

BILL024(24)
Testimony

MISC. COMM. 45

COUNCIL

COUNCIL Meeting

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

Support: 1

Oppose: 27

I wish to comment: 2

Name: Kevin Chang	Email: kevin@kuahawaii.org	Zip: 96744
Representing: Kuaaina Ulu Auamo	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Jan 27, 2025 @ 04:39 PM
Name: Robert Deedman	Email: rdeedman58@gmail.com	Zip: 96701
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Jan 27, 2025 @ 06:24 PM
Name: Kellee Hearther	Email: calikellee@gmail.com	Zip: 96701
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Jan 27, 2025 @ 09:09 PM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>Bill 24 (2024) CD1- to adopt the revised Primary Urban Center Development Plan for the City and County of Honolulu.</p> <p>OPPOSE</p> <p>Aloha Chair Waters, Vice Chair Weyer, Floor Leader Cordero, and Members of the Council,</p> <p>I, Kellee Hearther, of 'Aiea, 'Ewa, O'ahu, oppose this bill that, in its present form, will allow 3-8 story buildings to be built from the old 'Aiea sugar mill site all the way down to the former lo'i kalo lands. I strongly urge the adoption of an amendment to create a biocultural space in lower 'Aiea. Now, more than ever, it is important for us to make choices and take actions that will help build a future good enough for our children. A biocultural space would provide an area for lo'i kalo, loko i'a, māla, etc, and invest in the future of food security and community stewardship.</p> <p>It is important to note that over 150 community members have already voiced their support for a biocultural space in lower 'Aiea instead of the construction of monster homes by a foreign investor.</p> <p>I recommend the following amendment to Bill 24 (2024) CD1: Prioritize and invest in biocultural restoration (Native Hawaiiina lo'i kalo, loko i'a, māla, etc.) in lower 'Aiea, as an adaptive strategy to address stormwater management and mitigate fire risk, flooding, urban heat island, and groundwater recharge, while also supporting urban greening, cultural restoration, food security and community stewardship.</p> <p>Mahalo for your serious consideration of my comments,</p> <p>Kellee Hearther</p>		
Name:	Email:	Zip:

Kurt Tsue	nancy.bernal@hawaiianelectric.com	96813
Representing: Hawaiian Electric	Position: Support	Submitted: Jan 27, 2025 @ 11:12 PM
Name: Nicole Nakamoto	Email: info@malamapaakea.org	Zip: 96817
Representing: Mālama Pa‘akea o Waimalu	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Jan 27, 2025 @ 11:20 PM
Name: Richlen Nakamoto	Email: niknak.hawaii@gmail.com	Zip: 96839
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Jan 27, 2025 @ 11:27 PM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>Bill 24 (2024) CD1- to adopt the revised Primary Urban Center Development Plan for the City and County of Honolulu.</p> <p>OPPOSE</p> <p>Aloha Chair Waters, Vice Chair Weyer, Floor Leader Cordero, and Members of the Council,</p> <p>I, Richlen Nakamoto, oppose this bill that, in its present form, will allow 3-8 story buildings to be built from the old 'Aiea sugar mill site all the way down to the former lo'i kalo lands. I strongly urge the adoption of an amendment to create a biocultural space in lower 'Aiea. Now, more than ever, it is important for us to make choices and take actions that will help build a future good enough for our children. A biocultural space would provide an area for lo'i kalo, loko i'a, māla, etc, and invest in the future of food security and community stewardship.</p> <p>It is important to note that over 150 community members have already voiced their support for a biocultural space in lower 'Aiea instead of the construction of monster homes by a foreign investor.</p> <p>I recommend the following amendment to Bill 24 (2024) CD1: Prioritize and invest in biocultural restoration (Native Hawaiina lo'i kalo, loko i'a, māla, etc.) in lower 'Aiea, as an adaptive strategy to address stormwater management and mitigate fire risk, flooding, urban heat island, and groundwater recharge, while also supporting urban greening, cultural restoration, food security and community stewardship.</p> <p>Mahalo for your serious consideration of my comments,</p> <p>Richlen T. K. Nakamoto</p>		
Name: Nicole Nakamoto	Email: nikkiadamjones@gmail.com	Zip: 96822

Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Jan 27, 2025 @ 11:28 PM
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Testimony:

Bill 24 (2024) CD1- to adopt the revised Primary Urban Center Development Plan for the City and County of Honolulu.

OPPOSE

Aloha Chair Waters, Vice Chair Weyer, Floor Leader Cordero, and Members of the Council,

I, Nicole Nakamoto, oppose this bill that, in its present form, will allow 3-8 story buildings to be built from the old 'Aiea sugar mill site all the way down to the former lo'i kalo lands. I strongly urge the adoption of an amendment to create a biocultural space in lower 'Aiea. Now, more than ever, it is important for us to make choices and take actions that will help build a future good enough for our children. A biocultural space would provide an area for lo'i kalo, loko i'a, māla, etc, and invest in the future of food security and community stewardship.

It is important to note that over 150 community members have already voiced their support for a biocultural space in lower 'Aiea instead of the construction of monster homes by a foreign investor.

I recommend the following amendment to Bill 24 (2024) CD1: Prioritize and invest in biocultural restoration (Native Hawaiina lo'i kalo, loko i'a, māla, etc.) in lower 'Aiea, as an adaptive strategy to address stormwater management and mitigate fire risk, flooding, urban heat island, and groundwater recharge, while also supporting urban greening, cultural restoration, food security and community stewardship.

Mahalo for your serious consideration of my comments,

Nicole Nakamoto

Name: Anthony Deluze	Email: kaonohipoi@gmail.com	Zip: 96701
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Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Jan 27, 2025 @ 11:37 PM
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Testimony:

Aloha,

On behalf of myself, my ohana and hoola hou ia Kalauao (a grassroots org i founded) I strongly urge you to listen to your constituency! We have been saying loud and clear that we oppose this resolution and do not need or want this development in the area. 1) this community, and valley does not have the capacity , infrastructure or resources for any further development , let alone what is already in place. 2) We have worked very hard over the past decade and a half to restore culture identity, space, and practice to the direct and adjacent areas. It is now time for a change to restore , not develop any further..

Our aquifer is already extremely stressed and the water table extremely low. We barely have enough water for farming kalo, as it is and what remains has salt intrusion because the developments broke the fresh water lense. Further more the endangered native wildlife depend on the extremely dwindling water that is in the space.

3) you folks know we are in a water crisis? There is fuel in our aquifer and you want to develop more while the aiea shaft has been shut down?.

4) while i am not against proper development for the sake of housing, this is not the place for it . Furthermore we are tired of the rhetoric that is used over and over. Let's be clear, we do not have a housing crisis. We have a greed crisis.

Development is on going for out of state purchase as well as foreign investors. There are countless homes that sit idle with jo one on them, as well as high rises like in kakaako for example. When you all talk about affordable housing , you clearly are out of touch because it is not affordable for us who work multiple jobs to barely make ends meet.

Do the right thing for once and put your community first. As stated , we have all made it clear, we do not want this development.

Lastly.. what is the sens of law and ordinances if you simply continue to change them to suit the next big cash in.

Aole!

Mea aloha

Anthony kawika Deluze

Name:	Email:	Zip:
Katie Hearther	katie.hearther@gmail.com	96701
Representing:	Position:	Submitted:
Self	I wish to comment	Jan 28, 2025 @ 06:13 AM
Name:	Email:	Zip:
Jordan Yoshimoto	yoshimoto.jordan@gmail.com	96706
Representing:	Position:	Submitted:
Loko I'a Pa'aiau	Oppose	Jan 28, 2025 @ 06:47 AM
Name:	Email:	Zip:
Bruce Keaulani	bkeaulani@kaitogakko.org	96822
Representing:	Position:	Submitted:
Loko'ia Pa'iau	Oppose	Jan 28, 2025 @ 07:01 AM
Name:	Email:	Zip:
Emilie Parry	RootbridgeEcosystems@gmail.com	96817
Representing:	Position:	Submitted:

