'26APR08 AM 11:43 CITY CLERK

DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FISCAL SERVICES
KA ʻOIHANA MĀLAMA MOʻOHELU A KĀLĀ
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

530 SOUTH KING STREET, ROOM 208 • HONOLULU, HAWAIʻI 96813
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RICK BLANGIARDI
MAYOR
MEIA

ANDREW T. KAWANO
DIRECTOR
PO'O

CARRIE CASTLE
DEPUTY DIRECTOR
HOPE PO'O

April 7, 2026

The Honorable Val Okimoto, Chair
and Members
Committee on Budget
Honolulu City Council
530 South King Street, Suite 202
Honolulu, Hawaiʻi 96813

Dear Chair Okimoto and Councilmembers:

SUBJECT: Proposed Amendments to Bill 22 (2026) for CD1
Executive Operating Budget and Program for the Fiscal Year 2027

Attached are the departmental comments on the proposed amendments to Bill 22 (2026) for CD1.

If you have any questions, please contact me by telephone at (808) 768-3901 or by email at andy.kawano@honolulu.gov.

Sincerely,

Andrew T. Kawano
Director

Attachments

APPROVED:

Michael D. Formby, Managing Director
Office of the Managing Director

DEPT. COM. 246(26) BUD

DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FISCAL SERVICES
KA ʻOIHANA MĀLAMA MOʻOHELU A KĀLĀ
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

RICK BLANGIARDI
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ANDREW T. KAWANO
DIRECTOR
POʻO

CARRIE CASTLE
DEPUTY DIRECTOR
HOPE POʻO

April 7, 2026

MEMORANDUM

TO: Michael D. Formby, Managing Director
Office of the Managing Director

VIA: Dennis Kanno
Budget Program Administrator

FROM: Andrew T. Kawano, Director
Department of Budget and Fiscal Services

SUBJECT: FY 2027 Bill 22 Operating Budget CD1 Response (Comments and Concerns)

Attached are our agency's comments and concerns to Bill 22 amendments for the Special Budget Committee meeting of March 30, 2026.

Attachment

Community Assistance
Councilmember(s): Nishimoto

Amount	Fund	Description
$(135,000)	GN	Reduce funding for OC3009 – "Other Contractual Services"

Department's Comments and Concerns:

BFS has concerns regarding the reduction of $135,000 in General Funds (GN) from the Activity Community Assistance. This amendment will cause a technical error in the budget, as this exceeds the amount of GN in the Activity. If this amendment is made, the result will be a negative appropriation.

Provision for Homeless Activities
Councilmember(s): Nishimoto/Dos Santos-Tam

Amount	Fund	Description
$1,000,000	GN	Add funding for current expenses. Add proviso: At least $1,000,000 out of current expenses shall be appropriated for services to reduce and mitigate the effects of homelessness in Council District 5.
$(3,000,000)		Reduce funding for current expenses

Department's Comments and Concerns:

BFS has concerns regarding the implementation of both of these amendments. The net effect of these amendments will result in $2,000,000 total for the provisional account with $1,000,000 specifically dedicated for Council District 5. The allocation of 50% of the provisional account to Council District No. 5 will hinder the ability of the City to respond to the homeless crisis island-wide.

DEPARTMENT OF THE CORPORATION COUNSEL
KA 'OIHANA A'OA'O 'AHAHUINA
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

1001 BISHOP STREET, SUITE 2020 • HONOLULU, HAWAI'I 96813
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RICK BLANGIARDI
MAYOR
MEIA

DANA M.O. VIOLA
CORPORATION COUNSEL
A'OA'O 'AHAHUINA

RENEE R. SONOBE HONG
FIRST DEPUTY CORPORATION COUNSEL
HOPE PO'O MUA O KE A'OA'O 'AHAHUINA

April 6, 2026

MEMORANDUM

TO: Michael D. Formby, Director
Office of the Managing Director

VIA: Andrew T. Kawano, Director
Department of Budget and Fiscal Services

FROM: Dana M.O. Viola, Corporation Counsel

Digitally signed by Sonobe Hong, Renee R
Date: 2026.04.06 11:43:26 -10'00'

SUBJECT: FY 2027 Bill 22 Operating Budget CD1 Response (Comments and Concerns)

Attached are our agency's comments and concerns to Bill 22 amendments for the Special Budget Committee meeting of March 30, 2026.

Attachment

PROVISION FOR JUDGMENTS, SETTLEMENTS AND LOSSES

Councilmember: Budget Chair Okimoto

Amount	Fund	Description
$(1,500,000)	GN	Reduce funding

Department's Comments and Concerns:
A total of $19.1 mil is requested for judgments, settlements, and losses in FY27. The City has carried two-tiered excess insurance for many years. The first-tier insurer's policy would be triggered when the City's self-insured retention is spent, and the second carrier's policy would be triggered when the first tier of insurance is spent. If both tiers of excess insurance are spent, then the duty to pay will fall on the City.

Estimate for FY2027
COR attorneys reviewed pending matters and cases for which we anticipate judgments or settlements, and estimated a total of $19.1 million will likely be needed to fund payouts from the Provision for Judgments, Settlements and Losses in FY2027. The matters included in the estimated total are likely to conclude between July 1, 2026 and June 30, 2027. This estimate also takes into consideration the related amount of self-insured retention per claim, which has incrementally increased in recent years from $2 million (FY2019), $5 million (FY2020), $7.5 million (FY2021), and $10 million (FY2022). The amount of deductible depends on when the event that led to the litigation occurred.

