HONOLULU CITY COUNCIL

KE KANIHELA O KE KALANA O HONOLULU

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

No. 25-149

RESOLUTION

RENAMING WAI'ANAE DISTRICT PARK TO THE SHINYEI NAKAMINE AND 100TH INFANTRY BATTALION MEMORIAL PARK.

WHEREAS, Section 22-9.3(a)(3)(A), Revised Ordinances of Honolulu 2021 ("ROH"), states that in exceptional cases, a new or existing City and County of Honolulu ("City") park, site, facility, or any portion thereof, may be named for a deceased individual if the individual: (i) has a "significant association with the park, site, or facility"; (ii) has "contributed significantly to the community or area in which the park, site, or facility is located"; (iii) has "achieved significant recognition historically on the city, State, national, or international level"; or (iv) has been "honored for service with the armed forces of the United States of America"; and

WHEREAS, ROH Section 22-9.5(f) authorizes the City Council ("Council") to, on its own motion, designate a name for a new or existing park, site, facility, or any portion thereof, or memorial, consistent with the requirements set forth in ROH Section 22-9.5, by adoption of an appropriate resolution; and

WHEREAS, Shinyei Nakamine was born and raised in Wai'anae and exemplified extraordinary heroism and devotion to duty while serving in the United States Army during World War II, ultimately sacrificing his life in battle on June 2, 1944, near La Torreto, Italy; and

WHEREAS, Private Nakamine posthumously received the Medal of Honor from the United States Armed Forces for his courage, which included eliminating multiple enemy positions and capturing several enemy soldiers while leading his platoon under heavy machine gunfire; and

WHEREAS, the 100th Infantry Battalion, known as the "Purple Heart Battalion," was a segregated unit of second-generation Japanese Americans who served with unparalleled distinction despite facing racial discrimination and whose legacy reflects the triumph of patriotism over prejudice; and

WHEREAS, renaming the Wai'anae District Park after Shinyei Nakamine and the 100th Infantry Battalion would create a lasting tribute to both a local hero and a historic military unit that embodied sacrifice, loyalty, and courage; and

WHEREAS, the renaming would also provide educational opportunities for visitors and foster a sense of pride within the Wai'anae community by honoring one of the community's own members who displayed the highest ideals of service; and

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WHEREAS, the Waiʻanae District Park is currently undergoing significant improvements, including upgrades to the existing Shinyei Nakamine Gymnasium Complex, making this an opportune time to implement the renaming as part of the park's revitalization; and

WHEREAS, the Council believes that renaming the Waiʻanae District Park to the "Shinyei Nakamine and 100th Infantry Battalion Memorial Park" would appropriately recognize and preserve the legacy of both Shinyei Nakamine and the 100th Infantry Battalion for future generations; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City and County of Honolulu that the Waiʻanae District Park be renamed the "Shinyei Nakamine and 100th Infantry Battalion Memorial Park" to honor the enduring legacy and significant contributions to the community of both Shinyei Nakamine and the 100th Infantry Battalion; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Council requests and authorizes the City Administration to erect appropriate signage and approves the placement of such signage at Waiʻanae District Park to reflect its new name; and

HONOLULU CITY COUNCIL

KE KANIHELA O KE KALANA O HONOLULU

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BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Mayor, the Managing Director, the Director of Parks and Recreation, and the family of Shinyei Nakamine.

INTRODUCED BY:

A. Fypola

DATE OF INTRODUCTION:

MAY 20 2025

Honolulu, Hawai'i

Councilmembers

Report Title:
Waianae District Park; Wai'anae District Park; Shinyei Nakamine; 100th Infantry Battalion

The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.