Self	Oppose	Jan 28, 2025 @ 07:34 AM
Name: Michael Davis	Email: onelongstory@gmail.com	Zip: 96817
Representing: Living Life Source Foundation / Loko I'a Pa'aiau	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Jan 28, 2025 @ 07:42 AM
Name: Liann Jimmons	Email: liannjimmons@gmail.com	Zip: 96826
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Jan 28, 2025 @ 07:49 AM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>Bill 24 (2024) CD1- to adopt the revised Primary Urban Center Development Plan for the City and County of Honolulu.</p> <p>OPPOSE</p> <p>Aloha Chair Waters, Vice Chair Weyer, Floor Leader Cordero, and Members of the Council,</p> <p>I, Liann Jimmons, from Loko I'a Pa'aiau, O'ahu, oppose this bill that, in its present form, will allow 3-8 story buildings to be built from the old 'Aiea sugar mill site all the way down to the former lo'i kalo lands. I strongly urge the adoption of an amendment to create a biocultural space in lower 'Aiea. Now, more than ever, it is important for us to make choices and take actions that will help build a future good enough for our children. A biocultural space would provide an area for lo'i kalo, loko i'a, māla, etc, and invest in the future of food security and community stewardship.</p> <p>It is important to note that over 150 community members have already voiced their support for a biocultural space in lower 'Aiea instead of the construction of monster homes by a foreign investor.</p> <p>I recommend the following amendment to Bill 24 (2024) CD1: Prioritize and invest in biocultural restoration (Native Hawaiina lo'i kalo, loko i'a, māla, etc.) in lower 'Aiea, as an adaptive strategy to address stormwater management and mitigate fire risk, flooding, urban heat island, and groundwater recharge, while also supporting urban greening, cultural restoration, food security and community stewardship.</p> <p>Mahalo for your serious consideration of my comments,</p> <p>Liann Jimmons</p> <p>January 28 2025</p>		
Name: Pohai Irvine	Email: pirvine5256@gmail.com	Zip: 96792

Representing: Living Life Source Foundation	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Jan 28, 2025 @ 08:03 AM
Name: Christina Agullana	Email: tinagullana@yahoo.com	Zip: 96789
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Jan 28, 2025 @ 08:27 AM
Name: Yuko Barretto	Email: yuko.barretto@gmail.com	Zip: 96797
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Jan 28, 2025 @ 08:37 AM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>Aloha Chair Waters, Vice Chair Weyer, Floor Leader Cordero, and Members of the Council,</p> <p>I am a volunteer at Loko 'Īa Pā'āiaiu.</p> <p>We have been restoring the home to Mo'i Wahine Kalanimanuia, who reigned peacefully over the island of O'ahu in the 1400s and have touched hundreds and hundreds of lives in the process. What community needs now is not another urban space but place of healing, where we can all come together.</p> <p>I oppose this bill that, in its present form, will allow 3-8 story buildings to be built from the old 'Aiea sugar mill site all the way down to the former lo'i kalo lands. Once the building is built, there is no going back. Now, more than ever, it is important for us to make choices and take actions that will help build a future good enough for our children. I beg you to pause, think about your ancestors and your children to ask to your na'au, if this is the right thing to do.</p> <p>I recommend the following amendment to Bill 24 (2024) CD1: Prioritize and invest in biocultural restoration (Native Hawaiiina lo'i kalo, loko i'a, māla, etc.) in lower 'Aiea, as an adaptive strategy to address stormwater management and mitigate fire risk, flooding, urban heat island, and groundwater recharge, while also supporting urban greening, cultural restoration, food security and community stewardship.</p> <p>Mahalo for all you do for our community and thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony.</p> <p>Yuko Barretto January 28, 2025</p>		
Name: Melissa Novikoff	Email: melissa@halaukumana.org	Zip: 96816
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Jan 28, 2025 @ 09:12 AM

Name: Danielle Espiritu	Email: info@kalauao.org	Zip: 96701
Representing: Ho'ōla Hou iā Kalauao	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Jan 28, 2025 @ 09:13 AM

Testimony:

Aloha Chair Waters, Vice Chair Weyer, Floor Leader Cordero, and Members of the Council,

My name is Danielle Espiritu, and I am a resident of Waimalu. I am testifying in OPPOSITION to Bill 24 and the adoption of the Revised Primary Urban Center Development Plan on behalf of Ho'ōla Hou iā Kalauao, a nonprofit organization focused on restoring 'āina and kānaka in the ahupua'a of Kalauao in 'Ewa, O'ahu. Today, these areas are considered to be a part of the "city of 'Aiea," and are slated for increased urbanization with the proposed plan.

As an organization, Ho'ōla Hou iā Kalauao currently works to mālama a spring-fed lo'i kalo and māla (garden) space at Ka'ōnohi, the last lo'i kalo in an area once famous for springs, freshwater, and innovative food systems that provided not only physical and spiritual sustenance and cultural connection that sustained our people for centuries, but flood mitigation, erosion prevention, and a way to recharge the aquifer and offshore fisheries, all issues we are currently facing. Today, these lo'i and fishponds are under concrete. Pearlridge mall and the surrounding community sits on top of capped springs and covered lo'i kalo. Opu, the 10.5 acre fishpond directly ma kai of us is covered by another shopping center and a handful of walk up apartment buildings, with additional developments in tow. The streams my family once swam in and ate from have been cemented and are so contaminated they are no longer safe.

In sum, the last century of unchecked and unsustainable urban development of our community, and really our island, has been devastating to our land, water, and people. As a result, we OPPOSE the adoption of the Primary Urban Center Development Plan and see any further development and gentrification as a direct threat to our community and the work we are doing to restore 'āina, live our culture, and restore ourselves and our families.

While we appreciate revisions to the PUCDP that include language to, "Protect Native Hawaiian cultural, historic, and pre-contact sites and monuments." This cannot be done in a vacuum. We cannot increase height restrictions and approve plans for hotels, a shopping district, or high and mid-rise units and expect that the water table will not drop. We cannot put an imaginary fence around a lo'i kalo or loko i'a, develop around it and expect it to still function. We need wai. All of those buildings will draw from an already stressed aquifer, the springs will continue to be depleted, salinity will increase, and all we will have is a plastic, fabricated version of culture showcasing the lo'i kalo and loko i'a that are no longer functional.

We are the canary in the coal mine, and we are telling you that we are in trouble. It is unsustainable. Please stop. If we really want to "Respect Native Hawaiian culture and knowledge" and "Protect Native Hawaiian cultural, historic, and pre-contact sites," invest in rebuilding our food systems, replant our Native forests, support 'Ōiwi (Native) education, not just

from a textbook, pillar carving, mural, or video about what was, but listen to and support the practitioners in our communities today who are struggling to live culture amidst the onslaught of urban development that threatens our existence.

Rather than supporting unsustainable development and urbanization, we ask that you invest in the long-term health of our 'āina and people and commit to the following revisions:

Prioritize and invest in biocultural restoration (Native Hawaiian lo'i kalo, loko i'a, māla, etc.) in Hālawā, 'Aiea, Kaulāo, and Waimālu, as an adaptive strategy to address stormwater management and mitigate fire risk flooding, urban heat, and groundwater recharge, while also supporting urban greening, cultural restoration, food security and community stewardship.

It is not too far gone, but it will require 'āina-focused, kūpuna-inspired, innovative solutions and a commitment from all of us to shift. Mahalo nui for this council's leadership in engaging with military entities threatening our wai, 'āina, and people. We ask that you consider the same when it comes to urban development.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

Ke aloha,

Danielle Espiritu

Ho'ōla Hou iā Kalauao

info@kalauao.org

Name: Aaron Mattis	Email: aaron_mattis@yahoo.com	Zip: 96734
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Jan 28, 2025 @ 09:30 AM
Name: Nick Agullana	Email: nickagullana@yahoo.com	Zip: 96789
Representing: Loko I'a Pa'aiau	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Jan 28, 2025 @ 09:41 AM
Name: Kehaulani Lum	Email: aliipauahi@gmail.com	Zip: 96701
Representing: Ali'i Pauahi Hawaiian Civic Club	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Jan 28, 2025 @ 09:50 AM

Name: NIcole Matsumoto	Email: nmatsumoto@healaniland.com	Zip: 96821
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Jan 28, 2025 @ 10:01 AM
Name: Claire Tamamoto	Email: Claire2164@gmail.com	Zip: 96701
Representing: Aiea Community Association	Position: I wish to comment	Submitted: Jan 28, 2025 @ 10:05 AM
Name: Alexandra D'Angelo	Email: kananidangelo@gmail.com	Zip: 96701
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Jan 28, 2025 @ 10:49 PM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>Bill 24 (2024) CD1- to adopt the revised Primary Urban Center Development Plan for the City and County of Honolulu.</p> <p>OPPOSE</p> <p>Aloha Chair Waters, Vice Chair Weyer, Floor Leader Cordero, and Members of the Council,</p> <p>I, Alexandra D'Angelo, from 'Aiea, O'ahu, oppose this bill that, in its present form, will allow 3-8 story buildings to be built from the old 'Aiea sugar mill site all the way down to the former lo'i kalo lands. I strongly urge the adoption of an amendment to create a biocultural space in lower 'Aiea. Now, more than ever, it is important for us to make choices and take actions that will help build a future good enough for our children. A biocultural space would provide an area for lo'i kalo, loko i'a, māla, etc, and invest in the future of food security and community stewardship.</p> <p>It is important to note that over 150 community members have already voiced their support for a biocultural space in lower 'Aiea instead of the construction of monster homes by a foreign investor.</p> <p>I recommend the following amendment to Bill 24 (2024) CD1: Prioritize and invest in biocultural restoration (Native Hawaiian lo'i kalo, loko i'a, māla, etc.) in lower 'Aiea, as an adaptive strategy to address stormwater management and mitigate fire risk, flooding, urban heat island, and groundwater recharge, while also supporting urban greening, cultural restoration, food security and community stewardship.</p> <p>Mahalo for your serious consideration of my comments,</p> <p>Alexandra D'Angelo</p>		
Name:	Email:	Zip:

Kimberly Moa	kimberly.moa@gmail.com	96701
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Jan 29, 2025 @ 02:20 AM
Name: Kimberly Moa	Email: kimberly.moa@gmail.com	Zip: 96701
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Jan 29, 2025 @ 02:21 AM

Testimony:

Re: Testimony in Opposition to BILL024(24)

Aloha Chair Waters, Vice Chair Weyer, Floor Leader Cordero, and Members of the Council,

My name is Kimberly Kamaluokeakua Moa. Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in opposition to Bill 24 and the adoption of the Revised Primary Urban Center Development Plan (PUCDP).