The $19.1 million currently requested represents COR's best-educated estimate of the outcome of the pending cases. There are a number of factors that may affect the final settlements and result in the City's payout of the full deductible for these cases, leaving the provisional short. Therefore, any cuts to this provisional account would mean the City could not pay for settlements or judgments, which may necessitate the structuring of multi-year agreements that generally result in higher costs to the City because of the interest required to settle a case with staggered payments or by order of the court.

We respectfully request full restoration of the $19.1 million in the Provision for Judgments, Settlements and Losses.

DEPARTMENT OF CUSTOMER SERVICES
KA 'OIHANA LAWELAWE KUPA
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

ADMINISTRATION
925 DILLINGHAM BOULEVARD, SUITE 257 • HONOLULU, HAWAI'I 96817
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RICK BLANGIARDI
MAYOR
MEIA

KIMBERLY M. HASHIRO
DIRECTOR
PO'O

MEGAN JOHNSON
DEPUTY DIRECTOR
HOPE PO'O

April 2, 2026

MEMORANDUM

TO: Michael D. Formby, Managing Director
Office of the Managing Director

VIA: Andrew T. Kawano, Director
Department of Budget and Fiscal Services

FROM: Kimberly M. Hashiro, Director
Department of Customer Services

Digitally signed by Hashiro, Kimberly
Date: 2026.04.02 16:11:33 -10'00'

SUBJECT: FY 2027 Bill 22 Operating Budget CD1 Response (Comments and Concerns)

Attached are our agency's comments and concerns to Bill 22 amendments for the Special Budget Committee meeting of March 30, 2026.

Attachment

DEPARTMENT: Customer Services

Division of Motor Vehicles

Councilmember(s): Tommy Waters

Amount	Fund	Description
$100,000	GN	Add funding for current expenses. Add proviso: "At least $100,000 out of current expenses shall be appropriated for feral chicken removal services."

Department's Comments and Concerns:
CSD's operating budget is adequately funded to continue to provide feral chicken mitigation services on City property, and to partially offset residents' costs relating to feral chicken services on private property. The additional funds are therefore not needed to provide these services.

DEPARTMENT OF DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION
KA 'OIHANA HAKULAU A ME KE KĀPILI
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

650 SOUTH KING STREET, 11TH FLOOR • HONOLULU, HAWAI'I 96813
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RICK BLANGIARDI
MAYOR
MEIA

HAKU MILLES, P.E.
DIRECTOR
PO'O

MARK YONAMINE, P.E.
DEPUTY DIRECTOR
HOPE PO'O

April 1, 2026

TO: Michael D. Formby, Managing Director
Office of the Managing Director

VIA: Andrew T. Kawano, Director
Department of Budget and Fiscal Services

FROM: Haku Milles, P.E., LEED AP, Director
Department of Design and Construction

SUBJECT: FY 2027 Bill 22 Operating Budget CD1 Response (Comments and Concerns)

Attached are our agency's comments and concerns to Bill 22 amendments for the Special Budget Committee meeting of March 30, 2026.

Attachment

PROJECT AND CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT

Councilmember(s): Scott Nishimoto

Amount	Fund	Description
$(150,000)	GN	Reduce Current Expenses. Reduce funding for current expenses for OC 3006 – Other Professional Services

Department's Comments and Concerns:
We respectfully request full restoration of funding. If funds are eliminated, any unanticipated need to renovate city-leased spaces will not be resolved in a timely manner. Traditionally, funds have been used for unanticipated costs such as moves, limited modular furniture installation, and other costs associated with Executive departments.

DEPARTMENT OF FACILITY MAINTENANCE
KA 'OIHANA MĀLAMA HALE
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

1000 ULU'ŌHI'A STREET, SUITE 215, KAPOLEI, HAWAI'I 96707
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RICK BLANGIARDI
MAYOR
MEIA

GENE C. ALBANO, P.E.
DIRECTOR AND CHIEF ENGINEER
PO'O A ME LUNA NUI 'ENEKINIA

WARREN K. MAMIZUKA
DEPUTY DIRECTOR
HOPE PO'O

IN REPLY REFER TO:
26-095

April 6, 2026

MEMORANDUM

TO: Michael D. Formby, Managing Director
Office of the Managing Director

VIA: Andrew T. Kawano, Director
Department of Budget and Fiscal Services

FROM: Gene C. Albano, P.E.
Director and Chief Engineer
Digitally signed by Albano, Gene
Date: 2026.04.06 10:35:17-10'00'

SUBJECT: FY 2027 Bill 22 Operating Budget CD1 Response
(Comments and Concerns)

Attached is our agency's comments and concerns to Bill 22 amendments for the Special Budget Committee meeting on March 30, 2026.

Attachment

ACTIVITY TITLE: PUBLIC BUILDING AND ELECTRICAL MAINTENANCE DIVISION

Councilmember: Andria Tupola

Amount	Fund	Description
$25,000	GN	Addition to current expense: Add funding for current expenses. Add proviso: "At least $25,000 out of current expenses shall be appropriated for cattle gate installations at the Waianae Neighborhood Community Center."

Comment
Accept

Department's Comments and Concerns:

DFM respectfully declines this addition and instead requests to restore the reductions made to the department. Logistics, costs, procurement, legal responsibilities, timing, and other considerations will require thorough vetting to determine feasibility for proper implementation.

ACTIVITY TITLE: DIVISION OF ROAD MAINTENANCE (DRM)

Councilmember: Scott Nishimoto

Amount	Fund	Description
$1,000,000	GN	Add funding for current expense: Add funding for current expenses. Add proviso: At least $1,000,000 out of current expenses shall be appropriated for emergency and routine maintenance and repair of streams, channels, and ditches within the Ala Wai Watershed. Add general funds for maintenance and repairs for streams, channels, and ditches within the Ala Wai watershed.

