

RES25-204
Testimony

MISC. COMM. 452

COUNCIL

COUNCIL Meeting

Meeting Date: Sep 3, 2025 @ 10:00 AM

Support: 6

Oppose: 0

I wish to comment: 1

Name: Micah Munekata	Email: mmunekata@ulupono.com	Zip: 96813
Representing: Ulupono Initiative	Position: Support	Submitted: Aug 29, 2025 @ 06:20 PM
Name: Jacob Wiencek	Email: jacob.m.wiencek@pm.me	Zip: 96815
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Aug 31, 2025 @ 11:10 AM
Testimony: Aloha Councilmembers, Honolulu is on the frontlines of climate change. We are already feeling the impacts whether it's rising sea levels, increased heat or ocean acidification. We've got to be proactive in adapting to the impacts of climate change. We've got to be resilient against the challenges our city faces. I look forward to seeing how Honolulu uses the funds appropriated to enhance our readiness and resiliency. I urge the Council to SUPPORT this resolution!		
Name: Brian Belet	Email: beletbrian@gmail.com	Zip: 96789
Representing: Self	Position: I wish to comment	Submitted: Aug 31, 2025 @ 11:37 AM
Name: Dr. Charles "Chip" Fletcher	Email: fletcher@soest.hawaii.edu	Zip: 96734
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Sep 2, 2025 @ 10:54 AM
Name: Madelyn McKeague	Email: madelyn@hawaiiancouncil.org	Zip: 96707
Representing: Hawaiian Council	Position: Support	Submitted: Sep 2, 2025 @ 11:43 AM
Name: Lauren Roth Venu	Email: lauren@3r-water.com	Zip: 96816
Representing: 3Rwater	Position: Support	Submitted: Sep 2, 2025 @ 01:24 PM
Name:	Email:	Zip:

Eduardo Hernandez	eduardo@hbl.org	96816
Representing: Hawai'i Bicycling League	Position: Support	Submitted: Sep 2, 2025 @ 04:05 PM



Email: communications@ulupono.com

HONOLULU CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
Wednesday, September 3, 2025 — 10:00 A.M.

Ulupono Initiative supports Resolution 25-204 CD1, Transfer of Funds (CCSR).

Dear Chair Waters and Members of the Council:

My name is Micah Munekata, and I am the Director of Government Affairs at Ulupono Initiative. We are a Hawai'i-focused impact investment firm that strives to improve the quality of life throughout the islands by helping our communities become more resilient and self-sufficient through locally produced food, renewable energy and clean transportation choices, and better management of freshwater resources.

Ulupono supports Resolution 25-204 CD1, which authorizes a transfer of Climate Resiliency Fund monies for Fiscal Year 2026.

Ulupono supports dedicated resources for the City's climate change mitigation and adaptation efforts. We believe these monies are key to ensuring Honolulu remains resilient despite the many climate change challenges we face today and into the future.

The proposed transfers will fund vital preventative and ameliorative measures that will protect residents, infrastructure, and environment through a comprehensive approach that includes a stormwater planning study, climate education programs, energy audits, and transportation alternatives.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Respectfully,

Micah Munekata
Director of Government Affairs

Investing in a Sustainable Hawai'i

Resolution 25-204

Public comments

Climate Resiliency Fund Projects

Dear Honolulu City Council,

With an annual total of \$7 million there is a danger of spreading the funds too thin among too many worthy projects, with a result of very little tangible outcome for the effort. As part of the public comment for Resolution 25-204, I suggest placing the many projects in three categories: high priority, secondary concerns, and remove from funding consideration; with projects loosely prioritized within each category.

High Priority Projects to fund:

Stormwater planning to manage flooding

Storm drainage improvements

Stream maintenance & invasive species removal

Wildfire prevention

Cesspool conversions

Place-based climate adaptation projects

Secondary concerns (if funding permits after High Priority projects have been funded):

Energy audits for city-owned multifamily housing

Keiki climate education

CRF administration and management (Should not this be funded by regular City Council budget lines?)

Remove from funding consideration:

Food access initiatives (While a worthy endeavor, it does not fall into the focus of these new funds.)

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Brian Belet

95-1150 Ahoka Street

Mililani, HI 96789



Dr. Charles “Chip” Fletcher

Director, Climate Resilience Collaborative

Dean, School of Ocean and Earth Science and Technology

University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa

fletcher@soest.hawaii.edu

September 3, 2025

Aloha, Chair Waters, Vice-Chair Tupola, and Councilmembers,

I am writing to express my **STRONG support** for Resolution 25-204, CD1, relating to the transfer of funds, which is being heard by the Honolulu City Council this week on Wednesday, September 3, 2025.

As the Dean of the School of Ocean and Earth Science and Technology at the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa and the Director of the Climate Resilience Collaborative (“CRC”), I commend the City and County of Honolulu’s Office of Climate Change, Sustainability and Resiliency (“CCSR”) for requesting the transfer of \$6,985,000 in Climate Resiliency Fund monies to implement climate-related projects. This is a crucial step towards enhancing community resilience, environmental planning, green infrastructure, and energy efficiency, which are vital as Hawai‘i faces the escalating impacts of climate change.

