HONOLULU CITY COUNCIL

KE KANIHELA O KE KALANA O HONOLULU

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

COMMITTEE ON HOUSING, HOMELESSNESS & PARKS

Voting Members:
Andria Tupola, Chair
Augie Tulba, Vice Chair
Radiant Cordero
Scott Y. Nishimoto
Matt Weyer

WRITTEN SUMMARY FOR VIDEO RECORD

REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, AUGUST 19, 2025

CITY COUNCIL CHAMBER
3RD FLOOR, HONOLULU HALE
HONOLULU, HAWAIʻI 96813

Note: A copy of a DVD of the full proceedings of this meeting may be requested by calling the City Clerk's Office at (808) 768-5822 or may be viewed at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RbWFcU7R29g.

The time references below indicate the point in the video recording when the stated actions began.

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Committee on Housing, Homelessness & Parks was called to order by Committee Chair Andria Tupola at 2:32 p.m. Councilmembers Cordero (voting member), Dos Santos-Tam (non-voting member), Nishimoto (voting member), Tulba (voting member), and Weyer (voting member) were present at the meeting.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

FOR ACTION

[2:34 p.m.]

1. RESOLUTION 25-205 – COMMITTEE REPORT 273

   RENAMING PEARL CITY DISTRICT PARK POOL. Renaming the Pearl City District Park Pool at Pearl City District Park to the "Ken Suenaga Pearl City District Park Pool" in recognition of Coach Suenaga's 59-year legacy of mentorship and advocacy, his service in the United States Army, and his significant contributions to his community and the City and County of Honolulu.

[2:35 p.m.]

There was no public testimony.

[2:36 p.m.]

Resolution 25-205 reported out for adoption.

AYES: CORDERO, NISHIMOTO, TULBA, TUPOLA, WEYER – 5.
NOES: None.

[2:36 p.m.]

2. RESOLUTION 25-211 – COMMITTEE REPORT 274

ACCEPTANCE OF A GIFT (DPR). Accepting a gift to the City of one (1) 6-foot Hi-back traditional bench, preparations of the grounds, building of forms and pouring of cement, and a bronze plaque with an inscription to read, "Donated by the Family of Costy & Betty Tarletsky," valued at $2,521.67 from Bruce Tarletsky, to be installed at Makapu'u Beach Park.

[2:38 p.m.]

There was no public testimony.

[2:38 p.m.]

Resolution 25-211 reported out for adoption.

AYES: CORDERO, NISHIMOTO, TULBA, TUPOLA, WEYER – 5.
NOES: None.

Related communication:

D-595 Department of Parks and Recreation

[2:38 p.m.]

3. RESOLUTION 25-212 – COMMITTEE REPORT 275

ACCEPTANCE OF A GIFT (DPR). Accepting a gift to the City of one (1) 6-foot Hi-back traditional bench, preparations of the grounds, building of forms and pouring of cement, and a bronze plaque with an inscription to read, "Donated by the Family of Ron Libkuman," valued at $2,849.51 from Linda Clark, to be installed at Lē'ahi Beach Park.

[2:39 p.m.]

There was no public testimony.

[2:40 p.m.]

Resolution 25-212 reported out for adoption.

AYES: CORDERO, NISHIMOTO, TULBA, TUPOLA, WEYER – 5.
NOES: None.

Related communication:

D-596 Department of Parks and Recreation

[2:40 p.m.]

4. RESOLUTION 25-213 – COMMITTEE REPORT 276

ACCEPTANCE OF A GIFT (DPR). Accepting a gift to the City of one (1) 6-foot Hi-back traditional bench, preparations of the grounds, building of forms and pouring of cement, and a bronze plaque with an inscription to read, "Donated by the Family and Friends of Cher Nalani Sullivan," valued at $3,669.51 from Elina Grugier-Bell, to be installed at Sandy Beach Park.

[2:41 p.m.]

There was no public testimony.

[2:41 p.m.]

Resolution 25-213 amended to CD1 (OCS2025-0628/8/12/2025 9:49 AM) and reported out for adoption.

AYES: CORDERO, NISHIMOTO, TULBA, TUPOLA, WEYER – 5.
NOES: None.

Related communications:

D-598 Department of Parks and Recreation
D-629 Department of Parks and Recreation

[2:42 p.m.]

5. RESOLUTION 25-214 – COMMITTEE REPORT 277

ACCEPTANCE OF A GIFT (DPR). Accepting a gift to the City of one (1) 6-foot Hi-back traditional bench, preparations of the grounds, building of forms and pouring of cement, and a bronze plaque with an inscription to read, "Donated by Girl Scout Troop 873," valued at $3,119.51 from Marie Muir, to be installed at Mākālei Beach Park.

[2:43 p.m.]

There was no public testimony.

[2:43 p.m.]

Resolution 25-214 reported out for adoption.

AYES: CORDERO, NISHIMOTO, TULBA, TUPOLA, WEYER – 5.
NOES: None.

Related communication:

D-599 Department of Parks and Recreation

[2:43 p.m.]