Comment:
Accept

Department's Comments and Concerns:

DFM respectfully declines the additional funding for stream maintenance due to difficulties related to purchasing current expense materials for stream maintenance, difficulties related to contracting services already performed by City employees, and difficulties in contracting major projects within the time constraints of the operating budget.

Councilmember: **Andria Tupola**

Amount	Fund	Description
$750,000	GN	Add funding for equipment. Add proviso: "At least $750,000 out of equipment shall be appropriated for a long reach excavator to expedite maintenance of City-owned streams."

Comment:
Accept, but move to Bill 23 (2026), CD1, Executive Capital Budget and Program

Department's Comments and Concerns:

Recent acquisition of a long reach excavator has been made and the equipment has been put into service in February 2026. The proviso to redirect funds to purchase an additional excavator will prevent acquisition of other replacement equipment that affect the division's ability to perform City core services.

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND LAND MANAGEMENT
KA 'OIHANA HO'OLĀLĀ KŪKULU HALE A ME KA HO'OKELE 'ĀINA
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

650 SOUTH KING STREET, FLOOR 3 • HONOLULU, HAWAI'I 96813
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RICK BLANGIARDI
MAYOR
MEIA

KEVIN D. AUGER
DIRECTOR
PO'O

CATHERINE A. TASCHNER
DEPUTY DIRECTOR
HOPE PO'O

April 6, 2026

MEMORANDUM

TO: Michael D. Formby, Managing Director
Office of the Managing Director

VIA: Andrew T. Kawano, Director
Department of Budget and Fiscal Services

FROM: Kevin D. Auger, Director
Department of Housing and Land Management

SUBJECT: FY 2027 Bill 22 Operating Budget CD1 Response (Comments and Concerns)

Attached are our agency's comments and concerns to Bill 22 amendments for the Special Budget Committee meeting on March 30, 2026.

Attachment

ADMINISTRATION

Councilmember: Tommy Waters

Amount	Fund	Description
$4,000,000	GN	Add funding for current expenses. Add proviso: "At least $4,000,000 out of current expenses shall be appropriated to purchase the Queen Theater in Kaimuki (TMK: 3-3-006:039)." (This amendment was moved from DES "Auditoriums," see p.17 of this worksheet"

Department's Comments, Concerns and Support or Opposition to the Amendment:

The administration evaluates property acquisitions based on identified public purpose, departmental capacity, and funding availability. Operating funds are not the appropriate funding source for real property acquisitions – capital funds exist for that purpose. Further, the Administration has looked closely at the Queen's Theater property. Based on site inspection and discussions with the owner, several significant constraints existing that render this property an extremely poor acquisition candidate: the structure has been vacant for many years and is in extremely poor condition, there are known environmental issues including asbestos, lead-based paint and mold, the interior includes a sloping, concrete floor, and the site itself is severely constrained with no parking area, and no laydown area if redeveloped.

Most significantly, the current property owner has been unwilling to proceed with a voluntary acquisition or condemnation proceeding, which introduces additional legal and timing considerations. Given those factors, the absence of a clearly defined public purpose at this time, a clear strategy for repositioning of the property or an identified sponsor to undertake such a repositioning effort, DHLM does not believe it would be prudent to proceed with an immediate acquisition of the property. DHLM remains open to continued discussions with the owner and the community if a feasible path forward emerges.

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
KE KE'ENA O KA MEIA
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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RICK BLANGIARDI
MAYOR
MEIA

MICHAEL D. FORMBY
MANAGING DIRECTOR
PO'O HO'OKELE

KRISHNA F. JAYARAM
DEPUTY MANAGING DIRECTOR
HOPE PO'O HO'OKELE

April 7, 2026

MEMORANDUM

TO: Michael D. Formby, Managing Director
Office of the Managing Director

VIA: Andrew T. Kawano, Director
Department of Budget and Fiscal Services

FROM: Krishna F. Jayaram, Deputy Managing Director
Office of the Managing Director

SUBJECT: FY 2027 Bill 22 Operating Budget CD1 Response (Comments and Concerns)

Attached are our agency's comments and concerns to Bill 22 amendments for the Special Budget Committee meeting of March 30, 2026.

Attachment

CITY MANAGEMENT

Councilmember: Waters

Amount	Fund	Description
$200,000	GN	Add current expense funds for a Kuhio Beach Visitor Center collaboration project with WBID

Department's Comments and Concerns:
We discussed the concept with WBID, and they are not prepared to move forward with the project at this time. Therefore, we are not ready to proceed with funding or execution.

OFFICE OF ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION

Councilmember: Waters

Amount	Fund	Description
$224,304	GN	Restore 3 Community Equity Liaison positions to support immigrant services – Restore 3.0 FTE

Councilmember: Nishimoto

Amount	Fund	Description
$224,304	GN	Add positions and funding for salaries for 3 community equity liaison positions – Restore 3.0 FTE

Councilmember: Dos Santos-Tam

Amount	Fund	Description
$218,000	GN	Add funding for salaries, positions unfunded in Mayor's proposed budget despite positions being filled

Department's Comments and Concerns:
OER appreciates the Council Member's support for the work of our community equity team. The $224,304 amendments would fully restore funding for the three positions.

The goals of this program are (1) to increase awareness, trust, and utilization of City services among historically underserved communities; and (2) to expand access to workforce and economic opportunities that strengthen household stability and long-term prosperity for historically underserved communities.

