Robynne Maii, 2022 JAMES BEARD winner for “Best Chef, Northwest & Pacific”. We are greatly encouraging City Council to pass Bill 1 to permanently create outdoor dining in Honolulu.

With its original inception to help struggling restaurants during Covid, the temporary outdoor dining has transformed an economic lifeline to an engine of growth for my restaurant. This past year (2024) the outdoor dining generated an additional $700,000 dollars in revenue which translated into the hiring of 5 more employees and purchases of approximately another $165,000 in goods that are locally farmed, raised, caught, fished and foraged. The temporary license was not only good for our restaurant and our employees, it was also passed down with the additional purchasing of local goods from our farmers, ranchers and fisher people.

We are currently about to open another Chinatown business at 1113 Smith St (the old Little Village spot). Our new project, Mille Fête, is a bakery that will not only further our offerings of the food we love to make and eat, but also serve as another outdoor dining opportunity in Chinatown.

I strongly believe that the more people activating the streets of Chinatown: whether it is outdoor dining, festivals or

shopping- the safer and more vibrant our neighborhoods will be. This the main reason we moved our host stand from inside the restaurant to outside with the dining section.

Please Pass Bill 1.

Thank you for your time

Chuck Bussler & Robynne Maii

Name:	Email:	Zip:
Alan Wiltshire	alan@shorefyre.com	96815
Representing:	Position:	Submitted:
Shorefyre	Support	Jan 29, 2025 @ 05:24 AM

Testimony:

As the Vice President of Operations of Shorefyre during the initial Sidewalk Dining Program I can attest that the extra seating created essential revenue to our business coming out of COVID-19. Over the past few years the Sidewalk Dining program has allowed us to enhance our guest experience to locals and tourists alike while at the same time generating business-saving revenue in a very difficult time for restaurants here in Hawaii. Without the Sidewalk Dining program, which increased our seats by 30% it is not certain we would have survived the COVID restrictions. Now our most popular tables are the ones on the sidewalk on Koa Ave where our guests can enjoy nature under our Monkeypod tree. We heartily request that the Sidewalk Dining program be made a permanent program.

Lanikai Brewing Company
175 Hamakua Drive, Unit C
Kailua, Hawaii 96734
www.lanikaibrewing.com

To: City Council of Honolulu

RE: Bill 1 January 29th, 2025 meeting

Position: SUPPORT

Aloha Members of the City council of Honolulu.

The outdoor dining services program has been a tremendous help to our local businesses since the onset of COVID-19. During the pandemic, hospitality businesses were forced to shut down completely for months. When we were finally allowed to reopen, it was under strict capacity restrictions, often operating at a maximum of 50% occupancy.

Despite these challenges, restaurants like ours continued to operate at significant financial losses in order to keep our employees working and honor our social contracts with the community. Businesses like mine made immense sacrifices during those times for the benefit of everyone. The outdoor dining program became a critical lifeline, enabling us to safely increase our daily capacity while meeting city and state distancing requirements.

Even as COVID-19 has moved into the near past, this program remains essential to our recovery. It allows us to accommodate customers who prefer outdoor dining, whether for health concerns or simply to enjoy the fresh air under Hawaii's beautiful skies. Additionally, it has helped us sustain jobs for our local staff, further supporting the community.

The outdoor dining program has been implemented responsibly and without violations. Sidewalks have remained clean and accessible, with ADA compliance maintained throughout its use. This pilot program not only met but exceeded its objectives, proving to be an overwhelming success.

We are deeply grateful to the City for introducing this pilot program and offer our strong support for Bill 1, which would make it a permanent feature.

Steve Haumschild, MBA
Steven R Haumschild

CEO & Brewmaster, Certified Cicerone®
Lanikai Brewing Company, Lanikai Spirits both Island Inspired™

Lanikai Brewing Company, Island Inspired™ Craft Beer
Brewery @ 175-C Hamakua Dr, Kailua, HI 96734
Tap & Barrel @ 167 Hamakua Dr, Kailua, HI 96734
FB: Lanikai Brewing Company, Instagram: @lanikaibrewing



To whom it may concern,

To esteemed members of the Honolulu City Council,

It is with great passion that I greatly implore you to make the current and successful existing "pilot program" permanent, allowing restaurants to use city properties like sidewalks and parklets for the purpose of enhancing the dining experience. The pilot program has brought, and will continue to provide much needed economic benefits for local businesses, an ongoing deterrent to crime, and an indispensable catalyst to strengthen the local community. I whole heatedly believe that it not only shows our neighborhood positive activity in the area, but that the decisions being made are taking into consideration the thoughts concerns of the community as a whole. The sidewalk dining has also given surrounding businesses a much-needed reprieve from the homeless encampments that habitually materialize in front of the buildings overnight.