I am a resident in the ahupua'a of Kalauao (also known as the city of 'Aiea), residing in a home that's been in my 'ohana for going on four generations. I am also an 'Aiea Community Association Board Member, Ali'i Pauahi Hawaiian Civic Club Member, one of the ki'ai loko (fishpond caretakers) of Loko I'a Pā'aiau and my 'ohana has longtime pilina with the 'āina and caretakers of the lo'i kalo at Ka'onohi, represented by the organization Ho'ōla Hou iā Kalauao.

As a cultural practitioner who has been working alongside others in my community for over a decade to restore the fishponds, streams, and lo'i kalo wetlands of Kalauao, I am deeply concerned that adoption of the Revised PUCDP will continue to perpetuate over a century of unsustainable urban development that has harmed our aquifer and the surrounding wai and kai of the communities my 'ohana has lived, worked, played, and cared for for generations. In addition to its adverse impact on our 'āina, development in Central O'ahu and Pu'uloa area has polluted our freshwater 'auwai and nearshore harbor waters, overtaxed and damaged the water table and freshwater lens in our area, directly impacting the remaining springs, lo'i kalo wetlands and streams in Kalauao and surrounding areas.

While efforts to include revisions that "Respect Native Hawaiian culture and knowledge" and "Protect Native Hawaiian cultural, historic, and pre-contact sites," the onslaught of urban development ushered in by this plan not only threatens the few remaining wahi pana in our area, but our existence as kanaka maoli, already struggling to live our culture in O'ahu's Primary Urban Core. The sacred and culturally significant fishpond sites of Loko I'a Pā'aiau and Loko Pa'akea that were commissioned by mō'i wahine Kalaimanuia, along with the springs and lo'i kalo of Ka'onohi are the last remaining places in our community where my children can learn about our history and practice our culture. These places of refuge for my 'ohana will be irreparably harmed by unchecked development and gentrification in our area.

Our community is already bearing the brunt of infrastructure and the expansion of urban development for the County and

State and will soon be host to a new OCCC Jail, a Stadium District, as well as additional TOD development slated for the area around the rail in coming years. The increased density's impact on our 'āina, and the wai beyond and below it, will be immeasurable.

Rather than supporting unsustainable development and urbanization, I urge you to commit to the long-term health and well-being of our 'āina and children for generations to come by adopting the following revisions: Prioritize and invest in biocultural restoration (Native Hawaiian lo'i kalo, loko i'a, māla, etc.) in Hālawa, 'Aiea, Kalauao, and Waimalu, as an adaptive strategy to address stormwater management and mitigate fire risk, flooding, urban heat island, and groundwater recharge, while also supporting urban greening, cultural restoration, food security, and community stewardship.

Mahalo nui loa,

Kimberly Moa

Aiea Resident

98-124 Kihale Street, Unit B

Aiea, HI 96701

Name:	Email:	Zip:
Zoe Philippou	zoephlp48@gmail.com	96825
Representing:	Position:	Submitted:
Self	Oppose	Jan 29, 2025 @ 07:42 AM

Testimony:

Bill 24 (2024) CD1- to adopt the revised Primary Urban Center Development Plan for the City and County of Honolulu.

OPPOSE

Aloha Chair Waters, Vice Chair Weyer, Floor Leader Cordero, and Members of the Council,

I, Alex Philippou, oppose this bill that, in its present form, will allow 3-8 story buildings to be built from the old 'Aiea sugar mill site all the way down to the former lo'i kalo lands. I strongly urge the adoption of an amendment to create a biocultural space in lower 'Aiea. Now, more than ever, it is important to seek and utilize the knowledge and resources set forth in the history of this land that we care for and cares for us. We must make choices and take actions that will help build a future good enough for our children. A biocultural space would provide an area for lo'i kalo, loko i'a, māla, etc, and invest in the future of food security and community stewardship.

It is important to note that over 150 community members have already voiced their support for a biocultural space in lower 'Aiea instead of the construction of monster homes by a foreign investor.

I recommend the following amendment to Bill 24 (2024) CD1: Prioritize and invest in biocultural restoration (Native Hawaiian lo'i kalo, loko i'a, māla, etc.) in lower 'Aiea, as an adaptive strategy to address stormwater management and mitigate fire risk, flooding, urban heat island, and groundwater recharge, while also supporting urban greening, cultural

restoration, food security and community stewardship.

Mahalo for your serious consideration of my comments.

Name: Yasuoka-Arakaki Alison Ka`olinokaimana & Jason	Email: kaolinokaimana@gmail.com	Zip: 96701
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Jan 29, 2025 @ 09:38 AM
Name: Sally Chew	Email: sallychew0@gmail.com	Zip: 96701
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Jan 29, 2025 @ 09:44 AM

Testimony:

Bill 24 (2024) CD1- to adopt the revised Primary Urban Center Development Plan for the City and County of Honolulu.

OPPOSE

Aloha Chair Waters, Vice Chair Weyer, Floor Leader Cordero, and Members of the Council,

I, Sally Chew, from Halawa, O`ahu, oppose this bill that, in its present form, will allow 3-8 story buildings to be built from the old 'Aiea sugar mill site all the way down to the former lo'i kalo lands. I strongly urge the adoption of an amendment to create a biocultural space in lower 'Aiea. Now, more than ever, it is important for us to make choices and take actions that will help build a future good enough for our children. A biocultural space would provide an area for lo'i kalo, loko i'a, māla, etc, and invest in the future of food security and community stewardship.

It is important to note that over 150 community members have already voiced their support for a biocultural space in lower 'Aiea instead of the construction of monster homes by a foreign investor.

I recommend the following amendment to Bill 24 (2024) CD1: Prioritize and invest in biocultural restoration (Native Hawaiian lo'i kalo, loko i'a, māla, etc.) in lower 'Aiea, as an adaptive strategy to address stormwater management and mitigate fire risk, flooding, urban heat island, and groundwater recharge, while also supporting urban greening, cultural restoration, food security and community stewardship.

Mahalo for your serious consideration of my comments,

Sally Chew

January 29 2025



Testimony Before The
City Council of the City and County of Honolulu
IN OPPOSITION TO BILL 24 CD1
Wednesday, January 29, 2025, 10:00AM

My name is Kevin Chang and I am the Executive Director of [Kua'āina Ulu 'Auamo \(or KUA\)](#). KUA works to empower grassroots rural and Native Hawaiian mālama 'āina groups to celebrate their places and pass on their traditions to better Hawai'i and achieve 'āina momona— an abundant, productive ecological system that supports community well-being. Mahalo nui loa for this opportunity to submit testimony in opposition to Bill 24- regarding the Revised Primary Urban Center Development Plan.

Kua'āina Ulu 'Auamo (KUA) means “grassroots growing through shared responsibility,” our acronym KUA means backbone. KUA works to empower communities to improve their quality of life through caring for their environmental heritage together. We employ a community-driven approach that currently supports a network of close to 40 mālama 'āina (natural and cultural resource stewardship) community groups collectively referred to as E Alu Pū (move forward together), over 60 indigenous aquaculture restoration projects and practitioners called the Hui Mālama Loko I'a, and a growing group of over 60 limu loea (master practitioners in gathering native seaweed) called the Limu Hui -- all from across the Hawaiian archipelago. **Our shared vision is to once again experience what our kūpuna (ancestors) referred to as 'ĀINA MOMONA – abundant and healthy ecological systems that sustain our community resilience and well-being.**

We write because we are connected to a number of community projects for which their leadership have expressed concern about this bill and its impacts on their current work and vision . **We support the views of the 'Aiea community and oppose the measure, as it stands. Further, we support the communities suggested amendment language to protect Native Hawaiian cultural and historic sites and ensure that the community's decades-long vision of the former 'Aiea Mill Site's use is honored.**

To be clear, KUA is not opposed to development in general, and especially not affordable housing developments. We have supported efforts to keep our people home in the past, and indeed it is an underlying reason for our work, after all, “What is Hawai'i without its kama'āina, whose cultural values and practices are core to Hawai'i's foundation and identity?” However, we do believe housing should be appropriately located and vetted in light of the surrounding communities' input and the cultural and environmental mandates of our state constitution. In this case, the community has been provided very little input.