In the past year, the CEL team has conducted a comprehensive needs assessment, strengthened City service connections and emergency preparedness in Limited English Proficient (LEP), rural, and immigrant communities, and expanded workforce training

access, specifically focusing on City employment pathways with EMS and DPR. CEL activities also included reducing employment barriers through State ID processing and "Know Your Rights" workshops with The Legal Clinic and the Medical Legal Partnership, serving nearly 100 Marshallese and Chuukese residents.

Plans for the year ahead include:

- Increasing emergency preparedness for LEP communities with a $100,000 CRF grant;
- Expanding access to City services with agencies like DTS for public transportation needs, DPR for park usage and permit processes; piloting cultural training with the City's front-line and first responder agencies while connecting pathways to employment at these agencies with youth and underserved communities;
- Creating monthly employment training events with WorkHawaii and workforce training partners for LEP and rural communities; and
- Piloting the "Small Bets" community innovation fund to support grassroots ideas and partnerships that address barriers to economic opportunity and service access

Councilmember: Okimoto

Amount	Fund	Description
($1,620,584)	GN	Maintain Honolulu Film Office, and position required pursuant to Charter Section 6-109
($411,669)	GN	

Department's Comments and Concerns:
Through the adoption of Charter Section 6-109, the City Council approved the organization and mission of the Office of Economic Revitalization. With a broad economic development mandate, OER is now creating more small businesses and entrepreneurs, investing in local agriculture, regenerative tourism, workforce training, and driving economic innovation.

UHERO recently released it's "...Forecast for the State of Hawai'i: Hawaii moves beyond recession, but slowly." The updated data shows that our recovery from economic downturns tends to be slower and more fragile than the rest of the nation. This highlights the critical need for OER's work on local economic strategies and stewardship. In referencing the recent report at a March 19 event, Dr. Bonham from UHERO said, "The answer to our current challenges is not to cut spending but to focus on economic development now to encourage growth."

Neighborhood Commission

Councilmember: Kiaʻāina

Amount	Fund	Description
$20,000	GN	Add funding for current expenses. Add proviso: "At least $20,000 out of current expenses shall be appropriated for the Neighborhood Commission for additional election related costs."

Department's Comments and Concerns:
The Neighborhood Commission Office (NCO) respectfully declines the proposed addition of $20,000 for additional election related costs. NCO has allocated $225,000 for the neighborhood board elections and will be utilizing these funds effectively.

DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND PERMITTING
KA 'OIHANA HO'OLĀLĀ A ME NĀ PALAPALA 'AE
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

650 SOUTH KING STREET, 7TH FLOOR • HONOLULU, HAWAI'I 96813
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RICK BLANGIARDI
MAYOR
MEIA

DAWN TAKEUCHI APUNA
DIRECTOR
PO'O

BRYAN GALLAGHER, P.E.
DEPUTY DIRECTOR
HOPE PO'O

REGINA MALEPEAI
2ND DEPUTY DIRECTOR
HOPE PO'O KUALUA

April 6, 2026

MEMORANDUM

TO: Michael D. Formby, Managing Director
Office of the Managing Director

VIA: Andrew T. Kawano, Director
Department of Budget and Fiscal Services

FROM: Dawn Takeuchi Apuna, Director
Department of Planning and Permitting

SUBJECT: FY 2027 Bill 22 Operating Budget CD1 Response (Comments and Concerns)

Attached are our agency's comments and concerns to Bill 22 amendments for the Special Budget Committee meeting of March 30, 2026.

Attachment

ADMIINISTRATION
Councilmember: Esther Kia'āina

Amount	Fund	Description
$89,800	GN	Add one FTE and funding for salaries. Add proviso: "At least 1.0 FTE and at least $89,800 out of salaries shall be appropriated for a Planner IV position to assist the O'ahu Historic Preservation Commission."

Department's Comments and Concerns:

The Department appreciates the additional funding for salaries and position towards the O'ahu Historic Preservation Commission (OHPC). The OHPC's core mission is to preserve, protect, and promote the historical and cultural heritage of the City and County of Honolulu, ensuring that significant sites, structures, and cultural landscapes are safeguarded for future generations. The Commission coordinates closely with state and federal partners while actively engaging the public in preservation efforts.

ADMIINISTRATION
Councilmember: Esther Kia'āina

Amount	Fund	Description
$59,500	GN	Add a position and funding for salaries. Add proviso: "At least $59,500 out of salaries shall be appropriated for an Office Assistant III position to support the O'ahu Historic Preservation Commission."

Department's Comments and Concerns:

The Department appreciates the additional funding for salaries and position towards the O'ahu Historic Preservation Commission (OHPC). The OHPC's core mission is to preserve, protect, and promote the historical and cultural heritage of the City and County of Honolulu, ensuring that significant sites, structures, and cultural landscapes are safeguarded for future generations. The Commission coordinates closely with state and federal partners while actively engaging the public in preservation efforts.

LAND USE PERMITS
Councilmember: Esther Kia'āina

Amount	Fund	Description

$109,200	GN	Add funding for salaries. Add proviso: "At least $109,200 out of salaries shall be appropriated for a position dedicated to agricultural planning".

Department's Comments and Concerns:

The Department appreciates the additional funding for salaries and position towards agricultural planning Land Use Permits Division (LUPD). This position is to oversee and enforce agricultural land-use regulations to ensure responsible use and long-term viability of agricultural lands. This includes reviewing plans and permit applications, ensuring compliance with state and county land use regulations, coordinating with stakeholders and partner agencies, conducting field inspections, and contributing to the development of agricultural policies and legislations.