6. RESOLUTION 25-215 – COMMITTEE REPORT 278

ACCEPTANCE OF A GIFT (DPR). Accepting a gift to the City of one (1) 6-foot Hi-back traditional bench, preparations of the grounds, building of forms and pouring of cement, and a bronze plaque with an inscription to read, "Donated by the Family of Mike and Nancy Rawlins," valued at $2,621.67 from Michael Rawlins, to be installed at Sandy Beach Park.

[2:44 p.m.]

There was no public testimony.

[2:45 p.m.]

Resolution 25-215 reported out for adoption.

AYES: CORDERO, NISHIMOTO, TULBA, TUPOLA, WEYER – 5.
NOES: None.

Related communication:

D-600 Department of Parks and Recreation

[2:45 p.m.]

7. RESOLUTION 25-216 – COMMITTEE REPORT 279

ACCEPTANCE OF A GIFT (DPR). Accepting a gift to the City of one (1) 6-foot Hi-back traditional bench, preparations of the grounds, building of forms and pouring of cement, and a bronze plaque with an inscription to read, "Donated by the Family of Malana," valued at $2,621.67 from William Byerley, to be installed at Kapiʻolani Regional Park, Poni Moi Triangle.

[2:46 p.m.]

There was no public testimony.

[2:46 p.m.]

Resolution 25-216 amended to CD1 (OCS2025-0629/8/12/2025 11:13 AM) and reported out for adoption.

AYES: CORDERO, NISHIMOTO, TULBA, TUPOLA, WEYER – 5.
NOES: None.

Related communications:

D-601 Department of Parks and Recreation
D-630 Department of Parks and Recreation

[2:46 p.m.]

8. RESOLUTION 25-220 – COMMITTEE REPORT 280

ACCEPTANCE OF A GIFT (DPR). Accepting a gift to the City of one (1) Hi-back traditional bench, preparations of the grounds, building of forms and pouring of cement, and a bronze plaque with an inscription to read, “Donated by the Family of Joe and Gladys Esposito,” valued at $2,819.51 from Martin Esposito, to be installed at Kailua Beach Park.

[2:47 p.m.]

There was no public testimony.

[2:48 p.m.]

Resolution 25-220 reported out for adoption.

AYES: CORDERO, NISHIMOTO, TULBA, TUPOLA, WEYER – 5.
NOES: None.

Related communication:

D-605 Department of Parks and Recreation

[2:48 p.m.]

9. RESOLUTION 25-225 – COMMITTEE REPORT 281

ACCEPTANCE OF A GIFT (DPR). Accepting a gift to the City of cash in the amount of $3,000 from Friends of Honolulu Parks & Recreation for the Department of Parks and Recreation ("DPR") to use towards community benefit projects and to purchase related items like, but not limited to, refreshments, awards, prizes, supplies, equipment, contractual and other support services, transportation and clothing, such as t-shirts and visors for DPR programs and/or events.

[2:49 p.m.]

There was no public testimony.

[2:49 p.m.]

Resolution 25-225 reported out for adoption.

AYES: CORDERO, NISHIMOTO, TULBA, TUPOLA, WEYER – 5.
NOES: None.

Related communication:

D-614 Department of Parks and Recreation

[2:49 p.m.]

10. RESOLUTION 25-185 – COMMITTEE REPORT 272

RESIDENTIAL RELOCATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM. Urging the City Administration to create a residential relocation assistance program, including a dedicated full-time equivalent position, to assist residents with relocation needs arising from City-funded housing projects, which shall be placed within the Department of Community Services or a more appropriate City department as determined by the Mayor.

[2:52 p.m.]

There was no public testimony.

[2:53 p.m.]

Resolution 25-185 amended to CD1 (OCS2025-0670/8/21/2025 1:19 PM) and reported out for adoption.

AYES: CORDERO, NISHIMOTO, TULBA, TUPOLA, WEYER – 5.
NOES: None.

Related communication:

M-412 Testimony on Resolution 25-185

[2:53 p.m.]

Councilmember Weyer exited the Council Chamber.

[2:53 p.m.]

11. BILL 20 (2025) – COMMITTEE REPORT 270

RELATING TO FUNDS. Amending Chapter 6 of the Revised Ordinances of Honolulu 2021, by adding a new article that creates and establishes a special fund to be known as the "Down Payment Loan Assistance Revolving Fund" to assist prospective homebuyers who reside in the City, do not own real property, and have an annual income at 120 percent or below of the area median income for the City as determined by the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

[3:04 p.m.]

The following individual testified:

Suzanne Young, Honolulu Board of REALTORS (M-413) (Support)

[3:05 p.m.]

Bill 20 (2025) reported out for passage on second reading and scheduling of a public hearing, and referred to the Committee on Budget for further consideration pursuant to its consecutive referral.

AYES: CORDERO, NISHIMOTO, TULBA, TUPOLA – 4.
NOES: None.
ABSENT: WEYER – 1.

Related communication:

M-413 Testimony on Bill 20

[3:05 p.m.]