Further, we also support community request to add the following language in the Bill in the area relating to 'Aiea, that the plan “**Prioritize and invest in biocultural restoration (Native Hawaiian lo'i kalo, loko i'a, mala, etc.) in lower 'Aiea, as an adaptive strategy to address stormwater management and mitigate fire risk, flooding, urban heat island, and**

groundwater recharge, while also supporting urban greening, indigenous cultural restoration, food security and community stewardship.”

E aloha 'āina momona kākou, let us all work to increase abundance in our precious and sacred, 'āina.

Bill 24 (2024) CD1- to adopt the revised Primary Urban Center Development Plan for the City and County of Honolulu. OPPOSE

Aloha Chair Waters, Vice Chair Weyer, Floor Leader Cordero, and Members of the Council,

My name is Robert Deedman and I live in Aiea, HI. I oppose this bill that, in its present form, will allow 3-8 story buildings to be built from the old 'Aiea sugar mill site all the way down to the former lo'i kalo lands. I strongly urge the adoption of an amendment to create a biocultural space in lower 'Aiea. Now, more than ever, it is important for us to make choices and take actions that will help build a future good enough for our children. A biocultural space would provide an area for lo'i kalo, loko i'a, māla, etc, and invest in the future of food security and community stewardship.

It is important to note that over 150 community members have already voiced their support for a biocultural space in lower 'Aiea instead of the construction of monster homes by a foreign investor.

I recommend the following amendment to Bill 24 (2024) CD1: **Prioritize and invest in biocultural restoration (Native Hawaiina lo'i kalo, loko i'a, māla, etc.) in lower 'Aiea, as an adaptive strategy to address stormwater management and mitigate fire risk, flooding, urban heat island, and groundwater recharge, while also supporting urban greening, cultural restoration, food security and community stewardship.**

Mahalo for your serious consideration of my comments,

Robert Deedman
99-969 Aiea Hts Dr.
Unit G
Aiea, HI. 96701



**Hawaiian
Electric**

WRITTEN TESTIMONY BEFORE THE HONOLULU CITY COUNCIL

**Bill 24 (2024), CD1
To Adopt the Revised Primary Urban Center Development Plan for the City and
County of Honolulu.**

Wednesday, January 29, 2025
10:00 A.M.
City Council Chamber

Kurt Tsue
Director, Community Affairs
Hawaiian Electric

Aloha Chair Waters, Vice Chair Weyer, and Members of the Council,

My name is Kurt Tsue and I am testifying on behalf of Hawaiian Electric in support of Bill 24 (2024), CD1.

Hawaiian Electric understands the importance of the Primary Urban Center Development Plan and adopting a revised plan with a vision that addresses evolving needs and actions to strengthen the resilience of our communities. We support Bill 24 (2024), CD1 to adopt a new article 2 under Chapter 24 of the Development Plan for the Primary Urban Center, Revised Ordinances of Honolulu 2021 to advance community engagement and available resources in preparation for disaster events. Pairing community preparedness and involvement with holistic assessments of vulnerable infrastructure allows for improved long-range planning and resource allocation across the public and private sector. By raising awareness of vulnerabilities, priorities, and expectations of the community, collaborative planning and actions can begin closing the gap between community preparedness and disaster response by government agencies and critical infrastructure owners for a coordinated recovery in an emergency.

Hawaiian Electric is building greater resilience into our energy system so it can better withstand severe events, including weather-related disasters fueled by climate change, and enable faster recovery. We understand coordinated planning efforts across government agencies, critical infrastructure owners, and communities are all necessary to effectively manage and adapt infrastructure to reduce impacts of and aid recovery from a disruptive hazard event. For this reason, Hawaiian Electric also supports the planning for the establishment of community resilience hubs, which can serve as trusted gathering spaces that connect residents and serve their immediate or surrounding neighborhoods. Work is underway to bolster distribution lines serving critical community lifeline facilities, which can also include community resilience hubs as it will help to safeguard energy delivery to these fundamental services that enable all other aspects of society to function.

In response to the increasing threat of wildfire in our communities, programs and initiatives that create a culture of wildfire awareness including weather risk monitoring, evacuation planning, creating defensible space around structures, and looking out for one another have become necessary for public safety. Hawaiian Electric continues to identify utility best practices and new technologies to prevent wildfires and we intend to work closely with the community, emergency management, first responders, alongside many other public and private partners, to support wildfire mitigation planning and preparedness in ways that are compatible with natural surroundings.

Hawaiian Electric appreciates the opportunity to testify in support of Bill 24 (2024), CD1. Thank you.



January 27, 2025

Bill 24 (2024) CD1- to adopt the revised Primary Urban Center Development Plan for the City and County of Honolulu. OPPOSE

Aloha Chair Waters, Vice Chair Weyer, Floor Leader Cordero, and Members of the Council,

Mālama Pa'akea o Waimalu, a non-profit based in the area of Waimalu on the island of Oahu, opposes this bill, that in its present form will allow buildings from three to eight stories tall to be built in the area from the old Aiea Sugar Mill site all the way to the former lo'i kalo lands.

We urge the council to instead adopt the following amendment to Bill 24 (2024) CD1:

Prioritize and invest in biocultural restoration (Native Hawaiina lo'i kalo, loko i'a, māla, etc.) in lower 'Aiea, as an adaptive strategy to address stormwater management and mitigate fire risk, flooding, urban heat island, and groundwater recharge, while also supporting urban greening, cultural restoration, food security and community stewardship.

It is important for us to make choices and take actions that will help build a good future for our children. A biocultural space would provide an area for lo'i kalo, loko i'a, māla, etc., and invest in the future of food security and community stewardship.

We are not alone in preferring a biocultural area in Aiea instead of construction of monster homes by a foreign investor. Many in the community have already voiced their support. We beg of you to listen to the people of this community.

Thank you for your serious consideration of request. We appreciate attention to this critical issue.

Mahalo,

Mālama Pa'akea O Waimalu
808-486-4196
info@malamapaakea.org

Bill 24 (2024) CD1- to adopt the revised Primary Urban Center Development Plan for the City and County of Honolulu. OPPOSE

Aloha Chair Waters, Vice Chair Weyer, Floor Leader Cordero, and Members of the Council,

I, Katie Hearther, of 'Aiea, 'Ewa, O'ahu, oppose this bill that, in its present form, will allow 3-8 story buildings to be built from the old 'Aiea sugar mill site all the way down to the former lo'i kalo lands. I strongly urge the adoption of an amendment to create a biocultural space in lower 'Aiea. Now, more than ever, it is important for us to make choices and take actions that will help build a future good enough for our children. A biocultural space would provide an area for lo'i kalo, loko i'a, māla, etc, and invest in the future of food security and community stewardship.

It is important to note that over 150 community members have already voiced their support for a biocultural space in lower 'Aiea instead of the construction of monster homes by a foreign investor.

I recommend the following amendment to Bill 24 (2024) CD1: **Prioritize and invest in biocultural restoration (Native Hawaiina lo'i kalo, loko i'a, māla, etc.) in lower 'Aiea, as an adaptive strategy to address stormwater management and mitigate fire risk, flooding, urban heat island, and groundwater recharge, while also supporting urban greening, cultural restoration, food security and community stewardship.**

Mahalo for your serious consideration of my comments,

Katie Hearther

Bill 24 (2024) CD1- to adopt the revised Primary Urban Center Development Plan for the City and County of Honolulu. OPPOSE

Aloha Chair Waters, Vice Chair Weyer, Floor Leader Cordero, and Members of the Council,

I, Jordan Yoshimoto, from Ewa, O'ahu, oppose this bill that, in its present form, will allow 3-8 story buildings to be built from the old 'Aiea sugar mill site all the way down to the former lo'i kalo lands. I strongly urge the adoption of an amendment to create a biocultural space in lower 'Aiea. Now, more than ever, it is important for us to make choices and take actions that will help build a future good enough for our children. A biocultural space would provide an area for lo'i kalo, loko i'a, māla, etc, and invest in the future of food security and community stewardship.

It is important to note that over 150 community members have already voiced their support for a biocultural space in lower 'Aiea instead of the construction of monster homes by a foreign investor.