SITE DEVELOPMENT
Councilmember: Esther Kia'āina

Amount	Fund	Description
$240,000	GN	Add funding for salaries. Add proviso: "At least $240,000 out of current expenses for OC 1123 - Recruit & Retention Incentive for the implementation of an educational loan forgiveness program for up to 20 engineers within the Department of Planning and Permitting."

Department's Comments and Concerns:

The Department appreciates the additional funding for salaries towards Object Code 1123 Recruit & Retention Incentive for twenty (20) Engineers. DPP requests that $240,000 be placed in the Building Activity, rather than the Site Development. The proposed salary addition would assist DPP's overall recruitment efforts as this division has traditionally experienced higher number of vacancies and greater difficulty in recruiting engineers.

HONOLULU POLICE DEPARTMENT
KA 'OIHANA MĀKA'I O HONOLULU
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU
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RICK BLANGIARDI
MAYOR
MEIA

RADE K. VANIC
INTERIM CHIEF
KAHU MĀKA'I KŪIKAWĀ

BRANDON NAKASATO
RAYNOR M. IKEHARA
INTERIM DEPUTY CHIEFS
NA HOPE LUNA NUI MĀKA'I KŪIKAWĀ

OUR REFERENCE RH-LS

April 2, 2026

MEMORANDUM

TO: Michael D. Fromby, Managing Director
Office of the Managing Director

VIA: Andrew T. Kawano, Director
Department of Budget and Fiscal Services

FROM: Rade K. Vanic, Interim Chief of Police

SUBJECT: FY 2027 Bill 22 Operating Budget CD1 Response (Comments and Concerns)

Attached are our agency's comments and concerns to Bill 22 amendments for the Special Budget Committee meeting of March 30, 2026.

Rade K. Vanic
Interim Chief of Police

Attachment

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE
Councilmember: Andria Tupola

Amount	Fund	Description
$65,000 S	GN	Add funding for salaries. Add proviso: "At least $65,000 out of salaries shall be appropriated to provide a payment of $5,000 as part of a five-year retention incentive program to make annual payments to uniformed officers and civilian personnel with 25 or more years of service to encourage delayed retirement and retain institutional knowledge.

PATROL
Councilmember: Andria Tupola

Amount	Fund	Description
$995,000 S	GN	Add funding for salaries. Add proviso: "At least $995,000 out of salaries shall be appropriated to provide a payment of $5,000 as part of a five-year retention incentive program to make annual payments to uniformed officers and civilian personnel with 25 or more years of service to encourage delayed retirement and retain institutional knowledge.

SPECIAL FIELD OPERATIONS
Councilmember: Andria Tupola

Amount	Fund	Description
$100,000 S	GN	Add funding for salaries. Add proviso: "At least $100,000 out of salaries shall be appropriated to provide a payment of $5,000 as part of a five-year retention incentive program to make annual payments to uniformed officers and civilian personnel with 25 or more years of service to encourage delayed retirement and retain institutional knowledge.

INVESTIGATIONS
Councilmember: Andria Tupola

Amount	Fund	Description
$275,000 S	GN	Add funding for salaries. Add proviso: "At least $275,000 out of salaries shall be appropriated to provide a payment of $5,000 as part of a five-year retention incentive program to make annual payments to uniformed officers and civilian personnel with 25 or more

years of service to encourage delayed retirement and retain institutional knowledge.

SUPPORT SERVICES
Councilmember: Andria Tupola

Amount	Fund	Description
$255,000 S	GN	Add funding for salaries. Add proviso: "At least $255,000 out of salaries shall be appropriated to provide a payment of $5,000 as part of a five-year retention incentive program to make annual payments to uniformed officers and civilian personnel with 25 or more years of service to encourage delayed retirement and retain institutional knowledge.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES
Councilmember: Andria Tupola

Amount	Fund	Description
$115,000 S	GN	Add funding for salaries. Add proviso: "At least $115,000 out of salaries shall be appropriated to provide a payment of $5,000 as part of a five-year retention incentive program to make annual payments to uniformed officers and civilian personnel with 25 or more years of service to encourage delayed retirement and retain institutional knowledge.

Department's Comments and Concerns:
The HPD does not oppose the concept of a retention incentive for employees eligible to retire. However, the HPD respectfully opposes the amendment to establish provisos appropriating funds for a five-year retention incentive program across the following activities:

- Office of the Chief: $ 65,000
- Patrol: $995,000
- Special Field Operations : $100,000
- Investigations: $275,000
- Support Services: $255,000
- Administrative Services: $115,000

Total in provisos: $1,805,000

While the intent of improving retention is both valid and necessary, the mechanism proposed in this amendment is operationally impractical and fiscally restrictive.

Any retention incentive program requires careful coordination with the Department of Human Resources and formal negotiation with the applicable bargaining units representing HPD personnel. These discussions are essential to define eligibility, payment structure, conditions of service, and long-term sustainability. During this process, key program elements—such as the proposed annual $5,000 payment—may need to be adjusted. However, the rigid funding levels established through provisos would not allow for such necessary flexibility, creating a mismatch between policy design and available funding.

Additionally, the proviso language introduces eligibility assumptions that may not align with actual workforce conditions. For example, the proposal extends retention payments to civilian employees with "25 or more" years of service. In practice, many of these employees—depending on age and retirement tier—are not yet eligible to retire and may be required to work up to 30 years or meet specific age thresholds. As a result, the incentive would pay employees that are ineligible to retire, undermining its intended purpose.

