SUMMARY OF PROPOSED COMMITTEE DRAFT:

Bill 32 (2026)
RELATING TO PUBLIC PARKS, RECREATIONAL FACILITIES, AND BOTANICAL GARDENS.

The PROPOSED CD1 makes the following amendments:

A. Adds the following new SECTIONS to the bill:

1. SECTION 2, which amends ROH Section 9-3.1 to:

a. Correct the name of the "Friends of the Honolulu Botanical Garden" to the "Friends of the Honolulu Botanical Gardens"; and

b. Removes the subdivision (a)(7) numbering, shifting the language authorizing the Director of Parks and Recreation ("Director") to set certain fees to be a general proviso at the end of subsection (a).

2. SECTION 3, which amends ROH Section 9-3.2 to clarify that private schools are licensed by the Hawaii Council of Private Schools or accredited by a recognized accrediting body rather than the State of Hawai‘i Department of Education.

Renumbers subsequent SECTIONS accordingly.

B. Amends renumbered SECTION 4 (formerly SECTION 2) of the bill as follows:

1. Deletes subsection (a), which would have granted authorization to the Director of Parks and Recreation to set fees for the use and rental of a botanical garden or botanical garden parking lot;

2. Adds a new subsection (a) to state that the policy of the Council is to make access to botanical gardens, botanical garden facilities, and their associated parking lots free and available to residents, with the exception of Foster Botanical Garden;

3. Adds a new subsection (b) to incorporate the review and reporting requirements in subsections (g) and (h) and require the Director of Parks and Recreation to submit a report to the Council recommending fee increases for botanical gardens and reletters subsequent subsections accordingly;

4. Amends relettered subsection (c) to specify that revenue generated from user fees for the use of botanical gardens must be deposited into the fund established in SECTION 3 of Bill 33 (2026), as amended; and

5. Deletes subsections (e), (f), (g), and (h) relating to civil penalties, rules, review and update of fees, and reporting, respectively.

C. Deletes SECTION 3, which would have repealed ROH Chapter 10, Article 2, and renumbers subsequent SECTIONS accordingly.

D. Amends renumbered SECTION 5 (formerly SECTION 4) of the bill as follows:

1. Deletes subsection (a), which would have granted authorization to the Director of Parks and Recreation to set fees and charges for the use of public parks; recreational facilities, parking lots, or other recreational areas under the jurisdiction of the Department of Parks and Recreation;

2. Adds a new subsection (a) to require the Director of Parks and Recreation to submit a report to the Council recommending fee increases for attendant/custodian services; kitchen usage; processing and rental of recreational facilities; community gardens; usage of Hanauma Bay Nature Preserve, including parking; use and rental of facilities at Waipio Peninsula Soccer Park, Central Oahu Regional Park Facilities, Hans L'Orange Baseball Facility, recreational fields, gymnasiums, and other facilities; camping; permits for recreational stops at Waimanalo Bay Beach Park; and summer fun activities;

3. Amends subsection (b) to specify that revenue generated from user fees for the use of public parks, recreational facilities, parking lots, or other recreational areas under the jurisdiction of the Department of Parks and Recreation must be deposited into the fund established in SECTION 2 of Bill 33 (2026), as amended; and

4. Deletes subsections (e), (f), (g), and (h) relating to civil penalties, rules, review and update of fees, and reporting, respectively.

E. Deletes the following SECTIONS of the bill:

1. SECTION 5, which would have repealed ROH Chapter 10, Article 3;

2. SECTION 6, which proposed the repeal of ROH Section 10-5.4;

3. SECTION 7, which proposed the repeal of ROH Chapter 10, Article 7;

4. SECTION 8, which proposed amendments to ROH Section 10-8.2;

5. SECTION 9, which proposed amendments to ROH Section 10-9.3;

6. SECTION 10, which proposed the repeal of ROH Chapter 10, Article 12;

7. SECTION 11, which proposed the addition of a new article to ROH Chapter 10;

8. SECTION 12, which proposed the addition of a new article to ROH Chapter 10;

9. SECTION 13, which proposed the addition of a new article to ROH Chapter 10; and

10. SECTION 14, which proposed amendments to ROH Section 6-51.2.

Renumbers subsequent SECTIONS accordingly.

F. Adds a new SECTION 6 of the bill to:

1. Amend ROH Chapter 10, Article 3, to require the Director of Parks and Recreation to submit a report to the Council recommending fee increases for commercial scuba diving, snorkeling, and professional sports activities at Hans L'Orange Baseball Facility;

2. Specify that revenue generated from user fees for commercial scuba diving, snorkeling, and professional sports activities at Hans L'Orange Baseball Facility must be deposited into the fund established in SECTION 2 of Bill 33 (2026), as amended;

3. Require the posting of signs that inform visitors of user fees and payment instructions; and

4. Provide that the Department of Parks and Recreation shall ensure that user fees can be paid via electronic methods.

G. Adds a new SECTION 7 of the bill to repeal ROH Chapter 10, Article 5.

H. Adds a new SECTION 8 of the bill to require the Director of Parks and Recreation to submit the required reports within one year of the ordinance's effective date. Renumbers subsequent SECTIONS accordingly.