I recommend the following amendment to Bill 24 (2024) CD1: **Prioritize and invest in biocultural restoration (Native Hawaiina lo'i kalo, loko i'a, māla, etc.) in lower 'Aiea, as an adaptive strategy to address stormwater management and mitigate fire risk, flooding, urban heat island, and groundwater recharge, while also supporting urban greening, cultural restoration, food security and community stewardship.**

Mahalo for your serious consideration of my comments,

Jordan Yoshimoto

January 28 2025

Bill 24 (2024) CD1- to adopt the revised Primary Urban Center Development Plan for the City and County of Honolulu. OPPOSE

Aloha Chair Waters, Vice Chair Weyer, Floor Leader Cordero, and Members of the Council,

I, Bruce Keaulani, from Loko'ia Pa'iau, O'ahu, oppose this bill that, in its present form, will allow 3-8 story buildings to be built from the old 'Aiea sugar mill site all the way down to the former lo'i kalo lands. I strongly urge the adoption of an amendment to create a biocultural space in lower 'Aiea. Now, more than ever, it is important for us to make choices and take actions that will help build a future good enough for our children. A biocultural space would provide an area for lo'i kalo, loko i'a, māla, etc, and invest in the future of food security and community stewardship.

It is important to note that over 150 community members have already voiced their support for a biocultural space in lower 'Aiea instead of the construction of monster homes by a foreign investor.

I recommend the following amendment to Bill 24 (2024) CD1: **Prioritize and invest in biocultural restoration (Native Hawaiina lo'i kalo, loko i'a, māla, etc.) in lower 'Aiea, as an adaptive strategy to address stormwater management and mitigate fire risk, flooding, urban heat island, and groundwater recharge, while also supporting urban greening, cultural restoration, food security and community stewardship.**

Mahalo for your serious consideration of my comments,

Bruce Keaulani

January 28 2025

Bill 24 (2024) CD1- to adopt the revised Primary Urban Center Development Plan for the City and County of Honolulu. OPPOSE

Aloha Chair Waters, Vice Chair Weyer, Floor Leader Cordero, and Members of the Council, I, Emilie Parry, oppose this bill that, in its present form, will allow 3-8 story buildings to be built from the old 'Aiea sugar mill site all the way down to the former lo'i kalo lands.

I strongly urge the adoption of an amendment to create an ecoculturally appropriate space in lower 'Aiea, one resonant with the social ecological historical values and climate resilient traditional Hawaiian practices and whole systems ecological recovery. Now, more than ever, it is important for us to make choices and take actions that will help build a future that is safe, healthy and resilient for our children and future generations with a sustainable inclusive economy and ecology. An ecoculturally community-oriented space would provide an area for lo'i kalo, loko i'a, māla, etc, and invest in the future of food security and community stewardship.

It is important to note that well over 150 community members have already voiced their support for a biocultural space in lower 'Aiea instead of the construction of expensive private homes for wealthy people by a foreign investor. Please note that by protecting and regenerating a community inclusive ecoculturally appropriate and Native Hawaiian guided space, the likelihood for community solutions that address inclusive and safe housing for the most marginalized and underserved communities will also be far greater. Building large and pricey homes in this 'Aiea area will only further marginalize our most vulnerable populations, creating greater losses (and costs) for Hawai'i as a whole, and increasing climate risks.

I recommend the following amendment to Bill 24 (2024) CD1: **Prioritize and invest in biocultural restoration (Native Hawaiina lo'i kalo, loko i'a, māla, etc.) in lower 'Aiea, as an adaptive strategy to address stormwater management and mitigate fire risk, flooding, urban heat island, and groundwater recharge, while also supporting urban greening, cultural restoration, food security and community stewardship.**

Mahalo for your serious consideration of my comments,

Dr. Emilie Parry

Steward of Loko la Pāaiāu, climate change specialist and community-wellbeing consultant

Bill 24 (2024) CD1- to adopt the revised Primary Urban Center Development Plan for the City and County of Honolulu. OPPOSE

Aloha Chair Waters, Vice Chair Weyer, Floor Leader Cordero, and Members of the Council,

I, Michael J. Davis, from Loko'ia Pa'iau, O'ahu, oppose this bill that, in its present form, will allow 3-8 story buildings to be built from the old 'Aiea sugar mill site all the way down to the former lo'i kalo lands. I strongly urge the adoption of an amendment to create a biocultural space in lower 'Aiea. Now, more than ever, it is important for us to make choices and take actions that will help build a future good enough for our children. A biocultural space would provide an area for lo'i kalo, loko i'a, māla, etc, and invest in the future of food security and community stewardship.

It is important to note that over 150 community members have already voiced their support for a biocultural space in lower 'Aiea instead of the construction of monster homes by a foreign investor.

I recommend the following amendment to Bill 24 (2024) CD1: **Prioritize and invest in biocultural restoration (Native Hawaiina lo'i kalo, loko i'a, māla, etc.) in lower 'Aiea, as an adaptive strategy to address stormwater management and mitigate fire risk, flooding, urban heat island, and groundwater recharge, while also supporting urban greening, cultural restoration, food security and community stewardship.**

Mahalo for your serious consideration of my comments,

Michael J. Davis

January 28 2025

Resolution 25-23 CD1 related to granting a SMA Major permit to 98-150 Līpoa Place. OPPOSE

Aloha Chair Waters, Vice Chair Weyer, Floor Leader Cordero, and Members of the Council,

I work in ‘Aiea and I oppose Resolutions 25-23 (CD1) and 25-26 which grant a Special Management Use Major permit and exemptions to a mainland-led speculator to build an 8 story, block long building right across the street from the shoreline, on Līpoa Place. It does NOT require any environmental or cultural studies. This site sits upon the second of three fishponds built by Mō‘ī Wahine Kalanimanu‘ia, Loko 'Opu.

A SMA area is supposed to protect the environment and the people's access to the harbor. This measure completely ignores that and also requires no community benefit. The developers proposal, however, continuously mentions mālama 'āina. A true concern for 'āina would motivate the developers to complete an EIS and then seek a more appropriate site for their development.

While the building site may appear to have no negative impact on cultural or traditional practice, the construction of this so called affordable housing will destroy all opportunity for the restoration of the Queen's historic fishpond complex (over 30 acres), growth of indigenous limu and restoration of lo'i kalo; a system that fed generations of this community and can do so again.

Of added note, the project's own report finds that the site may experience a potential environmental concern, as it is located in close proximity to a business that uses a large quantity of petroleum projects. It further describes the presence of asbestos and lead paint and recommends a hazardous materials survey prior to demolition. As a matter of caution, given that the site sits over the Waimalu Aquifer, an important water source, approval of the permit before this is done is reckless.

The project site is also noted as being within the area of inundation of the 1% flood and will be well within the 3 and 7 feet rise, within the near future.

A very important flaw in the report says that the closest water source to the property is the Kalauao Stream. In fact, the 'auwai (ditch) that carries fresh water from Kahuewai (Kalauao Springs/Sumida Watercress Farm) passes parallel to the property, only feet away, and a drainage ditch that carries runoff from the property feeds directly into the 'auwai and downstream into the harbor.

A statement from the council's website about the swearing in of the City Council at the beginning of 2025 states that "The ceremony symbolizes a continued dedication to public service and incorporating new perspectives into the city's governance." One may ponder what the definition of public service is if the council ignores the will of the people. New perspectives should include a hard look at what worked for this 'āina and its people in the past. Zealous development is not always the answer.

The community does not want this building on this site. It is too close to the shoreline, in an area that already floods, and will erase all possibility of recreating a space where residents can subsist from the land and build relationships with these sacred spaces and each other. The supporters are campaign donors, unions or outside companies who stand to make millions from this project.

A different site for this project would provide housing AND fishery restoration, instead of burying the opportunity for the community to restore the complex of royal fishponds and revitalize its natural resources. Please vote no to Resolutions 25-23 and 25-26!

Mahalo for your serious consideration of the community's wishes,
Pohai Irvine , Steward of Loko I'a Pa'aiiau
January 29, 2025

Bill 24 (2024) CD1- to adopt the revised Primary Urban Center Development Plan for the City and County of Honolulu. OPPOSE

Aloha Chair Waters, Vice Chair Weyer, Floor Leader Cordero, and Members of the Council,

I, Christina R K Agullana, from Loko'ia Pa'iau, O'ahu, oppose this bill that, in its present form, will allow 3-8 story buildings to be built from the old 'Aiea sugar mill site all the way down to the former lo'i kalo lands.

I strongly urge the adoption of an amendment to create a biocultural space in lower 'Aiea. Now, more than ever, it is important for us to make choices and take actions that will help build a future good enough for our children. A biocultural space would provide an area for lo'i kalo, loko i'a, māla, etc, and invest in the future of food security and community stewardship.

It is important to note that over 150 community members have already voiced their support for a biocultural space in lower 'Aiea instead of the construction of monster homes by a foreign investor.