The restaurant industry climate as a whole has seen a shift post Covid. Business has not bounced back as we have hoped and, in many cases, needed seeing so many of our esteemed colleagues closing their doors for good. I have the utmost confidence in programs like sidewalk dining as a way to not only garner assistance to small businesses, but to show us that the decision makers are with us, that we are not alone as we wade into these uncharted waters.

I have been here at The Surfing Pig for almost seven years and feel interwoven into the fabric of the community. Kaimuki has enjoyed in years past being a dining destination. I feel that it is quickly becoming that again, and we feel great pride being a part of that movement. A permanent outdoor dining program would be pivotal in furthering Kaimuki as a destination for dining.

Sincerely ,

Ray Kelsall

General Manager

The Surfing Pig

3605 Waialae Ave

Honolulu HI, 96816

(808) 744-1992

To the Honorable Members of the Honolulu City Council,

I am writing with enthusiasm and a deep sense of community pride to encourage you to make the current "pilot program" permanent. This program, which allows restaurants to utilize city spaces such as sidewalks and parklets for outdoor dining, has proven to be a tremendous asset to our community.

The pilot program has not only delivered much-needed economic support to local businesses but has also fostered a safer and more vibrant environment for residents and visitors alike. It has become a driver for strengthening our community and enhancing the area's appeal. The presence of sidewalk dining has brought positive energy to the neighborhood and shown that decisions are being made with the well-being and input of the community in mind. Furthermore, it has provided relief to surrounding businesses by reducing the frequency of overnight encampments in front of their establishments.

As you know, the restaurant industry continues to face significant challenges in a post-COVID world. Many businesses have struggled to regain their footing, with some unable to reopen their doors. Programs like this one not only offer vital support to small businesses but also demonstrate that our leaders stand with us as we navigate these uncertain times.

As a member of The Surfing Pig team for nearly 8 years, I feel deeply connected to the Kaimuki community. Once known as a dining destination, Kaimuki is experiencing a revival, and we are proud to contribute to this resurgence. A permanent outdoor dining program would be instrumental in further solidifying Kaimuki's reputation as a premier dining destination while ensuring the continued growth and success of our local businesses. By making this a permanent dining program it would also ease the local businesses from having to set-up and tear down their outdoor dining decks and setting each night and bring them in.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I urge you to take this important step in supporting our community and its businesses.

Sincerely,
Zach Glander

VP of Ops
The Surfing Pig Hawaii

3605 Waialae Ave

Honolulu HI, 96816

GRASSROOT INSTITUTE OF HAWAII

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Removing barriers to Hawaii's prosperity

Jan. 29, 2024, 10 a.m.
Honolulu Hale

To: Honolulu City Council
Tommy Waters, Chair
Matt Weyer, Vice Chair

From: Grassroot Institute of Hawaii
Ted Kefalas, Director of Strategic Campaigns

RE: Bill 1 (2025) — RELATING TO PUBLIC PLACES

Aloha Chair Waters, Vice-Chair Weyer and other members of the Council,

The Grassroot Institute of Hawaii **supports** Bill 1 (2025), which would make permanent the Outdoor Dining Services Pilot Program.

A byproduct of the COVID-19 lockdowns, this outdoor dining arrangement has provided restaurants flexibility and the opportunity to innovate with new seating arrangements that take advantage of Oahu's beautiful weather and scenery.

The Office of Economic Revitalization's final report on the pilot program found that 15 eateries participated. All three businesses that responded to OER's survey indicated that offering outdoor dining has increased their revenue, and one business reported hiring more employees as a result.[1]

Grassroot strongly suggests implementing OER's recommendations relating to permit duration and making the semi-annual permit fees annual instead.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Ted Kefalas, Director of Strategic Campaigns
Grassroot Institute of Hawaii

[1] "Outdoor Dining Services Program: Report to the Honolulu City Council," Office of Economic Revitalization, Nov. 12, 2024, p. 14.