I. Makes miscellaneous technical and nonsubstantive amendments.

HONOLULU CITY COUNCIL

KE KANIHELA O KE KALANA O HONOLULU

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

ORDINANCE _____

BILL **32 (2026), CD1**
PROPOSED

A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE

RELATING TO PUBLIC PARKS, RECREATIONAL FACILITIES, AND BOTANICAL GARDENS.

BE IT ORDAINED by the People of the City and County of Honolulu:

SECTION 1. Purpose and findings. The purpose of this ordinance is to amend provisions related to public parks, recreational facilities, and botanical gardens.

The City Council ("Council") finds that costs for the maintenance of parks, beach parks, recreational facilities, and botanical gardens are increasing significantly due to various factors, including aging infrastructure, vandalism, and an overall rise in the cost of supplies. The Council believes that it is important to support our parks, beach parks, recreational facilities, and botanical gardens as gathering places for our residents and communities. The Council further believes it is critical that any fees collected for the use of parks, beach parks, recreational facilities, and botanical gardens are retained by the Department of Parks and Recreation for the maintenance and upkeep of these finite and valuable resources.

SECTION 2. Section 9-3.1, Revised Ordinances of Honolulu 2021 ("Admission fees for the Foster Botanical Garden"), is amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

"(a) The following daily admission fees [~~shall~~] will be assessed for the Foster Botanical Garden:

(1) Child five years of age and under: free. Child must be accompanied by a person 18 years [~~old~~] of age or older;

(2) Annual family pass holder, as specified in subsection (b): free;

(3) Child six to 12 years of age: $1 per person;

(4) Resident of Hawaii, 13 years of age and older: $3 per person;

(5) Nonresident of Hawaii, 13 years of age and older: $5 per person; and

(6) Member of the Friends of the Honolulu Botanical [~~Garden:~~] Gardens: free; [~~and~~

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~~(7) The~~]
provided that the director of parks and recreation is authorized to set reduced rates for persons participating in structured educational tours, group purchases, and promotional packages and persons with promotional coupons. The director of parks and recreation is also authorized to allow entry of any person into the Foster Botanical Garden as part of a promotional offer or package made available by the city."

SECTION 3. Section 9-3.2, Revised Ordinances of Honolulu 2021, is amended to read as follows:

"**§ 9-3.2 Students—School staff—Chaperones.**

The following [~~shall~~] will be admitted free of charge to Foster Botanical Garden; provided that the visit is for educational purposes and the teacher, school staff, or group leader has scheduled the class visit at least one week before the requested date[~~,~~] and furnished a firm count of adult supervisors who fall under subdivision (5):

(1) Students at public schools operated by the State department of education (DOE) and private schools [~~licensed by the DOE,~~] licensed by the Hawaii Council of Private Schools or accredited by a recognized accrediting body, except for private trade, vocational, or technical schools;

(2) Children who are exempted from compulsory education under State DOE regulations and procedures with current, approved DOE Form 4140;

(3) Children of child care centers (with current certificate of approval or approved form from the State department of human services) or in after school care programs of the city or the State of Hawaii;

(4) State of Hawaii university and college students with school identification cards; and

(5) Adult supervisors when they accompany Hawaii students in the following categories:

(A) Students five years [~~old~~] of age and younger: teachers, school staff, or adult chaperones;

(B) Students six years [~~old~~] of age and older: teachers or school staff only; and

(C) "Special education" students requiring monitors or health-care attendants: as required for children's supervision and care."

SECTION 4. Chapter 9, Article 3, Revised Ordinances of Honolulu 2021 ("Fees and Charges"), is amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated by the Revisor of Ordinances and to read as follows:

"**§ 9-3. Fees for the use of botanical gardens.**

(a) *Policy.* It is the policy of the council that access to botanical gardens, botanical garden facilities, and their associated parking lots is a fundamental public benefit that must be available to residents of all income levels. As such, the council directs that any fees and charges recommended by the director of parks and recreation for the use of botanical gardens, botanical garden facilities, and their associated parking lots be limited to nonresidents with the exception of Foster Botanical Garden.

(b) *Review and report.* The director of parks and recreation shall review fees related to the use of botanical gardens at least every five years and submit to the council a report with recommended fee increases. Before submitting the report, the director of parks and recreation shall notify all duly constituted botanical garden advisory organizations concerning the proposed fees.

(c) *Revenues*. Revenue generated from user fees for the use of botanical gardens must be deposited into the fund established in SECTION 3 of Bill 33 (2026), as amended.

(d) *Signage*. The department of parks and recreation shall post signage informing visitors of any user fees and payment instructions.

(e) *Payment*. The department of parks and recreation shall ensure that user fees can be paid via electronic methods, such as by mobile application, kiosk, or online portal."