I recommend the following amendment to Bill 24 (2024) CD1: **Prioritize and invest in biocultural restoration (Native Hawaiiina lo'i kalo, loko i'a, māla, etc.) in lower 'Aiea, as an adaptive strategy to address stormwater management and mitigate fire risk, flooding, urban heat island, and groundwater recharge, while also supporting urban greening, cultural restoration, food security and community stewardship.**

Mahalo for your serious consideration of my comments,

Christina Agullana

January 28 2025

Bill 24 (2024) CD1- to adopt the revised Primary Urban Center Development Plan for the City and County of Honolulu. OPPOSE

Aloha Chair Waters, Vice Chair Weyer, Floor Leader Cordero, and Members of the Council,

I, Melissa Lehua Novikoff, from Pālolo, O'ahu, oppose this bill that, in its present form, will allow 3-8 story buildings to be built from the old 'Aiea sugar mill site all the way down to the former lo'i kalo lands. I strongly urge the adoption of an amendment to create a biocultural space in lower 'Aiea. Now, more than ever, it is important for us to make choices and take actions that will help build a future good enough for our children. A biocultural space would provide an area for lo'i kalo, loko i'a, māla, etc, and invest in the future of food security and community stewardship.

It is important to note that over 150 community members have already voiced their support for a biocultural space in lower 'Aiea instead of the construction of monster homes by a foreign investor.

I recommend the following amendment to Bill 24 (2024) CD1: **Prioritize and invest in biocultural restoration (Native Hawaiian lo'i kalo, loko i'a, māla, etc.) in lower 'Aiea, as an adaptive strategy to address stormwater management and mitigate fire risk, flooding, urban heat island, and groundwater recharge, while also supporting urban greening, cultural restoration, food security and community stewardship.**

Mahalo for your serious consideration of my comments,

Melissa Lehua Novikoff

January 28 2025

Bill 24 (2024) CD1- to adopt the revised Primary Urban Center Development Plan for the City and County of Honolulu. OPPOSE

Aloha Chair Waters, Vice Chair Weyer, Floor Leader Cordero, and Members of the Council,

I, Aaron Mattis, from Kailua, O'ahu, oppose this bill that, in its present form, will allow 3-8 story buildings to be built from the old 'Aiea sugar mill site all the way down to the former lo'i kalo lands. I strongly urge the adoption of an amendment to create a biocultural space in lower 'Aiea. Now, more than ever, it is important for us to make choices and take actions that will help build a future good enough for our children. A biocultural space would provide an area for lo'i kalo, loko i'a, māla, etc, and invest in the future of food security and community stewardship.

It is important to note that over 150 community members have already voiced their support for a biocultural space in lower 'Aiea instead of the construction of monster homes by a foreign investor.

I recommend the following amendment to Bill 24 (2024) CD1: **Prioritize and invest in biocultural restoration (Native Hawaiian lo'i kalo, loko i'a, māla, etc.) in lower 'Aiea, as an adaptive strategy to address stormwater management and mitigate fire risk, flooding, urban heat island, and groundwater recharge, while also supporting urban greening, cultural restoration, food security and community stewardship.**

Mahalo for your serious consideration of my comments,

Aaron Mattis

January 28 2025

Bill 24 (2024) CD1- to adopt the revised Primary Urban Center Development Plan for the City and County of Honolulu. OPPOSE

Aloha Chair Waters, Vice Chair Weyer, Floor Leader Cordero, and Members of the Council, I, Nick Agullana, from Mililani, O'ahu, oppose this bill that, in its present form, will allow 3-8 story buildings to be built from the old 'Aiea sugar mill site all the way down to the former lo'i kalo lands. I strongly urge the adoption of an amendment to create a biocultural space in lower 'Aiea. Now, more than ever, it is important for us to make choices and take actions that will help build a future good enough for our children. A biocultural space would provide an area for lo'i kalo, loko i'a, māla, etc, and invest in the future of food security and community stewardship.

It is important to note that over 150 community members have already voiced their support for a biocultural space in lower 'Aiea instead of the construction of monster homes by a foreign investor.

I recommend the following amendment to Bill 24 (2024) CD1: **Prioritize and invest in biocultural restoration (Native Hawaiian lo'i kalo, loko i'a, māla, etc.) in lower 'Aiea, as an adaptive strategy to address stormwater management and mitigate fire risk, flooding, urban heat island, and groundwater recharge, while also supporting urban greening, cultural restoration, food security and community stewardship.**

Mahalo for your serious consideration of my comments,

Nick Agullana

January 28 2025

Kehaulani Lum
Ali'i Pauahi Hawaiian Civic Club
99-045 Nalopaka Place, 'Aiea, Hawai'i 96701
allipauahi@gmail.com

January 28, 2025

The Honorable Councilmember Tommy Waters, Chair
The Honorable Matt Weyer, Vice Chair
Honolulu City Council Members
City Council Chamber

Re: Opposition to Bill 24 (2024) CD1 - Revised Primary Urban Center Development Plan.
Hearing: Wednesday, January 29, 2025, 10:00 a.m.

Aloha Chair Waters, Vice Chair Weyer, and Distinguished Members of the Council,

On behalf of the Ali'i Pauahi Hawaiian Civic Club, a 50-year chartered member of the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs, which is based in the ahupua'a of 'Aiea, we thank the Council for its commitment to engaging community voices, as you consider Bill 24 (2024), Revised Primary Urban Center Development Plan.

Especially, in times of scarcity, cultural preservation, the environment, equity and fairness are matters that are easily pushed to the sidelines. Your effort to reach out to us, through your community meetings inviting us to testify is greatly appreciated. Mahalo nui loa.

Clearly, much work has gone into the preparation of the Plan, and we especially thank the makers for recognizing the importance of the sacred Loko l'ā Pā'aiau, in Kalauao, the home and royal fishpond of Queen Kalanimanu'ia, over 400 years ago, which we and the community of 'Aiea, O'ahu and all of Hawai'i Nei have been restoring in partnership with the Navy for over ten years.

The Council's recognition of the community's contributions, many years ago, and its continued support, is deeply appreciated.

As with our previous testimony, Ali'i Pauahi is deeply concerned that the plan, as proposed, fails to: **1)** Include language approved by the City Council regarding the protection of Native Hawaiian cultural and historic sites in the TOD Neighborhood Plans; **2)** Ensure that the

community's decades-long vision of the former 'Aiea Mill Site's use is honored; and, **3)** Recognize the massive change to 'Aiea in the last century and the overbuilt nature of the Mill Site and "'Aiea Town Center" area, resulting in a destructive impact on the fertile lands of an ahupua'a renowned for feeding the Aupuni and maka'āinana alike, from before the time of Kamehameha.

We mahalo our area Councilmember Radiant Cordero for her proposed amendments to Bill 24 and strongly **SUPPORT** the amendments listed as items 1 and 2 in Council Communication 258:

Item 1: Amends section 11 to reflect the preservation of Native Hawaiian resources. This responds to our earlier recommendation, and we are very grateful.

Item 2: Deletes reference to "Live, Work, Play 'Aiea". This change correctly describes the status of the site.

Ali'i Pauahi further appreciates Councilmember Cordero's proposed amendments, listed as items 3 and 4, and supports the 'Aiea Community Association's requests for further amendments, relating to the former 'Aiea Sugar Mill Site and 'Aiea Town sites, especially: **1)** To clarify that development on the 'Aiea Sugar Mill Site be consistent with the 'Aiea Town Center Master Plan; to reduce the Growth Scenario for 'Aiea Town to the number of units that the community has fought for to date, manifested in the development of Aloha Iā Halewiliikō senior housing at the 'Aiea Sugar Mill Site (140) or 200; and **2)** To remove all references to "infill" development in the area. Besides being overly vague, this vision is entirely contrary to the spirit, function, and architectural form envisioned by the community in the 'Aiea Town Center Master Plan.

Without such a change, the years of effort and patient perseverance that the community has exerted to ensure a peaceful and productive transition from plantation economy to affordable housing, public library, community gathering and anchoring spaces, and sorely needed green space will be for naught.

Ali'i Pauahi sits on the Board of the 'Aiea Community Association and three generations of our members have actively championed the creation of a truly community space since the late 1990s. We feel strongly that the voice of the kūpuna, whose legacy lives in the 'Aiea Town Center Plan, deserves our utmost respect and reverence. ACA's proposed amendments accomplish this.

Finally, as articulated previously, Ali'i Pauahi Hawaiian Civic Club **STRONGLY URGES** the Committee to ensure the sustainability of our community, through the creation of a unique historical ecological system that lives under our feet in lower 'Aiea.

At the request of the young leaders of our club and the community, and over 150 community members who have signed a petition to this effect, we envision an urban designed community youth-driven biocultural space in the area just makai of Mikalemi Street, where the people of old raised kalo, lotus, rice, 'opae, and other important staple traditional foods which were shared with each other, the Ali'i and all who entered the ahupua'a.

The opportunity exists to demonstrate the City's commitment to natural and cultural resources and the prosperity of our youth and families, and Ali'i Pauahi believes that a thriving public/private community gathering space in an overbuilt area is the key to truly preserving the essence of the Kauhale area.

