

RES26-065
Testimony

MISC. COMM. 131

*HOUSING, HOMELESSNESS & PARKS (HHP)

***HOUSING, HOMELESSNESS & PARKS (HHP) Meeting**

Meeting Date: Mar 31, 2026 @ 01:00 PM

Support: 6

Oppose: 0

I wish to comment: 0

Name: Johnnie-Mae Perry	Email: waianaenb569@gmail.com	Zip: 96792
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Mar 29, 2026 @ 11:07 AM
Testimony: I, Johnnie-Mae L. Perry, Support RES26-065 URGING THE CITY ADMINISTRATION TO RESTORE THE MAUNA LAHILAHI CULTURAL GARDEN BY ACTIVATING AND IMPLEMENTING THE MAUNA LAHILAHI CULTURAL GARDEN MASTER PLAN.		
Name: Adam Wayson	Email: adam@malamarising.org	Zip: 96792
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Mar 30, 2026 @ 02:29 PM
Testimony: Mauna Lahilahi is home to numerous Hawaiian archaeological sites and is the source of artifacts currently being held at the bishop Museum. For over six years, Malama Rising has been helping to preserve and protect this space and now we are at a point where City & County must step up to help ensure the safety of not just the mountain, but all of those who visit it. Please ensure that Mauna Lahilahi is able to be protected and preserved for many generations to come.		
Name: Alexander McNicoll	Email: akdmcnicoll@gmail.com	Zip: 96792
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Mar 30, 2026 @ 04:33 PM
Testimony: Aloha, I am in strong support of RES26-065. Please activate and implement said master plan. Mahalo.		
Name: Hunter Nueku	Email: hnueku@hawaii.edu	Zip: 96792
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Mar 30, 2026 @ 06:18 PM
Testimony: I am writing in strong support of Resolution 26-065, urging the City Administration to restore the Mauna Lahilahi Cultural Garden by activating and implementing the Mauna Lahilahi Cultural Garden Master Plan.		

Mauna Lahilahi is more than a physical place—it is a storied landscape with deep cultural, historical, and genealogical significance to the people of Waiʻanae and the broader lāhui. The continued neglect of this area represents not only an environmental concern, but also a missed opportunity to mālama a place that embodies ʻike kupuna and ancestral connections.

I share this not only as a community member, but as someone who grew up in the shadow of Mauna Lahilahi. Being raised in that space shaped the way I understand and relate to the natural world. It instilled in me a deep sense of responsibility to care for ʻāina, and ultimately guided me toward a career rooted in environmental stewardship and conservation. Places like Mauna Lahilahi are not abstract—they actively shape who we become and how we choose to give back.

The Master Plan offers a clear, community-informed pathway toward restoration. Its implementation would help reestablish native vegetation, protect cultural resources, and create a space where education, stewardship, and cultural practice can thrive. This is especially important for the youth of the Waiʻanae Coast, who deserve access to places that affirm identity, history, and kuleana to the ʻāina.

Restoring the Mauna Lahilahi Cultural Garden is also an investment in long-term resilience. By prioritizing native ecosystems and cultural stewardship, the City can support both environmental health and community well-being. Projects like this demonstrate a commitment to honoring place-based knowledge and working in partnership with the communities most connected to the land.

I respectfully urge the City Administration to move beyond planning and take meaningful action to implement the Master Plan. The time to restore, protect, and activate Mauna Lahilahi is now.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of this important resolution.

Name: Kimeona Kane	Email: Kimeonakane@gmail.com	Zip: 96795
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Mar 30, 2026 @ 11:02 PM

Testimony:
Aloha

Kimeona Kane of Waimānalo in strong support of this push to activate this beautiful place again. I have been blessed by the courage, resilience and love that the hui of Mauna Lahilahi Kia'i have demonstrated. I have seen firsthand the extreme value that this place holds and the potential it could be if the City made a bigger commitment to the community and park. The community absolutely deserves it and have demonstrated without a doubt that this place can nurture generations to come.

Mahalo nui
Kimeona Kane

Name: Jonathan Hall	Email: jonathanhall73@icloud.com	Zip: 96792
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Mar 31, 2026 @ 09:31 AM

Testimony:

My wife and I visit this beautiful site daily. It is our "back yard".

Every day we pick up trash from the houseless campers and transients.

We have had several encounters with some of the local "chronics" that have required phone calls to law enforcement.

Please make this resolution a top priority and ensure the tax paying citizens a safe and clean place to have a peaceful stroll through this sacred site.