The proposed funding structure also relies on projections that are inherently subject to change throughout the fiscal year. This creates a significant risk of imbalance: some divisions may face shortfalls in meeting retention payment obligations, while others may have excess funds that cannot be reallocated due to proviso restrictions. Any surplus funds in overestimated categories would lapse, even if there are critical needs elsewhere within the fund activity.

Furthermore, the use of provisos would render these funds initially unallotted, requiring additional administrative steps to access them. This added layer of bureaucracy delays implementation and diverts resources away from core operational priorities.

Ultimately, the HPD's concern is not with retention incentives themselves but with the inefficiencies and constraints imposed by the proviso structure. The proposed approach increases administrative burden, limits fiscal flexibility, and raises the likelihood that funds will be either inaccessible when needed or unusable for other critical purposes.

For these reasons, the HPD respectfully urges the Council to reject the proposed proviso structure and instead allow the department to work collaboratively with the appropriate entities to develop a retention program that is flexible, targeted, and operationally effective.

PATROL
Councilmember: Andria Tupola

Amount	Fund	Description
$80,000 CE	GN	Add funding for current expenses. Add proviso: "At least $80,000 out of current expenses shall be appropriated for a recruitment referral bonus program to provide payments of up to $2,000 to employees who refer candidates who are subsequently hired and complete early service milestones."

Department's Comments and Concerns:
The HPD does not oppose the concept of providing a bonus to employees who make recruitment referrals. However, the HPD respectfully opposes the amendment establishing a proviso to appropriate additional funds for this purpose.

While the goal of improving recruitment is both valid and necessary, the mechanism proposed in this amendment is operationally impractical and fiscally restrictive. Any recruitment incentive program requires careful coordination with the Department of Human Resources and formal negotiation with the applicable bargaining units representing HPD personnel. These discussions are essential to determine eligibility, payment structure, conditions for a successful recruitment, and long-term sustainability. During this process, key program elements—such as the proposed $2,000 referral bonus—may need to be adjusted. The rigid funding levels imposed through the proviso would not allow for such necessary flexibility, creating a mismatch between policy design and available funding.

For sworn personnel recruitment, it is anticipated that a recruit must reach a stage where they impact vacancy levels—typically upon assignment to a permanent position. This process can take approximately 16 months from the start of recruit training. As a result, it is unlikely that referring personnel would be eligible for a bonus within FY27, unless the program also includes referrals for civilian positions.

The proposed funding structure also relies on estimates that may fluctuate throughout the fiscal year. Additionally, because the proviso is placed within the Patrol activity, only referrals made by Patrol personnel could be funded through this mechanism. Eligible personnel from other activities would need to be compensated through cost savings within their respective activities' current expense budgets—which, notably, is a more efficient and flexible fiscal approach. Any surplus funds within the Patrol proviso would ultimately lapse.

Furthermore, the use of provisos renders these funds initially unallotted, requiring additional administrative steps before they can be accessed. This added layer of bureaucracy delays implementation and diverts resources from core operational priorities.

The HPD's concern is not with the referral incentive itself, but with the inefficiencies and constraints imposed by the proviso structure. The proposed approach increases administrative burden, limits fiscal flexibility, and raises the likelihood that funds will lapse at the end of the fiscal year.

For these reasons, these HPD respectfully urges the Council to reject the proposed proviso structure and instead allow the Department to work collaboratively with the appropriate entities to develop a referral program that is flexible, targeted, and operationally effective.

SUPPORT SERVICES
Councilmember: Andria Tupola

Amount	Fund	Description
$480,000 S	GN	Add funding for salaries. Add proviso: "At least $480,000 out of salaries shall be appropriated for a civilian employee parking stipend of up to $200 per month."

Department's Comments and Concerns:
The HPD does not oppose the concept of providing a parking stipend to civilian employees. However, the HPD respectfully opposes the amendment establishing a proviso to appropriate funds for this purpose.

While the goal of improving recruitment and retention of civilian employees is both valid and necessary, the mechanism proposed in this amendment is operationally impractical and fiscally restrictive.

The proviso would appropriate $480,000 under the Salary character of expenditure; however, a parking stipend may only be paid from the Current Expense character of expenditure. This discrepancy creates an immediate barrier to implementation.

Any recruitment or retention incentive program requires careful coordination with the Department of Human Resources and formal negotiation with the applicable bargaining units representing HPD personnel. These discussions are essential to determine eligibility, payment structure, conditions, and long-term sustainability. During this process, key program elements—such as the proposed $200 monthly parking stipend—may need to be adjusted. For example, available parking options in the vicinity of the

main station are generally under $100 per month. The rigid funding levels imposed through the proviso would not allow for such necessary flexibility, resulting in a mismatch between policy design and available funding.

Furthermore, the use of provisos renders these funds initially unallotted, requiring additional administrative steps before they can be accessed. This added layer of bureaucracy delays implementation and diverts resources from core operational priorities.

Additionally, because the proviso is placed within the Support Services activity, only personnel within that activity could be funded through this mechanism. Eligible employees in other activities would need to be compensated through cost savings within their respective current expense budgets—which could create a significant financial hardship for some activities and necessitate delaying vital procurements.

The HPD's concern is not with the parking stipend itself, but with the inefficiencies and constraints imposed by the proviso structure. The proposed approach increases administrative burden, limits fiscal flexibility, and raises the likelihood that funds will lapse at the end of the fiscal year.

For these reasons, the HPD respectfully urges the Council to reject the proposed proviso structure and instead allow the department to work collaboratively with the appropriate entities to develop a parking stipend program that is flexible, targeted, and operationally effective.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES
Councilmember: Andria Tupola

Amount	Fund	Description
($2,365,000) S	GN	Reduce funding for salaries

Department's Comments and Concerns:
The HPD respectfully opposes the amendment to reduce $2,365,000 in salaries from Administrative Services.