This vision aligns perfectly with our representative Councilmember Cordero's amendment to respect "Native Hawaiian culture and knowledge" while respecting Native Hawaiian cultural and historic sites (documented in Mahele records and by SHPD). It also addresses several other key goals of the plan, including potential flooding and heat issues associated with an increase in non-permeable surface construction and the cutting down of trees in the surrounding area, while educating our children about the importance of caring for the wai. 'Aiea sits in an ahupua'a where drinking water wells have been shut down, and it would be a blessing to save the precious pūnāwai that connects past, present and future.

To this end, we respectfully request that the following language be included in the Bill in the area relating to 'Aiea:

“Prioritize and invest in biocultural restoration (Native Hawaiian lo'i kalo, loko i'a, māla, etc.) in lower 'Aiea, as an adaptive strategy to address stormwater management and mitigate fire risk, flooding, urban heat island, and groundwater recharge, while also supporting urban greening, indigenous cultural restoration, food security and community stewardship.”

Without this and other specified changes, we regret that we must **oppose** this measure.

Mahalo nui loa for your aloha 'āina and serious consideration,

Kehaulani Lum, Pelekikena
Ali'i Pauahi Hawaiian Civic Club

January 28, 2025

Aloha Chair Waters, Vice Chair Weyer, Floor Leader Cordero, and Honorable Members of the Council,

RE: Opposition to Bill 24 (2024) CD1

I **strongly oppose Bill 24 (2024) CD1** in its current form, which would allow for the construction of buildings ranging from three to eight stories tall in an area stretching from the old **Aiea Sugar Mill site** to the former **lo‘i kalo lands**.

This bill, as proposed, threatens to disrupt not only the physical landscape of our community but also the cultural and environmental integrity that has been passed down through generations. The area in question holds great historical and cultural significance, and its development could have lasting consequences on the well-being of our land and community.

I am not just concerned about the impacts of development on the **environment**; but also deeply invested in the future of our children—our **keiki**. The community that calls this place home wants to protect it. I urge you to prioritize actions that will secure a better, sustainable future.

In light of this, I request the adoption of the following amendment to Bill 24 (2024) CD1:

Prioritize and invest in biocultural restoration of Native Hawaiian practices such as lo‘i kalo, loko i‘a, māla, and other cultural sites in lower Aiea. This adaptive strategy would address critical issues such as **stormwater management, flooding, fire risk, urban heat island effects, groundwater recharge**, and support **cultural restoration, food security, and community stewardship**.

The **biocultural space** we propose would not only protect the environment but would also serve as a vital resource for future generations, ensuring **food security** and fostering **community resilience**. The choice to preserve and restore these vital cultural and environmental systems should be at the forefront of our decision-making.

Many in the Aiea community have already voiced their overwhelming support for the **biocultural restoration** model over the construction of large-scale developments. I ask that you listen to the community—the people who live here, work here, and have a deep connection to this land.

I am not opposed to progress, but progress should not come at the expense of what makes this place special. I ask you to honor the community’s wishes and protect the lands we love—lands that are integral to our culture, history, and future. I appreciate your serious consideration of our communities request, and we hope you will prioritize the values of **community stewardship, cultural preservation, and sustainable development** for the generations to come.

Mahalo nui loa for your time and attention to this critical issue.

Mahalo,

Nicole Matsumoto



January 27, 2025

The Honorable Councilmember Tommy Waters, Chair
The Honorable Matt Weyer, Vice Chair
Honorable Members of the Honolulu City Council
530 South King Street
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Re: Opposition and Proposed Amendments to Bill 24 (2024)

Dear Chair Waters, Vice Chair Weyer, and members of the Honolulu City Council:

The 'Aiea Community Association (ACA) thanks you for the opportunity to testify in opposition to Bill 24 (2024) and to offer proposed amendments to address our concerns.

First, we wish to thank Councilmember Radiant Cordero for the amendments to Bill 24 described in Council Communications 258 that were subsequently adopted by the Committee on Planning and the Economy in its October 22, 2024 meeting. We believe her proposed amendments strengthened the Primary Urban Center Development Plan (PUCDP). In particular, the ACA strongly SUPPORTS Councilmember Cordero's amendments listed as items 1 and 2 in Council Communication 258:

- Item 1: Amendment to reflect preservation of Native Hawaiian Resources
- Item 2: Removing a reference to "Live, Work, Play 'Aiea"

The ACA also thanks Councilmember Cordero for her proposed amendments listed as items 3 and 4 and respectfully requests that the language in these items be further amended to address concerns that the Association's concerns regarding the former 'Aiea Sugar Mill Site and 'Aiea Town.

Requested Amendment to Item #3 in Council Communication 258:

The ACA respectfully requests that the language in Item #3 of Council Communication 258 (which amends language on page 151 of the PUCDP) be further amended to clarify that development on the 'Aiea Sugar Mill Site be consistent with the 'Aiea Town Center Master Plan:

1. 'Aiea Sugar Mill Site: Fulfill plan concepts for the mill site, as envisioned by the 'Aiea Town Center Master Plan, to include community-serving anchors, open space, and senior housing.

Justification: The 'Aiea community came together twenty-five years ago to create a vision for the site of the former 'Aiea Sugar Mill following its demolition in 1998, with the support of the City and County of Honolulu. The result of this process was the 'Aiea Town Center Master Plan, which called for the preservation of this land for the benefit of the community, including a library, senior housing, and community space.



As we noted in our previous testimony on Bill 24, the ACA has worked diligently for twenty-five years to preserve the former 'Aiea Sugar Mill site as envisioned by the 'Aiea Town Center Master Plan. In testament to this, both state and county officials have deferred to the will of the community in maintaining this vision over last two decades, despite multiple attempts to develop the site in a manner not consistent with the 'Aiea Town Center Master Plan.

Therefore, we thank Councilmember Cordero for her proposed amendment listed as Item 3 in Council Communication 258, which recognizes that ongoing development at the 'Aiea Sugar Mill Site has been consistent with 'Aiea Town Center Master Plan. *The ACA's proposed amendment would further clarify within the text of the PUCDP that future development should be consistent with the 'Aiea Town Center Master Plan.*

Requested Amendment to Item #4 in Council Communication 258:

The ACA respectfully requests that the language in Item #4 of Council Communication 258 (which amends language on page 151 of the PUCDP) be further amended to: (1) reduce the Growth Scenario for 'Aiea Town to 200 units *or* the number of units being developed as part of the Aloha Iā Halewilikō senior housing (140 units) at the 'Aiea Sugar Mill Site, and (2) remove references to "infill" development":

'Aiea Town—Growth Scenario: [~~500~~] 200 units
This scenario includes current senior housing units at the mill site[~~, and assumes some infill around the town center~~].

We also request that the Figure 2.1 map be amended to amend the place type for the 'Aiea Town Center, including both the 'Aiea Sugar Mill Site (the area bound by 'Aiea Stream, Halewiliko Street, Pohai Place, and the parcel on which Aloha Iā Halewilikō is being constructed) and areas adjacent to 'Aiea Heights Drive and Kauhale Street (the areas bound by the H-1 freeway, 'Aiea Stream, Mikalemi Street, and Kino'ole Street/'Aiea Town Square, and Heleconia Place, except the 'Aiea Shopping Center, 'Aiea Medical Building, 'Aiea Town Square), from the Near-Town Corridor/Center Medium place type to the Near-Town Neighborhood place type, to reflect the present character of those areas.

Justification: The ACA respectfully requests that the number of additional housing units for 'Aiea Town be reduced to 200 units or the number of units being developed for the Senior Housing.

There will be a number of new residential developments in the vicinity of 'Aiea, including development associated with the New Aloha Stadium Entertainment District (NASED) and Transit-Oriented Development projects near Hālawā and Kalauao Stations, which will increase the population density of the community. In addition, private renovation and redevelopment has been ongoing as the residential subdivisions of 'Aiea age out and new, much larger multi-family homes increased in number in Hālawā and Enchanted Hills. **Accordingly, additional infill is already being accomplished by the private landowners and additional infill of the Aiea**

"Building A Sense of Community"



Town Center, both adjacent to the 'Aiea Sugar Mill site and in lower 'Aiea near Kauhale Street and Mikalemi Street, does not appear to be necessary.

In addition, the ACA would like to clarify a point of ongoing confusion: The 'Aiea Town Center Master Plan was created to guide the future use of the 'Aiea Sugar Mill site. The plan never contemplated potential future land uses in lower 'Aiea. Accordingly, infill development of the portion of 'Aiea makai of the former sugar mill was never the intention of the 'Aiea Town Center Master Plan. Such development has never been vetted by the community and the ACA does not believe that such development represents the desire of the 'Aiea community.