SECTION 5. Chapter 10, Article 2, Revised Ordinances of Honolulu 2021 ("Fees and Charges for Use of Parks and Recreational Facilities"), is amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated by the Revisor of Ordinances and to read as follows:

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"**§ 10-2. Fees for the noncommercial use of public parks, recreational facilities, parking lots, and other recreational areas.**

(a) *Review and update of fees.* The director shall review fees for the noncommercial use of public parks, recreational facilities, parking lots, or other recreational areas under the jurisdiction of the department of parks and recreation at least every five years and submit to the council a report with recommended fee increases.

The report and recommendation of fee increases must include fees for: attendant/custodian services; kitchen usage; processing and rental of recreational facilities; community gardens; usage of Hanauma Bay Nature Preserve, including parking; use and rental of facilities at Waipio Peninsula Soccer Park, Central Oahu Regional Park Facilities, Hans L'Orange Baseball Facility, recreational fields, gymnasiums, and other facilities; camping; permits for recreational stops at Waimanalo Bay Beach Park; and summer fun activities.

(b) *Revenues*. Revenue generated from user fees must be deposited into the fund established in SECTION 2 of Bill 33 (2026), as amended.

(c) *Signage*. The department of parks and recreation shall post signage informing visitors of any user fees and payment instructions.

(d) *Payment*. The department of parks and recreation shall ensure that user fees can be paid via electronic methods, such as by mobile application, kiosk, or online portal."

SECTION 6. Chapter 10, Article 3, Revised Ordinances of Honolulu 2021 ("Fees for Use of Parks and Recreational Facilities for Commercial Activities"), is amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated by the Revisor of Ordinances and to read as follows:

"**§ 10-3. Fees for the commercial use of public parks, recreational facilities, parking lots, and other recreational areas.**

(a) *Review and update of fees.* The director shall review fees for the commercial use of public parks, recreational facilities, parking lots, or other recreational areas under the jurisdiction of the department of parks and recreation at least every five years and submit to the council a report with recommended fee increases.

The report and recommendation of fee increases must include fees for: commercial scuba diving, snorkeling, and professional sports activities at Hans L'Orange Baseball Facility.

(b) *Revenues*. Revenue generated from user fees must be deposited into the fund established in SECTION 2 of Bill 33 (2026), as amended.

(c) *Signage*. The department of parks and recreation shall post signage informing visitors of any user fees and payment instructions.

(d) *Payment*. The department of parks and recreation shall ensure that user fees can be paid via electronic methods, such as by mobile application, kiosk, or online portal."

SECTION 7. Chapter 10, Article 5, Revised Ordinances of Honolulu 2021 ("Commercial Windsurfing"), is repealed.

SECTION 8. Within one year after the effective date of this ordinance, the Director of Parks and Recreation shall submit the first quinquennial reports required by SECTION 4, SECTION 5, and SECTION 6 of this ordinance.

SECTION 9. Ordinance material to be repealed is bracketed and stricken. New ordinance material is underscored. When revising, compiling, or printing this ordinance for inclusion in the Revised Ordinances of Honolulu, the Revisor of Ordinances need not include the brackets, the material that has been bracketed and stricken, or the underscoring. The Revisor of Ordinances shall, pursuant to the Revisor's authority under Section 1-16.3, Revised Ordinances of Honolulu 2021 ("ROH"), replace the phrase "the fund established in SECTION 3 of Bill 33 (2026), as amended" or similar phrase used in the codified language of this ordinance with the name of the fund specified in SECTION 3 of Bill 33 (2026), as amended, upon its enactment. The Revisor of Ordinances shall, pursuant to the Revisor's authority under ROH Section 1-16.3, replace the phrase "the fund established in SECTION 2 of Bill 33 (2026), as amended" or similar phrase used in the codified language of this ordinance with the name of the fund specified in SECTION 2 of Bill 33 (2026), as amended, upon its enactment. The Revisor of Ordinances shall, pursuant to the Revisor's authority under SECTION 2 of Ordinance 23-7, update the Reporting Requirements Table to include the reporting requirements enacted by SECTION 4, SECTION 5, and SECTION 6 of this ordinance.

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SECTION 10. This ordinance takes effect upon its approval.

INTRODUCED BY:

Tommy Waters

Andria Tupola

DATE OF INTRODUCTION:

March 17, 2026
Honolulu, Hawai'i

Councilmembers

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY:

Deputy Corporation Counsel

APPROVED this _____day of _____, 20 ___ .

RICK BLANGIARDI, Mayor
City and County of Honolulu

Report Title:
Parks; Recreational Facilities; Botanical Gardens; Fees; Charges; Revenues; Permits; Commercial Use; Noncommercial Use; Department of Parks and Recreation ("DPR"); Rules; Rulemaking Authority; Report

Description:
Requires the DPR Director to submit a report recommending the increase of fees and charges for the commercial and noncommercial use of parks; recreational facilities; and botanical gardens under the jurisdiction of the DPR to the Council for consideration of adoption by ordinance. Requires that the fees and charges collected (except those derived from the use of the Hanauma Bay Nature Preserve) be deposited into the funds established by Bill 33 (2026), as amended. Repeals commercial windsurfing regulations. Establishes reporting requirements.

The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.