

RES26-036
Testimony

MISC. COMM. 140

COUNCIL

COUNCIL Meeting

Meeting Date: Apr 15, 2026 @ 10:00 AM

Support: 1

Oppose: 0

I wish to comment: 0

Name: Jeremy Sakamaki	Email: jeremysakamaki@gmail.com	Zip: 96816
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 12, 2026 @ 09:32 AM
Testimony: Good morning, My name is Jeremy Sakamaki. I am a case worker working with the homeless population in Honolulu for 3.5 years now (including 1 year doing street outreach). My caseload is mainly individuals who are homeless and have a severe and persistent mental illness. From what I can interpret, the 32nd Year Action Plan indicates that IHS is projected to assist approximately 1,300 homeless individuals amongst its to most prominent locations, 350 Sumner Street (Mens shelter) and 546 Ka'aahi Street (women and families). It's ESG line items total \$309,441, which are listed as alternates. I perceive this to mean that IHS does not receive funding unless a primary project is delayed, cancelled, or comes in under the expected budget. Comparatively, the number of individuals served by each o the primary ESG shelter projects outline the plan is serving 200, 420, and 145. IHS is projected to exceed every ESG (emergency Shelter Project). When combining all ESG's in this plan, IHS still has a larger projected capacity than all of those combined. It's clear in the plans own figures. When you place the largest ESG on Oahu on the alternative list, while providing guaranteed funding to smaller capacity programs, it becomes clear that there is a disconnect with showing how many individuals use IHS weekly. The individuals I frequently work with in the downtown Honolulu area primarily utilize IHS as their sole 24 hour resource when they don't know where to turn. To treat it as a contingency showcases a cap in the plans method to allocate resources. I respectfully ask the Council to direct DCS to move IHS's emergency shelter funding into the primary ESG project list before this plan is submitted to HUD. I respectfully request that you support passage of RES26-036. Thank you, Jeremy Sakamaki		