At a time when the HPD is already managing significant fiscal constraints, this additional reduction would directly impact the department's ability to maintain current service levels and meet community expectations. While funding for regular and holiday overtime in Fiscal Year 2027 (FY27) remains flat compared to FY26, the reality is that overtime costs will increase due to negotiated collective bargaining raises. These higher

personnel costs must already be absorbed through savings from vacant positions—leaving little financial flexibility.

Savings from vacant positions will need to be carefully managed in FY27 to support essential obligations, including contract employees, School Resource Officers (SROs), recruitment incentives, recruit salaries, accrued vacation payouts, and a negotiated lump-sum bonus for officers. In addition, the department must fund leave time cash-outs tied to the COVID-19 hazard pay settlement. These are not optional expenses—they are binding financial obligations that must be met.

It is important to note that the Mayor's proposed FY27 budget has already reduced funding for General Fund vacant positions by $16,163,548. The HPD has accepted this reduction and remains committed to delivering a high level of service despite these constraints. However, further cuts would force difficult operational decisions. These may include scaling back department initiatives, reducing participation in public events, and limiting proactive enforcement efforts that are essential to crime prevention and public safety.

Finally, while prior-year lapses may suggest the availability of excess funds, the fiscal reality for FY27 is fundamentally different. Rising personnel costs, reduced funding for vacant positions, and newly incurred contractual obligations have significantly narrowed the department's financial capacity. Assumptions based on past lapses no longer reflect current conditions.

The Administrative Services activity funds salaries for personnel in the police recruit training pool. The HPD anticipates that the four recruit classes scheduled for FY27 will each begin with approximately 50 or more recruits. This represents a significant increase from the average class size in previous fiscal years and is expected to reduce salary cost savings due to a higher number of filled positions in the police recruit training pool.

For these reasons, the HPD respectfully urges the Council to reject the proposed reduction and maintain the necessary funding to ensure the safety and well-being of Honolulu's residents and visitors.

PATROL
Councilmember: Tommy Waters

Amount	Fund	Description
$64,000 E	GN	Add equipment funds
		Add funding for equipment. Add proviso: "At least $64,000 out of equipment shall be appropriated for additional security cameras for the overt video monitoring pilot program authorized by Resolution 24-64"

Department's Comments and Concerns:
The HPD respectfully opposes the proposed amendment to add Equipment funds to the FY27 operating budget.

The HPD is pursuing the continued use of security camera trailers; however, the pilot program has demonstrated that the most fiscally viable option would be to lease the equipment from a vendor. As such, funds would need to be in the Current Expense character of expenditure, not Equipment.

Furthermore, it is estimated that $64,000 would only cover a lease period of six months. The department will budget for the service in FY28.

PATROL
Councilmember: Radiant Cordero

Amount	Fund	Description
$280,000 CE	GN	Add funding for current expenses. Add proviso: "At least $280,000 out of current expenses shall be appropriated to expand the Community Policing Team in all eight patrol districts."

Department's Comments and Concerns:
The HPD respectfully opposes the proposed amendment to add $280,000 in current expense funding to the Patrol activity with the proviso: "At least $280,000 out of current expenses shall be appropriated to expand the Community Policing Team in all eight patrol districts."

The HPD believes it can sustain current Community Policing Team (CPT) operations across all districts using existing budgeted current expense funds, as well as equipment previously procured through FY24 and FY25 CPT proviso funding. As such, the additional appropriation is not necessary at this time.

Furthermore, the use of provisos renders these funds initially unallotted, requiring additional administrative steps before they can be accessed. This added layer of bureaucracy delays implementation and diverts resources from core operational priorities.

The proposed approach increases administrative burden, limits fiscal flexibility, and raises the likelihood that funds will lapse at the end of the fiscal year if there is no clearly defined and/or immediate need for the funds.

For these reasons, the HPD respectfully urges the Council to reject the proposed amendment.

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April 6, 2026

MEMORANDUM

TO: Michael D. Formby, Managing Director

VIA: Andrew T. Kawano, Director
Department of Budget and Fiscal Services

FROM: Steven S. Alm, Prosecuting Attorney
Department of the Prosecuting Attorney

SUBJECT: FY 2027 Bill 22 Operating Budget CD1 Response (Comments and Concerns)

Attached are our agency's comments and concerns to Bill 22 amendments for the Special Budget Committee meeting of March 30, 2026.

Attachment

ADMINISTRATION

Councilmember: Okimoto

Amount	Fund	Description
$196,265	GN	Add funding for salaries for OC 1101X – Vacancy Cutback

Department's Comments and Concerns:
The Department of the Prosecuting Attorney (PAT) sincerely appreciates the restoration of salary funding for our Administration Activity. This funding is critical to maintaining adequate staffing levels within the Department — the backbone of our operations and a cornerstone of public safety services for our community. The Administration and its support staff provide overall direction over the Department's programs and activities; oversee fiscal budgeting, personnel management, planning, and legislative audio/visual services; and support investigative services across departmental programs. Beyond these operational responsibilities, the Administration establishes policies and priority programs aimed at enhancing public safety, champions the rights of victims, and actively engages and informs the community about the Department's initiatives.