Support for the Ali'i Pauahi Hawaiian Civic Club's proposed amendment to encourage the preservation of former 'Aiea lo'i lands:

Finally, the ACA supports the proposed amendment of the Ali'i Pauahi Hawaiian Civic Club in its testimony, which prioritizes investment in biocultural restoration (Native Hawaiian lo'i kalo, loko i'a, māla, etc.) in lower 'Aiea, as an adaptive strategy to address stormwater management and mitigate fire risk, flooding, urban heat island, and groundwater recharge, while also supporting urban greening, cultural restoration, food security, and community stewardship. In line with this, we support actions that encourage the preservation of the unique historical lo'i system that once dominated lower 'Aiea through the creation of a community youth-driven biocultural space in the area just makai of Mikalemi Street.

The ACA recognizes the value of the natural and cultural resources in this area and believes that this part of 'Aiea could be used to create a thriving community gathering space in an area that presently lacks green space. This vision aligns with the stated goal of Vice Chair Cordero's amendment to respect "Native Hawaiian culture and knowledge" while respecting Native Hawaiian cultural and historic sites. This potential use could also address potential flooding and heat issues while educating our children about the importance of caring for the wai. In an area where multiple drinking water wells have been shut down, it would be a blessing to be able to save a punawai.

To facilitate this vision, we request that the Figure 2.1 map be amended to amend the place type for the undeveloped area behind existing homes in the area bound by Mikalemi Street, Nalopaka Place, and Kauhale Street, in lower 'Aiea, from the Near-Town Neighborhood place type to an appropriate Open Space Type (either Major Parks and Open Space or Preservation Area).

We appreciate your consideration of our comments and proposed amendments.

Thank you for your time and efforts representing your communities.

Claire J. Tamamoto
'Aiea Community Association, President

January 29, 2025

Re: Testimony in Opposition to [BILL024\(24\)](#)

Aloha Chair Waters, Vice Chair Weyer, Floor Leader Cordero, and Members of the Council,

My name is Kimberly Kamaluokeakua Moa. Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in opposition to Bill 24 and the adoption of the Revised Primary Urban Center Development Plan (PUCDP).

I am a resident in the ahupua'a of Kalauao (also known as the city of 'Aiea), residing in a home that's been in my 'ohana for going on four generations. I am also an 'Aiea Community Association Board Member, Ali'i Pauahi Hawaiian Civic Club Member, one of the ki'ai loko (fishpond caretakers) of Loko I'a Pā'aiau and my 'ohana has longtime pilina with the 'āina and caretakers of the lo'i kalo at Ka'onohi, represented by the organization Ho'ōla Hou iā Kalauao.

As a cultural practitioner who has been working alongside others in my community for over a decade to restore the fishponds, streams, and lo'i kalo wetlands of Kalauao, I am deeply concerned that adoption of the Revised PUCDP will continue to perpetuate over a century of unsustainable urban development that has harmed our aquifer and the surrounding wai and kai of the communities my 'ohana has lived, worked, played, and cared for for generations. In addition to its adverse impact on our 'āina, development in Central O'ahu and Pu'uoloa area has polluted our freshwater 'auwai and nearshore harbor waters, overtaxed and damaged the water table and freshwater lens in our area, directly impacting the remaining springs, lo'i kalo wetlands and streams in Kalauao and surrounding areas.

While efforts to include revisions that "Respect Native Hawaiian culture and knowledge" and "Protect Native Hawaiian cultural, historic, and pre-contact sites," the onslaught of urban development ushered in by this plan not only threatens the few remaining wahi pana in our area, but our existence as kanaka maoli, already struggling to live our culture in O'ahu's Primary Urban Core. The sacred and culturally significant fishpond sites of Loko I'a Pā'aiau and Loko Pa'akea that were commissioned by mō'i wahine Kalaimanuia, along with the springs and lo'i kalo of Ka'onohi are the last remaining places in our community where my children can learn about our history and practice our culture. These places of refuge for my 'ohana will be irreparably harmed by unchecked development and gentrification in our area.

Our community is already bearing the brunt of infrastructure and the expansion of urban development for the County and State and will soon be host to a new OCCC Jail, a Stadium District, as well as additional TOD development slated for the area around the rail in coming years. The increased density's impact on our 'āina, and the wai beyond and below it, will be immeasurable.

Rather than supporting unsustainable development and urbanization, I urge you to commit to the long-term health and well-being of our 'āina and children for generations to come by adopting the following revisions: **Prioritize and invest in biocultural restoration (Native Hawaiian lo'i kalo, loko i'a, māla, etc.) in Hālawā, 'Aiea, Kalauao, and Waimalu, as an adaptive strategy to address stormwater management and mitigate fire risk, flooding, urban heat island, and groundwater recharge, while also supporting urban greening, cultural restoration, food security, and community stewardship.**

Mahalo nui loa,
Kimberly Moa
Aiea Resident
98-124 Kihale Street, Unit B
Aiea, HI 96701

Alison Ka`ōlinokaimana Yasuoka-Arakaki

Jason T. Arakaki

Bill 24 (2024) CD1- to adopt the revised Primary Urban Center Development Plan for the City and County of Honolulu.

Position: OPPOSE

Aloha e Chair Waters, Vice Chair Weyer, Floor Leader Cordero, and Members of the Council,

We, A. Ka`ōlinokaimana Yasuoka], and Jason T. Arakaki of Waimalu, `Aiea, are in opposition to this bill that, in its present form, will allow 3-9 story buildings to be built from the old `Aiea Sugar Mill site all the way down to the former lo'i kalo lands.

Instead, I strongly **urge the adoption of an amendment to create a biocultural space in lower `Aiea.** This biocultural space would honor the history, mo`olelo-stories, cultural practices, and the pilina—the connections that people across space and time have with nature. These connections are essential not just in the past, but in the present, and in moving us into a sustainable future. The more we realize our interdependence on this world in which we live, even more so because we exist on an island, the more we will see the importance of restoring, protecting, and preserving our biocultural spaces that are hold the resources, and answers to how we can move forward in a climate change impacted future.

We must shift our perspective from viewing our islands solely through a western lens of development, urbanization, and over-densification, that will strain our finite resources. Biocultural, ecosystems based solutions

Now, more than ever, it is important for us to make choices and take actions that will help build a resilient future for our children. A biocultural space would provide an area for lo'i kalo, loko i'a, māla, etc, and invest in the future of food security and community stewardship.

It is important to note that over 150 community members have already voiced their support for a biocultural space in lower `Aiea instead of the construction of monster homes by a foreign investor.

I recommend the following amendment to Bill 24 (2024) CD1: Prioritize and invest in biocultural restoration (Native Hawaiian lo'i kalo, loko i'a, māla, etc.) in lower `Aiea, as an adaptive strategy to address stormwater management and mitigate fire risk, flooding, urban heat island, and groundwater recharge, while also supporting urban greening, cultural restoration, food security and community stewardship.

We must recognize that any changes to a community have impacts on the families that have lived there for generations.

Our ability as a society to move to a resource stewardship model as explained in this excerpt (I will use this extensive excerpt to help those unfamiliar with "resource stewardship" and what it means to look at our place through a biocultural lens the ability to gain a contextual background. I have bolded key/essential concepts):

Resource stewardship has roots in a diversity of ancient practices, often founded on intimate connections between humans and nature. In some communities, human-nature relationships

have long been and continue to be enshrined within a concept of kinship, and codified in cultural practices founded on the intergenerational accumulation of knowledge about the social-ecological system that sustains them (Berkes 2012, Pascua et al. 2017, McMillen et al. 2017). The **kinship** quality of resource relationships is not unique to rural Indigenous communities of the past, but rather continues to define resource relationships for contemporary Indigenous and other local communities, and can be seen as **broadly defining people's relationships to nature across time** (Nash 2014), including in urban areas (Elands et al. 2019). **In urban centers, stewardship has been practiced in the pursuit of cultivating resources that sustain body, mind, and spirit** (Barthel et al. 2005, Colding et al. 2006, Svendsen et al. 2016a), and these practices have evolved in response to ever changing social-ecological urban systems. **Stewardship has long been a key feature of resilience thinking, especially in relation to ecosystems and the biosphere** (e.g., Berkes et al. 1998, Chapin et al. 2009, Folke et al. 2016), **and more recently specifically in urban areas** (Andersson et al. 2014).

Today, the promise of community-based stewardship of place is increasingly recognized as critical to the sustainability of our planet (Tengö et al. 2014), **including the following: our capacity to respond to global environmental change** (Olsson et al. 2004, Enqvist 2017); **support biocultural diversity** (Muhumza and Balkwill 2013, Elands et al. 2015) **and human well-being** (Svendsen et al. 2016a); **promote social-ecological resilience** (McMillen et al. 2016, Kealiikanakaoleohaililani et al. 2018, 2019, Dacks et al. 2019); **and sustain identity, values, responsibilities, and social relationships** (Chan et al. 2016a)

Mahalo nui loa for reflecting upon, evaluating, and for seriously considering our testimony,
Alison Ka`ōlinokaimana Yasuoka-Arakaki
Jason T. Arakaki
Residents of Waimalu, `Aiea
January 29, 2025