

BILL070(25)
Testimony

MISC. COMM. 91

*ZONING & PLANNING (ZON)

***ZONING & PLANNING (ZON) Meeting**

Meeting Date: Mar 5, 2026 @ 09:00 AM

Support: 14

Oppose: 0

I wish to comment: 0

Name: Stephanie Kendrick	Email: skendrick@hawaiianhumane.org	Zip: 96826-1806
Representing: Hawaiian Humane Society	Position: Support	Submitted: Mar 2, 2026 @ 06:56 PM
Name: Natalie Graham-Wood	Email: ngramhamwood@hotmail.com	Zip: 96712
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Mar 3, 2026 @ 09:34 AM
Testimony: I support Bill 070 (25), CD2 Proposed, Relating to Parks and Playgrounds, Credit for Dog Parks. My name is Natalie Graham-Wood and I live at Sunset Beach, Oahu.		
Name: Jennifer Wood	Email: jennifercwood27@gmail.com	Zip: 96741
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Mar 3, 2026 @ 09:54 AM
Testimony: Aloha, I'm asking for your support for bill 070(25) to support the development of new dog parks by giving a credit to developers. With 41% of Hawaii's people owning at least one dog, we need safe places to let them exercise, so they stay calm and well adjusted. Particularly when it comes to large developments, these parks can help a tremendous number of families in need of a place to walk their dogs (vs. sidewalks). Thank you, Jennifer Wood 808-221-7229 Kalaheo, HI		
Name: Lee Tokuhara	Email: LSTokuhara@drhorton.com	Zip: 96813
Representing: D.R. Horton Hawaii	Position: Support	Submitted: Mar 3, 2026 @ 10:14 AM
Name: Wesley Suzawa	Email: wsuzawa@me.com	Zip: 96814
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Mar 3, 2026 @ 10:22 AM
Testimony: I am writing to express my wholehearted support for this bill. As a pet owner & pet lover any initiative which expands		

access for our pets to more green space is not only needed but also long overdue. Especially in the Kakaako area whereby condominium development & population density is through the roof & green space for our pets have steadily declined with each completed building so please do pass it to help reverse the trend/tide.

Mahalo nui loa!

Name: Sara Armstrong	Email: sarasoesbeearmstrong@gmail.com	Zip: 96782
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Mar 3, 2026 @ 11:42 AM

Testimony:

Since over 40% of folks in Hawaii own one dog or more , it is so important to have a space for folks who want to be in a park with their dog exercising.

Please consider supporting this bill.

Name: Alice Saul	Email: alicesaul@hawaii.rr.com	Zip: 96825
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Mar 3, 2026 @ 02:47 PM

Testimony:

Honolulu City Council

TO THE COMMITTEE ON ZONING & PLANNING

I am testifying in support of Bill 70 Relating to Parks and Playgrounds

We have an opportunity to enhance the quality of life for not only the pet dogs, but also the loving owners to whom their presence means so much.

I don't have dogs in my home at this time, I have personally observed the dog park in my neighborhood and seen how the provisions proposed in this bill can create safe and relatively inexpensive spaces that benefit all residents of our communities.

Thank you.

Alice Saul

Honolulu, Hawai'i Kai

Name: Anna Szalay	Email: annakszalay@gmail.com	Zip: 96825
Representing:	Position:	Submitted:

Self	Support	Mar 3, 2026 @ 06:25 PM
Testimony: Aloha, IN SUPPORT of Bill 70 (2025) PROPOSED CD2 I am testifying in support of Bill 70 (2025) PROPOSED CD2 as it allows dog parks to be credited toward satisfying the requirements for the provision or dedication of land for park and playground purposes. As any land used for dog parks may not exceed 10 percent of the total park and playground lands, this bill does not impact non-pet owning families; however, it positively impacts those who own pets. 41% of Oahu households own pets, and would benefit from this. Thank you for your consideration. Anna Szalay Hawaii Kai		
Name:	Email:	Zip:
Serena Stefanic-Phillip	serenaphillip@hawaii.rr.com	96717
Representing:	Position:	Submitted:
Self	Support	Mar 3, 2026 @ 06:43 PM
Testimony: I am in support of BILL070(25).		
Name:	Email:	Zip:
JOANNE PARKER	PARKERINPARADISE@MSN.COM	96701
Representing:	Position:	Submitted:
Self	Support	Mar 3, 2026 @ 07:46 PM
Testimony: Please support this bill. As more and more people acquire dogs, we need more space for them and their pet parents to enjoy the outdoors. These are responsible pet owners. Hawaii should be a pet friendly state. Mahalo		
Name:	Email:	Zip:
Jennifer Chiwa	jennifer.chiwa@gmail.com	96814-2814

Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Mar 4, 2026 @ 03:14 AM
Testimony: Aloha Chair Council Member Waters, Vice Chair Council Member Tupola and Members of the Committee on Zoning and Planning. Please support Bill 70 which would be beneficial to pet owners and their dogs in providing more park spaces for them to exercise and socialize. Mahalo. Jennifer Chiwa Makiki and life long resident of Oahu		
Name: DM Gregory	Email: dmgregory.hnl@gmail.com	Zip: 96814
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Mar 4, 2026 @ 05:04 AM
Testimony: I support Bill 70 (2025), CD2, which allows land dedicated in perpetuity for dog parks to be credited toward required park and playground land, with appropriate safeguards. . This bill reflects modern community needs by recognizing that dog parks are legitimate recreational amenities that serve thousands of residents and families. Importantly, the measure ensures that dog parks must be part of a larger park system and limits the credit to no more than 10 percent of required parkland, preserving the integrity of overall open space requirements. By allowing thoughtful integration of dog parks within master planned communities while maintaining core parkland obligations, this bill strikes a reasonable and balanced approach. I respectfully urge the Council to pass Bill 70.		
Name: Carole Richelieu	Email: crraloha@gmail.com	Zip: 96825
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Mar 4, 2026 @ 09:05 AM
Testimony: 41% of families own dogs. Support dog parks.		
Name: Jeanne Rice	Email: jdatzrice@yahoo.com	Zip: 96814

Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Mar 4, 2026 @ 01:44 PM
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Hawaiian Humane Society

People for animals. Animals for people.

Date: March 2, 2026

To: Chair Esther Kia'āina
Vice Chair Tommy Waters
and Members of the Committee on Zoning & Planning

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

RE: Support for Bill 70 (2025), CD2 Proposed, Relating to Parks and
Playgrounds
Thursday, March 5, 9 a.m., City Council Chamber

Aloha Chair Kia'āina, Vice Chair Waters and members of the Committee on Zoning and Planning. The Hawaiian Humane Society is in strong support of Bill 70 (2025), CD2 Proposed, Relating to Parks and Playgrounds.

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 even after the very welcome recent decision to double park access for leashed dogs, only 72 of the 308 city parks across O'ahu allow 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.

We urge you pass Bill 70, Proposed CD2, to encourage developers to create resources that support the many local families who include dogs as members of their 'ohana. Mahalo for your consideration.



March 2, 2026

Esther Kiaaina, Chair
Tommy Waters, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee on Zoning & Planning
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813-3077

RE: **Bill 70 (2025), CD1 – 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: March 5, 2026

Aloha Chair Kiaaina, Vice Chair Waters and Members of the Committee,

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony on behalf of D.R. Horton Hawaii, in **STRONG SUPPORT** of Bill 70 (2025), CD1 – 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 (2025), CD1 would allow dog parks to be credited toward satisfying the requirements for the provision or dedication of land for park and playground purposes.

We strongly urge the Committee on Zoning & Planning to support this effort and pass Bill 70 (2025), CD1. Should you have any questions, I am available at (808) 295-7329 or Istokuhara@drhorton.com.

Mahalo for your consideration,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lee Tokuhara".

Lee Tokuhara
Vice President, Government Affairs & Community Relations
D.R. Horton Hawaii

JEANNE DATZ RICE

1288 Ala Moana Boulevard, Honolulu, Hawaii 96824 808-741-2815. jdatzrice@yahoo.com

March 4, 2026

Aloha Members of the Committee – Zoning & Planning

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony regarding Bill 70 (2025) CD2 Proposed Relating to Parks and Playgrounds – to consider dog parks to be credited toward satisfying The requirements for the provision or dedication of land for park and playground purposes.

To me and numerous friends and neighbors in the Ward Village/Kaka’ako neighborhood, it is Imperative to allow dogs in neighborhood parks.

This Bill 70 will help to allow dog parks to be credited by developers and the City & County of Honolulu – which is important.

Dogs are part of families, or in my case, our dog is my Service Dog and needs to help me walk anywhere....and he needs exercise, just like I do on a daily basis. Dogs need places to play and relax outdoors and this Bill will allow just that.

Thank you for your consideration.

Jeanne Datz Rice

1st Vice Chair

ALA MOANA/KAKA’AKO NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD