

BILL070(25)
Testimony

MISC. COMM. 625

COUNCIL

COUNCIL Meeting

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

Support: 4

Oppose: 0

I wish to comment: 0

Name: Jacob Wiencek	Email: jacob.m.wiencek@pm.me	Zip: 96815
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Nov 30, 2025 @ 11:28 PM
Testimony: Aloha Councilmembers, Simply put, I want more dog parks in Honolulu. This is an achievable goal that is a worthy use of our public lands. I urge the Council to SUPPORT this bill!		
Name: Tracy Tonaki	Email: tstonaki@drhorton.com	Zip: 96813
Representing: D.R. Horton Hawaii	Position: Support	Submitted: Dec 2, 2025 @ 03:29 PM
Name: Stephanie Kendrick	Email: skendrick@hawaiianhumane.org	Zip: 96826-1806
Representing: Hawaiian Humane Society	Position: Support	Submitted: Dec 2, 2025 @ 05:34 PM
Name: Alana Pakkala	Email: alana@kobayashi-group.com	Zip: 96814
Representing: Kobayashi Group	Position: Support	Submitted: Dec 2, 2025 @ 06:14 PM



December 2, 2025

The Honorable Tommy Waters, Chair
The Honorable Andria Tupola, Vice Chair
Members of the Honolulu City Council
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813-3077

RE: **Bill 70 - Relating to parks and playgrounds. (Allowing dog parks to be credited toward satisfying the requirements for the provision or dedication of land for park and playground purposes.)**

Hearing Date: December 3, 2025

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

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony on behalf of D.R. Horton Hawaii, in **STRONG SUPPORT** of Bill 70 – Relating to parks and playgrounds. D.R. Horton Hawaii is one of Hawaii’s largest homebuilders and has been providing affordable housing and first-time buyer homes for Hawaii’s families throughout Oahu and across the state for more than fifty years. D.R. Horton Hawaii is a leader in building quality and sustainable home designs and has adopted an overall sustainability plan for its Ho’opili master-planned community in East Kapolei.

As part of its master plan for Ho’opili, D.R. Horton Hawaii is committed to providing parks and playgrounds for the community. Dogs are an integral part of Hawaii’s families and dog parks provide recreational opportunities, physical activity and common areas that enrich families and engage the community. Unfortunately, currently dog parks do not qualify for park dedication requirements under Revised Ordinances of Honolulu Chapter 22.

Bill 70 is being introduced to allow dog parks to be credited toward satisfying the requirements for the provision or dedication of land for park and playground purposes. We would like to humbly offer a proposed amendment for your consideration, specifically to Section 2, subsection (d) of the proposed bill:

SECTION 2. Section 22-7.8, Revised Ordinances of Honolulu 2021, is amended to read as follows:

“§22-7.8 Credit ~~for~~ toward land required for parks and playgrounds.

...

(d) Credit for dog parks. When land is provided in perpetuity or dedicated for use as a dog park, such land may be credited toward the park and playground lands that would otherwise be required under § 22-7.5; provided that:

(1) In a subdivision where the dog park is a privately owned park and playground area; or is a new publicly owned park on new land dedicated for this purpose OR on land that was not part of existing City or State publicly owned parks and playgrounds.

- (2) Any credit for the land area provided in perpetuity or dedicated for use as a dog park may not exceed 10 percent of the total, **or cumulative to date**, park and playground lands required under § 22-7.5."

We strongly urge the Council to support this effort and pass Bill 70. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (808) 782-4109 or TSTonaki@drhorton.com.

Mahalo for your consideration,

Tracy Tonaki

Tracy Tonaki
President, D.R. Horton Hawaii



Hawaiian Humane Society

People for animals. Animals for people.

Date: Dec. 2, 2025

To: Chair Tommy Waters
Vice Chair Andria Tupola
and Members of the City Council

Submitted By: Steph Kendrick, Vice President of Community Engagement
Hawaiian Humane Society, 808-356-2217

RE: Support for Bill 70, CD1, Relating to Parks and Playgrounds
Wednesday, Dec. 3, 10 a.m., City Council Chamber

Aloha Chair Kia'aina, Vice Chair Waters and members of the Committee on Zoning and Planning. The Hawaiian Humane Society is in support of Bill 70, CD1, Relating to Parks and Playgrounds with amendments.

Dog parks support the human-animal bond, integrate our pets into our daily lives, provide exercise for pets and their owners, and create a sense of community that benefits people and animals. Offering developers credit for the inclusion of dog parks when they seek to fulfill requirement for the dedication of land for park and playground purposes makes enormous sense.

A survey conducted by Ward Research last year on behalf of the Hawaiian Humane Society found that 59 percent of O'ahu households own pets and 41 percent own dogs. Yet of the 308 city parks across O'ahu, only 36 allow leashed dogs to walk with their owners. Dog owners are starved for places to get their pets the exercise they need to be healthy and well behaved. O'ahu also lags the national average for the number off-leash dog parks per capita.

Allowing developers to get credit for helping to fill these gaps is a step in toward helping pet owners lead healthier lives and provide needed enrichment for their canine family members.



Hawaiian Humane Society

People for animals. Animals for people.

We request an amendment to allow for this credit to apply in cases where the dog park is not contiguous with other recreational resources. Not every development is going to have an appropriate space for one large park and the best place for a dog park might not necessarily be the best place for everything else.

We recommend the following addition to Section 2 (d) in red:

- (1) The dog park is part of a ~~larger contiguous~~ privately or publicly owned park and playground area, ~~or is a new publicly owned park on new land dedicated for this purpose, or is on land that was not part of existing City or State publicly owned parks and playgrounds;~~ and
- (2) Any credit for the land area provided in perpetuity or dedicated for use as a dog park may not exceed 10 percent of the total, ~~or cumulative to date,~~ park and playground lands required under § 22-7.5."

We urge you pass Bill 70, CD1, with these amendments to encourage developers to create resources that support the many local families who include dogs as members of their 'ohana. Mahalo for your consideration.

**KOBAYASHI GROUP TESTIMONY ON BILL 70 – RELATING TO PARKS AND
PLAYGROUNDS. (ALLOWING DOG PARKS TO BE CREDITED TOWARD SATISFYING
THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE PROVISION OR DEDICATION OF LAND FOR PARK
AND PLAYGROUND PURPOSES.)**

Written Testimony in Support of Bill 70
Committee on Zoning and Planning
Hearing Date: Tuesday, December 3, 2025

Chair Kia'aina, Vice Chair Waters and Committee Members:

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of Bill 70 Relating to parks and playgrounds. Our company has been contributing to the growth and development of Hawai'i's real estate landscape since 1994, developing luxury and affordable housing projects in Hawai'i that honor the unique values and priorities of our island communities.

As a locally owned and operated firm, we are deeply invested in the well-being of our island communities. Recreational areas for both families and their pets have been integral parts of our development planning and completed projects as we understand the opportunity for physical activity and common recreation provide sense of community and enrichment for the residents.

Currently dog parks do not qualify for pet dedication requirements under Revised Ordinances of Honolulu Chapter 22. The introduction of Bill 70 will allow dog parks to be credited toward satisfying the requirements for the provision or dedication of land for park and playground purposes, and we humbly request the Council to support this effort and pass Bill 70.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of this measure. Please do not hesitate to contact me at (808) 524-1508 or alana@kobayashi-group.com.

Sincerely,



Alana Kobayashi Pakkala
CEO