12. BILL 39 (2025) – COMMITTEE REPORT 271

RELATING TO AFFORDABLE RENTAL HOUSING. Addressing fire-resistance rated construction and requirements for affordable rental housing projects by amending Chapter 32 of the Revised Ordinances of Honolulu 2021.

[3:06 p.m.]

Councilmember Weyer entered the Council Chamber.

[3:08 p.m.]

The following individual testified:

Geena Thielen (M-431) (Support)

[3:11 p.m.]

Bill 39 (2025) reported out for passage on second reading and scheduling of a public hearing.

AYES: CORDERO, NISHIMOTO, TULBA, TUPOLA, WEYER – 5.
NOES: None.

Related communication:

M-431 Testimony on Bill 39

[3:11 p.m.]

13. BILL 53 (2025)

RELATING TO AFFORDABLE HOUSING. Addressing requirements for the construction of new affordable rental housing projects by amending Chapter 32 of the Revised Ordinances of Honolulu 2021.

[3:14 p.m.]

The following individuals testified:

1. Geena Thielen (M-411) (Oppose)
2. Justin Menina (M-411) (Oppose)
3. Matt Prellberg, Holomua Collaborative (M-411) (Oppose)
4. Micah Munekata, Ulupono Initiative (M-411) (General comment)
5. Michele Luke (Support)
6. Anne Smoke (M-411) (Support)
7. Jacob Wiencek (M-411) (Oppose)
8. Claire Santos (M-411) (Support)
9. Roseann Freitas, Building Industry Association of Hawaii (M-411) (Oppose)
10. Susan Le, Hawai‘i Appleseed Center for Law & Economic Justice (M-411) (Oppose)

[3:48 p.m.]

Action on Bill 53 (2025) postponed to a date and time to be determined by the Committee Chair.

AYES: CORDERO, NISHIMOTO, TULBA, TUPOLA, WEYER – 5.
NOES: None.

Related communication:

M-411 Testimony on Bill 53

INFORMATIONAL BRIEFING

[3:48 p.m.]

14. MĀʻILI WILDFIRE RESPONSE AND RECOVERY REVIEW

[3:49 p.m.]

The Committee Chair called upon Randal Collins, Director of the Department of Emergency Management, Chief Sheldon Kalani Hao of the Honolulu Fire Department, and Captain Neal Han of the Honolulu Police Department to provide a brief presentation on Māʻili Fire, July 6, 2025 – July 9, 2025, to the Committee. (D-640)

[3:51 p.m.]

Councilmember Weyer exited the Council Chamber.

[3:52 p.m.]

Councilmember Weyer entered the Council Chamber.

[4:11 p.m.]

Councilmember Dos Santos-Tam exited the Council Chamber.

[4:14 p.m.]

Councilmember Cordero exited the Council Chamber.

[4:15 p.m.]

Councilmember Cordero entered the Council Chamber.

[4:16 p.m.]

Councilmember Dos Santos-Tam entered the Council Chamber.

[4:16 p.m.]

The Committee Chair called upon Ms. Erin Conway of Hawai‘i Wildfire Management Organization to provide a brief presentation on Wildland-Urban Fires, Community Readiness & the Firewise Program to the Committee. (M-406)

[4:21 p.m.]

Councilmember Tulba exited the Council Chamber.

[4:22 p.m.]

The following individuals testified:

1. Representative Chris Muraoka (General comment)
2. Angela Young (General comment)
3. Representative Darius Kila (General comment)

[4:25 p.m.]

Councilmember Tulba entered the Council Chamber.

[4:26 p.m.]

Councilmember Nishimoto exited the Council Chamber.

[4:30 p.m.]

15. KALAELOA PARKLANDS INTERIM DIRT RACETRACK STATUS AND COMMUNITY CONSIDERATIONS – PRESENTED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION.

[4:30 p.m.]

The Committee Chair called upon Laura Thielen, Director, and Kimberly Ribellia-Collins, Executive Services Division Administrator, of the Department of Parks and Recreation to provide a brief presentation on Kalaeloa – 7 Properties/400+ Acres to the Committee. (D-633)

[4:42 p.m.]

Councilmember Weyer exited the Council Chamber.

[4:42 p.m.]

The Committee Chair called upon Mr. Librado Cobian of Oahu Motorsports Association to provide a brief presentation on Military and Public Motorized Recreational Park Project to the Committee. (M-407)

[4:45 p.m.]

The following individuals testified:

1. Chris Muraoka (M-423) (General comment)
2. John Rogers (M-423) (General comment)
3. Daniel Benz, EV Autosports Association (M-423) (Support)
4. Dr. Kioni Dudley, Makakilo-Kapolei-Honokai Hale Neighborhood Board (D-642) (General comment)

Related communications:

D-642	Makakilo-Kapolei-Honokai Hale Neighborhood Board
M-408	Presentation submitted by AAC Asbestos Analytical & Consultants
M-423	Testimony on Kapolei Parklands Interim Dirt Racetrack Status and Community Considerations

[4:55 p.m.]

Councilmember Weyer entered the Council Chamber.

[4:56 p.m.]

Councilmember Dos Santos-Tam exited the Council Chamber.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.