While the restoration of $196,265 in general fund salaries would allow our Department to operate at its highest level, PAT believes these funds would be better utilized if redirected to our Prosecution Activity. As conveyed during the Special Budget Committee Meeting on March 30, 2026, doing so would directly support our Department's foremost operational priority — the establishment of 20 permanent Deputy Prosecuting Attorney positions — enabling PAT to provide the level of public safety our community deserves. To accommodate the corresponding general fund salary reduction in our Administration Activity, PAT will adjust its FY2027 hiring plans to generate the necessary salary savings.

PAT is grateful for the Council Member's support and commitment to preserving the resources necessary to uphold public safety, and we welcome the opportunity to collaborate with the Budget Chair to accomplish this important change.

Prosecution

Councilmember: Okimoto

Amount	Fund	Description
$2,043,439	GN	Add positions and funding for salaries

Department's Comments and Concerns:
The Department of the Prosecuting Attorney (PAT) sincerely appreciates the accepted amendment in Bill 22 (2026) for CD1 restoring $884,599 in salary funding for our Prosecution Activity and authorizing 10 additional permanent Deputy Prosecuting Attorney (DPA) positions with $1,158,840 in salary funding — for a total of $2,043,439. These actions reflect a meaningful commitment to public safety and to the dedicated staff who carry out the Department's mission every day. The Prosecution Activity funds the core of the Department's workforce — Deputy Prosecuting Attorneys, Investigators, Paralegals, and Legal Clerical staff — who collectively handle the full spectrum of criminal offenses, from drug crimes and robbery to murder, sexual assault, sex trafficking, and elder abuse, while also serving warrants, locating material witnesses, and conducting critical trial investigations.

However, as conveyed during the Special Budget Committee Meeting on March 30, 2026, PAT believes the Department would be better served if the total funding of $2,342,198 across all accepted amendments — including the $196,265 restoration in general fund salaries to our Administration Activity, the $884,599 restoration in salary funding and authorization of 10 additional permanent DPA positions with $1,158,840 in our Prosecution Activity, and the $102,494 restoration in general fund salaries to our Victim/Witness Activity — were consolidated and redirected in its entirety to our Prosecution Activity. Doing so would directly support the Department's foremost operational priority: the establishment of 20 permanent Deputy Prosecuting Attorney positions, enabling PAT to provide the level of public safety our community deserves.

The need is immediate. Despite a growing population, increasingly complex criminal activity, and a substantial rise in both felony and misdemeanor court filings, DPA staffing levels have remained stagnant for years. Excessive individual caseloads have compromised prosecution quality, undermined vital community safety programs such as Safe & Sound and Weed & Seed, and placed the safety of the public at risk. Ten additional positions will provide meaningful relief, but only the full complement of 20 will bring caseloads to a truly manageable and effective level — one that allows DPAs to eliminate the backlog of uncharged cases, expedite charging decisions, hold offenders accountable in a timely manner, and deliver the quality of prosecution that the people of O'ahu deserve.

While PAT would ideally desire between $2.6 million and $2.8 million in additional general fund salary support to fully accomplish this goal, if $2,342,198 represents the maximum amount available, PAT respectfully requests that the full sum be directed toward the Prosecution Activity for this purpose. PAT will adjust its FY2027 hiring plans accordingly to generate any necessary salary savings to accommodate any resulting general fund salary reductions. The Department also wishes to note that minor technical modifications to the amendment language may be necessary to ensure that the

additional DPA positions are properly designated as permanent — a distinction critical to PAT's ability to successfully recruit and retain qualified attorneys in a competitive legal market.

PAT is deeply grateful for the Council Member's support and looks forward to collaborating with the Budget Chair to craft an amendment that best serves the Department's immediate needs and long-term mission to protect the O'ahu community.

Victim/Witness Assistance

Councilmember: Okimoto

Amount	Fund	Description
$102,494	GN	Add funding for salaries for OC 1101X – Vacancy Cutback

Department's Comments and Concerns:
The Department of the Prosecuting Attorney (PAT) sincerely thanks the Council Member for restoring $102,494 in salary funding for the Victim/Witness Activity. This restoration reflects a profound commitment to some of the most vulnerable members of our community — crime victims and witnesses who depend on the Department's support during the most difficult moments of their lives. The restored funding directly protects the Victim/Witness Kokua Services (VWKS) Division, which provides specialized support services for victims and witnesses of violent crimes, with particular emphasis on those experiencing the most serious offenses — including assault, sexual assault, terroristic threatening, kidnapping, reckless endangerment, spouse and partner abuse, child abuse, and elder abuse. Surviving family members of homicide, manslaughter, and negligent homicide cases also receive critical support services and case information through the Division. The VWKS Division's counselors play an indispensable role in the criminal justice process — assisting victims and witnesses in navigating the complexities of the legal system, connecting them with vital social service agencies, and serving as compassionate liaisons with Deputy Prosecuting Attorneys — ensuring that those affected by crime are never left to face the process alone. This work is not only a cornerstone of the Department's mission, but also a legal obligation under the Hawaii Victims Bill of Rights, HRS §801-D.

While the restoration of $102,494 in general fund salaries would allow the Department to operate at its highest level, as conveyed during the Special Budget Committee Meeting on March 30, 2026, PAT believes these funds would be better utilized if redirected to our Prosecution Activity in support of the Department's foremost operational priority — the establishment of 20 permanent Deputy Prosecuting Attorney positions — thereby enabling PAT to provide the level of public safety our community deserves. To accommodate the general fund salary reduction in our Victim/Witness

Assistance Activity, PAT will adjust its FY2027 hiring plans to generate the necessary salary savings.

The Department is deeply grateful for the Council Member's support and dedication to the safety and well-being of the O'ahu community, and we welcome the opportunity to collaborate with the Budget Chair to accomplish this important change.