Sea level rise is an unstoppable reality and its impacts are increasing and will do so exponentially. This resolution directly addresses these critical challenges by funding essential projects to mitigate these increasing climate impacts in Hawai‘i’s communities. CRC in partnership with CCSR recently completed an award-winning* project studying and projecting climate impacts in Ko‘olau Poko to identify vulnerable community infrastructure and we look forward to our continued partnership.¹

I commend CCSR for proactively identifying these critical needs and requesting the necessary transfers from the Climate Resiliency Fund to finance preventative community resilience projects. Approving this resolution demonstrates a proactive and responsible approach to governance, ensuring that public health and safety are prioritized in our long-term planning and decision-making processes.

Mahalo for your time and effort to consider this important resolution. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Respectfully,

C. Fletcher

Charles “Chip” Fletcher

¹ ASCE Hawai‘i Section 2025 Outstanding Civil Engineering Award for Best Studies and Research Project.



RE: Strong Support of Resolution 25-204, CD1, Proposed FD1

September 3, 2025

The Hawaiian Council strongly supports Resolution 25-204, CD1, FD1 as submitted by Chair Waters. The creation of the Climate Resiliency Fund by voters and then enabled through Ordinance 25-23 passed as Bill 15 earlier this year established a critical opportunity to invest in green infrastructure, indigenous knowledge-informed solutions, and other means of climate change resilience across O‘ahu. The proposed floor draft is a strong improvement in meeting the language of Ordinance 25-23 to balance community investment and City-focused projects and sets the Climate Resiliency Fund off on the right foot to a brighter future.

The Hawaiian Council (formerly known as the Council For Native Hawaiian Advancement), a member-based 501(c)3 non-profit Native Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI) and a HUD-Certified Housing agency, has a successful track record of providing capital and financial services in partnership with the State and counties—including during COVID and the response to the Maui disaster—with a focus on families experiencing economic stress. Recently, the Hawaiian Council launched the Kalāhiki initiative to deliver energy sovereignty, utility savings and climate resilience to low- and moderate-income (LMI) households experiencing economic hardship by addressing underlying expenses—not just providing one-time relief payments. We see the importance of investing in community climate resiliency and appreciate that the City & County feels similarly.

We applaud the work of the Honolulu City Council and the Office of Climate Change, Sustainability and Resiliency (OCCSR) in putting together and refining a robust list of projects. We believe it is a strong start to meeting the mandate for climate resiliency on O‘ahu. It also plays an important role during this critical moment for local and state leadership to protect public safety from climate impacts and rising costs during a time of federal retreat. The proposed FD1 of Resolution 25-204 marks a strong beginning with significant strides towards local climate change resiliency that the Hawaiian Council strongly supports. We urge the Honolulu City Council to pass the floor draft of Resolution 25-204.

Mālama pono,

Madelyn McKeague
Director of Advocacy
Hawaiian Council

HAWAIIANS ADVANCING HAWAI‘I

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REDUCE | REUSE | RECHARGE

Email: lauren@3r-water.com

Meeting date: 09/03/2025 at 10am
Honolulu City Council Regular Meeting
Agenda Item: Resolution 25-204 CD1, Transfer of Funds (CCSR)
Position: **Support**

Aloha Chair Waters and Members of the Council,

3Rwater, Inc is a Honolulu based company that developed a mobile and data platform that supports sustainable green stormwater infrastructure practices and community-based stormwater management to build resilience.

3Rwater **strongly supports** Resolution 24-204! The proposed transfer of funding to CCSR to support climate resilience measures for Oahu's communities by funding green stormwater infrastructure, stormwater master planning, education, energy audits and alternative transportation are all necessary to better prepare and protect the residents of the island during climate uncertainties.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lauren", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Lauren Roth Venu
Founder and CEO
lauren@3r-water.com

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Honolulu City Council
Wednesday, September 3, 2025 – 10:00am

Hawai'i Bicycling League Supports Resolution 25-204 CD1, Transfer of Funds (CCSR)

Aloha Chair Waters and Members of the Honolulu City Council,

My name is Eduardo Hernandez, and I am the Advocacy Director for the Hawai'i Bicycling League (HBL). We are a non-profit organization founded in 1975 with the mission of enabling more people to ride bicycles for health, recreation, and transportation. We strive to create communities across our islands that have safe, accessible, and inclusive environments for people to bike, walk, and roll.

HBL supports Resolution 25-204 CD1, which authorizes a transfer of Climate Resiliency Fund monies for Fiscal Year 2026. .

HBL supports dedicated resources for the City's climate change mitigation and adaptation efforts. We believe a multi-faceted approach as recommended by the Office of Climate Change Sustainability and Resiliency helps to bolster our communities from diverse threats as well as take advantage of natural strengths. These monies are key to ensuring Honolulu remains resilient despite the many climate challenges we face today and into the future.

The proposed transfers will fund preventative and ameliorative measures that will protect residents, infrastructure, and environment.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Ride Aloha,

Eduardo Hernandez

Eduardo Hernandez
Advocacy Director